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399

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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS**

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

**14 July - 8 August 1969**

**UNITED NATIONS**

*Prefatory fascicle*



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS**

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

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**UNITED NATIONS**

**New York, 1969**

## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council* consist of the summary records of the plenary meetings (incorporating corrections requested by delegations and any necessary editorial modifications), annexes and supplements.

A check list of documents pertaining to the agenda of the session appears on page xxvi.

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Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

References to dollars are to United States dollars unless otherwise specified.

The term "billion" signifies 1,000 million.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	IMCO	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance	IMF	International Monetary Fund
CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
DAC	Development Assistance Committee of OECD	IUOTO	International Union of Official Travel Organizations
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	LAFTA	Latin American Free Trade Association
ECAFE	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East	OAS	Organization of American States
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	OAU	Organization of African Unity
EEC	European Economic Community	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America	OPEX	Programme for the provision of operational, executive and administrative personnel
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (also the Contracting Parties and the secretariat)	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce	UNESOB	United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
IDA	International Development Association	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
IFC	International Finance Corporation		
ILO	International Labour Organisation		

UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research	WFP	World Food Programme
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	WFTU	World Federation of Trade Unions
UPU	Universal Postal Union	WHO	World Health Organization
		WMO	World Meteorological Organization

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**Correction received from the Universal Postal Union  
too late for incorporation in the text**

1606th meeting,

para.7, *in the sentence beginning* "UPU was therefore proposing . . ." *replace* "delivery of express mail" *by* "delivery of priority mail".

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Abbreviations .....	iii	<b>1607th meeting—Wednesday, 16 July 1969, at 3 p.m.</b>	
List of delegations .....	ix	<i>Agenda item 2:</i>	
Agenda .....	xxiv	General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Check list of documents .....		Speakers:	
		Mr. Hambro (Norway) .....	27
		Mr. Johnson (Jamaica) .....	29
		Mr. Al-Ansari (Kuwait) .....	30
<b>1603rd (opening) meeting—Monday, 14 July 1969 at 3.10 p.m.</b>		<b>1608th meeting—Thursday, 17 July 1969, at 10 a.m.</b>	
<i>Opening of the session</i> .....	1	<i>Agenda item 2:</i>	
<i>Agenda item 1:</i>		General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Adoption of the agenda .....	1	Speakers:	
<i>Organization of work</i> .....	1	Mr. Husain (India) .....	33
<i>Statement by the Secretary-General</i> .....	2	Mr. Benler (Turkey) .....	34
		Mr. Maheu (UNESCO) .....	35
		Mr. Vratuša (Yugoslavia) .....	37
		Mr. Kennan (Ireland) .....	39
<b>1604th meeting—Tuesday, 15 July 1969 at 10 a.m.</b>		<b>1609th meeting—Thursday, 17 July 1969, at 3 p.m.</b>	
<i>Election of a Vice-President</i> .....	7	<i>Agenda item 2:</i>	
<i>Agenda item 2:</i>		General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
General discussion of international economic and social policy		Speakers:	
Speakers:		Mr. Aquino (WFP) .....	41
Mr. Mili (ITU) .....	7	Mr. Abe (Japan) .....	42
Dr. Dorolle (WHO) .....	8	Mr. Viaud (France) .....	43
Mr. Yost (United States of America) .....	10	Mr. Forthomme (Belgium) .....	46
Lord Caradon (United Kingdom) .....	12	<b>1610th meeting—Friday, 18 July 1969, at 10.10 a.m.</b>	
<b>1605th meeting—Tuesday, 15 July 1969 at 3 p.m.</b>		<i>Report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on applications for hearings</i> .....	49
<i>Agenda item 2:</i>		<i>Agenda item 2:</i>	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )		General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:		Speakers:	
Mr. Eklund (IAEA) .....	15	Mr. Labouisse (UNICEF) .....	49
Mr. Boerma (FAO) .....	16	Mr. Nesterenko (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) .....	50
Mr. Goad (IMCO) .....	18	Mr. Mopolo-Dadet (Congo, Brazzaville) .....	52
<b>1606th meeting—Wednesday, 16 July 1969, at 10 a.m.</b>		Mr. Gallardo Moreno (Mexico) .....	53
<i>Agenda item 2:</i>		Mr. Jerbi (Libya) .....	53
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )		Mr. López Herrarte (Guatemala) .....	54
Speakers:		<b>1611th meeting—Friday, 18 July 1969, at 3.10 p.m.</b>	
Mr. Binaghi (ICAO) .....	21	<i>Agenda item 2:</i>	
Mr. Rahi (UPU) .....	21	General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Mr. Thajeb (Indonesia) .....	22	Speakers:	
Mr. Davies (WMO) .....	23	Mr. Hill (ICC) .....	57
		Mr. Ahmed (Pakistan) .....	58
		Mr. Nicol (Sierra Leone) .....	59
		Mr. Boglietti (WFTU) .....	60

	<i>Page</i>
1612th meeting—Monday, 21 July 1969, at 10.10 a.m.	
1634th meeting—Thursday, 7 August 1969, at 3.10 p.m.	
<i>Agenda item 17:</i>	
Development of tourism:	
(a) International Tourist Year	
(b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism	
(c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism ( <i>concluded</i> ) . . . . .	231
1635th meeting—Thursday, 7 August 1969, at 9.10 p.m.	
<i>Agenda item 20:</i>	
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations ( <i>resumed from the 1627th meeting</i> ) . . . . .	235
1636th meeting—Friday, 8 August 1969, at 10.10 a.m.	
<i>Agenda item 13:</i>	
Programmes of international action relating to youth ( <i>resumed from the 1631st meeting and concluded</i> ) . .	241
<i>Agenda item 5:</i>	
Financing of economic development of the developing countries:	
(a) International flow of capital and assistance	
(b) Promotion of private foreign investment in developing countries	
(c) Export credits	
Report of the Economic Committee . . . . .	241
<i>Agenda item 9:</i>	
Evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee . . . . .	243

	<i>Page</i>
1618th meeting—Thursday, 24 July 1969, at 10.5 a.m.	
<i>Agenda item 19:</i>	
Future institutional arrangements for science and technology	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee . . . . .	243
1637th (adjourning) meeting—Friday, 8 August 1969, at 3.5 p.m.	
<i>Agenda item 18:</i>	
Development and co-ordination of the activities of the organizations within the United Nations system:	
(a) Reports of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and of the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	
(b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	
(c) Reports of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency	
(d) Expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee . . . . .	247
<i>Agenda item 21:</i>	
Measures to improve the organization of the work of the Council and calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee . . . . .	248
<i>Financial implications of actions taken by the Council at its forty-seventh session</i> . . . . .	250
<i>Agenda item 22:</i>	
Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly . . . . .	251
<i>Adjournment of the session</i> . . . . .	251

## LIST OF DELEGATIONS

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\* Mr. Scheyven having assumed the presidency of the Council, the delegation was headed by Mr. Forthomme in the absence of Mr. Schuurmans.

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Mr. A. Ali, Chief, Relations and Conference Department

Mr. A. A. Shaheed, Director, Liaison Office, New York

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Mr. Y. P. Chestnoy, International Organisations Branch

Mr. M. H. Khan, Operations Reports Branch

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Mr. R. B. Posey, International Organisations Branch

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Mr. A. Adomakoh, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Department

Mr. P. Lamartine-Yates, Regional Representative for Europe

Mr. J. V. S. Nehemiah, Director, International Agency Liaison Division

Mr. E. Ojala, Director, Commodities and Trade Division

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Mr. P. H. Crane, Chief, International Organizations Branch

Mr. D. J. Walton, *Chef de Cabinet* to the Director-General

Mr. G. G. Watterson, Liaison Officer, International Agency  
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Mr. Michel Doo Kingue, Director, Bureau of Relations with  
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Mr. Alfonso de Silva, Director, Bureau of Relations with  
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Mr. Aser Deleon, Director, Department of Out-of-School  
Education

Mr. Konstantin Fedorov, Director, Office of Oceanography

Mr. Michel Batisse, Director, Division of Natural Resources  
Research

Mr. Raymond Rodriguez, Chief, Special Unit for Inter-  
national Education Year

Mr. H. Ben Amor, Division of Applied Social Sciences

Rear-Admiral Langeraar, Chairman, Intergovernmental  
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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Dr. P. M. Dorolle, Deputy Director-General

Dr. A. Bellerive, Director, Division of Co-ordination and  
Evaluation

Dr. Michael R. Sacks, Chief, Programme Co-ordination

Mr. R. Shousha, Administrative Officer, Administrative  
Co-ordination

Mr. K. P. H. Supthut, Management Officer, Administrative  
Management

Mrs. E. Kamath, Liaison Officer, Programme Co-ordination

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION  
AND DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION

Mr. Federico Consolo, Special Representative for United  
Nations Organizations

Mr. George C. Wishart, Chief Liaison Officer, European  
Office of IBRD

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Mr. Gordon Williams, Special Representative to the United  
Nations

Mr. Edgar Jones, Director of the Geneva Office of IMF

Mr. K. M. Huh, Economist, Geneva Office of IMF

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION  
ORGANIZATION

Mr. W. Binaghi, President of the Council of ICAO

Mr. G. Gamacchio, External Relations Officer

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

Mr. M. Rahi, Director-General

Mr. S. N. Das Gupta, Senior Counsellor, Technical Assis-  
tance Section

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Mr. Mohamed Mili, Secretary-General

Mr. R. E. Butler, Deputy Secretary-General

Mr. C. Stead, Chief, Department of External Relations

Mr. H. Ruud, Chief, Technical Co-operation Department

Mr. A. David, Legal Adviser

Mr. H. Pouliquen, Technical Adviser

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

Mr. D. A. Davies, Secretary-General

Mr. J. R. Rivet, Deputy Secretary-General

Mr. H. Sebastian, Director, Technical Co-operation  
Department

Mr. F. T. Hannan, Chief, External and Public Affairs Office

Mr. Kaare Langlo, Director, Scientific and Technical  
Department

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME  
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

Mr. Colin Goad, Secretary-General

Mr. J. Queguiner, Deputy Secretary-General

Mr. V. Nadeinski, Secretary, Maritime Safety Committee

International Atomic Energy Agency

Mr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General (14-15 July)

Mr. D. A. V. Fischer, Director, Division of External Liaison (14-21 July)

Miss Mary Jeffreys, Chief Liaison Officer (21 July-8 August)

Mrs. Merle Opelz, Division of External Liaison (1-8 August)

Miss Carolyn Philip, Secretary to the delegation (14 July-8 August)

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Mr. H. W. Dittmann, Assistant Director-General, External Relations Section

Mr. D. Peart, Counsellor, Development Division

Mr. H. de Soto, Economic Affairs Officer, General Division

Other intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Mr. V. Constantinescu, Deputy Secretary  
Mr. A. Podugolnikov, Chief, Department of Consolidated Economic Studies  
Mr. J. A. Dupal, Section Chief, Department of Consolidated Economic Studies

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Mr. Leleu, Political Director  
Mr. Renborg, Deputy Director for Economic and Social Affairs  
Mr. Rosenstiel (4-9 August)

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

*Presidency of the Council of the European Communities*

Mr. Johan Kaufmann, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office at Geneva  
Miss A. F. W. Lunsingh Meijer, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Council of the European Communities*

Mr. K. D. Jagstaidt, Division Chief, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Communities  
Mr. A. Coret, Principal Administrator, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Communities

*Commission of the European Communities*

Mr. Pauly, Director, General Directorate of External Relations

Mr. Christaki de Germain, Division Chief, General Directorate of External Relations  
Mr. A. Maes, Principal Administrator, General Directorate of External Relations

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Mr. G. Pognon, Deputy Secretary-General for Administrative Affairs

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Francis Wells, Chief, Division of Economic Development, Development Department  
Mr. Edgar Kroeller, Division of Economic Development  
Miss Alice May, Division of Economic Development

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

Mr. D. Chadwick Braggiotti, European Representative of OAS  
Mr. Homero L. Hernández

UNITED INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Mr. Claude Masouye, Senior Counsellor, Chief, External and Public Relations Division  
Mr. Roger Harben, External Relations Officer  
Mr. Ibrahima Thiam, External Relations Officer

Non-governmental organizations in consultative status\*

Category I

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. W. Hill  
Mr. J. L'Huillier  
Mrs. R. Lusardi

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

Mr. A. Heyer

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

Mr. M. Boson

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Miss L. Van Eeghen

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

Mr. P. G. H. Barter

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF EMPLOYERS

Mr. R. Lagasse  
Mr. A. Pankert

\* In accordance with the decision taken by the Council at its forty-sixth session (1593rd meeting), the following organization continues in consultative status as a non-governmental organization, with the rights and obligations previously exercised by it, pending the Council's action on the recommendations regarding the organization's future status which the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations was asked to formulate: Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, represented at the forty-seventh session by Mr. A. Marks and Mr. G. Warburg.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF LOCAL  
AUTHORITIES

Mr. C. Ascher

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OF OFFICIAL TRAVEL ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. R. Lonati  
Mr. A. Nair  
Mrs. Cunin

LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Mr. N. Abut  
Mr. C.-A. Schuselé  
Mr. K. Seevaratnam  
Mr. N. Phillips  
Mr. Slobodan Popović  
Mr. E. Kirchoffer

UNITED TOWNS ORGANIZATION

Mr. H. Jacquet

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC  
FEDERATION

Mrs. S. Alami

WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR

Mr. B. Buhler  
Mr. G. Eggermann

WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Mr. G. Boglietti  
Mr. K. H. Liebig  
Mr. K. B. Panikkar

WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS  
ASSOCIATIONS

Mr. H. Perera  
Mr. J. Ennals  
Mr. G. Evans  
Mr. S. Weiss

Category II

AGUDAS ISRAEL WORLD ORGANIZATION

Mr. A. Safran

ALL-INDIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Mrs. P. Jungalwalla

ALL-PAKISTAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Begum Mirza-Khan

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY

Mr. G. Evans

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN  
OF THE WORLD

Begum Mirza-Khan

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT  
FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Mr. M. Goormantight

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC WORLD UNION

Mr. K. Sieniewiez

COMMISSION OF THE CHURCHES  
ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Mr. D. Micheli  
Mr. E. Rees  
Mrs. Robbins Strong

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF JEWISH  
ORGANIZATIONS

Mrs. G. Cairncross

EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION  
FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Mr. C. Ascher

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE  
FOR CONSULTATION

Mr. J. Duncan Wood  
Mrs. K. M. Wood

INTER-AMERICAN PLANNING SOCIETY

Mr. C. Ascher

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN

Mrs. G. Deneke  
Miss M. Ginsberg

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION  
OF PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

Mr. M. Brandon  
Mr. C. Nyman

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS

Mr. J. Nordmann

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF PENAL LAW

Mrs. H. Romnicianso

INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

Mr. M. Brandon

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC CHILD BUREAU

Canon J. Moerman

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MIGRATION  
COMMISSION

Miss R. Rideau  
Mr. T. Stark

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS

Mr. S. MacBride  
Mr. J. Toth  
Mr. L. G. Weeramantry

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE RED CROSS

Mr. A. Martin  
Mr. C. Pilloud

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mr. T. Szmikowski

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF JEWISH WOMEN

Mrs. H. Levy  
Mrs. M. Warburg

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL  
ON SOCIAL WELFARE

Miss M.-L. Cornaz

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON JEWISH SOCIAL  
AND WELFARE SERVICES

Mr. D. Lack

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

Miss A. Travelletti

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF SENIOR POLICE OFFICERS

Mr. P. Villettorte

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Miss M. L. Cornaz

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Miss T. Faber  
Mrs. C. Jones

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN LAWYERS

Miss H. Pfander

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION CENTRE  
FOR LOCAL CREDIT

Mr. C. Ascher

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES

Mr. C. Ascher

INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION

Mr. M. Brandon  
Miss I. Winkelman

INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR FRATERNAL  
UNION AMONG RACES AND PEOPLES

Miss V. Leary

INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD  
FEDERATION

Mrs. A. Sieve

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE

Miss A. Moser  
Mr. M. Watson

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

Mr. J. Nixon

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOVEMENT  
FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. R. Harmston  
Mr. T. Lemaesquier

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FAMILY  
ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. Secretan-Rollier

PAN PACIFIC AND SOUTHERN ASIA  
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mrs. C. Jones

PAX ROMANA

Mrs. Odile Roulet

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

Mrs. G. Baer

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

Mr. R. Eggleston

WORLD FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC YOUTH

Miss L. Herren

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

Mr. F. L. Brassloff  
Mr. A. Jabès  
Mr. M. L. Perlzweig

WORLD MUSLIM CONGRESS

Mr. N. el-Rawi

WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CENTRE

Mr. B. Stosic

WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
ORGANIZATIONS

Mrs. Driant  
Mrs. M.-T. Graber-Duvernay

WORLD'S WOMEN CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE  
UNION

Mrs. L. Erni

WORLD YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN  
ASSOCIATION

Miss A. Arnold  
Mrs. J. G. Forsyth  
Miss E. Palmer

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

Mrs. G. Deneke

Roster

INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOBILE FEDERATION\*

Mr. H. Perlowski

INTERNATIONAL SAVING BANKS  
INSTITUTE

Mr. N. G. Krul

INTERNATIONAL TOURING ALLIANCE\*

Mr. H. Perlowski

\* Represented by the World Touring and Automobile Organization which has no consultative status.



INTERNATIONAL YOUNG CATHOLIC  
STUDENTS

Reverend Chatelain

OPEN DOOR INTERNATIONAL

Mrs. G. Baer

ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE

Mrs. M. Leroy-Boy

WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Mr. M. Gouault

**AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**  
**adopted by the Council at its 1603rd meeting, on 14 July 1969**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. General discussion of international economic and social policy.
3. Second United Nations Development Decade.
4. Economic planning and projections.
5. Financing of economic development of the developing countries:
  - (a) International flow of capital and assistance;
  - (b) Promotion of private foreign investment in developing countries;
  - (c) Export credits.
6. Report of the Industrial Development Board.
7. Regional co-operation:
  - (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut;
  - (b) Report on the meetings of the Executive Secretaries;
  - (c) Concerted action in export promotion.\*
8. Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:
  - (a) United Nations Development Programme;
  - (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund;
  - (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General.
9. Evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation.
10. Problems of the human environment.
11. Multilateral food aid.
12. The sea:
  - (a) Resources of the sea;
  - (b) Marine science and technology;
  - (c) Long-term programme of oceanographic research.
13. Programmes of international action relating to youth.
14. Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.
15. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
16. International Education Year.
17. Development of tourism:
  - (a) International Tourist Year;
  - (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on international travel and tourism;
  - (c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism.

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\* Item postponed to resumed forty-seventh session.

18. Development and co-ordination of the activities of the organizations within the United Nations system:
  - (a) Reports of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and of the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;
  - (b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;
  - (c) Reports of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency;
  - (d) Expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes.
19. Future institutional arrangements for science and technology.
20. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.
21. Measures to improve the organization of the work of the Council and calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971.
22. Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly.
23. General review of the programmes and activities in the economic, social, technical co-operation and related fields of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Children's Fund and all other institutions and agencies related to the United Nations system.\*
24. Report of the Trade and Development Board.\*
25. Reports of the World Bank Group and of the International Monetary Fund.\*
26. Report of the position concerning infringements of trade union rights in the Portuguese colonies in Africa.\*
27. Elections.\*
28. Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council.\*
29. Basic programme of work of the Council in 1970 and consideration of the provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session.\*

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\* Item postponed to resumed forty-seventh session.

## CHECK LIST OF DOCUMENTS

*Note.* Listed below are all documents pertaining to the forty-seventh session of the Council. The relevant agenda item is given for each document. An asterisk after the agenda item indicates that the document is published in the corresponding fascicle of the *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Annexes*.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
A/7361 and Add.1	Report of the Committee on Conferences	21	<i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, agenda item 75.</i>
A/7576	Budget estimates for the financial year 1970: note by the Secretary-General		Mimeographed.
A/AC.109/333	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General	20	Mimeographed.
E/4487 and Corr.1-6	Marine science and technology – survey and proposals: report of the Secretary-General	12 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/4487/Add.1-2	Replies to the Secretary-General's <i>note verbale</i> and questionnaire of 6 July 1967	12 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/4598	Report by an evaluation mission in Ecuador	9	Final offset.
E/4609	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its seventh session	8 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session.</i>
E/4611	Sixth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development	19	<i>Ibid., Forty-sixth Session.</i>
E/4611/Add.1	Future arrangements for the Advisory Committee	19	Final offset.
E/4611/Add.2	Note by the Secretary-General	19	Mimeographed.
E/4615 and Corr.1	United Nations Interregional Seminar on Tourism Development (Berne, Switzerland, 21 October-2 November 1968): report of the Secretary-General	17 (b)	Final offset.
E/4616	<i>Export Credits and Development Financing: National Export Credit Systems, 1969</i>	5 (c)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.D.7.
E/4620	Report of the Commission for Social Development on its twentieth session (17 February-5 March 1969)	3	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-sixth Session.</i>
E/4624 and Add.1	Note transmitting the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade on its first, second and third sessions (A/7525 and Add.1-2)	3	Mimeographed.
E/4626 and Corr.1	Report by an evaluation mission in Iran	9	Final offset.
E/4627	Report of the International Union of Official Travel Organisations	17 (a)	Final offset.
E/4629	Periodic report of the Secretary-General	17 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/4633	Arrangements for the transfer of operative technology to developing countries: report of the Secretary-General	19	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8.</i>
E/4638	<i>Studies on Selected Development Problems in Various Countries in the Middle East, 1969</i>	2	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.C.5.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/4638 (Summary)	Studies on Selected Development Problems in Various Countries in the Middle East, 1969: summary	2	Final offset.
E/4639	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America, volume I	7 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session.</i>
E/4639/Add.1	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America, volume II	7 (a)	<i>Ibid.</i>
E/4639 (Summary)	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America: summary	7 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4640	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East	7 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 2.</i>
E/4640 (Summary)	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East: summary	7 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4641	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe	7 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3.</i>
E/4641 (Summary)	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe: summary	7 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4645 and Add.1	Election of the sixteen members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination: note by the Secretary-General	27	Mimeographed.
E/4649	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the research project on evaluation	9	Final offset.
E/4650	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency, 1968-1969	18 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4650/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting an addendum to the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See IAEA, <i>Atomic Energy in the Developing Countries: the 1968-1969 Programme</i> (INFCIRC/126).
E/4651	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa, volume I	7 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session</i>
E/4651/Add.1	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa, volume II	7 (a)	<i>Ibid.</i>
E/4651 (Summary)	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa: summary		Mimeographed.
E/4652	<i>The External Financing of Economic Development – International Flow of Long-Term Capital and Official Donations, 1963-1967</i> : report of the Secretary-General	5 (a)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.D.10.
E/4653	Report of the Secretary-General	17 (c)	Final offset.
E/4653/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism	17 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4653/Add.2	Report of the Secretary-General giving a list of all agencies having an interest in tourism	17 (c)	Final offset.
E/4653/Add.3	Note by the Secretary-General on the consideration of the establishment of an <i>ad hoc</i> committee	17 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4653/Add.4	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a note from the International Union of Official Travel Organizations addressed to the President of the Council	17 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4654	<i>Panel on Foreign Investment in Developing Countries: report of a meeting held at Amsterdam, 16-20 February 1969</i>	5 (b)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.D.12.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/4655	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the International Labour Organisation	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See ILO, <i>Twenty-third Annual Report of the International Labour Organisation to the United Nations</i> , (Geneva, 1969)
E/4655/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a report of the International Labour Organisation	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See ILO, <i>Activities of the ILO 1968: Report of the Director-General (Part 2) to the International Labour Conference, fifty-third session</i> (Geneva 1969).
E/4656	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the International Civil Aviation Organization	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See ICAO, <i>Annual Report of the Council to the Assembly for 1968</i> (Doc.8792, A17-P/1) 1969.
E/4656/Add.1	Report of the International Civil Aviation Organization: analytical summary of activities in 1968	18 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4657	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization	18 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4658	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the World Meteorological Organization	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See WMO, <i>Annual Report of the World Meteorological Organization, 1968</i> (WMO-No. 241. RP80) (Geneva, 1969).
E/4658/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting an analytical summary of the annual report of the World Meteorological Organization for 1968	18 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4659	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a brief annual report on the activities of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	7 (a)	Final offset.
E/4660	Note by the Secretary-General	12 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4660/Add.1	Financial implications of the publication of document E/4680: note by the Secretary-General	12 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4661	<i>Report of the Round Table on Export Credit as a Means of Promoting Exports from Developing Countries, New York, 24-28 March 1969</i>	5 (c)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.D.11.
E/4662	Report of the Secretary-General on the conclusions of the Round Table on Export Credit as a Means of Promoting Exports from Developing Countries	5 (c)	Final offset.
E/4662/Add.1	Administrative and financial implications of the programme of work recommended by the Round Table on Export Credit as a Means of Promoting Exports from Developing Countries: note by the Secretary-General	5 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4663	Note by the Secretary-General	8 (c)	Final offset.
E/4664	Progress report by the Secretary-General	5 (b)	Mimeographed
E/4664/Add.1	Financial implications of the recommendations contained in document E/4664: note by the Secretary-General	5 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/4665 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General	12 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/4666 and Corr.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	18 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4667	Report of the Secretary-General	10	Final offset.
E/4668 and Add.1	Thirty-fifth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	18 (b)	

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/4669 and Corr.1-2	Report of the Secretary-General	9	Final offset. Corr.1 superseded by Corr.2.
E/4670 and Corr.1	Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the first part of its third session	18 (a)	Superseded by E/4670/Rev.1.
E/4670/Rev.1	Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the first part of its third session	18 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-sixth Session.</i>
E/4672	Note by the Secretary-General	12 (c)	Final offset.
E/4674	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting <i>Latin American economy in 1968 – Excerpt from ECLA Survey</i>	2	Mimeographed. See United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.G.3.
E/4675 and Add.2	Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the World Health Organization	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See WHO, <i>The Work of WHO, 1968: Annual Report of the Director-General to the World Health Assembly and to the United Nations (Official Records of the World Health Organization, No. 172) (Geneva, 1969)</i>
E/4675/Add.1	Analytical summary of the report of the World Health Organization, 1968	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See WHO, document PC/69.4.
E/4676	International flow of long-term capital and official donations, 1964-1968: preliminary report of the Secretary-General	5 (a)	To be issued as a United Nations publication.
E/4677 and Corr.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/7611)	15	Mimeographed. For the report see <i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 11.</i>
E/4678	Report of the Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations on requests for hearings		Mimeographed.
E/4679	Economic conditions in Africa, 1968: summary	2	Mimeographed. For the full text see E/CN.14/435.
E/4680	Mineral resources of the sea: report of the Secretary-General	12 (a)	To be issued as a United Nations publication.
E/4682	Committee for Development Planning: report on the fourth and fifth sessions	4	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session.</i>
E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General	13	Final offset.
E/4687 and Add.1-3	<i>World Economic Survey, 1968: Part One, Some Issues of Development Policy in the Coming Decade</i>	2, 3	To be issued as part of a United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.C.6.
E/4688 (Summary)	<i>World Economic Survey, 1968: Part Two, Current economic developments: summary</i>	2	Mimeographed.
E/4689	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	18 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4690	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the Universal Postal Union	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See UPU, <i>Report on the Work of the Union, 1968 (Berne, 1969)</i>
E/4690/Add.1	Analytical report on the work of the Universal Postal Union in 1968	18 (c)	Mimeographed.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/4691	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the International Telecommunication Union	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See ITU, <i>Report to the Economic and Social Council on the Activities of the International Telecommunication Union in 1968</i> (Geneva, 1969).
E/4691/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting an addendum to the report of the International Telecommunication Union	18 (c)	Mimeographed. See ITU, <i>Eighth Report by the International Telecommunication Union on Telecommunication and the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space</i> (Geneva, 1969).
E/4693 and Corr.1	Report of the Commission on Human Rights: report of the Social Committee	21	See <i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 11.</i>
E/4695	<i>Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1968: summary</i>	2 (b)	Mimeographed. For the full text, see United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.F.1.
E/4696	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the seventh annual report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and to the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (WFP/IGC:15/21)	11	Mimeographed.
E/4698 and Add.1-5	Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on United Nations activities in Turkey and observations by the specialized agencies, and by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	18	Mimeographed.
E/4701	<i>Economic Survey of Europe in 1968: summary</i>	2 (b)	Mimeographed. For the full text, see United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.E.1.
E/4702	Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	18 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4703	Annotated provisional agenda of the forty-seventh session of the Council: note by the Secretary-General	1	Mimeographed. For agenda see p. xxiv above
E/4704	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Trade and Development Board on its resumed eighth session (A/7616)	3	Mimeographed. For the text, see <i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16</i> (part two).
E/4705 and Add.1	Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit: note by the Secretary-General	21	Mimeographed. For the full text, see A/7576.
E/4706	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its eighth session	8	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session.</i>
E/4707 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2	Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in implementation of General Assembly resolution 2412 (XXIII)	16	Mimeographed.
E/4708	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Industrial Development Board on its third session (A/7617)	6	Mimeographed. For the report, see <i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17.</i>
E/4709	Report on the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions held in 1969	7 (b)	Final offset.



<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/4710	Statement by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the problems of the human environment	10	Mimeographed.
E/4711	Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund	14	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session.</i>
E/4712	Report of the President of the Council	20	Final offset.
E/4713 and Corr.1-2	Calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971: memorandum by the Secretary-General	21	Mimeographed. See <i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3, annex III.</i>
E/4716	Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the second part of its third session	18 (a)	Superseded by E/4216/Rev.1.
E/4716/Rev.1	Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the second part of its third session	18 (a)	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session.</i>
E/4717	Report of the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	18 (a)*	
E/4718	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a statement by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the Second United Nations Development Decade	3	Final offset.
E/4719	<i>Note verbale</i> , dated 27 June 1969, from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General	3	Mimeographed.
E/4720	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a recommendation of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on machinery for scientific and technical advisory services in the United Nations system	19	Mimeographed. See E/AC.51/R.20/Add.1.
E/4721	<i>Note verbale</i> , dated 3 July 1969, from the Permanent Representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General	3	Mimeographed.
E/4722	Comments of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the report of the Secretary-General on arrangements for the transfer of technology to developing countries (E/4633)	19	Mimeographed.
E/4723	Letter dated 13 June 1969 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Council transmitting a resolution of the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties	—	Mimeographed.
E/4724	Seventh annual report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and to the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: note by the Secretary-General	11	Mimeographed.
E/4725	<i>Note verbale</i> , dated 8 July 1969, from the Permanent Representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General	3	Mimeographed.
E/4726	Financial implications of the recommendations of the regional economic commissions: note by the Secretary-General	7 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/4727	Report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on requests for hearings	—	Mimeographed.
E/4728	Comments of the Spanish Government on the suggested programme of work for the implementation of the proposals of the Round Table (E/4662)	5 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/4729	Report of the Economic Committee	16*	

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/4730	Report of the Economic Committee	4*	
E/4731 and Corr.1	<i>Note verbale</i> , dated 28 July 1969, from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General	3	Mimeographed.
E/4732	Report of the Co-ordination Committee	12*	
E/4733	Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Economic Commission for Africa: note by the Secretariat	18	Mimeographed.
E/4734	Report of the Economic Committee	11*	
E/4735	Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-seventh session		<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Resolutions.</i>
E/4736	Report of the Economic Committee	3*	
E/4737	Credentials of representatives to the forty-seventh session of the Council: report of the President and the Vice-Presidents		Mimeographed.
E/4738	Report of the Economic Committee	5*	
E/4739	Report of the Co-ordination Committee	19*	
E/4740	Financial implications of actions of the Council: report by the Secretary-General	—	Mimeographed.
E/4741	Report of the Co-ordination Committee	18*	
E/4742	Report of the Co-ordination Committee	21*	
E/4743	Report of the Co-ordination Committee	9*	
E/AC.6/L.406	Congo (Brazzaville), Guatemala, Norway and the United States of America: draft resolution	16	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.406/Rev.1	Guatemala, Jamaica, Norway and the United States of America: revised draft resolution	16	Mimeographed. Text reproduced in E/4729.
E/AC.6/L.407	Argentina, Belgium, Congo (Brazzaville), France, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay and Yugoslavia: draft resolution	3	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.408	Chad: draft resolution	5 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.408/Rev.1	Chad: revised draft resolution	5 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.409	Upper Volta: draft resolution	5 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.409/Add.1	Financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by Upper Volta (E/AC.6/L.409): note by the Secretary-General	5 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.409/Rev.1	Upper Volta: revised draft resolution	5 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.6/L.409/Rev.1/Add.1	Financial implications of the revised draft resolution submitted by Upper Volta (E/AC.6/L.409/Rev.1): note by the Secretary-General	5 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.354	Organization of the Committee's work: suggestions by the Chairman		Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.354/Add.1	Organization of the Committee's work: list of documents		Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.355	Computers — United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution	18 (a) (b)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.356	Computers — United States of America: amendments to document E/AC.24/L.355	18 (a) (b)	Mimeographed.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/AC.24/L.357 and Corr.1	Co-ordination at the country level: role of the Resident Representatives – Belgium, Indonesia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America: draft resolution	9	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.357/Rev.1	Belgium, Indonesia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America: revised draft resolution	9	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.357/Rev.2	Belgium, Indonesia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America: revised draft resolution	9	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.358	Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the United Nations work programme – United States of America: draft resolution	18 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.359	Evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation – Guatemala, Japan, United States of America: draft resolution	9	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.359/Rev.1	Guatemala, Japan, United States of America: revised draft resolution	9	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.360 and Add.1	India, Jamaica, Kuwait, Libya, Pakistan, Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta and Yugoslavia: draft resolution	19	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.360/Rev.1	India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Libya, Pakistan, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta and Yugoslavia: revised draft resolution	19	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.361	The transfer of operative technology to developing countries – United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution	19	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.362	Computers – Statement of the financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (E/AC.24/L.355) and of the amendments submitted by the United States of America (E/AC.24/L.356): note by the Secretary-General	18 (a) (b)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.363	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: draft resolution	18	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.363/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1	Bulgaria, France, India, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta and Yugoslavia: revised draft resolution	18	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.364	Supplementary arrangements for handling the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit – Argentina, France, India, Pakistan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America: draft resolution	18 (a) (b)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.365	Reports of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on co-ordination matters, of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency – Indonesia, Ireland and Norway: draft resolution	18	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.365/Rev.1	Indonesia, Ireland and Norway: revised draft resolution	18	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.366	Calendar of meetings in 1970 proposed by the Informal Working Group of the Co-ordination Committee	21	Mimeographed.
E/AC.24/L.367	Belgium, France, Indonesia, Kuwait and Yugoslavia: draft resolution	21	Mimeographed.
E/AC.51/GR/20 and Corr.1	Record of decisions taken during the resumed second session of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination	18 (d)	Mimeographed.
E/AC.51/GR/22	Record of decisions taken during the second part of the resumed second session of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination	18 (d)	Mimeographed.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/C.2/674	Statement submitted by the International Chamber of Commerce	2	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/675	Statement submitted by the International Conference of Catholic Charities	—	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/676	Statement submitted by the World Young Women's Christian Association	8 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/677	Statement submitted by the World Touring and Automobile Organization	17	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/678	Statement submitted by the World Federation of Trade Unions	17	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/679	Statement submitted by the International Union of Local Authorities, the International Federation for Housing and Planning and the Inter-American Planning Society	17	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/680	Statement submitted by the Women's International Democratic Federation	2	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/681	Statement submitted by the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations	10	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/682 Corr.1	Statement submitted by the International Catholic Youth Federation	13	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/683	Statement submitted by Pax Romana	2, 3	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/684	Statement submitted by the International Federation of University Women	16	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/685	Statement submitted by the International Student Movement for the United Nations	8 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/686	Statement submitted by the World Federation of United Nations Associations	3	Mimeographed.
E/C.2/687	Statement submitted by the International Student Movement for the United Nations	13	Mimeographed.
E/CN.11/878	<i>Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1968</i>	2 (b)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.F.1.
E/CN.12/825 and Add.1	<i>Economic Survey of Latin America, 1968 — Part One: Some aspects of the Latin American Economy towards the end of the nineteen-sixties — Part Two: Economic trends in 1968</i>	2 (b)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.70.II.G.1.
E/CN.14/435	Economic conditions in Africa in recent years	2 (b)	Mimeographed.
E/ECE/741	<i>Economic Survey of Europe, 1968</i>	2 (b)	United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.E.1.
E/L.1249	Organization of the work of the Council: working paper prepared by the Secretariat	21	Mimeographed.
E/L.1252	Organization of the work of the forty-seventh session: note by the Secretary-General	1	Mimeographed. Replaced by E/1252/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Amend.1.
E/L.1252/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Amend.1	Organization of the work of the forty-seventh session: note by the Secretary-General	1	Mimeographed.
E/L.1261	Note by the Secretary-General	22	Mimeographed.
E/L.1262	Administrative implications of proposals made at the forty-sixth session regarding the organization of the sessions of the Council: note by the Secretary-General	21	Mimeographed.
E/L.1263	Letter dated 18 July 1969 from the Head of the Delegation of Bulgaria addressed to the President of the Council	—	Mimeographed.
E/L.1264	Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Upper Volta: draft resolution	7	Mimeographed.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/L.1264/Rev.1	Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Upper Volta: revised draft resolution	7	Mimeographed.
E/L.1264/Rev.2	Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, and Upper Volta: revised draft resolution	7	Mimeographed.
E/L.1265	Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Libya, Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Upper Volta: draft resolution	7 (a) (b)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1266	Kuwait: draft resolution	7	Mimeographed.
E/L.1267	Communication from the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions addressed to the President of the Council		Mimeographed.
E/L.1268	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting paragraphs 73 to 80 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	18	Mimeographed. For the text of report, see <i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth session, Supplement No. 8.</i>
E/L.1269	India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Republic of Tanzania: draft resolution	8 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1269/Rev.1	India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United Republic of Tanzania: revised draft resolution	8 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1270	France: amendments to document E/L.1269	8 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1271	France: amendments to the draft resolution for action by the Economic and Social Council (E/4651, part IV)	7 (a)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1272	France: amendments to document E/L.1264/Rev.1	7	Mimeographed.
E/L.1273	Argentina, Belgium, India, Ireland, Norway, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Turkey and United States of America: draft resolution	14	Mimeographed.
E/L.1274	Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-seventh session		Mimeographed.
E/L.1275 and Add.1	Argentina, Congo (Brazzaville), Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Upper Volta and Yugoslavia: draft resolution	10	Mimeographed.
E/L.1275/Rev.1	Argentina, Congo (Brazzaville), Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Upper Volta and Yugoslavia: revised draft resolution	10	Mimeographed.
E/L.1276	Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Kuwait, Libya, Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Upper Volta: draft resolution	20	Mimeographed.
E/L.1277	Chad, India, Kuwait, Libya and Pakistan: draft resolution	17	Mimeographed.
E/L.1278	Mexico: draft resolution	17 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1278/Rev.1	Mexico: revised draft resolution	17 (c)	Mimeographed.
E/L.1279	Argentina: amendments to document E/L.1277	17	Mimeographed.
E/L.1280	Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: amendments to document E/L.1277	17	Mimeographed.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/L.1281	Letter dated 6 August 1969 from the heads of the delegations of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America addressed to the President of the Council		Mimeographed.
E/RES.1431(XLVII) 1460 (XLVII)	Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-seventh session		<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Resolutions (E/4735), (resolutions 1431 (XLVII) to 1460 (XLVII)).</i>



CONTENTS

	Page
Opening of the session .....	1
Agenda item 1:	
Adoption of the agenda .....	1
Organization of work .....	1
Statement by the Secretary-General .....	2

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

Opening of the session

1. The PRESIDENT declared open the forty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council. He announced that the Secretary-General was prevented by illness from attending the session, and proposed that he should send him on behalf of the Council a message of sympathy and good wishes for a prompt recovery.

*It was so decided.*

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda (E/4703)

*The provisional agenda (E/4703) was adopted.*

Organization of work (E/L.1252/Rev.1)

2. The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with the decisions adopted at the Council's forty-sixth session (1602nd meeting), items 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20 and 22 would be considered in plenary meeting, items 3, 4, 5, 11, 16 and 19 would be referred to the Economic Committee and items 9, 12, 18 and 21 to the Co-ordination Committee; items 7 and 23 to 29 would be considered at the resumed forty-seventh session.

3. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) reminded members that in earlier discussions the Council had decided to consider agenda item 17, "Development of tourism", in plenary meeting because of its great importance. Since, however, the item would give rise to a very difficult debate, a preliminary discussion on it should preferably be held in plenary meeting, after which it should be referred to the Co-ordination Committee, which would have before it a report on the item by the Secretary-General (E/4653 and Add.1) and the comments submitted by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

4. Mr. VIAUD (France) supported the United Kingdom representative's proposal and suggested that the Co-ordination Committee's order of work should be amended

accordingly. It would also be desirable if agenda item 12, "The sea", were taken at the end of the second week of the Co-ordination Committee's work, since his Government had not yet been able to consider the relevant documents and his delegation had not yet received instructions on the subject. The matter had been examined from different angles by various United Nations bodies, and should not be considered until all delegations had had time to prepare for it thoroughly. If his proposal were accepted, the meetings set aside for the item could be used for the consideration of the item on the development of tourism, as the United Kingdom representative had proposed.

5. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) reminded the Council that his delegation, supported by other delegations, had proposed that the question of the development of tourism, to which a good many countries attached great importance, should be considered in plenary meeting. His delegation did not think that the procedure proposed by the United Kingdom representative was likely to simplify and facilitate consideration of the item, but would not insist that it should be considered exclusively in plenary meeting.

6. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) pointed out that, if the item on the development of tourism were considered first in plenary meeting and then referred to the Co-ordination Committee, it would have to be resubmitted to the Council in plenary meeting after the Co-ordination Committee had completed its work. In the circumstances it would be better to refer the item immediately to the Co-ordination Committee and thereafter to consider it in plenary meeting.

7. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) supported the proposal submitted by the United Kingdom and French delegations. His delegation did not, however, support the proposal that item 17 should be considered before item 12, since problems of the development of tourism were of capital importance for the developing countries, particularly for Turkey, and delegations must have enough time to consider all aspects of the problem.

8. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had proposed that item 17 should be considered first in plenary meeting in order to emphasize the Council's interest in the question, but it would agree to a direct reference to the Co-ordination Committee.

9. Mr. SWAMINATHAN (India) thought, like the Mexican representative, that item 17 should be considered in plenary meeting in order to demonstrate that the developing countries attached great importance to it.

10. The PRESIDENT proposed that item 17 should be considered first in plenary meeting, then referred to the Co-ordination Committee, and finally submitted to the plenary meeting for decision.

*It was so decided.*

11. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) observed that item 7, "Regional co-operation", could involve matters of organization and co-ordination; in such a case his delegation reserved its right to propose, after the debate in plenary, that the item should be referred to the Co-ordination Committee.

12. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) pointed out that item 19, "Future institutional arrangements for science and technology", was concerned – as its title indicated – with organization, and was moreover closely linked to item 21, "Measures to approve the organization of the work of the Council and calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971". It should therefore be referred to the Co-ordination Committee rather than to the Economic Committee.

13. Mr. SWAMINATHAN (India) supported the United Kingdom delegation's proposal, but pointed out that reference of the item to the Co-ordination Committee should not be interpreted as solely procedural; delegations must be quite free to raise questions of substance.

14. The PRESIDENT proposed that item 19 should be referred to the Co-ordination Committee.

*It was so decided.*

15. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) thought that item 11, "Multilateral food aid", was so important that it should be considered in plenary meeting.

16. Mr. VIAUD (France) agreed, but held that it could be considered within the general debate.

17. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) supported the French representative's suggestion.

18. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, since it had apparently been agreed to postpone debate on item 12, the Co-ordination Committee should take up item 18 immediately after item 9 and discuss item 12 later.

19. Mr. HAMBRO (Norway) said that for practical reasons his delegation would prefer item 12 to be discussed not later than the end of the second week of the Co-ordination Committee's work.

20. The PRESIDENT said that he would endeavour so to arrange the Co-ordination Committee's time-table that the views of all delegations were taken into account. On

that understanding he proposed that the Co-ordination Committee should consider item 18 before item 12.

*It was so decided.*

21. The PRESIDENT suggested that, subject to the approved amendments, the proposals in the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1252/Rev.1) for the organization of the work of the session should be adopted and that in consequence an Economic Committee and a Co-ordination Committee should be appointed for the duration of the session.

22. In accordance with the decision at the Council's forty-sixth session, Mr. Maramis, Vice-President of the Council, would preside the Co-ordination Committee. In the absence of Mr. Kestler and Mr. Fakhreddine, the Council's other two vice-presidents, it should under rule 23 of the rules of procedure elect a new chairman of the Economic Committee at the next meeting.

23. Mrs. ZAEFFERER de GOYENECHÉ (Argentina) pointed out that the Economic Committee should have been presided by Mr. Kestler, the representative of Guatemala. It should be presided by the representative of a Latin American country.

24. The PRESIDENT said that that had indeed been his understanding: the group of Latin American countries should nominate a candidate for the office of Chairman of the Economic Committee.

#### Statement by the Secretary-General

25. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) read the statement which the Secretary-General was to have delivered at the opening of the forty-seventh session.

26. The Secretary-General emphasized that many of the most dangerous situations in the world today were largely rooted in unresolved social and economic ills. The basic problems before the Council must be vigorously attacked in order to keep frustrating confrontations from further endangering peace and stability at the national as well as the international level.

27. Mankind was engaged in a process of change leading to a new order of things. All nations, in addition to their own problems, were now having to deal with new phenomena demanding new forms of international co-operation. Between revolt and resignation, the only possible course was constructive action.

28. In order to appear as a revolutionary instrument in the search for a global partnership, the United Nations would have to gear itself to new conditions, improve its institutional machinery and keep its programme of work



abreast of the times. In such a task its budgetary policies should obviously be consistent with its contributions to world development and with the hopes associated with its Second Development Decade. To that end a rational decision-making process must be developed and the present machinery for planning, programming and budgeting overhauled. Programme proposals should be subjected to the most careful scrutiny from the point of view not only of cost but also of effectiveness, of the benefits hoped for, and of the alternative means available to reach a given objective. Moreover, budgetary decisions would have to be made in the knowledge of their programme implications. That new approach would call for an increased emphasis on medium- and long-term planning and for the establishment of the United Nations budget, at least in the economic and social sectors, on a programme basis. The work of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination demonstrated how the function of investigation and control, so necessary to any institutional system, should be exercised. Through such mechanisms it should be possible to examine more systematically how certain activities were organized within the whole system and to propose improvements or reforms.

29. The Council's decision to pay special attention to the preparatory work for the Second United Nations Development Decade was all the more opportune since the group of delegations of the socialist countries had not been able to participate in the work of the Preparatory Committee. The development strategy would gain strength from universal participation, and it was hoped that the present situation would be corrected.

30. Part I of the 1968 *World Economic Survey* (E/4687 and Add.1 to 3) showed how far current thinking on development had benefited from the analysis and discussion which had accompanied the preparation for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Certain concepts had been accepted through which the various ideologies could be reconciled, as the concept of development was now viewed in its broadest political, social and economic context. It was necessary to draw the consequences of that new approach. Tensions and conflicts were problems to which development policies must be geared. Institutions, attitudes and motivations should be looked upon as instruments of a strategy for development. It must be recognized that the synthesis which that approach required was not yet very far advanced and that the pace of investigation on those matters would have to be hastened to assist Governments in working out their own formulae.

31. That new concept would require more resources, an acceleration in the progress of productivity and a more adequate international effort. The target the Council chose for the average annual rate of growth for the Second United Nations Development Decade must reflect a significant change in the present trend. The rates of growth for agricultural production and industrial development would have to increase considerably, and that would require the mobilization of considerable political

will in both developing and developed countries; but the technical possibilities were there in both agriculture and industry. It should, however, also be recognized that an efficient industrial development would depend on a measure of specialization emphasizing the need to promote regional economic co-operation among groups of developing countries, a field in which the progress so far made was insufficient.

32. In respect of the international effort, a relatively limited sacrifice would be needed to improve the economic growth of developing countries; a slight reduction in expenditures on armaments would make available the external resources required for resolving at least some of the present economic and social problems. Aside from the waste and dangers of the arms race between the super-powers, more attention should be paid to the military posture of so many poor countries, which were diverting their efforts and resources from the basic needs of their peoples and inducing neighbouring countries to follow the same path. It was to be hoped that the efforts proposed to the Council would help to reverse that trend.

33. A new dimension of the problem arose from the appearance of youth as a fundamental factor in the political arena. Young people were discontented with the sluggishness of institutions and the structure of political, economic and social life. Many were impatient with injustice and questioned the existing channels of institutional change, sometimes with a violence which denied the ends for which they yearned.

34. During the years ahead, societies all over the world would have to adapt their priorities and allocate their resources to take into account the demands of youth. Rather than be regarded as a threat or a problem, young people should be acknowledged as a reserve of hope and a spur to action and progress.

35. The Commission for Social Development had underlined the dangers of the situation and stressed that young people should be associated with national planning for development. Many youth movements had demonstrated their determination to participate in the drive for development, especially through international voluntary service. New channels of communication must be sought and the positive characteristics of youth drawn upon to give a new emphasis to development policies.

36. The hope that lay in youth and the need to create conditions where it could fulfil its promise led to an examination of population policies. The rapid expansion in population created problems of outstanding magnitude in the developing countries, especially in terms of educational facilities and employment. That population explosion had given rise to much concern and discussion, in striking contrast with the official attitude of reticence or hostility that had prevailed until recently in many developing countries.

37. The Council had given attention at its forty-fifth session to the links between population trends and development opportunities, and had decided to expand United Nations activities in the field of population. Thanks to the voluntary contributions of Governments, population programme officers and interagency missions had been sent to different countries. Arrangements had been made for the full utilization of the managerial experience of UNDP, and the Population Division had revised its five-year work programme to include a variety of projects, with special emphasis both on the co-ordination of development efforts in the Second United Nations Development Decade and on the need for regional programmes through the regional economic commissions. ACC had recently suggested that every country should establish its own programme and policy in the field of population. That would require bolder action and increased international co-operation. The United Nations system was now prepared to make so large a contribution that considerable resources might be raised and put at the disposal of the Organization to enable it to expand its role in that area.

38. However important such programmes might be, their success would depend on a general improvement in economic prospects. In the vitally important field of trade and development, the creation of the continuing machinery of UNCTAD had made possible a better identification of most key problems and a clear definition of various types of specific measures. In spite of major disappointments, particularly at the second session of the Conference, progress could be made, as was demonstrated by the recent adoption of the new International Sugar Agreement and its favourable impact on the market price of a commodity on which a number of developing countries depended heavily. That agreement showed that practical results could be obtained within UNCTAD when there was a real willingness on the part of both developed and developing countries to enter into practical commitments. The second session of the Conference had further served to clarify positions on other fundamental problems and had left open many opportunities for concerted action affecting commodities, aid, trade and economic integration among developing countries and among countries having different economic and social systems. Continuing failure to arrive at decisions and commitments to implement policies already agreed in principle by all concerned would cast a serious doubt on the chances of success of the Second United Nations Development Decade. Not only was it very desirable that a comprehensive agreement should be reached before 1971 on the main trade and aid elements that should be encompassed within the global strategy, but it was also hoped that at least a few of the measures already agreed upon in principle would be brought closer to the stage of implementation. Among those, the scheme for preferences deserved high priority.

39. One field which had not been specifically highlighted was the vitally important one of public administration. United Nations action in that field had, however,

been forging ahead, and the Secretary-General intended to propose new and more ambitious objectives and programmes once the General Assembly had agreed upon the guidelines for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Good public administration could be a major instrument for promoting economic and social development and for introducing advances in science and technology; but deficiencies in administration had been a major reason for past failures in the implementation of national development plans. The United Nations had gradually developed a network of contacts which had greatly helped it in carrying out successfully its technical assistance activities in the field of public administration. The United Nations system should be especially responsive to requests of small States for assistance in working out co-operative arrangements for the administration of those development activities which they were unable to carry out entirely on a national basis. Similarly, the United Nations system should be prepared to provide the administrative machinery necessary for certain functions, such as weather forecasting, telecommunications and development of resources of the sea, which could best be administered on a supranational basis.

40. Without infringing the sovereignty of Member States, it should be possible to increase everywhere the individual's identity with world society. It seemed ironic that many of those who had suddenly awakened to the cost of neglecting poverty and injustice at home seemed unable to apply the lessons of their domestic experience to the world in which they lived. That mentality must be changed and people be made to understand that the domestic war on poverty and injustice could not be won at the expense of the international one.

41. Speaking on behalf of the United Nations family, the Secretary-General observed that considerable attention had been given throughout the past year to the questions of co-ordination which faced the United Nations and the agencies of its system. Different aspects of the issue had been under consideration by UNDP, the Expanded Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, and ACC. That intensive preoccupation had been motivated in part by the increase in the activities which the United Nations system had been called upon to carry out, but also by an awareness of the inadequacy of co-ordination in certain areas and of certain stresses and strains in the fabric of the system. The ACC report (E/4668 and Add.1) before the Council mentioned a number of difficulties in the application of science and technology, and particularly in the programme aimed at achieving an increased production and consumption of protein foods and in questions relating to water utilization and development. The discussions in ACC, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, and the joint meetings had not fully resolved those problems, which were inherent in the decentralized structure of the international system. They had, however, led to special efforts to eliminate or attenuate causes of friction, to remove misunderstandings and to improve arrangements for co-operation. In the field of industrial development, where a certain amount of fric-

tion was perhaps inevitable as a result of the creation of a new organization with broad responsibilities, the situation had been eased by the various understandings worked out between UNIDO and other agencies; in that regard there was every reason to welcome the agreement recently concluded between the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Director of UNIDO.

42. Conscious of the general agreement among Council members that ACC should play a more active part in the attainment of the goals of the United Nations system, the Secretary-General and his colleagues were devoting increasing attention to elucidating some of the many issues of policy for the various governing organs and to suggesting ways of approaching them.

43. He had already called the attention of the General Assembly to the sense of concern felt at the growth in the number of bodies and programmes established by intergovernmental organs for co-ordination purposes, with all the complexities and duplications which they involved. He expressed the hope once again that the General Assembly and the other United Nations intergovernmental organs concerned would find it possible to scrutinize carefully the arrangements for co-ordination at their level. Furthermore, he recalled that he had invited ACC to review and scrutinize the work of inter-agency arrangements at the secretariat level with a view to streamlining and improving its machinery. A process of intensive review had begun and had already led to agree-

ment on some reforms in the structure and function of ACC. The Council would certainly take account of the views expressed by ACC in its report, while at the same time bearing in mind the special character of the Committee, whose members were appointed by the decision of their respective governing organs and whose reports formed a continuing link between the different parts of the United Nations system. He attached great importance to conserving and consolidating the Committee's influence and to maintaining a climate of mutual confidence among its members and to strengthening the intergovernmental fabric for co-ordination throughout the United Nations system.

44. The Second United Nations Development Decade was of the utmost moment and would require vast changes in the policies of both rich and poor countries. He invited the members of the Council to bear in mind during their discussions the broad perspective of the dangers with which the failure of the Decade would certainly threaten the economic and political stability of the world, and hoped that the forty-seventh session of the Council would be fruitful and successful.

45. The PRESIDENT thanked the Secretary-General on behalf of the members of the Council, and assured him of the interest with which they had listened to the statement which had just been read out.

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 15 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Election of a Vice-President .....	7
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy	
Speakers:	
Mr. Mili (ITU) .....	7
Dr. Dorolle (WHO) .....	8
Mr. Yost (United States of America) .....	10
Lord Caradon (United Kingdom) .....	12

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

Election of a Vice-President

1. The PRESIDENT said that it was necessary for the Council to elect a further Vice-President to replace Mr. Kestler (Guatemala) who was unable to attend the session.

2. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico), supported by Mr. MAS (France) nominated Mr. López Herrarte (Guatemala).

*Mr. López Herrarte (Guatemala) was elected Vice-President by acclamation.*

AGENDA ITEM 2

General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741)

3. Mr. MILI (Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union) said that the main problems facing ITU were closely connected with the development of the world-wide telecommunication network. National authorities were increasingly realizing the impact of telecommunications on the economic and social development of their respective countries. The constantly increasing demand for telecommunications explained the hopes placed by engineers in new media, such as satellite telecommunications, which would permit intercontinental transmission of telephony, television or data between computers in the near future at low cost. Such media would also open up new possibilities in sound broadcasting.

4. Although many countries were not yet in a position to benefit from the latest techniques, most of them were becoming increasingly aware of the potentialities of present-day telecommunication media.

5. Considerable attention had been paid to the presentation of the report on ITU activities for 1968 (E/4691), which included a summary of the purposes and structure of the agency and a brief review of the functions of its permanent organs. A special section had been devoted to ITU activities in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space. The report was accompanied by contributions from many members of ITU on progress made by them in 1968 in space communication.

6. The International Radio Consultative Committee of ITU had continued its work, which was not only important with respect to standardization and regulations for radio but was also of great interest to science and technology. In that respect, mention should be made of the establishment of an international working party to study the technical problems raised by the use of the geostationary orbit.

7. The International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee had held its fourth plenary assembly in October 1968. Among the many important matters it had considered were the conditions for introducing satellite links into the world telephone network.

8. The ITU Administrative Council had always attached great importance to the major problem of space. At its twenty-third session, in May 1968, it had decided, with the agreement of most members of ITU, that a world administrative space telecommunication conference should be held in Geneva in June-July 1971. That decision was fully justified by the great progress made in space techniques since the first space conference held under ITU auspices in Geneva in 1963. That conference had allocated frequency bands for space radiocommunications and had, for the first time, drawn up international regulations for their operation.

9. The purpose of the 1971 conference would be to allocate new frequency bands for space telecommunications and to prepare appropriate regulations for space activities. The conference would also have to take any new action required in the light of new needs which varied greatly in meteorology, aeronautics and broadcasting. The International Frequency Registration Board had already begun technical preparations for the conference.

10. ITU had continued to pay special attention to technical co-operation, the three chief aims of which were still to foster the development of telecommunication networks in Africa, Asia and Latin America; to train the staff required for telecommunications; and to strengthen the technical and administrative services for telecommunications in the developing countries.

11. Although ITU had been planning international telecommunication networks on a world-wide scale for about ten years, it had not actively assisted the countries concerned to put those plans into effect. That assistance could be intensified in future as it was supported by the United Nations and its regional economic commissions.

12. A global strategy applied by all the organizations in the United Nations family was a prerequisite for the success of the Second United Nations Development Decade. With respect to ITU, there were two basic principles to be followed. First, the selection of priorities should take account of the obvious need of all countries to have an adequate telecommunication network to enable them to embark on their economic and social development. Telecommunications had frequently been placed low on the list because the need to develop them had not been clearly realized when national priorities had been allocated. A better co-ordination of efforts and concerted action by the responsible authorities, the regional economic commissions and the UNDP and ITU resident representatives should enable that major drawback to be remedied. Secondly, the development of human resources should take priority over the development of equipment; it was useless to have the most modern equipment if local personnel was not available to operate it. Furthermore, senior technical staff was sometimes trained in a rather exclusive manner although it could do nothing without a team of competent technicians. In other words, the development of human resources should be guided by a global strategy affecting all staff, from the skilled workman to the qualified engineer.

13. Nothing could be done, however, if the responsible authorities and the general public were not provided with complete and frank information. Hence ITU had decided to designate 17 May 1969, the anniversary of the signing in 1865 of the convention establishing it, as World Telecommunication Day. The purpose of the day had been to attract the attention of the general public and of non-technical decision-makers to the importance of telecommunications and to the need for international co-operation in that area. To ensure the success of the first World Telecommunication Day, an intensive information campaign had been launched with the assistance of most of the telecommunication administrations in member States, the United Nations information centres, the UNDP resident representatives and a large number of recognized private operating agencies. He reiterated his thanks to all who had assisted in making the occasion a success, particularly the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

14. The Administrative Council had decided that the second World Telecommunication Day, to be celebrated on 17 May 1970, should be devoted to the theme "Telecommunication and Education", in view of the fact that 1970 had been declared International Education Year.

15. The excellent relations which continued to exist between ITU and other organizations of the United Nations family had been particularly exemplified by the active part it had played in the Working Group on Broadcasting Satellites set up in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2453 (XXIII). ITU was also taking part in the studies undertaken by UNESCO on the use of satellites to combat illiteracy and continued to co-operate very closely with UPU, WMO, ICAO and IMCO in different studies concerning the World Weather Watch and navigation satellites. He expressed his gratitude to those organizations for the understanding they had always shown towards ITU.

16. Dr. DOROLLE (Deputy Director-General, World Health Organization) said that, in the absence of the Director-General, who was attending the World Health Assembly in Boston, he had the honour to present the report on the work of WHO in 1968 (E/4675 and Add.1 and 2).

17. During 1968, WHO had been associated with 1,512 projects in 154 countries and territories and 90 per cent of its ordinary budget had been spent on technical co-operation programmes. Since the range of activities was large, they could only be described in broad outline.

18. The first main feature was the control of communicable diseases. The effect of such diseases was as important in the economic field as it was on over-all morbidity, mortality and disability. It was not surprising, therefore, that communicable disease eradication or control accounted for some 35 per cent of WHO's ordinary budget.

19. The goal of eradicating malaria and smallpox had been pursued in 1968. A period of ten years had been set as ideal for eradicating smallpox, except in a few isolated and remote foci. All would depend, however, on the efforts made by all concerned.

20. World-wide eradication of malaria was less certain and more difficult. The campaign launched in 1958 had completely altered the world picture with respect to that disease but there had been some unexpected developments. The inadequacy of basic health services and of funds allocated to the surveillance of possible fresh outbreaks was a cause of many failures. The World Health Assembly was currently discussing a possible revision of the strategy of malaria eradication. The outcome would probably be a more flexible strategy, better adapted to local circumstances, and a less ambitious and more limited form of control where conditions were not suitable for a full-scale eradication programme. The development of basic health services was of fundamental importance and

Governments should pursue their efforts unflinchingly. There was also need to continue research on the increasingly complex problems of vector and parasitic biology, on the formulation of the new insecticides required owing to the development of resistance, on malaria chemotherapy and on malaria immunology.

21. Although the gamut of communicable diseases was large, modern conditions of prevention and control made it possible to avoid any serious risk of large-scale epidemics, but the increased speed of international travel had introduced further dissemination hazards. In July 1968, a new strain of influenza virus had been detected in Hong Kong akin to, but not identical with, the A2 strain which had caused the 1957 pandemic. Rapid isolation of the virus, thanks to the WHO international influenza centres, had made it possible to produce increasing supplies of vaccine within a few months. That episode was a reminder that viruses were potent agents of disease and death and that vast populations were still highly vulnerable to them. Far-reaching research was needed.

22. In the case of parasitic, bacterial and virus diseases, considerable effort was called for on the part of Governments and, in many tropical countries, control of communicable diseases could absorb the greater part of the health budget.

23. The solution lay in the increasing integration of local basic health services. Concentration on the planning and strengthening of health services should not be restricted to rural areas but should take the form of a systematically organized network of services ranging from the most remote health posts to the regional or central general hospital. WHO was being pressed by many Governments for assistance of that kind and was responding actively, but, even with increased external support, the final responsibility for action rested squarely with Governments.

24. One of the functions of WHO was to advise its member States on the health aspects of human reproduction, family planning and fertility control. He would merely outline the programme, since it had been described in detail to the Council at the forty-fifth session (1538th meeting).

25. WHO did not advocate any particular population policy; it advised, guided and assisted Governments, on request. In countries that so wished, it encouraged the organization of family planning services through the most appropriate medium, namely, maternal and child health services.

26. Since 1966, over twenty requests for advisory services had been received from Governments and complied with. They had covered every aspect of the organization and administration of family planning programmes and such matters as medical aspects of fertility and sterility. Particular mention should be made of the problem of training and education. International training courses and

seminars had been organized for national health service personnel and five orientation courses had been held for WHO staff to equip them better to give Governments the aid they requested. WHO had also co-operated in a small number of multi-disciplinary evaluation studies of major national programmes. Sixteen groups of leading specialists in all the fields concerned with human reproduction had met to discuss a large range of topics and to review and evaluate recent knowledge.

27. A new feature was a direct concern with the introduction of basic courses on human reproduction and fertility control in medical training. WHO would encourage and assist medical schools to provide future doctors with training in the areas of reproduction and family planning, while research would continue and be expanded. There was a need for research not only on the scientific aspects of the chemistry and biology of reproduction, many areas of which were still obscure, but also on the human aspects. There was also a need to improve methods of health education that would increase the understanding of existing methods and promote their acceptance under varying cultural and social conditions.

28. Family planning must be a part of the health services, which should be adequately staffed with trained personnel. Without such integration and persistent education and research, false expectations would be encouraged and results would fall far short of the targets — already over-ambitious — which had been set in some countries. Family planning would make its full contribution to any specified population policy only if accompanied by other measures designed to improve the economic and social situation of the family and the community. WHO would continue to work in that field with the United Nations and the other specialized agencies.

29. In communicable disease control, maternal and child health, family planning and any other activity devolving upon the basic community health services, the chief impediment to development was the lack of trained and qualified personnel. That shortage was most serious in the developing countries owing to a number of related factors: restricted financial resources, absence of an adequate pool of young people completing secondary school, an inadequate number of training establishments and the competition of other branches of development. While some developing countries had no more than one doctor per 50,000 inhabitants, the most developed countries had one per 500 or 1,000 inhabitants. Not enough had yet been done to remedy that shocking disparity apart from sending out expatriate personnel who were still far too few in number. Very many more indigenous practical polyvalent doctors must be trained, capable not only of performing whatever might reasonably be required of a good physician with an adequate knowledge of surgery and obstetrics, but also of serving as public health doctors with experience of preventive work and as leaders of health teams. By employing the health-team system, it would be possible to expand and diversify the medical

function and to extend the services of the doctor himself to more people over a larger area.

30. The happy day was still far off when medical faculties and schools providing other kinds of health training would be able to produce the necessary quota of health personnel at all levels in Asia and Africa. Hence the idea of the multi-disciplinary training institution, which, in addition to training physicians, would be able to provide a substantial part of the training for other members of the health team. The first such institution was to be established on a bilingual basis in Cameroon. The idea had aroused interest and even enthusiasm in some of the quarters from which multilateral or bilateral aid could be obtained. The additional advantage of that approach was that it would produce physicians who, from the beginning of their training, had learned to work alongside other members of the health team. Moreover, their training would bring them into daily contact with the harsh realities of tropical diseases, malnutrition, poverty and squalor, in the midst of which they would have to work later. If successful, it would be an exceptionally valuable experiment.

31. Any encouragement the Council might give to such activities would be both inestimable and timely, since the United Nations had designated 1970 as International Education Year. In public health as in other sectors, the training of professional cadres and auxiliary personnel lay at the heart of the development process. WHO would participate actively in International Education Year in a spirit of experiment and of quest for new and effective solutions.

32. The diversity and complexity of health problems were in themselves sufficient to warrant the importance WHO attached to long-term planning. Certain simple or complex influences affecting the health of the individual and the community were due to economic and social factors and were thus a joint concern of WHO and other organizations of the United Nations system. It was increasingly important, for instance, to take precautions against the progressive and cumulative deterioration of the human environment, since it endangered man's health, happiness, work and productivity.

33. The complex interrelated phenomena of migration, urbanization and industrialization affected every aspect of man's physical, mental and social health. The dangers arising from pollution of the air, soil and water, food additives, the extensive use of pesticides and the ineffective disposal of radioactive wastes and other contaminants were resulting, or would result, in serious adverse changes in human ecology, modifications in the pattern of disease, both communicable and chronic, and deterioration in the mental health and welfare of individuals and of society as a whole. Hence there was greatly increasing pressure on public health services, necessitating changes in their structure and increasing their cost. A bold and constructive approach to the study of those problems had been made at the Intergovernmental Conference of Experts on the

Scientific Basis for Rational Use and Conservation of the Resources of the Biosphere, convened by UNESCO in 1968 with the participation of the United Nations and other specialized agencies. WHO had been glad to associate itself with the conference. The participants had critically reviewed the whole of human ecology in relation to the changing biosphere and man's role as beneficiary, violator and manipulator of his environment.

34. The outlook for improving environmental health and controlling the ill-effects of the numerous forms of pollution, to which millions of human beings and other creatures were constantly exposed, continued to deteriorate. The international conference on problems of the human environment, which the United Nations proposed to hold in 1972, and in which WHO would co-operate fully, would consequently be an event of the first importance, since it would make the world community better aware of the danger which those problems represented, not only for the present but, even more ominously, for future generations.

35. WHO had fully co-operated in the various steps taken to trace the preliminary outline of a strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. It had endeavoured tentatively, but as pragmatically as possible, to outline the global objectives it regarded as feasible between 1971 and 1980 in well-defined fields in which it had both competence and knowledge of existing needs. The Director-General of WHO had addressed the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade and had described WHO's contribution in broad terms. WHO would continue to co-operate actively with other organizations of the United Nations system and with Governments in the great work of preparing the strategy for the Second Development Decade. It was encouraging to see the growing sense of interdependence which characterized the co-operation of the other organizations of the United Nations system and the many sources of bilateral assistance and which was bound to contribute to the success of their efforts "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom", as provided in the Preamble to the Charter.

36. Mr. YOST (United States of America), emphasizing the paradox of spectacular material and scientific progress, as epitomized by the imminent landing on the moon, in a world which tolerated large armaments, social injustice, a population growing too rapidly and a decline in the quality of human life, said that the Council could play a part in helping the world's present fragmented, underdeveloped and self-destructive society to improve its capacity to govern itself and to place within the reach of all peoples the intellectual and material benefits now available to many. In the past twenty-five years an imposing system of international agencies had been created to promote progress in labour, agriculture, health, education and finance linked to the United Nations and serving its objectives. Later the technical assistance and pre-investment programmes now merged in UNDP and IDA had been created. The developing countries had

achieved an appreciable rise in their rate of economic growth during the first United Nations Development Decade. Impressive progress had been made in industrial production, international river development, education and food production; family planning programmes had been initiated to counter the disastrously rapid population growth. However, that was only a beginning, since half the world's population was still undernourished, education in most countries was inadequate in quantity and quality and vast physical and human resources remained untapped.

37. The problem of development was much more complex than had been supposed: it was not merely a matter of pouring in capital and technical assistance, setting up industries and multiplying bureaucracies and laws, but of organizing those and other essential processes in a dynamic and balanced pattern of modernization. Those processes, most of which were essential to all healthy societies, needed to be assisted and co-ordinated internationally; there was still a pressing need for the transfer of large amounts of capital from developed to developing countries. The United States Government, while trying to combat poverty and under-development in its own economy, proposed to continue to provide foreign aid, with emphasis on technical assistance, assistance in food production and family planning assistance through multilateral channels and private enterprise. The President of the United States had proposed a contribution of \$100 million to UNDP on a matching basis, an increase of 43 per cent. Significant contributions were proposed to be made to IDA and to the regional development banks. The United States whole-heartedly supported the new programme of IBRD.

38. It was necessary to find ways of promoting development while avoiding the evils of unplanned industrialism, increasing the flow of material goods and, at the same time, fostering stable political systems and a healthy cultural environment. The chief vice of modern industrial society seemed to be not the exploitation of man by man but a disoriented, blind, technological momentum, which needed to be guided and controlled. Since all development depended to a large extent on training and education, the most appropriate way of observing International Education Year would be to ensure that United Nations education programmes were wisely directed and well balanced. Their objectives should be universal elementary education and literacy, and higher education for as many as possible, but the developing world's most acute need was for able managers, experts and technicians.

39. A new major element in the present-day concept of development was growing concern for the quality of the human environment. Pollution was becoming a world problem requiring solutions on a world scale. Much of modern life was now city life; although the nerve centres of economic and cultural life, cities were also dangerous breeding grounds of human wretchedness, rootlessness,

unemployment and violence. One of the objectives of development strategy must therefore be to make the modern city a place in which people could live and work in dignity. Since the misery of urban slums was compounded by the flight from rural misery, agriculture and industry must be treated as part of an integrated development scheme and their problems resolved together. Technical advances, coupled with land reform, were already bringing about a revolution in agriculture, and the United States intended to give added impetus to the World Food Programme and other international activities in that field.

40. The population problem constituted a threat to human survival comparable to that of nuclear weapons. It was imperative to find an early solution, as the world's population was expected to double within the next twenty-five years. Some ecologists believed that the optimum population level had already been passed and that, unless growth rates were substantially reduced by the end of the next decade, all efforts to promote development, increase food supplies and improve the quality of life would be in vain. Fortunately, effective means were available if the political will was forthcoming. Concerted action was needed. His Government was prepared to support the United Nations Fund for Population Activities on an increasing scale and endorsed the proposal that UNDP should assume full responsibility for the fund's administration. Population measures could then be planned and executed as part of over-all plans for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

41. Since man was the sole aim as well as the principal agent of all development, the progress achieved by the Council in its various fields of competence should be measured, not merely in terms of gross national product, but also in terms of net human benefits. The guiding principle of all development effort must therefore be more than the alleviation of material poverty and physical hunger; it must be the raising of the quality of human life. The task of the United Nations was to foster the physical and institutional conditions in which each nation and each community, drawing on the best in its own traditions and the experience of others, could freely create a better and more human way of life for its people.

42. Emphasizing the importance of co-ordination for the attainment of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade, he said that full use would have to be made of all the United Nations bodies responsible for co-ordination. He paid a special tribute to UNDP, whose method of programming and funding had made the efforts of co-operating Governments and agencies most effective. In promoting co-ordination, the Council should make a special effort to combat two undesirable tendencies: one was the force of mutual exclusion among technical specialities, which too often led to the isolation of disciplines and hindered the attainment of common objectives; the other was the division of developed and less developed countries into two mutually exclusive and mutually suspicious camps. Any real differ-



ences of perspective and interest between developed and developing countries would yield not to coercion by wealth or voting majorities but only to rational discussion and, where necessary, compromise in the light of overriding common interests. Development programmes could be fruitful only if they enjoyed the support of both developing and developed countries and any United Nations undertakings which lacked that support would merely dissipate resources and, in the long run, bring the Organization into discredit. In taking up the challenge to raise the quality of human life, the United Nations had a chance to make headway, not only against poverty, but also against political instability, social injustice, defilement of the environment, the degradation of human life, enmity and war. Those, then, were the noble aims of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

43. Lord CARADON (United Kingdom) said that the statement of the Secretary-General, which had been read by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs at the previous meeting, had been necessarily disturbing in its definition of dangers, but encouraging in its confidence that those dangers could be overcome by international effort. Having spent a large part of his life on development planning and action in developing countries, which from the practical viewpoint was the most important aspect of the development process, he wished to examine activities at the centre of the United Nations system in the light of his experience.

44. A central question was whether the Second United Nations Development Decade could be made a practical success rather than an exercise in theoretical economic speculation. The creation in recent years of means of providing international assistance for development was of much greater significance than was generally realized and constituted in fact an extremely important advance. Only recently had it been acknowledged that the world could not remain one-third affluent and two-thirds impoverished and that poverty could not be eradicated by the poor alone; as a result, effective machinery for multilateral development aid had been created. Over the past decade, UNDP had been built up to the point where, in 1969, over 100 Governments had contributed to it a total of nearly \$200 million. Although such a level of aid would be inadequate for the future, the machinery and the means of increasing it were established. In that context, those responsible for UNDP activities had shown themselves to be among the most practical internationalists of the twentieth century. It was to be expected that IBRD would provide a new lead in the coming United Nations Development Decade and that, with increasing co-operation among UNDP, IBRD and the full range of United Nations agencies and organizations, the United Nations would play a far more important part in international development in the new decade than in the one which had preceded it.

45. The prospect of increased efficiency offered by the timely studies currently being undertaken by UNDP and IBRD encouraged that hope. When the results of those

studies were known, quick and confident decisions would be necessary so that a period of vigorous new action could begin. Until that happened, encouragement could be derived from the increasing realization that development was a fully concerted effort. It was increasingly recognized that development in any country must be the result of consultation between the representatives of national and international sources of development aid and government planning authorities, involving examination of needs and priorities and the identification of each donor's most effective contribution to a balanced programme. Apart from such concerted country programmes, regional development projects were also essential. The influence of international organizations would play an increasing part in encouraging such regional development.

46. However, the concept of the new Development Decade involved more than international machinery and the concentration of development in national and regional programmes. While it might be doubted whether much of what took place was practical planning rather than mere wishful talking, and while suspicion of theoretical economic dissertations might be justified, he believed that the wide-ranging discussion which had developed in recent years in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council would be of great consequence for the future. The debate between developed and developing nations in UNCTAD and elsewhere had raised questions of trade barriers and trade preferences and had shown that, without improvement in the conditions and flow of trade, all the efforts of the developing countries and all attempts to help them would be ineffective. The United Kingdom, as a country which had long depended on trade for its economic survival, was convinced of the importance of that aspect. The dialogue between developed and developing countries was becoming increasingly important each year, since the rapidly growing gulf between rich and poor, coupled with the problems of race and population, was widely regarded as the most dangerous development in the modern world. The opportunity for mutual understanding offered by the Council and by UNCTAD was therefore of vital importance, and it would be a mistake to imagine that, because progress had initially been slow, the hope of economic co-operation thus afforded was not among the most important aspects of international endeavour.

47. He then referred to the part which the United Kingdom could play in the all-important effort of multilateral development. Like other major contributors to the United Nations, his Government favoured caution in accepting new commitments and due economy in expenditure, but was not prepared to adopt a reactionary policy and was opposed to arbitrary ceilings designed to block new initiatives. Despite temporary financial difficulties, the United Kingdom was the second largest contributor to the United Nations system as a whole. When it had been decided, in 1965, that the financial situation of the United Nations should be restored by voluntary contributions, his Government had made the first and largest response to that appeal; *inter alia*, it had also

contributed to nearly every voluntary fund established by the United Nations, had increased its contribution to UNDP and, in ratifying the second replenishment agreement, had pledged more than \$155 million to IDA.

48. Any criticisms which his delegation made would therefore be constructive. The United Kingdom was seriously concerned with the matter of controlling expenditure in the United Nations system. Whereas Governments had appropriate organs responsible for ensuring that expenditure did not exceed resources, in the United Nations system any delegation could propose a new conference or visiting mission, or new documentation sometimes involving heavy expense, without needing to indicate the source of the funds to be used. The system did not make it necessary to be selective or to set priorities, with the result that too much was attempted simultaneously, there was diffusion and duplication of effort, and documentation took the place of policies and discussion of action. In spite of its concern at that situation, his Government did not wish to stifle initiative or to impose rigid restrictions, but believed simply that the criterion applied should be that of benefit to ordinary people and the improvement of backward economies. The United Kingdom's purpose was to support the Secretary-General in his efforts to improve management methods and the efficiency and effectiveness of the United Nations.

49. The problem of population was one of deep concern to the international community and to every nation in the world. While primarily a human problem and a matter for the individual and the family, it was also social, affecting not only the family, but also individual countries and the world as a whole, in that overpopulation meant disease and poverty and constituted a brake on progress. The extent of the danger was dramatized by the fact that the world's population was currently increasing by 1 million a week and that the rate of growth was rising still higher. However, an awareness of the danger had been generated when, on Human Rights Day in 1966, the Secretary-General had announced and endorsed the Declaration on Population by World Leaders, then signed by twelve heads of State. The signal for the move from discussion to action had been followed up at the International Conference on Human Rights held in Teheran in 1968, and the effort to make up for lost time was gaining momentum with the active and practical support of IBRD. The United Nations and many of the specialized agencies were playing a part, and the subject of population figured prominently on the agenda of the current World Health Assembly. The valuable contribution of voluntary organizations was exemplified by the proposals recently put forward by the National Policy Panel of the United Nations Association of the United States. The United Nations, therefore, had a heavy responsibility and a special opportunity for a new endeavour in international co-operation, in which all members of the United Nations family could play a part, and he hoped that the Econ-

omic and Social Council would whole-heartedly endorse the enterprise.

50. A further question of great importance was what could be done to enlist the energies of youth in international development. The United Nations should be the symbol of hope for the youth of all nations, especially at a time when the young opposed the nationalism, power politics and racialism of the older generation and placed their trust in international co-operation and the power of international agreement. It must not be forgotten that it was primarily the new generation which would suffer or benefit from decisions taken at the present time with regard to poverty, population and race.

51. In that context it might be asked whether the participation of youth in United Nations plans for economic development and social progress had been adequately sought. While in his view the answer to that question must be negative, he also believed that the young people of the world were ready for a challenge which would enable them to show their hatred of poverty and privation and their contempt for racial discrimination and domination. At its current session, the Council would have to consider the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development, under General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII), initiated by Iran, and adopted unanimously. In the past three years, the number of volunteers from developed countries had doubled to a total of 20,000 and a number of developing countries had now mobilized over 60,000 trained and skilled volunteers to work on development projects. There was a growing feeling that such efforts were essentially international in nature. The spirit of voluntary service was strong, and one of the Council's tasks was to consider the preparation of a practical plan which, without setting up expensive or elaborate new machinery, would give the whole voluntary movement a new international impetus and a closer association with international development projects.

52. It had also been recently proposed by youth organizations, which had a vital interest in the question as to how the United Nations could be made more effective in future, that the new generation should play a part in the preparations for the Organization's twenty-fifth anniversary. In the context of the problems of the Second United Nations Development Decade, of the contribution each country could make to it and the dangers of poverty, population and race, means should be sought to enlist the interest and enthusiasm of young people, not only on a volunteer basis but also in order to ensure that the world-wide needs of development were increasingly dealt with by an international effort in which both old and new nations and generations could co-operate.

The meeting rose at 12.5 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 15 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Eklund (IAEA) .....	15
Mr. Boerma (FAO) .....	16
M. Goad (IMCO) .....	18

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 2

General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1 to 3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)

1. Mr. EKLUND (Director-General, International Atomic Energy Agency) recalled the interest of the developing countries in nuclear energy and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which provided for the granting of assistance for nuclear energy development.

2. In the booklet attached to its reports (E/4650 and Add.1), IAEA pointed out that nuclear power was already being introduced by some of the more industrialized among the developing countries but that, for want of a solution to certain technical problems, the developing countries would lag further and further behind, using more expensive power sources and remaining overwhelmingly dependent on conventional fuels. There were, in contrast to nuclear power, other applications of nuclear energy which were already helping many developing countries. For instance, nuclear energy applications had helped to promote the "green revolution" in Asia, in which IAEA and FAO, working through the FAO/IAEA Joint Division, had played a part. In a Central American Special Fund project, control of the Mediterranean fruit fly (*ceratitis capitata*) by the radiation-induced sterile male technique had eradicated 90 per cent of the fly population in the test area.

3. The benefits of nuclear techniques were not confined to agriculture, but extended to medicine, biology, industry and hydrology. Hence it was to be regretted that, although the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology had recommended that increased resources should be devoted to the FAO/IAEA Joint Division, it had not made any proposals as to where those resources might be found.

4. The booklet also pointed out that developing countries should begin systematic prospecting to meet the demand for uranium. A vigorous campaign in those countries might result in discoveries of economic importance.

5. The report concluded that IAEA was an effective tool for international co-operation which could handle a considerably larger assistance programme with little or no increase in the size of its staff. The chief brake on its work was shortage of resources, especially for technical assistance. Although the target set for voluntary contributions had remained at the \$2 million level since 1962, it had never been possible to reach more than 70 per cent of that sum. As a result, at the present time IAEA could meet only one-quarter of the value of the technically sound requests which it received, compared with some 90 per cent ten years before. The technical assistance programme was used to initiate new projects which could subsequently be taken over by UNDP. Thus the programme could have a multiplier effect out of proportion to its actual size.

6. It was worth mentioning in that connexion that each of the existing nuclear power projects in developing countries was being or had been financed bilaterally. International sources of capital had not yet played a role.

7. With regard to recent developments in IAEA, the Board of Governors had set up a committee to review its own composition and was informing the General Conference that it intended to propose an amendment for a modest expansion in the size of the Board. A similar committee had helped the Board to study IAEA's role in connexion with the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives, and the Board of Governors had concluded that IAEA had the competence needed to be the responsible international organization in the field. The first priority was to promote a much fuller and wider exchange of information about nuclear explosive technology. Lastly, the Board had prepared a report showing the terms on which special fissionable materials were already available through IAEA and suggesting ways of improving the supply situation.

8. With regard to co-ordination, IAEA's experience was that multilateral co-ordination through ACC, the Economic and Social Council and so on was most effective in dealing with strictly administrative matters, but that problems of programme co-ordination were usually most easily resolved by direct contacts between the agencies concerned. Some examples were the aforementioned FAO/IAEA Joint Division, the agreement between UNESCO and IAEA for joint financing and operation of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, the arrangements between WHO and IAEA concerning

some established isotope applications, and the long-standing joint programme with WMO.

9. ACC should address itself to the major problems of co-ordination or common action, and the Geneva component of the ACC secretariat might be strengthened accordingly. The ACC secretariat might also benefit from having scientific representation on its staff.

10. With regard to high-level scientific and technical advice on the programmes of the United Nations family, it would be wise to avoid a decision which would commit the Council before it had made a thorough study of the matter. Any solution should take full advantage of the scientific and technical expertise that already existed in the secretariats of the agencies themselves. It was to be hoped that the Council would find it useful to instruct ACC to study the problem.

11. IAEA's work in the matter of safeguards was becoming increasingly important, and its secretariat was taking steps to simplify and to bring down the costs of safeguards. A division had been set up to concentrate on research in that field.

12. IAEA had entered a new era since the non-nuclear weapon States had made it clear that they expected certain modifications both in its programmes and in its methods of work to enable it to play the various roles foreseen in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In that respect, it bore repeating to recall that the most intractable problem remained the inadequacy of resources for technical co-operation and other direct field assistance.

13. Mr. BOERMA (Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that one spur to progress was undoubtedly dissatisfaction with the *status quo*. The reason for the existence of the Economic and Social Council was man's dissatisfaction with the standard of living that the planet offered to the majority of its inhabitants. It was therefore healthy to find a certain degree of dissatisfaction with United Nations bodies and also within the United Nations family itself. However, change and improvement, essential to progress, must be built on sound foundations.

14. Two mistaken notions about co-ordination should be dispelled. The first was that it could be effected in terms of generalities without tackling technical problems. No effective co-ordination, however, was possible without a real understanding of the technical issues at stake. All the problems relating to economic and social development involved technical backgrounds which must be examined in detail before solutions could be proposed. The various bodies responsible for general co-ordination could not, in the normal way, treat specific subjects in detail, and would accomplish more if they confined themselves to policy guidance and did not try to achieve technical co-ordination. A good example of co-ordination was the recent dialogue between several executive heads of special-

ized agencies and the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. It had enabled them to explore in depth a question of general interest to several agencies and had been extremely useful. The idea underlying much of the Committee's work – the fixing of an over-all growth target for the decade and related sectoral targets in, for example, agriculture – went far towards the ideal of "creative co-ordination" by producing a sense of combined purpose.

15. The assumption that ACC was at fault in not reporting all the details of the inter-agency problems which arose was equally wrong. On the contrary, full disclosure of the various negotiating positions was often more likely to exacerbate difficulties than to lead to solutions, particularly since international differences of view frequently reflected similar divergencies between ministries in national Governments. If the FAO Council had pressed for details of the extensive and difficult negotiations which the Director-General of FAO had been conducting with the Executive Director of UNIDO, the Director-General of FAO would have had to state his views on the matter at a time when the two sides were still some way apart; the Executive Director of UNIDO would probably have been forced to act likewise, and in all probability no satisfactory agreement would have been concluded. Governments should trust the secretariats of the agencies and enable them to resolve differences of view by methods of "quiet diplomacy". Only when it proved impossible to reach agreement at secretariat level and an intolerable situation had arisen should Governments intervene and insist on a full disclosure of all the negotiations and perhaps set up special machinery for resolving the difficulty.

16. He hoped that ACC would evolve along the lines of the proposals outlined in its report (E/4668) to the Council and the other ideas now being discussed. It was working within terms of reference conferred upon it in 1946 and in some respects completely out of date, for instance in regard to its own membership. It was surely paradoxical that, while planning for the Second United Nations Development Decade, neither the Secretary-General of UNCTAD nor the Executive Director of UNIDO, with their major sectoral responsibilities, were, properly speaking, members of ACC at all and that they took part in its work only under the general umbrella of the United Nations. At a time when the interdependence of the economic and social sectors was becoming ever clearer and the pressing need for some sort of *aggiornamento* was becoming obvious, it was difficult to understand the reluctance with which some Governments were contemplating such a move.

17. At the present time the notion of constitutional independence was less important than that of functional decentralization. The programme which United Nations bodies were trying to put into effect was too big for centralization to pay off, and the visionaries who expected miracles of efficiency through the abolition of the specialized agencies or the incorporation of their pro-

grammes in a single budget were doomed to inevitable disappointment - but on managerial rather than on political grounds. FAO had neither more nor less independence than any of the other larger United Nations bodies, such as UNCTAD or UNIDO. In any event, what really mattered was not the constitutional position of a given body but the part it could play in an over-all programme of development. There was no alternative to the existing system of decentralized responsibility, and improvements should surely be attempted within that general framework.

18. The way in which FAO and other specialized agencies had handled development aid had been satisfactory, thanks in large part to their co-operation with UNDP. FAO was aware that it was doing better in project identification and formulation than in project implementation, and had called upon a reputable firm of management consultants to help it to improve its project implementation. It had assembled certain skills which were being used by IBRD, regional development banks, bilateral programmes, non-governmental organizations and industry. The experiment whereby the best elements of bilateral and multilateral aid were being combined was particularly interesting, and FAO was involved in it through formal agreements with the Governments of Denmark and Sweden and informal arrangements with several other countries.

19. Turning to some specific developments concerning FAO, he reminded the Council that he had referred, at the forty-fifth session (1532nd meeting), to his proposal that the executive secretaries of the United Nations regional economic commissions should also act as regional representatives of FAO, thus in effect merging the regional offices of FAO with the economic commissions. However, the consultations which had taken place subsequently had revealed a broad consensus that FAO should retain its own identity and presence in the regions and thus should not merge with the economic commissions. The authority of the regional representatives of FAO had accordingly been strengthened, so that they would in future be able to treat more directly and effectively with the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions. He hoped to achieve his general aim of a regional programme closely integrated with that of the regional economic commissions.

20. In reporting on co-operation with other agencies, pride of place should be given to the agreement reached with UNIDO resolving the difficulties due to conflicting mandates and harmonizing the activities of the two organizations in the best interests of the developing countries. Briefly, the agreement made a technical division of responsibilities between the two organizations and established an inter-secretariat machinery whose most important task would be to avoid all conflict or overlapping in the "grey area" where precise definition of responsibilities became difficult. The agreement had not been easy to reach, but he hoped it would be successfully applied in an atmosphere of reciprocal good will.

21. The arrangements laid down in the *aide-mémoire* signed in 1968 by FAO, UNESCO and ILO on agricultural education, science and training had been working satisfactorily in practice. With IBRD's increasing emphasis on agriculture, FAO was strengthening its relations with the Bank, particularly through the joint FAO/IBRD Co-operative Programme. Consultations were taking place with UNICEF to consider ways in which that body could increase its contributions to nutrition programmes.

22. Regarding WFP, he urged the Council to accept the target figure of \$300 million for WFP resources during the biennium 1971-1972 which had been recommended by the United Nations/FAO Inter-governmental Committee of the World Food Programme to the Economic and Social Council and the FAO Council. The target was realistic, especially considering the existing surpluses of dairy products and grains, which should be channelled increasingly through the World Food Programme. The size of the programme's largest projects was such that it would clearly make an important impact on the economic and social progress of some countries. The target figure of \$300 million had already been accepted by the FAO Council and, if the Economic and Social Council did likewise, it would be submitted to the General Assembly and the FAO Conference at the end of 1969.

23. Referring to country representation for FAO, he said that, by virtue of an agreement reached between UNDP and FAO in 1966, there were now twenty-eight FAO advisers to UNDP resident representatives. The posts were financed out of the UNDP administrative budget. He considered, and his view was shared by most member States, that FAO should have a team of at least fifty-five country representatives in the developing countries. Since a cost-sharing arrangement with UNDP appeared to be causing difficulties, he had prepared a plan for submission to the FAO Council for the establishment of fifty-five country representative offices to be financed out of the regular programme. That number would include the twenty-eight advisers already appointed and working on the spot, the two full-time country representatives hitherto financed under the UNDP Technical Assistance component, and the four deputy regional representatives in charge of the FAO sub-regional offices. Three-quarters of the cost was to be covered through the redeployment of resources within FAO itself, and the remaining quarter from additional funds.

24. The Programme and Finance Committees of FAO, while endorsing the principle of establishing fifty-five country offices, had invited the Director-General and the representative of UNDP to reopen negotiations with a view to reaching mutually acceptable cost-sharing arrangements. As a result, a new agreement had been reached, and had been approved by the FAO Council and the Governing Council of UNDP. It provided that the fifty-five posts would carry the title of Senior Agricultural Advisers/FAO Country Representatives. Twenty-eight of them would be financed by UNDP and the other twenty-seven by FAO. The functioning of that dual system

would be reviewed towards the end of 1970, but he could already say that it might have significant implications for the future. The system was based on the idea that, in order to make the efforts of the entire United Nations system on behalf of economic and social development more effective, it would be extremely valuable if the representatives of the various agencies and programmes in any given country were to act together as a sort of cabinet president over by the resident representative.

25. Of course, FAO was not seeking to induce other agencies to adopt the same idea, because the arrangements would certainly vary from one country to another. However, FAO regarded its own representation at the country level as an integral part of the over-all reorganization and an essential element for implementing a strategy on agricultural development. As Director-General of FAO, he envisaged a "cabinet" as an extension of ACC at the country level but with quite different purposes and functions, since it would be concerned only with development policy and programmes in a single country.

26. In its five areas of concentration, FAO was beginning to prepare its world, regional and country plans. Obviously the initiative for national action would come mainly from the Governments themselves. However, FAO for its part should, in consultation with the Governments, take a limited number of major initiatives at the worldwide or regional level in support of national efforts. The Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development was of the greatest importance in that context, for it should enable FAO to make a useful contribution towards the formulation of a global development strategy. It should provide the basic data required for setting sectoral targets for agriculture in the Second United Nations Development Decade. It had been drawn up at the request of the first World Food Congress held in Washington in 1963, and would be examined at the second World Food Congress that was to take place at The Hague in June 1970, to be attended by many persons participating in a private capacity.

27. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of FAO would fall in 1970 – a busy year for the organization, which, apart from the World Food Congress, would have to prepare for the World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training to be held in Copenhagen. There was also to be a new world census of agriculture, in which over seventy Member States had already announced their intention of participating.

28. World food production had risen on an average between 2 and 3 per cent during 1968, but very unevenly in the various regions. That year could be regarded as a normal year, since food production had kept abreast of population growth. However, according to FAO long-term estimates, the food requirements of the developing countries might be expected to rise at an average rate of 3.9 per cent a year until 1985. Consequently, what might be regarded as a normal year for food production was far from sufficient. After the improvement in 1967, the situation had not deteriorated to the alarming levels of 1965

and 1966; but battles were not won simply by keeping the enemy at bay. The world must understand that, if hunger and malnutrition were to be overcome, countries must be prepared to undertake with renewed zeal a long, arduous and extremely expensive struggle.

29. The United Nations system had been in existence for about one-quarter of a century, and it could now be said that the machinery had been established for tackling certain world problems which were becoming increasingly serious. The Second United Nations Development Decade offered a hope that building could really begin on the foundations laid during the past twenty-five years and more particularly during the first Development Decade.

30. Mr. GOAD (Secretary-General, Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization) said that among the outstanding achievements of IMCO during the past year had been the International Conference on Tonnage Measurement and the progress in the campaign against pollution of the sea.

31. Nearly fifty countries had attended the International Conference on Tonnage Measurement. The problem was singularly intractable and of more than academic interest, since port authorities based their dues on the tonnage of a ship and various international conventions also used it as indicative of the class into which a ship fell for safety purposes. The conference had succeeded in adopting an international convention providing for a universal system of tonnage measurement. The convention represented a compromise and would very probably come into force soon. It was the fifth international convention of which IMCO was the depositary and was yet another contribution to the development of a system of international rules for shipping.

32. The Council would be aware that the pollution of the sea resulting from the loss of the *Torrey Canyon* in March 1967 had resulted in urgent action by IMCO to prevent similar casualties and to reach international agreement on the measures to be taken in similar cases. The problem obviously did not affect the developed countries alone. Although there was reason to welcome the development of industry and commerce in countries which were not yet highly industrialized, the dangers inherent in that development should not be overlooked. In the fight against pollution from ships, IMCO had been a pioneer, and was looking forward to contributing fully to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment called for by General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII). To improve the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954, which already contained a system of penalties, the Assembly of IMCO would have to approve certain amendments to prohibit, with a few exceptions, all discharge of oil from ships. Other amendments would authorize States parties to the Convention to report contraventions committed by ships to the States of the ships' registry and to require those States to inform all other parties to the Convention and IMCO of any action taken against such ships.

33. The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1960, was also to be amended. The main amendments would require ships covered by the Convention to carry certain navigational equipment which had so far been carried voluntarily, and would establish a system of routing and separation of traffic at sea. Governments were encouraged to establish separation schemes in congested or converging areas along their coasts in order to reduce the risks of collision.

34. IMCO had also adopted measures to improve regional co-operation against pollution of the sea. On the legal side, two major questions had been brought to international attention by the loss of the *Torrey Canyon*: first, the right of the coastal State to take action to prevent, mitigate or eliminate damage resulting from the accidental discharge of oil and, secondly, civil liability and insurance connected with damage caused by oil pollution. The Legal Committee of IMCO, assisted by the International Maritime Committee, had prepared two sets of draft provisions for submission to an international legal conference on damage due to pollution, to be held in November 1969 under IMCO auspices.

35. It could therefore be asserted that the fight against pollution of the sea was an interesting example, in its own small way, of the kind of co-operation which was possible among sovereign States. IMCO, with a membership comprising almost all the maritime nations in the world, had offered to co-operate fully with the UNCTAD Committee on Shipping and with UNCITRAL.

36. With regard to the other activities of IMCO, he would simply remind the Council that his organization was concerned with container traffic and the simplification of international shipping documents.

37. The IMCO Council had decided to make known to all countries concerned the potential of IMCO for technical assistance in shipping. It had therefore decided to create additional posts for technical assistance, to be borne on the regular budget of IMCO in so far as their cost could not be met from UNDP allocations.

38. For IMCO the past year had been a year of reorganization. A working group had been asked to review the organization's objectives and methods of work. On the basis of its conclusions, the Council had decided that IMCO should expand its programme of work within its terms of reference and deal with all problems of maritime transport, particularly those concerning the developing countries.

39. Concluding, he expressed the hope that the Council would consider that IMCO had done as much as possible within its own field with its scanty resources. It intended to continue the work for which it was responsible at the lowest possible cost.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Wednesday, 16 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Binaghi (ICAO) .....	21
Mr. Rahi (UPU) .....	21
Mr. Thajeb (Indonesia) .....	22
Mr. Davies (WMO) .....	23

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

1. Mr. BINAGHI (President of the Council, International Civil Aviation Organization), introducing the annual report of ICAO (E/4656 and Add.1), said that, despite the continued though slackening increase in air traffic, high capital costs and low profit margins were forcing many airlines into co-operative arrangements to ensure a high degree of aircraft utilization. The operation of high-capacity and supersonic aircraft would make inter-airline co-operation still more necessary. His organization was giving increasing attention to the economics of air transport. It had decided to appoint air transport officers to four of its regional offices and would make secretariat services available to the recently established African Civil Aviation Commission, a consultative body which would co-operate closely with OAU, ECA and ICAO. It was carrying out studies of the development of air passenger and freight transport and doing everything possible to speed up passenger clearance at airports. Its international standards and recommendations on facilitation were being increasingly applied throughout the world.
2. He hoped that the new body recommended by the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism held in Sofia in May 1969 (see E/4653/Add.1), would not duplicate the work of existing agencies. The present definition of "tourist", for instance, included all persons travelling for business or pleasure, and surveys or studies of travel facilities for tourists might well duplicate some of ICAO's work.
3. His organization kept its international technical specifications for all aspects of air navigation up to date and periodically reviewed its regional plans for air navigation facilities and services. Its Assembly had placed

special emphasis on the problems of the sonic boom and of aircraft noise in the vicinity of airports and on ICAO's role in the application of outer space techniques; a panel of experts had been formed to study the problem of the sonic boom, and a conference would be held by ICAO at the end of 1969 to study all aspects of aircraft noise. The organization continued to co-operate with other organizations of the United Nations system in all matters of common interest, including space technology.

4. A problem of great concern during 1968 had been the unlawful interference with international air navigation and its facilities, especially the hijacking of aircraft. His organization was drafting international legislation on the subject and was urging all States to take appropriate steps to prevent such acts. It had established a committee to deal with all non-political aspects of unlawful interference with air navigation and would recommend preventive measures to safeguard civil aviation.

5. In 1968, ICAO had had resident missions in forty-one States and had assisted many more under UNDP and Special Fund projects. It was participating in the United Nations Fund for the Development of West Irian air transport project in West Irian. Although the training of civil aviation personnel was a more fundamental part of ICAO's technical assistance activities because of the general expansion of air transport, air transport assistance projects in developing countries were also important since they could lead to economic and social improvements and more efficient administration.

6. Mr. RAHI (Director-General, Universal Postal Union) said that the UPU Executive Council and the Consultative Committee for Postal Studies had been particularly busy in 1968 preparing material for the sixteenth Universal Postal Congress to be held in Tokyo in October 1969. The studies, which were concerned mainly with postal rates, airmail, automation and mechanization, would be circulated in pamphlet form to all members of UPU. In the course of their work, those bodies and their subsidiaries took into account as far as possible the recommendations made by various United Nations organs on administrative, budgetary and planning matters.

7. His organization was playing an increasing part in United Nations efforts to promote cultural, economic and social development and was formulating an over-all development strategy for the Second Development Decade, which would begin at the same time as the five-year programme UPU would submit to the next congress. A long-term work programme, based on anticipated postal requirements in 1971-1980, which would be discussed at that congress after consultation with member States, was



the basis of a document prepared by UPU for the Second Development Decade. By 1980, postal traffic was expected to increase at an over-all rate of 10 per cent a year, which meant that it would be some 85 per cent above the level of 1971. UPU was therefore proposing the following targets for the Second Development Decade: one post office for every 20 to 40 km<sup>2</sup> or 3,000 to 6,000 inhabitants on the average (in some developing countries at present one post office served from 100,000 to 300,000 inhabitants); delivery of express mail within a radius of 500 km on the day after posting, under normal transport conditions; a progressive increase in the proportion of international parcels sent by airmail to 30 per cent (at present 6 per cent); and the introduction of financial facilities such as post office savings accounts and postal cheques. In some countries, post office savings and chequing accounts had assets almost comparable to those of banks and helped to finance national projects.

8. UPU had a team of experts in postal service operation and training who were sent on short-term missions to developing countries to evaluate their needs and determine the best way of improving their postal and financial services. The International Bureau had prepared a paper on the postal requirements of developing countries for distribution to UNDP resident representatives; it would shortly issue a pamphlet containing two studies on the selection and training of postal staff. UPU hoped to collaborate with ITU in joint postal and telecommunication training projects under UNDP auspices and had invited countries to submit proposals for such projects.

9. He requested delegations to impress on their Governments the importance of adequate postal services and to inform them of UPU's intention to make a full contribution to the Second Development Decade.

10. Mr. THAJEB (Indonesia) said that the introductory statement by the Secretary-General, which had been read by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs at the 1603rd meeting, should serve as the basis for the Council's discussion of the major topics before it, the preparations for the Second Development Decade and the formulation of an international development strategy for the 1970s. Those topics should be analysed in the light of the experience gained during the first Development Decade, at the end of which the preconditions for accelerated progress were still absent in many countries. The average rate of increase in both total and *per capita* gross domestic product had actually declined in comparison with the rate achieved during the 1950s, and the performance of countries with low *per capita* incomes and large populations had been inadequate. The developed countries, on the other hand, had continued their rapid economic expansion, had made further progress in science and technology and had intensified mutual trade and co-operation.

11. While the first Development Decade had on the whole stimulated both thought and action, the general world economic and social situation was marked by an

ever-widening discrepancy in the progress achieved by the developing and the developed countries. The trend must be reversed by the vigorous efforts of the developing nations themselves, as well as by matching action on the part of the international community. The developing countries recognized that they bore the primary responsibility for their development, but without international action fuller mobilization and effective utilization of their domestic resources could not be achieved. In his delegation's view, increased co-operation among the developing countries and between them and the developed countries was essential. Development strategy would gain strength from universal participation under a unified policy giving greater coherence and a sense of direction to joint action and relating it more closely to real needs. Economic and social development was a long-term process, in which the successful planning and execution of agreed programmes in the coming decade would provide a solid foundation for subsequent swift advances.

12. Rapid economic progress alone did not automatically result in better living levels and the Second Development Decade should aim at balanced economic and social development oriented towards the improvement of human well-being. Part I of the *World Economic Survey, 1968* (E/4687 and Add.1-3) reviewed the two most important economic sectors: agriculture and industry. The social aspects of development, primarily with regard to population, employment and education, had also been emphasized. Like those responsible for the *Survey*, Indonesian planners had been confronted in formulating their five-year development plan, launched a few months previously, with the problem of whether to emphasize agriculture or industry in order to obtain optimum economic growth. The plan set quantitative targets and was the first of a series, each of which would stress different sectors; the current plan concentrated on the agricultural sector and food production was given top priority. Nevertheless, his Government agreed that, in an effective development strategy, agricultural and industrial development should complement each other. The plan therefore concentrated on the development of agricultural support and processing industries. Improvements in transport and communications in order to cope with the expected increase in economic activity were also contemplated.

13. Social objectives were not neglected; special emphasis was placed on programmes aimed at increasing the health and welfare of families and on reducing the birth rate, in order to prevent population growth from outstripping the increase in productive capacity. Considerable attention was also given to the development of youth, centring on the participation of students in national life.

14. Indonesia's limited domestic resources and the scarcity of foreign exchange made a selective approach necessary and priority was thus given to quick-yielding economic projects. There was a need for increased external resources from trade and international assistance, which were of crucial importance to the development efforts of the developing countries, and his delegation appreciated

the satisfactory response to Indonesia's needs given by the Intergovernmental Group for Indonesia.

15. The formulation of the five-year plan was sufficiently flexible to allow for adjustment resulting from harmonization of national development plans at the regional level. Closer regional economic co-operation was eminently desirable and a special national unit had been established in Indonesia to deal with the problems involved. There was a need for alternative solutions at the regional and sub-regional level. The best initial approach to multilateral co-ordination was joint action by a small group of countries at the same stage of economic development, with more or less identical institutional, technological and economic problems; such a nucleus could subsequently be enlarged to include more countries. Much of the infrastructure of regional co-operation had already been established through the activities of ECAFE, and the resolution on integrated strategy for Asian economic co-operation, adopted by the third ministerial conference of member countries, was a milestone in the history of regional economic co-operation. Nevertheless, it was felt that complete integration of the region was not yet feasible and that the best course to follow would be a sub-regional and sectoral approach, involving the formation of groupings such as Regional Co-operation for Development, Indonesia-Pakistan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and the Association of South-East Asian Nations. The declaration of the latter association, adopted by the five member States, proclaimed that the association's basic aims were to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development. The association enjoyed the support of ECAFE, which had offered services for a study of economic co-operation and integration among its members.

16. The formation of such sub-regional groups ought not to be regarded as proliferation, since it would strengthen economic co-operation and contribute to the development process. Such national and regional efforts must, however, be supplemented by international measures under a coherent international development strategy. At its third session, the Preparatory Committee for the Second Development Decade had agreed on a draft framework for such a strategy, accepting a figure of about 6 per cent as the annual growth rate for the decade but mentioning no specific figures with regard to the *per capita* growth rate or the quantitative targets for the sectors of agriculture, industry, exports and domestic savings (see E/4624 and Add.1). Even when such targets were set, however, the Second Development Decade would be ineffective unless the necessary policy measures were implemented. The Preparatory Committee had identified the main areas in which appropriate policy measures had still to be formulated, of which the most crucial were those of trade and aid. His delegation regretted that the Trade and Development Board had been unable to reach agreement on such measures at its resumed eighth session and urged it to intensify its efforts to do so at its next resumed session.

17. Another essential element of international development strategy was the establishment of appropriate arrangements for review and appraisal. The review and appraisal of progress during the Second Development Decade should be undertaken using an improved version of the mechanisms already in existence; his delegation had suggested at the third session of the Preparatory Committee that a general appraisal of progress achieved at the mid-point of the decade might be useful. It also hoped that, once the formulation of an international strategy was agreed upon, a special session of the General Assembly could be convened in the second half of 1970 for the purpose of launching the Second Development Decade and mobilizing world public opinion behind it. Public opinion was an essential factor in generating the necessary political will for concerted international action.

18. The major impetus for such action must come from the advanced countries. A growing number of private organizations in developed countries were already mobilizing public opinion in support of world development; for example, a number of churches proposed to set aside a percentage of their income for the development of the developing countries. Another important factor was the desire of young people to play a part in the development process and their awareness that the problems could be resolved only in the broad context of the world community. It was therefore extremely important for young people and private entities in developed and developing countries alike to be more closely involved in the activities of the Second Development Decade.

19. Unless current priorities, under which security and defence made heavy demands on the time and financial resources of the developed nations, were changed, the development strategy would be endangered. Within the next few days one of the greatest achievements in the history of mankind, the first landing on the moon, would demonstrate what could be accomplished by man's intellectual ability, if disciplined by the force of his will. Comparable feats could also be accomplished to eliminate world-wide hunger and poverty. The knowledge and means were available; all that was lacking was the political courage. The sole reason for the continuing danger of revolution and national and international tragedy was that mankind continued to ignore the magnificent tools available for promoting social progress and material well-being.

20. Mr. DAVIES (Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization) introducing the WMO report for 1968 (E/4658 and Add.1), said that for several reasons 1968 had been a particularly important year in the life of WMO and in the development and clarification of its role within the United Nations system. It was the year in which the World Weather Watch had come into existence. The World Weather Watch programme had been developed in direct response to General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI) on international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space. It was therefore an excellent example of how a United Nations decision could encourage a specialized agency to undertake a major programme in a

new field of science and technology. The programme was already bringing great practical benefits to all countries of the world. Thanks to the meteorological satellites of the Soviet Union and the United States, an operational system had been functioning for several years; a particularly important feature was the United States system whereby, at any place on the earth's surface, direct reception of satellite photographs of the world's weather could be obtained with relatively simple ground receiving equipment. Several hundred such stations were already in operation throughout the world and, where necessary, WMO gave assistance in procuring and installing such stations in the developing countries.

21. A recent development of the highest importance was the outstanding success of the NIMBUS III research and development satellite, which had been launched a few weeks previously and which was not, therefore, referred to in the WMO report. That satellite had shown the feasibility of vertical temperature recordings from satellites and hence of obtaining data which could be fed into an electronic computer and used for numerical weather prediction, i.e. the production of prognostic weather maps by the computer itself and not by subjective methods.

22. The preparation of a realistic and truly global plan had not been easy and many new and unusual features had had to be developed and incorporated in it. It had been recognized from the outset that to make a plan was one thing, but to implement it was another. Consequently, an implementation programme had been developed simultaneously with the plan. The programme established, as a basic principle, that each country would be responsible for implementing that part of the global plan falling within its own territory, but that assistance would be given to the developing countries which required it. It had been foreseen that such assistance would be given in three ways: first, where appropriate, by UNDP; secondly, by means of bilateral arrangements; and thirdly, to fill in any remaining gaps by a new WMO Voluntary Assistance Programme. Under that programme, member States able and willing to do so were invited to make voluntary contributions; it had, however, been visualized in the approved procedures that most such contributions would be in the form of equipment and instruments produced by the country in question, although financial contributions were also welcomed. Excellent progress was being made by the Voluntary Assistance Programme. In some ways it combined the advantages of both the multilateral and the bilateral types of assistance and was therefore of particular interest to the Council.

23. Closely related to the World Weather Watch was the associated scientific research programme. Encouraging progress had been made. In conjunction with the International Council of Scientific Unions, WMO was developing a global atmospheric research programme which would ensure that all modern developments in the atmospheric sciences were applied to a massive and unprecedented scientific research programme.

24. The purpose of the World Weather Watch, and of WMO's activities as a whole, was not, of course, simply research; those activities had many practical aspects. Such, indeed, was the ubiquitous nature of the weather and climate and their influence on human affairs, that the practical applications were almost limitless. While many of those applications were already well known (especially in such fields as aviation, shipping and water resources), WMO was developing a much more systematic and comprehensive approach to the economic benefits obtainable by applying knowledge of the weather and climate. One important development, referred to in the analytical summary (E/4658/Add.1), was the seminar on the role of meteorological services in economic development in Africa. That seminar, organized by ECA, had been co-sponsored by WMO and attended not only by meteorologists but also by persons holding senior government positions in economic affairs and planning departments in many African countries. Quite apart from its direct benefits to the African countries represented, the seminar had also demonstrated the value of meetings in which meteorological and climatological experts could meet persons concerned with the formulation of national economic development policies.

25. In recent years, WMO had developed many important joint projects in conjunction with ECA and other regional economic commissions. The establishment of the Intergovernmental Typhoon Committee in the ECAFE region was one outstanding example. WMO, as an organization without any permanent regional representation, warmly welcomed the assistance of the regional commissions in enabling it to apply its specialized knowledge to assist the economic development of the countries in the various regions.

26. Reference was made in the analytical summary to other important practical aspects of WMO's activities, including ocean affairs, water resources, agrometeorology, atmospheric pollution and so on. The WMO Executive Committee had recently approved the grouping of its activities in those and related fields into the WMO programme on the interaction of man and his environment. In so doing, the Committee had wished to reveal the important work WMO was carrying out in environmental studies and to make known its wishes to co-operate as fully as possible with the United Nations in that field. His organization would give every possible assistance in the preparations for the 1972 United Nations conference on the human environment. It was naturally interested in environmental questions, since the study of the atmosphere surrounding the earth was, by definition, meteorology.

27. Two other points of great concern to the Council were the Joint Inspection Unit and the general matter of co-ordination. The unit was referred to in the analytical summary, which stated that the reports of the inspectors addressed to WMO would be submitted to its Executive Committee. That had already been done and the Committee had adopted various decisions on which the necess-

ary follow-up action would be taken. In his remarks to the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and ACC a few days previously, the French representative had stressed that it was not sufficient to follow the required procedure to the letter but that it was also necessary to do so in a spirit of willing co-operation. That was precisely the spirit in which WMO had approached its relationship with the inspectors.

28. His organization was mindful of the need for co-ordination and was doing everything in its power to that end. The very nature of its speciality made that necessary,

because weather and climate touched upon almost all human activities, especially those of significance in economic development. The Director-General of IAEA had referred at the 1605th meeting to the increasing role which science and technology were playing in world affairs and hence in the affairs of the Council and the specialized agencies and had expressed the hope that the Council and ACC, as appropriate, would take that fact into account in planning any new arrangements. He fully supported that view.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Wednesday, 16 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Hambro (Norway) .....	27
Mr. Johnson (Jamaica) .....	29
Mr. Al-Ansari (Kuwait) .....	30

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435, E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

1. Mr. HAMBRO (Norway) said that public opinion in Norway took a close interest in international affairs, especially in the effort made by the United Nations to bridge the gap between rich and poor countries. Over the last twenty-five years the United Nations had played a decisive part in the far-reaching transformation which had come about in international relations, particularly in the economic and social fields. It therefore came as no surprise that, on the eve of a new decade, the general debate in the Economic and Social Council should be centred on the complex question of economic growth and social progress in the developing countries. It should not, however, be forgotten that the developed countries also faced problems in reconciling a rise in the living levels of their own peoples with the developing countries' growing need of trade and aid. His delegation considered steady economic expansion in the industrialized nations a necessary condition for reaching the goals of the Second United Nations Development Decade while preserving balanced growth and prosperity on a global scale. The economic difficulties of the rich countries had an unfavourable effect on amounts of foreign aid, the treatment of imports from developing countries and the flow of private capital. It was therefore in every country's interest to pursue a policy aimed at accelerating growth and development, but in a balanced way. Temporary setbacks among the rich countries must certainly not be used as an excuse for curtailing foreign aid, since the gap between rich and developing countries was still in every respect considerable.

2. Despite the economic difficulties of some of Norway's main trading partners, Norwegian production had increased at a satisfactory rate in the last three years.

At the same time, the balance of payments situation had substantially improved, so much so that the authorities expected a surplus in 1969 as in 1968. Norway's economic prosperity ought to enable it, despite all that remained to be done in the economic and social fields in Norway itself, to expand its foreign aid programme.

3. Norway set the greatest store by the principle of the United Nations development decades, which constituted the first organized international approach to the economic and social problems of the large areas of the world still suffering from underdevelopment. The development decades ought to bring home to public opinion, whose support was essential to Governments of both developing and developed countries, the living reality of an organized international effort, without however leading the public to expect too much of the Second United Nations Development Decade, for the experience and means of action available to the international community remained inadequate. The problem was to obtain the same degree of reliability in long-term planning on a world-wide scale as some countries had achieved on the national level.

4. Any discussions on the Second United Nations Development Decade must obviously start with an evaluation of the results achieved during the first. To judge by the aggravated poverty in large areas of the world, development seemed hardly to have begun. Nevertheless, a more thorough analysis of the general situation and the achievements of individual countries gave more reason for optimism, for undeniable results had in fact been achieved. According to OECD statistics, the average growth rate of the gross domestic product of the less developed countries from 1960 to 1968 had been some 4.8 to 5 per cent; in several it had even reached 6 per cent or more. It was therefore reasonable to state that, in general, the 5 per cent growth rate target had been achieved, and that the developing countries had made faster progress in the 1960s than ever before.

5. On the other hand, the proportion of foreign aid to national income in the industrialized countries had fallen considerably short of the 1 per cent target stipulated in General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) of 1961. Those contradictory facts testified to the growing momentum of the economy in developing countries during the first Development Decade; that trend would probably continue during the Second Development Decade. It must not be forgotten that only through the combined impact of an increased flow of aid and a better utilization of domestic resources in the developing countries could the gap between rich and poor countries be narrowed.

6. Among other achievements on the credit side of the first Development Decade, mention should be made of the extraordinary recovery in food production through the new agricultural revolution after catastrophic harvests in some of the large developing countries. The increasing rate of progress in education and health compared with that of the 1950s also deserved mention.

7. Nevertheless, the 1960s had brought a number of disappointments. In particular, the population increase had meant that average growth rates per head had not exceeded 2.5 per cent. In other words, the growth rate of income per head in the less developed countries had been of the order of a few dollars only, compared with scores of dollars or up to \$100 in the developed countries. The population explosion, to which the Secretary-General had referred in the statement read out on his behalf at the 1603rd meeting, probably represented the greatest challenge to long-term development planning. Much remained to be done in that direction, but the first Development Decade had certainly played a decisive part in changing attitudes towards both population problems and regionalization. It had also brought about the realization that, although a global responsibility existed, the developing countries themselves must carry the main responsibility for development.

8. Those planning the Second Development Decade should avoid the danger of over-planning where the first Development Decade had been under-organized. The main significance of targets was that they brought out the factors causing "over-" or "under-" achievement; they were not ends in themselves. A global growth target should be set, but at a level which was both ambitious and attainable. One of the distinguishing features of the Second Development Decade would be an increased emphasis on social objectives, particularly in income distribution, employment, health and education. The Preparatory Committee on the Second United Nations Development Decade, in collaboration with the specialized agencies, would be assigned the task of establishing sectoral targets; those would then, in conflict and difficulty, have to be reconciled with the global growth target. It thus became essential to have sufficiently flexible methods of review and evaluation available, so that targets could be revised and adapted quickly to accord with the results. However, the United Nations machinery was there, and the agreements on co-ordination had long since been established. In the Second Development Decade they must be implemented as fully as possible, and overlapping and waste must be avoided. The decade's targets could be achieved only through constant co-operation at all levels among the various United Nations agencies.

9. In regard to Norway's possible contribution to the Second Development Decade, the Norwegian Parliament had recently approved a four-year development plan for the period 1970-1973. The plan called for substantial increases in development aid, which would be more than doubled in four years, to reach three-quarters of 1 per cent of the net national income by 1973. Allowing for an increase in the flow of private capital into developing countries, Norway's

contribution to development would by 1973 reach 1 per cent of the net national income. His Government also intended to increase its development efforts during the decade in order to reach a volume of aid equal to 1 per cent of the gross national product. Development aid was in fact increasing at a much higher rate than any other category of Norway's budgetary expenditure. Moreover, the Government was planning various measures to stimulate the private sector to take a more active interest in the development effort. His delegation therefore noted with interest the reference in the Secretary-General's opening statement to the efforts currently being made to associate the business community with international co-operation.

10. The Norwegian aid policy also had the unique feature of being financed by a special development tax amounting to one-half of 1 per cent of all taxable incomes of individuals and corporations. Although Norway, in close co-operation with the other Scandinavian countries, took part in bilateral aid programmes, a large share of its funds had been channelled through international organizations and programmes. His Government intended to intensify its multilateral aid in the period 1970-1973, but also aimed at a more even balance between multilateral and bilateral aid, so that the latter would perhaps increase faster than the former. In general, financial transfers to the developing countries would be made in the form of grants or untied aid.

11. Norway, which was pursuing a liberal trading policy towards the developing countries, shared the disappointment in the relatively meagre results of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Preferences were particularly important in that connexion. The preparation within OECD of the preference scheme had met with some difficulties, but it might be hoped that important discussions on the issue would be held within UNCTAD before the end of the year. Norway also had an extremely liberal commodities policy, and applied few restrictions.

12. More generally, it was hoped that agreement could be reached on both objectives and policy measures for the Second Development Decade. It would be extremely helpful if Governments would give some indication, in "statements of intent", of the national plans which they intended to implement during the period.

13. As the Secretary-General had observed in his statement, it was important that the United Nations should be able to gear its policy and structures to the changing conditions of the modern world. The Secretary-General had given some valuable guidance on those issues, and had pointed to one aspect of the problem which had perhaps not so far been given appropriate attention. He had pointed out that the arms race had involved not only the great Powers but also several developing countries in military expenditure on a scale out of proportion to their resources.

14. The Secretary-General's reference to youth in his statement clearly brought out that the time had come to

see youth more in terms of valuable human resources which must be allowed to play their full part in the advancement of mankind.

15. The Council at its current session should spare no effort to ensure that progress was made towards the most satisfactory organization of the United Nations conference on the human environment, which would tackle a very serious problem calling for concerted international action.

16. Another very important item on the agenda was item 12, relating to the sea. Several United Nations organs were dealing with problems of the sea, and his delegation hoped that that work could be rationally co-ordinated. It reiterated the importance of ensuring that the sea's vast economic potential was used for the benefit of all mankind, and especially for that of the developing countries. Obviously that must be a long-term task; but it was nonetheless urgent to find appropriate solutions conforming with generally accepted principles.

17. Mr. JOHNSON (Jamaica) said that his delegation had read with interest the excellent *World Economic Survey, 1968* (E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688), which underlined the urgent need for national and international action to improve the lot of the poorer countries.

18. After recalling the failure to reach agreement in specific areas relating to trade and development, he referred to the resumed eighth session of the Trade and Development Board, which had shown a continuation of the disappointing trend in negotiations between developed and developing countries.

19. With regard to the Second United Nations Development Decade, he wished to comment on a few key areas which were most likely to be included in the international development strategy.

20. It was generally agreed that, during the first Development Decade, not enough emphasis had been placed on social development. Experience had shown that economic growth did not necessarily lead to social development; appropriate action should be taken to redress the balance. Jamaica, which had set up an inter-departmental committee to study human environment questions, had co-sponsored General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII). Conscious of the gravity of the problems of rural and urban poverty, his Government had set up an urban development corporation to mobilize the nation's resources in order to mitigate at least some of the harmful side-effects of economic growth and to improve the quality of life.

21. The main problems with which developing countries were faced in the matter of trade, in addition to the need for international commodity agreements and arrangements, included access for their exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures to the markets of the developed countries. In that connexion, both international experts and experts from developed countries urged the developing

countries to undertake programmes of industrialization, and it was paradoxical that the Governments to which those experts answered were responsible for the failure to progress in the matter of access. It was also important to encourage trade between developing countries.

22. Regarding the transfer of financial resources, he noted that some countries were committed to transferring, within a specified time, 1 per cent of their gross national product to the developing countries. He emphasized the importance to the developing countries of knowing what the volume of financial transfers was likely to be if they were to implement their development plans. It was a cause for satisfaction that some countries planned their aid programmes over an extended period and that the Government of the United States had recently reviewed some of the procedures of its aid programmes, in particular with regard to tied aid.

23. On the question of science and technology, his delegation attached the greatest importance to the actual transfer of operative technology and hoped that the deliberations in the Council would lead to a solution of the issues still outstanding in that field.

24. Prime responsibility for the mobilization of human, natural and financial resources in developing countries rested with the developing countries themselves. So far as human resources were concerned, their efforts must be supplemented by the activities of international organizations. With regard to youth - a fundamental factor in the modern world - an imaginative approach was required, especially in education and employment, in enlisting the participation of young people in decisions affecting their future. His Government, which had established a Ministry of State with direct responsibility for youth, considered that emphasis should be given, during International Education Year, to programmes of technical and vocational training for the benefit of developing countries. During the Second Development Decade, emphasis would need to be placed on a policy which promoted the maximum utilization of the labour force. Any international development strategy must ensure a significant reduction in unemployment in the developing countries.

25. The exploitation of natural resources was of paramount importance for those countries. With regard to the mobilization of domestic financial resources, his delegation recognized that there was much to be done. Jamaica had embarked on a programme for the improvement of its financial institutional framework through the establishment of a development bank to undertake medium- and long-term financing. It proposed to develop a series of institutions to promote the mobilization of domestic and foreign capital. The process of industrializing Jamaica had been advanced by the founding in the early 1950s of an Industrial Development Corporation and the Government had in recent years sought to ensure that local capital was invested in enterprises established under the programme.

26. In the matter of population, his delegation had noted that the Committee for Development Planning had based its *per capita* target on a rate of population growth of 2.5 per cent. It considered that national policies regarding population growth were a matter that should be left to the Governments of the countries concerned, which would take into account their own economic and social conditions, and it noted with appreciation the efforts made to strengthen the work of the United Nations in the field of population.

27. In conclusion, he stressed that the time had come to evaluate all branches of United Nations activity, especially with regard to the Economic and Social Council. The Council had a clear responsibility for co-ordinating and guiding the economic, social and human rights activities of the United Nations family. It was therefore essential to concentrate on matters relating to policy-making and policy review to ensure the success of the Second Development Decade. Furthermore, the Council must not become too involved in technical details of projects or in political matters.

28. Mr. AL-ANSARI (Kuwait) stated that, on the threshold of the Second United Nations Development Decade, the developing countries were firmly resolved to discard the apathy of the past and acquire a higher level of living. The concept of a fair distribution of wealth within the State had been generally accepted in most countries, but it had not yet taken practical form at the international level. Reference was made to a global development strategy, although the fundamental ideas behind it were not quite clear. International aid should not be considered a form of charity to be extended generously at one time and reluctantly at another. Contrary to the hopes cherished by the developing countries, the developed countries still spoke in terms of their own economic well-being; they frequently invoked their constitutional processes or their balance of payments problems and were more concerned with increasing their wealth than engaging in a concerted effort to guarantee decent living conditions in the developing countries.

29. The international community was, like the human body, an indivisible whole; sickness in one organ inevitably affected the other organs, and the poverty of the developing countries had not only been a cause of instability and discontent within those countries, but had also undermined world peace and continued to pose a constant threat to international relations.

30. Investment in developing countries might be motivated by the profit motive, but international aid should be inspired by more altruistic motives. The test of a development programme should be the contribution it made to the welfare and happiness of human beings. The economic growth of the developing countries was impeded by serious difficulties which were basically due to inadequate financial resources and human skills. As the rate of voluntary saving

was low in the developing countries and forced saving through taxation and other methods was neither politically feasible nor socially desirable, those countries had to obtain capital from external sources. Hence it was absolutely essential that the developed countries should grant aid in the form of capital and technical assistance so that the developing countries could accelerate their growth rates. The aid should be in the form of soft long-term loans with low interest rates, but it was essential that the greater part of the financial resources should be channelled through international bodies, thereby safeguarding the freedom of action of the developing countries and reducing their political and economic dependence on donor countries. In addition, a time-table should be set for reaching the aid volume target of 1 per cent of the gross national product of the economically advanced countries. Financial aid should be complemented by technical assistance, which was needed at all stages of economic development.

31. The advanced countries should also take adequate steps to change the pattern of world trade. The developing countries, which were largely dependent on earnings from their primary products, should be sure of finding markets with more stable prices, which would allow the poorer nations to draw up their plans of growth with the assurance that serious adverse movements in the terms of trade would not frustrate their hopes. The advanced countries, for their part, should co-operate by concluding commodity agreements, establishing buffer stock schemes and offering their capital goods at reasonable prices so that there might be a balance between the prices of primary commodities, on the one hand, and industrial and agricultural equipment, on the other. The advanced countries should also reduce the high tariffs levied on imports of manufactures and semi-manufactures, including processed and semi-processed agricultural products, from developing countries. In addition, the facility of supplementary financing proposed by IBRD should be speedily implemented.

32. Capital should be invested not only in capital goods but also in the human resources sector. Education and training were essential for progress in science and technology, which should be viewed as a common heritage to be shared by all mankind and not to be monopolized by one-third of it. The less advanced countries should be encouraged to take a more active part in science and technology and to make an original contribution to them.

33. When speaking of a global strategy for development, stress must be laid on the role that the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut could play in the formulation and implementation of the strategy. The executive heads of the specialized agencies had made it clear that they regarded the regional economic commissions as the proper channels for implementing the global development strategy, but it was pertinent to ask whether UNESOB, with its existing resources, would be able to shoulder the burden devolving on the regional economic commissions



in a manner commensurate with the needs and problems of the Middle East. The Arab countries, which had fully co-operated with UNESOB, were on the way towards achieving an Arab common market and an Arab customs union. Preparatory work had also been undertaken to rationalize national development plans and to tackle standardization issues, including weights and measures. It was essential that the machinery of UNESOB should be improved so that it might better contribute to the devel-

opment of the Middle East during the Second United Nations Development Decade. Faster integration in that region and a higher degree of co-operation in the 1970s would depend, to a large degree, on the establishment in the Middle East of a United Nations regional service of the same order as those which already existed in the other regions.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Thursday, 17 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

## CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Husain (India) .....	33
Mr. Benler (Turkey) .....	34
Mr. Maheu (UNESCO) .....	35
Mr. Vratuša (Yugoslavia) .....	37
Mr. Kennan (Ireland) .....	39

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

1. Mr. HUSAIN (India) said that his Government shared the view expressed by the Secretary-General in the statement read at the 1603rd meeting that, unless the basic problems of development were effectively dealt with, frustrating confrontations were bound to endanger peace and stability at the national as well as the international level. Although 1968 had witnessed an impressive recovery of the world economy after the recession of 1967 and the prospects for 1969 were encouraging, a purposeful international development strategy with the active participation of all countries and all groups of countries would be needed for the Second United Nations Development Decade. He hoped that it would be possible, before the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, to work out an arrangement whereby the socialist countries could be represented in the Preparatory Committee for the Second Development Decade, where their experience of planning and execution of development programmes would be valuable.

2. The Committee had rightly decided to concentrate on indicative targets for a few key variables and to emphasize the objective of higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development. It had also recognized that the central problem was the totally inadequate progress made by many countries with a low *per capita* income. He suggested that the Committee should, at a future session, consider the possibility of adopting the objective of securing for the peoples of the developing countries a minimum *per capita* income consistent with human dignity.

3. There still seemed to be a wide divergence of views on the content of an international development strategy. It was not enough to proclaim broad objectives for the decade, or to enumerate actual needs, in the hope that individual countries would eventually assume unilateral commitments. Nor should the arrangements for reviewing the progress made in implementing the strategy be a reason for keeping the commitments so flexible as to render them meaningless. The main requirements for launching the Second United Nations Development Decade were: agreement on its objectives; agreement on the policy measures needed to attain those objectives; time-limits for the conclusion of negotiations and the application of negotiated measures in areas in which agreement could not be reached before the beginning of the decade; and provision for devising and applying new measures to make good shortfalls in the attainment of objectives. An over-all picture of requirements was needed from the outset, detailed for the initial years of the decade and progressively less detailed for the latter part to allow for any action which might prove necessary.

4. There had been a tendency, perhaps out of dissatisfaction with the achievements of the first decade, to shift emphasis from quantity to quality—from the economic to the social and from the physical to the institutional. Development was too complex and continuous a process to lend itself to drastic changes in approach. Its ultimate objective was undoubtedly to improve the quality of human life, but that improvement required quantitative economic and social progress. Quality and quantity should be complementary, not alternative aims.

5. The developing countries had a right to participate in the acquisition and extension of scientific and technical knowledge but, in spite of their considerable efforts to build up an infrastructure for assimilating advances in those fields, science and technology had so far only marginally affected their economic and social life. The agricultural breakthrough recently achieved in India had demonstrated the importance of applying science and technology to development problems. As their products faced competition from synthetics and substitutes, developing countries had to increase their efficiency, reduce costs, improve quality and find new uses for their products. There was great scope for further research in the major economic and social fields, especially food production and population. Such research was generally beyond the capability of developing countries and could well be conducted under United Nations auspices. The United Nations must assume increasing responsibility for co-ordinated world-wide research and should therefore be provided with suitable institutional machinery.

6. Referring to the co-ordination of the United Nations economic and social activities, he agreed with the Secretary-General that budgetary policies should be consistent with the expected contribution of the United Nations to world development and with the hopes and aspirations associated with the Second Development Decade. Excessive preoccupation with budgetary considerations in dealing with matters of co-ordination could weaken the role of the United Nations and make it less relevant to present-day problems. There was even some merit in not insisting that duplication should be avoided at all costs. To safeguard their present position, organizations were sometimes unwilling to reorient their activities or to participate in activities initiated on a new basis. In such cases, there should be no hesitation in adopting new measures to mobilize financial and scientific resources, even if that involved some duplication.

7. Despite noble affirmations, international economic co-operation was at a low ebb and a spirit of prosperous provincialism was pervading the affluent societies. There had been a general deterioration in the terms of assistance, an increasing proportion of which was tied, not only to projects and purchases from donor countries, but also to purchase of specific commodities. The rate of growth of the resources pledged to UNDP had slackened during the past two years and the resources available for regular technical assistance programmes within the United Nations system remained at a standstill. The decline in public support for economic aid programmes was attributed to the failure to produce quick results, but it should be borne in mind that the capacity of such assistance to stimulate economic development was considerably reduced by its inconsistency in quantity and quality. The aid to developing countries had been quite meagre compared with those countries' loss of foreign exchange through adverse terms of trade and exclusion from markets. The modernization of their economies required not only sustained national efforts, but also regional and international efforts to reorganize the entire world economic and trading system.

8. Much could be done by encouraging co-operation among developing countries, especially at the regional and subregional level. The principle of self-reliance, which had become a matter of national pride and necessity in some developing countries, could lead to much-needed institutional and social changes in those countries, but over-emphasis on self-sufficiency could lead to the uneconomic application of resources. It was important to ensure that the economic development of the developing countries, while firmly based on the principle of self-reliance, took place within the context of effective international co-operation.

9. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) said it was paradoxical that, for all man's spectacular technological achievements, he had not yet eliminated the causes of poverty, disease, malnutrition and other ills besetting a large part of the human race. The remedy was economic and social development. The systematic and concerted efforts which

Governments and international organizations were planning for the Second Development Decade in order to achieve common world-wide economic and social objectives were unprecedented. Although substantial progress had been made in outlining a development strategy and some of the objectives for the Second Development Decade, there had been little progress towards agreement on policy measures in certain key areas within the purview of UNCTAD. The objectives would be difficult to attain unless there was broad agreement on those measures. However, if both developed and developing countries adopted a realistic and conciliatory attitude, a satisfactory measure of agreement would be possible. Since agreement on policy measures and commitments would need the support of national legislatures and public opinion, development strategy must be so designed as to mobilize that public support.

10. Most developing countries with stable populations or moderate population growth rates would be highly satisfied if they consistently achieved the 6 per cent average annual economic growth rate proposed by the Preparatory Committee for the Second Development Decade in its report (E/4624 and Add.1). Faced with relentless population pressures, many developing countries favoured even higher target growth rates, although they realized the difficulty of achieving them. Population growth was adding new elements of discontent to an already explosive social situation in many countries. The Director-General of the ILO had rightly emphasized that family planning measures must be regarded as a useful supplement to the drive to expand production and not as an alternative to it. In view of the difficulty of slowing down population growth, the competent United Nations bodies should develop family planning advisory services capable of helping countries needing such assistance. It was time developed countries with huge scientific research budgets reassessed their priorities and allocated adequate sums to research on human fertility. A breakthrough in that field could bring immeasurable benefits.

11. Developing countries would have to make a major effort to increase the supply of trained and educated manpower, without which sustained development was impossible. United Nations technical assistance in that field should be vigorously expanded to meet the developing countries' requirements, especially in regard to modern methods of mass education. The matter of enlisting the support of youth for development efforts should also be taken up in the United Nations. His delegation had supported the Iranian proposal, at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, concerning the establishment of an international corps of volunteers for development, and hoped that the Council would take appropriate action in the matter, in accordance with resolution 2460 (XXIII).

12. The problems of the developing countries were of such magnitude that they could rarely be resolved by action at the national level and greater international co-operation would be needed during the Second Development Decade. Co-operation for development among devel-

oping countries, which had been sadly neglected in the past, did not have to be restricted to trade, but could extend to such fields as transfer of technology, establishment of regional educational institutions and research centres, and joint operation of banking services, insurance and transport networks. Turkey had considerable experience of such co-operation at the bilateral level and also through multilateral arrangements with Iran and Pakistan.

13. Each organization in the United Nations system would have to gear its activities to the achievement of the common objectives of the development strategy for the Second Development Decade and the Council would be responsible for guiding and harmonizing those activities. The organizations were aware of the need to establish priorities among fields of activities and projects, to plan ahead and to relate budgets and programmes more rationally. He was confident that, with the assistance of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, ACC and other competent bodies, the Council would be able to integrate the efforts of all parts of the United Nations system into an efficient instrument of development.

14. Mr. MAHEU (Director-General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that UNESCO's policy, formulated by means of special international or regional conferences, was becoming progressively clearer and stronger. Rather than paraphrase the report on UNESCO's principal activities in 1968 (E/4666), he would confine his remarks to four items of particular importance on the Council's agenda.

15. In connexion with the preparations for the Second United Nations Development Decade, the General Conference of UNESCO had adopted two resolutions. Under the first, he was invited to analyse the activities carried out during the first Development Decade and evaluate the results obtained, and to prepare a draft programme for UNESCO's contribution to the second decade, taking into account the need for more balanced economic, social, educational, scientific and cultural development. Under the second, States members of UNESCO were invited to attach greater importance, in their national programmes, to the development of human resources and to education and training, and to co-operate with UNESCO and other United Nations organizations in concerted action to promote and assist the efforts of member States, in particular in the developing countries.

16. An over-all plan for the Second Development Decade was clearly essential, and UNESCO was well aware that only within such a context could its own contribution be fully effective. One of the reasons why the first Development Decade had proved disappointing was that it had been launched as a slogan rather than as a properly planned undertaking. The lesson of that experience had been so well learned that there might indeed be a danger of too much planning for the Second Development Decade, and the risk of discrepancies arising among the recommendations of the Committee for Development

Planning (E/4682), the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade, the UNDP Capacity Study and the IBRD Commission on International Development was disturbing. In the matter of co-ordination, the work of the Preparatory Committee must be of primary importance. A valuable exchange of views had already taken place between that committee and a number of executive heads of specialized agencies.

17. One major result of the first Development Decade was increasing recognition of the fact that development must embrace both economic and social aspects and that human resources were a primary consideration. It would be unfortunate if that essential truth was disputed or lost sight of during the preparations for the Second Development Decade. It was therefore distressing that up to a few months earlier the activities of the United Nations Secretariat seemed to have stressed quantity at the expense of quality and that social factors appeared to have been regarded, if not as marginal, as difficult to integrate into the excessively econometric planning models selected. Fortunately, an effort had been made to correct that trend.

18. One remaining problem was that of integrating in the general strategy the long-term sectoral plans being prepared by some of the specialized agencies. No less than the general outlines, those plans were an expression of the considered views of Governments. In the case of UNESCO, the needs and objectives of Governments were decided on by the respective member States themselves, especially on the basis of the regional conferences at the ministerial level, periodically convened for the purpose, with the collaboration of the regional economic commissions. Those conferences had given rise to indicative long-term plans for the regions, such as that for the development of education in Africa, adopted in 1961, and that for the development of science and the utilization of scientific and technical personnel in Asia, adopted in 1968. Difficult as the task of the United Nations in ensuring over-all integrated planning might be, due account must be taken of the conclusions arrived at by Governments with regard to certain key sectors of development.

19. With regard to the subject of man and his environment, an intergovernmental conference of experts on the scientific bases of the rational use and conservation of the resources of the biosphere had been held in 1968, under the auspices of UNESCO, with the participation of the United Nations, FAO and WHO, and with the collaboration of non-governmental international organizations. The conference had drawn attention to the problem of protecting resources and natural processes against heavy consumption and harmful pollution, and had emphasized certain facts, trends and possible, indeed essential, practical measures. In the wake of the considerable publicity that the conference had received, the UNESCO General Conference had, in general, supported its recommendations and had requested him to submit to its sixteenth session, in 1970, a draft long-term intergovernmental and

interdisciplinary programme on the rational use and conservation of the natural environment and its resources, with particular reference to the scientific, technical and educational aspects of the problems involved. He had also been invited to ensure the effective participation of UNESCO in any action undertaken by the General Assembly in connexion with the international conference on problems of the human environment to be held in 1972. The General Conference had also recommended that he should ensure the interdisciplinary co-ordination of a programme of action concerning man and his environment, which would become one of UNESCO's major concerns, and to convene a meeting of experts to draft a co-ordinated long-term plan of action for submission to the Executive Board. Close co-operation was being maintained with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international organizations, and the intergovernmental interdisciplinary programme would contribute directly towards determining and attaining the general objectives of the 1972 conference. Arrangements had been made with the United Nations Secretariat to co-ordinate the two sets of preparations as closely as possible.

20. Turning to the application of science and technology to development, he paid a tribute to the enterprise which was now taking man to the lunar soil and expressed the hope that the barriers dividing and separating mankind might be as effectively overcome as had the distances of the universe. He then reported that the General Conference had approved UNESCO's participation, with FAO and the ILO, in the preparation of a world conference on agricultural education and training and had requested him to submit to the working party formed by those three organizations a suggestion that an international decade of agricultural education, research and training should be organized in the context of the Second United Nations Development Decade. He had also been requested to study, in consultation with UNIDO, the possibility of encouraging the establishment or specialization of industries producing scientific instruments for education and research.

21. Hydrology was another field in which there was close co-operation between UNESCO and other United Nations bodies. The International Hydrological Decade was in full swing, and the General Conference had authorized him to convene an international conference on the practical and scientific results of that decade and on international co-operation in hydrology. He hoped that that conference would help to overcome the differences of opinion between UNESCO and WMO with regard to national and international institutional structures for hydrological research.

22. With regard to oceanography, he had submitted to the Executive Board proposals for the purpose of assisting the heads of organizations with competence in that area in co-ordinating their programmes and strengthening their joint support for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's work. The Executive Board had approved

the proposals and the means for implementing them were now under discussion.

23. He had a number of reservations on the Secretary-General's report on arrangements for the transfer of operative technology to the developing countries (E/4633 and Add.1 and Corr.1); those reservations were set out in detail in document E/4722.

24. In the first place, the title was misleading: the report actually dealt with the completely different subject of the institutional mechanisms relating to science and technology in general within the United Nations system.

25. Secondly, the concept of the transfer of operative technology had been insufficiently analysed. It contained important non-scientific elements of a social, cultural, legal and commercial nature, and one of its most important aspects—that of patents and licences—was not studied in sufficient depth. Above all, a general distinction should be made between "horizontal" and "vertical" transfer. The former—from one country or industrial sector to another—could take place only if the conditions necessary for the assimilation of the technology in question were established in the receiving country, which implied an adequate general level of education and the existence of enough specialists capable of benefiting from the knowledge they obtained. Indeed, the training of scientists, engineers and technicians was in itself a transfer of technology. "Vertical" transfer—the passing of ideas along the research-development-technological innovation chain—was a matter of national scientific policy depending on governmental decisions.

26. His third criticism was that the report had not made the best use of the extensive and varied experience of the United Nations system in the transfer of technology.

27. Finally, scientific and technological assistance to the developing countries was too often reduced to a simple transfer of knowledge accompanied by a certain amount of equipment. Experience showed that, although such an approach was of immediate practical benefit, its effects were neither lasting nor profound. UNESCO's primary concern was to create the intellectual and social conditions for technological progress by means of long-term action which would enable science and technology to take root in the social and cultural environment of the developing countries. It was regrettable that those considerations were not covered in the report.

28. With regard to the different question of the co-ordination of United Nations activities in science and technology, he supported the suggestion made for the establishment of a sessional committee of the Council to deal with all aspects of science and technology. He hoped that the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development would be able to continue its excellent work and agreed that its reorganization might provide an opportunity to review the whole matter of the advisory mechanisms needed by the Council

in order to guide and co-ordinate the activities of the specialized agencies. It was clear that the Advisory Committee should have no operational duties and that its work should neither overlap nor compete with the activities of the specialized agencies.

29. The fourth point which he wished to mention concerned the International Education Year. Young people continued to protest against a society and a way of life which did not meet their demands for justice and peace, and their dissatisfaction showed the extent and urgency of the changes required in education. Their rejection of the education provided was not simply a revolt against authoritarianism; it derived from their refusal to accept the organization and standards of conduct which contemporary education aimed at imposing on them. In order to avoid a disastrous conflict of generations on the purpose of education and the aims of society, a spiritual transformation accompanied by appropriate social changes was necessary.

30. Mankind must realize that it was involved in an unprecedented process of demographic, technological, intellectual and moral change, in which the problem of the radical transformation of education was of central importance. General Assembly resolution 2412 (XXIII), adopted on the recommendation of the UNESCO General Conference, and providing that 1970 should be celebrated as International Education Year, was therefore extremely welcome. The essential purpose of that year would be to stimulate a critical approach to education and to encourage the mobilization of energies towards specific objectives. Recognition of the fact that education must be transformed did not mean that everything in it was bad or that everything should be changed, but rather that every aspect of it should be reviewed, especially its overall conception and its objectives. Education could not make a decisive contribution to the technological revolution in the developing countries unless there was a radical change in its techniques; on the other hand, successful and forward-looking education was possible only in a society engaged in a process of self-renewal. It was his hope that International Education Year would make all Governments and international organizations realize that, just as man was the ultimate objective of development, so education was its driving force.

31. Mr. VRATUŠA (Yugoslavia) said that, at a time when a major technological breakthrough was taking place which showed what man's intellect and heroism could do, there was good reason to hope that human genius would lead to equal success in resolving problems on earth. National efforts, international co-operation of various kinds and ever-intensified activity by the United Nations to promote development had already produced tangible results and had widened the opportunities for the world community to develop further and to prosper. The recent positive trends in the world economy still persisted, thus providing an opportunity for a more dynamic approach to development problems.

32. The developing countries had spared no effort to achieve the goals they had set themselves and had imposed enormous obligations on their own peoples. Some remarkable progress had been made and the expansion of agricultural output had been achieved through land reforms and the application of modern technology. As a result, not only had the threat of famine been removed from entire regions, but the door had also been opened to accelerated industrialization. The diversification of national economies was making a major contribution to the promotion of trade and the expansion of service facilities. Such processes, although still in their infancy, had paved the way for mutual co-operation and various forms of integration among the developing countries themselves.

33. Co-operation in science and technology and their application to development had also shown some results. If those fields were neglected, there would be a serious risk of a setback in the world's economic potential, with the risk of technological and consequent economic stagnation in all countries, whatever their level of development. Science and technology, as the keys of the future, most undoubtedly occupied a prominent place in the Council's work, particularly in the programme for the Second Development Decade. The transfer of technology, which would undoubtedly gain ground during the coming decade, was a very complex venture requiring considerable investment in human resources and supporting facilities. It should therefore be dealt with as an integral part of international co-operation and as a specific aspect of the responsibility of industrially developed countries.

34. A little over one year had elapsed since the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Although some progress had since been made in the recognition of UNCTAD's aims, the implementation of the Conference's recommendations was still not satisfactory. Hardly any headway had been made in tariff liberalization for exports of interest to developing countries. Most such products also continued to be faced with various non-tariff barriers. The conclusion of the International Sugar Agreement in October 1968 was a step in the right direction but would not be fully successful unless universally applied. Other similar commodity agreements were required. Such agreements were of particular importance since trade in agricultural products was in constant jeopardy from the protectionist policy practised by some industrially developed countries and regional economic groupings. That policy kept the developing countries in a state of uncertainty concerning their agricultural production and threatened the level of living of farmers whose products could not compete on the international market in a climate of agricultural protectionism.

35. Yugoslavia had liberalized its foreign trade and foreign exchange arrangements; such measures, together with profound changes in the monetary, credit, customs and taxation systems, had adapted its economy for integration in the world economy. Those measures could not produce

their full effects, however, while trade barriers continued to subsist. A considerable increase in agricultural output had been achieved, but restrictive import policies and similar impediments imposed by developed countries, and particularly by EEC, had seriously affected agricultural exports and had cast a shadow on Yugoslavia's agricultural prospects. That could not be regarded as an isolated case; many other developing countries were faced with similar problems with respect to both agricultural and industrial exports. The conclusion of commodity agreements was of the highest importance.

36. The developing countries were faced with unexpected difficulties in respect of preferences, in spite of the fact that, at its second session, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had unanimously recommended, in its resolution 21 (II), the adoption of a system of preferences.<sup>1</sup> The monetary and balance of payments problems facing a number of market-economy countries had considerably upset world economy trends and endangered the position of the developing countries. The target of 1 per cent of the gross national product of the developed countries set under decision 27 (II)<sup>2</sup> for transfer to the developing countries was still by no means achieved. Balance of payments difficulties were often referred to in that connexion, but the Committee for Development Planning had stated in its report that there were many other ways of making adjustments in the balance of payments when required and that such considerations should have no part in decisions concerning the volume and terms of aid to be provided. The rise in the reverse flow of debt service indicated that an aid crisis would occur if sufficient resources were not set aside to provide the necessary expansion in gross transfers.

37. The point had been reached at which permanent machinery for eliminating weak spots in the world economy should be established, machinery which did not depend on temporary market fluctuations or other similar factors and which should be internationally accepted and respected.

38. It was gratifying to see that the United Nations system was moving towards a more comprehensive assessment of problems and towards global solutions to the problem of assisting the developing countries. Intensive studies of world economic problems had culminated in what was called the international development strategy. Collaterally with the progress made in devising a concept of development strategy, new institutions and organs had been established within the United Nations system. With the establishment of UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund, a global approach to the problems of development had become more realistic. The older specialized agencies had simultaneously extended their activities in the same direction. IBRD had

recently taken steps to mobilize international financial resources for development on a larger scale. A parallel expansion of the activities of UNDP was certainly needed and therefore the decision of its Administrator to double the UNDP resources for pre-investment activities and to start the so-called "third window", or capital development fund operations deserved full support.

39. Economic development and an improvement in human well-being were both end-products and instruments of international co-operation for peace. Postponement of the solution of economic problems, therefore, would directly endanger efforts to maintain world peace. The Secretary-General had warned a conference on the Second United Nations Development Decade that, if a global partnership were not forged within the next decade, there was reason to fear that problems would have reached such staggering proportions as to be uncontrollable.

40. Preparations for the Second Development Decade had been formally initiated by General Assembly resolution 2411 (XXIII) but they had in fact started long before. Every step towards the institutional strengthening of the United Nations system and towards recognition of the need for joint action was a preparation for the launching of the Second Development Decade. That decade should make use of all the experience gained during the first. There was still a tendency to make use of the developing countries' need for assistance to impose upon them the will of foreign Governments. On the other hand, domestic instability in new countries, which was largely due to underdevelopment, could affect international relations and the maintenance of world peace. The multifarious pressures exerted against the sovereignty and independence of States resulted in a high proportion of national budgets being allocated to armaments. It was distressing that the issue of converting the resources released by disarmament to peaceful purposes had hardly been discussed. As the Secretary-General had stated in his preliminary speech, a slight reduction in armaments expenditure would be sufficient to release the external resources required to resolve some of the gravest economic and social problems facing the world.

41. The recent consultative meeting of fifty-one non-aligned countries in Belgrade had emphasized the need for an urgent increase in development activities and, more particularly, for joint action to prepare for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Those countries had supported the proposal of OAU that a meeting should be held of ministers of developing countries members of the Group of 77.

42. The Development Decade represented a broad and long-term endeavour in which each country should take its rightful place and contribute within the limits of its own possibilities. Although the international development strategy should produce economic results and achieve its economic and social objectives, its main goals should be to ensure national independence, the autonomous development of each country, promotion of friendly co-

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session, vol. I: Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.II.D.14), p. 38.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

operation among countries on a basis of equality, and the gradual elimination of power politics, interference and discrimination of all kinds.

43. The Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade had made considerable progress towards formulating the strategy. Almost unanimous agreement had been reached in that body on the strategy and on key areas of international co-operation for development. It had been recognized that a target for over-all growth in the gross production of developing countries should be established together with quantitative targets in a number of important fields.

44. The major remaining difficulties were those connected with policy measures. If the existing uncertainty continued, it could have serious consequences for the Second Development Decade and for the future in general. The matter was all the more urgent in that only two months remained to prepare the preliminary draft of the international development strategy for submission to the General Assembly. The whole international community, and the developed countries in particular, would have to assume precise and meaningful commitments in regard to policy measures.

45. It was to be hoped, therefore, that the Trade and Development Board, at its forthcoming session, would be able to reach agreement on UNCTAD's contribution to the Second Development Decade and that the difficulties facing the Preparatory Committee would be gradually overcome. Valuable contributions were also expected from the regional economic commissions, particularly ECE, as representing the most industrialized region, and from the specialized agencies. His delegation fully endorsed the Iranian proposal, which had been unanimously adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2460 (XXIII), providing for the study of the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development.

46. It was universally agreed that the ultimate purpose of development efforts was the welfare and dignity of mankind. The demographic problem could not, therefore, be effectively tackled if it was not regarded as an integral part of development. Education too could be productive only if visualized as an integral part of economic and social development. An "educational explosion" unconnected with the provision of new working opportunities would lead directly to unemployment and other well-known phenomena.

47. Participation in decision-making depended directly on the opportunities available to people to influence decisions by their own economic and social positions in the community. A contribution along those lines would help to enlarge the basis for genuine solidarity and provide the best prospect for the younger generation which were seeking to play an active part in decision-making at both the national and international levels. The genuine integrity of man and the achievement of his human and

civil rights could be secured only in a dynamic and prospering community.

48. The United Nations had a special responsibility and wide opportunities to play its full part in that common endeavour. The successful completion of the preparatory work for the Second Development Decade and its timely submission to the General Assembly would be the best present that could be offered to the United Nations on its twenty-fifth anniversary.

49. Mr. KENNAN (Ireland) said that no one laboured under any illusions concerning the magnitude and complexity of the basic problems before the Council. Although there were no grounds for complacency, there was reason to believe that the international community, conscious of its obligations, would shoulder the task of mobilizing the political will and the political means to meet the challenge of the coming decade.

50. A striking advance had taken place in recent years in the attitudes of policy-makers and decision-makers throughout the world. There was general acceptance of the fact that human rights and obligations transcended all national, regional and ideological boundaries, while the existence of poverty, disease and illiteracy anywhere in the world was regarded as an affront to man's conscience.

51. The aim of the Second Development Decade was to find practical ways and means of achieving agreed objectives. Its success would be crucially influenced by the intensive effort of all Members of the United Nations, rich and poor, large and small. However, the aims and targets set had to be reasonably capable of achievement. High aims fostered high hopes, but over-ambitious targets carried the danger of serious psychological and even political consequences if performance failed to match expectations.

52. Economic growth was not an end in itself: its ultimate fulfilment was human well-being. Social objectives, therefore, were of paramount importance. Hence, it was a matter of some satisfaction to find that the report of the Committee for Development Planning emphasized that the ultimate purpose of development was to provide opportunities for a better life for all peoples. The report drew attention to the need to eliminate poverty and injustice and to reduce inequalities in income and wealth wherever they occurred. New employment opportunities, improved food supplies, better health facilities and increasing educational opportunities were essential elements in development strategy. Although his delegation might not be able to endorse fully all the Committee's recommendations, it certainly agreed with its basic conclusions.

53. As the Committee stated in its report, high priority had to be given to the problem of employment. The ILO had taken a most important initiative in formulating the World Employment Programme and, in doing so, was fulfilling one of its fundamental objectives.



54. His delegation welcomed and fully supported the General Assembly's decision to designate 1970 as International Education Year. It shared the view and the hope that the activities of the year would not be confined to pious resolutions but would include programmes of practical action. In that connexion, the adoption of measures aimed at substantially increasing the international exchange of students would give immediate and general results. It was to be hoped that, as part of the arrangements for the coming year, a special stimulus would be given to such activities.

55. Freedom to travel was a fundamental freedom recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Travel and tourism helped to establish friendly relations and understanding between peoples. It was therefore a matter for satisfaction that international tourism had been steadily expanding over the past twenty years and had become a major factor in world trade, particularly that of the less wealthy countries. He welcomed, therefore, the fact that the Council's agenda afforded an opportunity to examine the issues involved in tourism. At the Inter-governmental Conference on Tourism, held in May 1969, it had been suggested that yet another non-governmental organization should be set up on tourism, but the proliferation of international organizations and committees placed a grievous burden on the Governments of small countries and every thousand pounds spent on international meetings was a thousand pounds less for the real needs of the developing areas.

56. The ultimate aim of international economic endeavours was to hasten the day when developing countries would no longer need any special aid and would be able to stand on their own feet economically. To do so, they must be enabled to make the most of their own resources, both human and material. The appropriate application of science and technology was essential and the discussions to be held on that subject would undoubtedly be of great value. A practical measure which might be considered in that connexion was the establishment of research institutions, as required, in the developing countries. Those institutions would not be concerned with

theoretical exercises but with practical projects. Many countries, both small and large, which had reached an advanced stage of development, could attribute their progress not so much to a rich endowment of natural resources, geographical situation or climate, as to the care and diligence they had applied to the analysis of their own special problems and to making the most of their resources. In order to progress economically, a country required research and development facilities appropriate to its needs. Research information and know-how could, of course, be acquired from others, but the fact remained that each country had its own special and technological needs and ought to be able to deal with them on a systematic and continuing basis.

57. Although Ireland was a small country and its contribution to the solutions of the world's ills could be only a modest one, it had specifically and formally recognized its obligation to help less favoured nations according to its capacity. It had been a substantial contributor to WFP since its inception and subscribed to IBRD, IDA and IFC. It provided training facilities in a wide variety of fields and professional and technical personnel to serve in the developing countries on a bilateral and multilateral basis. Many thousands of Irish voluntary workers, with the necessary professional and technical qualifications, spent their lives in developing countries helping to establish and operate schools, training colleges, hospitals and similar institutions.

58. Ireland's balance of trade with the developing countries was very much in their favour. Its imports from them were more than three times as great as its exports to them. Imports from all sources were equivalent to over 40 per cent of Ireland's gross national product—a very high figure by any standards.

59. The agenda before the Council was a formidable one and included many major issues which could not be commented upon in a general statement. He hoped to deal with some of them at the committee stage.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Thursday, 17 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

Agenda item 2:

General discussion of international economic and social policy (*continued*)

Speakers:

Mr. Aquino (WFP) .....	41
Mr. Abe (Japan) .....	42
Mr. Viaud (France) .....	43
Mr. Forthomme (Belgium) .....	46

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

1. Mr. AQUINO (Executive Director, World Food Programme) said that WFP was going through a period of rapid transition from an experimental undertaking to a programme that represented an important additional source of capital for social and economic development in the less developed countries. Part of the resources made available to WFP had been used to meet emergencies of various types, but, as the programme grew, a smaller proportion of the total resources was being devoted to emergencies.

2. The rate of growth of WFP social and economic development activities had been striking. The projects it had implemented could be divided into three groups: those for the development of human resources, those intended to improve the economic and social infrastructure of the recipient countries, and those which could be considered immediately productive. By the end of April 1969, there had been ninety-one projects of the first type, eighty-seven of the second and 156 of the third, valued respectively at \$154 million, \$137 million and \$180 million. At its last session, the Intergovernmental Committee of WFP had approved new projects for \$180 million to be executed in fourteen countries. The total commitments of WFP were currently above the \$650 million mark.

3. The aid provided through WFP acquired special significance considering the large number of people in very vulnerable groups to whom it was given: children of pre-school and school ages, expectant mothers, students and so on. In Botswana and Lesotho, virtually the whole primary school population was receiving supplementary rations from WFP, and in Algeria a WFP-assisted project

was providing mid-day meals for 500,000 children in primary schools.

4. In the case of projects for the development of the economic and social infrastructure, WFP foodstuffs went to the families of 695,000 forestry workers, 325,000 in community development and 500,000 others in housing, road construction and the erection of power lines.

5. The number of beneficiaries in projects mainly for the promotion of agricultural development, to which most of the resources of WFP were devoted, was equally impressive. Aid in the form of food was supplied by WFP to 1 million persons working in land development, and to 300,000, including refugees and displaced persons, who were being settled in new areas.

6. He had just signed, in Bogotá, a plan of operations for nutritional education and feeding. The plan had been approved by the WFP Intergovernmental Committee in May 1969 and would cost \$42 million. It would help Colombia to improve the dietary habits of its population, and curb the high rate of mortality and morbidity of children in the lower income groups. Another plan of operations had been signed with the United Arab Republic; the operations it stipulated would cost \$45 million and would serve to expand the agricultural basis of that country's economy, reduce unemployment rates in rural areas and improve agricultural output. The Intergovernmental Committee had also approved many other projects to be implemented in Sudan, Turkey, Lesotho, Taiwan, Mauritius, Syria, Burundi, Bolivia, Ceylon, India, Afghanistan and Iraq.

7. In 1967, total commitments for new WFP projects had amounted to some \$85 million; they had grown to \$203 million in 1968; and in 1969 could easily reach \$400 million if the resources were forthcoming. The unit cost of the various projects was increasing concurrently. The growth in WFP activities had prompted the WFP governing body to recommend a target of contributions of \$300 million for the two-year period 1971-1972, representing a 50 per cent increase over the target for the current biennium. That target had been endorsed by the FAO Council, and it was hoped that it would also obtain the approval of the Economic and Social Council, so that both the General Assembly and the FAO Conference could recommend it as the target for the WFP pledging conference to be held in January 1970.

8. A number of Governments, signatories of the Food Aid Convention, had decided to use WFP as a channel for discharging their obligations under the Convention, and EEC had decided to contribute 35,000 tons of butter oil to WFP. It was to be hoped that EEC would find it possible to channel through WFP a substantial part of its large surpluses of dairy products, especially in the form of dried skimmed milk.

9. General Assembly resolution 2462 (XXIII) invited the WFP Intergovernmental Committee to study some specific aspects of the problem of food aid and to present a final report on the subject to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-ninth session. The study, to which the Secretariats of the United Nations and FAO would be invited to contribute, would be extremely useful, for it was important that the subject of multilateral food aid should be approached as a substantial part of the development effort of the United Nations system.

10. Since WFP was a joint operation of the United Nations and FAO, it was co-operating closely with its parent bodies; it also worked in very close liaison with UNDP through the resident representatives, who were also representatives of WFP. In addition, ILO, UNESCO and WHO provided extremely useful technical services for the scrutiny and evaluation of WFP projects. WFP was also working closely with UNICEF and UNHCR.

11. WFP could make a valuable contribution to the Second United Nations Development Decade; he hoped that the Council would continue to give WFP its full support and ensure that it was endowed with the resources needed to fulfil its responsibilities.

12. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that the *World Economic Survey, 1968* (E/4687 and Add.1-3), prepared by the Secretariat, was an excellent document; it showed that the remarkable expansion of the world economy and international trade had exceeded all expectations. In 1968, the growth rate of the world economy had been nearly 6 per cent, and the rate of growth of world trade had doubled by comparison with 1967. The increase in trade had played an important part in the expansion of the economies of the developed countries, while the economies of the developing countries had continued to improve as a result of higher agricultural production, the upward trend in commodity prices and increased exports to the markets of the developed countries. Those facts clearly showed that the first Development Decade had not been a failure and that it was gradually bearing fruit.

13. Of course, many problems still remained unresolved, particularly in regard to the monetary situation, high interest rates and inflationary trends. They should be carefully studied by the Governments concerned and resolved through international co-operation so as not to hamper the further development of the world economy as a whole. In that connexion, it should be noted that, through international co-operation, it had been possible to introduce special drawing rights within the framework of

IMF, with the object of ensuring the stability of international currencies and the steady and balanced development of the world economy.

14. The economic progress of a country, whether developed or developing, was a continuing process, which demanded steady and sustained efforts on a nation-wide scale over a period of several years. One fundamental condition for such development, however, was political stability at the national and international levels. Consequently, it was to be hoped that the political climate would improve in the years to come so that the current expansion of the world economy could be maintained and accelerated; such improvement was particularly necessary at a time when vigorous efforts were being made to launch the Second Development Decade.

15. In 1968, the Japanese economy had continued to maintain a high growth rate for the third consecutive year mainly owing to the expansion of private capital investment and consumption. The gross national product had increased by 14.4 per cent in real terms, thus exceeding the corresponding 1967 figure of 13.7 per cent. After the official discount rate had been raised at the beginning of 1968 in order to cope with an increasing balance of payments deficit, exports had recovered and the balance of payments situation had improved to such an extent that it had been possible to lower the rate once again in August; thanks to the favourable trend of the economy, unemployment had remained at a low level and wages had risen rapidly. Subsequently, however, certain shortcomings inherent in the Japanese economy had reappeared in the form of a sharp upswing in consumer prices and a more acute labour shortage. Nevertheless, the balance of payments situation had remained sound, thanks to a sharp increase in exports and the stabilization of imports. At the same time, it had ceased to act as a brake on Japan's economic expansion.

16. In 1968, the financial aid supplied by Japan to the developing countries had reached the high level of \$1,050 million, or three times the 1964 figure. Although that increase had been a consequence of the economic boom of recent years, it also reflected the Japanese Government's determination to step up appreciably its economic aid to the developing countries despite enormous needs on the home front, particularly in road-building and housing.

17. Although his Government was fully aware of the importance of the development of the developing countries, it also recognized the economic interdependence of all countries. In its opinion, the steady development of the developed countries was no less important than that of the developing countries for the future of the world economy as a whole. The Economic and Social Council should keep that fact constantly before it.

18. With reference to the Second United Nations Development Decade, his delegation appreciated the work already accomplished by the Preparatory Committee, in

co-operation with various United Nations organs and the specialized agencies. Nevertheless, a number of problems were still unresolved. The slow progress so far made had given rise to some dissatisfaction. It should not be forgotten that the basic aim of the Second Development Decade was to supply a driving force for the development of the developing countries and to that end to organize international action in support of those countries' own efforts.

19. Part I of the *World Economic Survey, 1968*, relating to some issues of development policy in the coming decade, contained numerous suggestions which might be useful for the Preparatory Committee's work, particularly in regard to population growth, education and agricultural development. In connexion with unemployment problems resulting from population growth, it was particularly interesting to note the possibility of substituting labour for capital in the industrialization process of the developing countries. The *Survey* expressed certain reservations on the commonly held idea that the problem of unemployment could be remedied by industrialization and presented instead a case for the more intensive use of labour in agriculture, with a view to improving output. That was a new approach which deserved very careful study.

20. On the subject of education, which was dealt with as an important aspect of population growth, the *Survey* stated that labour productivity and the extension of education were interrelated and stressed the need for planning in the training of high-level and skilled manpower, so as to correct the undue orientation towards general education at the expense of technical education. The curricula of educational institutions should also be reviewed, with a view to ensuring that they met the particular development needs of individual countries.

21. Lastly, the *Survey* advocated a comprehensive approach to agricultural development, based on institutional, technical and economic reforms. It also suggested an alternative method, which consisted in identifying particularly critical bottlenecks and ensuring the minimum essential inputs. While that method would doubtless resolve some of the short-term difficulties of agricultural development, it would be better to view agricultural development in a wider perspective, over a period even longer than a decade, in an attempt to promote fundamental conditions for sustained agricultural growth.

22. The formulation of a global development strategy required the co-operation of all United Nations organs, the specialized agencies and other international organizations. Accordingly, it was quite opportune that the Council should take up the question of co-ordination at its current session from the particular angle of the problems created by the preparations for the Second Development Decade. His delegation hoped that ACC and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination would intensify their activities, which had already proved very useful, with a view to helping the Council to carry out its role in that field. To ensure the success of the Second Development Decade, it was essential that all countries

and all organs within the United Nations family should join forces in a spirit of mutual trust and confidence.

23. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, despite the criticisms levelled at it, the Council was still a privileged forum which gave Member States an opportunity to evaluate the ups and downs of international economic co-operation. No one could fail to be aware, at the end of the first Development Decade, of the keen disappointment felt in the less favoured nations concerning the assistance expected from the community of nations. The gap between developed and developing countries was widening. Very few developing countries had achieved real economic growth, while the industrialized countries were concerned at the somewhat irregular growth rate of their economies and at the inflationary trends which were appearing in their economic and financial relations, with unfavourable repercussions on international co-operation. His delegation, having learnt from France's own economic and social experience and taking the world economic situation into account, considered that steady economic expansion benefiting the developing and developed countries alike was not inconceivable; it was even the *sine qua non* which would enable the Second United Nations Development Decade to provide the setting for mutual progress by all countries.

24. In France, after the fears aroused by the disturbances in the spring of 1968, private consumption had grown rapidly, stimulated by the purchasing power generated by the increase in the volume of wages and by the psychological effects of an uncertain international monetary situation. According to the forecasts for 1969 made in the autumn of 1968, the gross domestic product had been expected to increase by nearly 7 per cent during the year. That forecast had proved wrong because demand had remained at a very high level and had led to such a substantial reduction in unemployment that the shortage of manpower, particularly skilled manpower, had become a bottleneck in the economy. A second bottleneck was created by difficulties of supply, resulting in a strong tendency to increase investments in enterprises, a favourable factor which the Government had taken steps to encourage, particularly by tax measures. On the other hand, the tight labour market was causing a rapid rise in wages which could have repercussions on price levels. Actually prices tended to edge upwards at the rate of 5 to 6 per cent *per annum*. The Government was making every effort to hold the trend in check.

25. Temporary foreign trade difficulties created another problem which caused concern. In the face of a large increase in imports of consumer goods, exports, despite rapid growth, had not reached the level which would have cancelled out the balance of payments deficit; the deficit had, however, shrunk in June, while at the same time there had been a slight improvement in foreign exchange reserves.

26. The state of the French economy in mid-1969 called for skilful action by the public authorities to fore-

stall pre-inflationary trends without running the risk of slowing down the expansionary trend too much, as part of a policy whose main objectives were to strengthen the industrial structures and to promote social justice and peace.

27. It was possible to draw a lesson of general application from that review of the economic situation in France, namely, that it was difficult to bring the caprices of the economy under full control. The main reason was psychological rather than economic: economic management implied forecasting, which in its turn required a minimum of regularity in the coefficients reflecting the behaviour of economic forces. It seemed that the reactions of societies and individuals no longer fully conformed to the laws which, it had been thought, could be formulated from earlier experience. The accumulated effects of technological progress confronted man with a future containing the seeds of a real mutation whose consequences no one could very clearly foresee. As a result, equilibrium was suddenly upset in all fields, including the economic. Economic management was rendered all the more difficult by the fact that no one knew very well how best to deal with the psychological aspects shaping attitudes.

28. With regard to the world economic and social situation, the first impression gleaned from the data in the *World Economic Survey, 1968*, was favourable. Closer scrutiny seemed, however, to lead to less optimistic conclusions.

29. The year 1968 had had some positive features to its credit in several respects, in the developed market-economy countries, in the developed planned-economy countries and in the developing countries. In the first group, the growth rate had reverted to a high level after the drop of 1967, despite a slowing down in the growth of agricultural production, particularly in Europe. In the United States, in particular, the growth of demand had caused a considerable expansion of imports, which had risen by 24 per cent in 1968 as compared with an average of 9.7 per cent during the eight preceding years.

30. In the developed planned-economy countries, the changes were less noticeable, the growth in the gross domestic product having been impeded by some slowing down in the rate of industrial expansion and agricultural production. But the foreign trade of those countries continued to expand, principally in the form of reciprocal trade, although there were considerable opportunities for expansion of trade with the rest of the world. France had substantially increased its trade with the countries of the East and had set up permanent machinery for co-operation.

31. The developing countries had for the most part taken advantage of the favourable prospects afforded by the rapid growth in the industrialized countries. The food situation in the developing countries had improved slightly; that respite should be used to carry out certain

reforms in structures and methods of cultivation. Industrial production had risen by 8 per cent, which was consistent with the target set by the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. If that progress continued at the same pace in 1969, the targets fixed for the first Development Decade could finally be achieved. Lastly, the foreign trade of the developing countries had been boosted by the demand of the developed countries for primary commodities and manufactures.

32. The optimism to which those facts might give rise had, however, to be qualified. In the first place, not all the developing countries had benefited equally from the favourable world economic conditions. Latin America, in particular, in addition to a drop in its agricultural production, had been unable to halt the shrinkage in its share of world trade. Moreover, financial aid to the developing countries was passing through a crisis. According to the estimates of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, capital transfers from the developed market-economy countries to the developing countries had amounted to \$11,000 million in 1968. That figure represented an increase of 7 to 8 per cent over 1967 in terms of its nominal value but a relative decrease in the contributions of the developed economies expressed as a percentage of their gross national product. Finally, the improvement in the situation in the developing countries was mainly due to a vigorous expansion in the industrialized countries. The precarious and dangerous nature of that trend, which led to generalized inflation, was apparent. Such "overheating" was prompting Governments to introduce stabilization policies. It would be most welcome if the anticipated slowing down proved to be the temporary result of a lasting improvement. The situation would be quite different if it resulted in a sharp and generalized economic reversal in the industrialized countries, of which the developing countries would be the first victims. At all events, it was advisable to beware of protectionist trends which might well set off chain reactions and compromise all the progress achieved since the Second World War in trade liberalization.

33. Uncontrolled expansion also resulted in persistent imbalances in international payments. The drawings effected by the United States banking sector on the Euro-dollar market, resulting in excessive rises in rates on that market, were an extremely disturbing phenomenon, not only for the debtor countries but also for the creditor countries whose capital exports were impeded. The phenomenon also had implications for the developing countries, making it more difficult to finance the programmes of the international financial institutions and making those programmes more costly; Hence the control of inflation and the implementation of suitable economic policies were the very basis of any attempt at international monetary co-operation.

34. The Second Development Decade was the means whereby the domestic and foreign policies of Member States, aimed at accelerating the economic and social pro-

gress of the developing countries, could be better coordinated. To that end those policies should be ordered in a predetermined pattern which should lay down the targets considered desirable for the next ten years.

35. Without being a plan in the proper sense, the Development Decade was not entirely divorced from the idea of planning. However, it would be difficult to make an absolutely coherent econometric model of it, with more or less mandatory targets. The first French contribution had been to propose recourse to the flexible planning methods used in France. Since the representatives of the most active elements in the nation were closely associated with the defining of targets and the search for resources, the problem of the commitments to be assumed by both sides to ensure implementation of the plan was greatly simplified.

36. There was no intention of making the Development Decade a legal instrument; the aim was rather to obtain from Member States declarations of intent concerning the policies which they proposed to follow over the next ten years with a view to accelerating the economic and social development of the less favoured regions. In order to assemble the initial elements of an international development strategy, it was sufficient that the developing countries should be aware of the need to save more and to carry out essential structural reforms and that the developed countries, for their part, should continue to be prepared to provide aid and markets and supply the developing countries with increased external resources. It would be much easier to design the framework within which national policies were to be developed if projections covering the whole of the Second Development Decade were available for the two groups of countries. The developing countries must make known their needs and plans and they would be able to do so only if they had some idea of the growth rate of the industrial countries in the years to come.

37. In the meantime, an attempt could be made to define, even roughly, the contribution to be made to the Second Development Decade. France, like other countries, thought that the main effort should come from the developing countries, whose limited resources should always be used with circumspection. But it was convinced that to a large extent the example should be set by the industrial countries themselves. The President of the French Republic had recently stated his belief that it was in the best interests of the whole industrialized world, both East and West, to make an effort on behalf of the developing countries and that France was making that effort to the full extent that its resources permitted. In that connexion, he drew attention to the three main components of the contribution which France intended to make to the Second Development Decade: economic and technical aid equivalent to more than 1 per cent of its gross national product; international action designed to stabilize primary commodity prices at a remunerative level; and the introduction of a system of general and non-

discriminatory preferences in favour of manufactures from the developing countries.

38. France had always attached the greatest importance to the solution of the problem of commodities. That was why, together with the African countries members of the franc area, it had been responsible, in 1967, for the adoption of a resolution by the Boards of Governors of IMF and IBRD providing that those two agencies were to study ways and means of participating financially in international stabilization activities. It was therefore gratified that the executive directors of IMF had recently adopted a plan affording developing countries additional opportunities to use automatic drawing rights in order to help them to contribute to the financing of international buffer stocks. It was unfortunate that IBRD had not felt that it should endorse, at least for the time being, the idea of loans granted directly to member countries to facilitate their participation in any stabilization agreements on a commodity-by-commodity basis.

39. Those were sound economic targets, but the Development Decade had to be something more: it had to aim at improving man's lot by helping to fight ignorance, disease, hunger and unemployment. If it was to be not only economic but also largely humanitarian, the specialized agencies must be urged to formulate social targets. That raised the problem of co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations and those agencies.

40. The preparations for the Second Development Decade and the action programme which should emerge from them were the outcome of a type of co-ordination which would make it possible for the various organizations of the United Nations system to share the responsibility for implementing a joint programme reflecting, at a given moment, the priority targets of international co-operation. Rivalries and disputes concerning competence among closely related organizations were out of order. Each agency should be able to subscribe, under the development strategy, to a common discipline consisting of priorities established by common agreement by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The consistency of the proposed plans had to be guaranteed; in other words, choices had to be made between essential educational, health and other needs. That requirement would not involve any relinquishment of sovereignty by international organizations because there would be no mandatory obligation other than the conventional consultations with closely related bodies. A joint programme as important as that of the Second Development Decade presupposed the existence of a forum for consultation in which not only the administrative aspects but also the very substance of the problems to be resolved could be fully grasped. Such facilities could be provided only by the Council, assisted by the technical services of the Secretariat which customarily helped it to perform its duties.

41. Care should be taken not to try to make the Second Development Decade an unduly ambitious undertaking.

The ideal to be pursued was more realistic since it involved taking action to ensure that in ten years' time mankind would at least be able to guarantee better living conditions than those which were at present so inadequate. That aim would be achieved only if countries had the political will to make the necessary joint effort. The danger to avoid was not that of indulging in extravagant hopes but that of lacking the boldness which constituted the driving force of great undertakings.

42. Mr. FORTHOMME (Belgium) proposed to confine his remarks to a subject of particular concern to his delegation, namely, the Second Development Decade, and to make a number of suggestions concerning the mechanisms and procedures which might contribute to the success of that undertaking.

43. The first essential was to start by being selective and to draw up a classification which, though provisional, might serve as a guide in the work of imagination and synthesis which had still to be done.

44. A consensus was emerging on a number of ideas. In the first place, economic growth was no longer considered the sole purpose of the Development Decade. It was merely one of the objectives to be attained so that a much broader aim might be reached, namely, a general and steady improvement in the well-being of the masses and the enhancement of the human personality in the developing countries. To reach that goal, the strategy must be based on the suggestions of the specialized agencies in respect of employment, health, education and training, the expansion of industrial and agricultural production, trade and development. It would thus be possible to ensure that national efforts were well planned and international co-operation better organized. A consequence of that broad approach was that the efforts to be made by the developing countries themselves were becoming an increasingly important preoccupation. There was general agreement on the need for greater efforts in the pursuit of two essential goals: the effective implementation of national development plans and projects and the optimum utilization of external aid. Those two aims were merely two sides of the same problem: how to secure as many resources as possible and then utilize them to the greatest advantage, bearing in mind that they would always be insufficient to meet the almost limitless needs.

45. The active mobilization of the developing countries' internal resources should not be conditional upon the availability of a specific volume of external aid. Experience showed that, as a general rule, efforts made by a country single-handed were very slow to produce results and that assistance without sufficient effort on the part of the country itself was pure waste, but that a judicious combination of the two enabled the country to make steady progress.

46. That was one of the primary reasons why constant attention should be given to the organization of inter-

national co-operation. Another reason was that assistance extended, or could extend, to all fields. Such multifunctional assistance involved a large number of organizations, forming a whole institutional apparatus which should as far as possible be co-ordinated and made to co-operate usefully. Ways and means had to be found to co-ordinate development activities. The United Kingdom representative had said (1604th meeting) that there was increasing recognition of the importance of consultations between representatives of national and international sources of aid on the one hand, and planning authorities in the various developing countries on the other, in order to examine the needs of each country and to identify each donor's most effective contribution to a balanced and coherent programme. He had also said that efforts should likewise be directed towards regional development.

47. That view was shared by the Belgian delegation, which considered, in addition, that the time had come to establish mechanisms and procedures to fulfil two of the essential aims of the Development Decade: first, to initiate coherent development programmes and projects and organize co-ordinated activities for their implementation and, secondly, to ensure that the programmes and their implementation were properly evaluated without overburdening the national administrations of the developing countries.

48. The framing and implementation of a country's development policy involved three stages: study of national data, resources and needs and the formulation of targets, guidelines and plans; consultation at the regional level, accompanied or preceded by sub-regional arrangements; and international consultations with a view to organizing external assistance for the development tasks which the country had set itself.

49. Organization of the work at the national level was an internal matter for States themselves; it was for them to decide what their objectives were, how they wished to attain them and what technical assistance they might wish to request. There would, nevertheless, be links between the global objectives to be established for the Second Development Decade and national goals. The projections on which the global objectives were based were constructed from an amalgam of national situations and prospects. Conversely, national objectives and aspirations would be ranged on one side or the other of the global objectives, between minimum and optimum levels which it would be utopian to seek to surpass. A country's freedom was obviously not absolute. Countries belonged to a league of nations working together. Consequently, one of the important functions of national sovereignty was to seek and establish agreements and modes of co-operation with other countries.

50. Consultations and co-operation at the regional level were among the important forms of co-operation between countries. It was highly desirable that the development policies of countries in a given region should be compatible, and even complementary. It had been demonstrated

that it was preferable to strive for harmonization among neighbouring countries or among countries within one region. Thought should be given to the possibility of establishing, in the regional economic commissions or in any other body considered suitable by the countries concerned, procedures for the mutual review of the policies of member States, on the pattern of OECD, where each country was in turn examiner and examinee. Such regional procedures would not, of course, prevent smaller groups of countries from forging closer links in order to agree on common policies or integrate their development plans and projects.

51. International consultations with a view to organizing external assistance should be held under the auspices of two types of bodies: first, bodies which would be an extrapolation of existing advisory groups or consortia and, secondly, the United Nations family of organizations. The first type, which might be called "multilateral co-operation groups", should become the normal instrument for implementing international development policies. They would examine national development plans and projects, in order to improve them, and especially in order to allocate tasks and co-ordinate the efforts to be made by all members of the group; it would then be possible to negotiate reciprocal commitments with regard to particular measures or programmes.

52. Apart from the fact that it would reconcile respect for national sovereignty and freedom of decision with the practical necessities of effective international co-operation, that formula was more flexible and more adaptable to the various needs and situations than were the advisory groups and consortia. The strategy for the Second Development Decade would cover a large number of fields in which well-organized co-operation would be useful. Lastly, multilateral co-operation groups could vary considerably depending on the developing countries con-

cerned, and their work could be restricted to a number of specific matters. Their objective would be to achieve the effective harmonization of national and international activities for the progress of a particular developing country or group of developing countries.

53. The international organizations whose activities were intended to supplement and strengthen the mechanisms and procedures just referred to would be called upon, first of all, to undertake periodic reviews of the situation in the various sectors of development, to evaluate the progress achieved, and to point to shortcomings and failures and identify their causes. Secondly, they would open the way to overcoming internal and external obstacles to development. Thus the specialized agencies would continue their work in their own fields of competence. For example, UNCTAD and GATT, whose main task was to pull down external barriers, would have to work in increasingly close co-operation, particularly since their task was an arduous one even in such fields as generalized preferences, supplementary financing and commodity agreements, where there was already a large measure of agreement. Action should, nevertheless, be intensified and speeded up throughout the Second Development Decade.

54. The international strategy for development must necessarily be a conglomeration of ideas, assembled from all quarters because of their intrinsic value and because of their suitability for inclusion in a coherent whole which could be accepted by all. Mutual trust was a *sine qua non* of international co-operation. Since interests and views did not always coincide, it was essential to seek the middle road which would enable the development strategy to be carried out.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.





## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on applications for hearings .....	49
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Labouisse (UNICEF) .....	49
Mr. Nesterenko (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) .....	50
Mr. Mopolo-Dadet (Congo, Brazzaville) .....	52
Mr. Gallardo Moreno (Mexico) .....	53
Mr. Jerbi (Libya) .....	53
Mr. López Herrarte (Guatemala) .....	54

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

*In the absence of the President, Mr. Maramis (Indonesia), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

**Report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on applications for hearings (E/4727)**

1. The PRESIDENT called the Council's attention to the report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/4727), in which that committee recommended that certain organizations should be heard in connexion with certain agenda items. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Council approved that recommendation.

*It was so decided.*

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878, E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

2. Mr. LABOUISSSE (Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund) reminded the Council that, in its resolution 1348 (XLV), it had recognized and approved the dual nature of UNICEF's activities: namely, the latter's contribution to the long-range economic and social functions of the United Nations system and its responsiveness to the emergency needs of mothers and children.

3. He welcomed the progress which had been made in considering the broad outline of economic and social policies and their relationship to the strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. The importance of the human factor in development was increasingly

recognized, although there was still some uncertainty as between ends and means. Emphasis was still laid on increasing the rate of economic growth, which was sometimes said to be the main objective of the Second Development Decade. It was undoubtedly desirable to increase the gross national product and to set goals for growth in the industrial and agricultural sectors. However, an increase in the gross national product growth rate was only one of the means to the main end: improvement of the quality of life. Other necessary means included more equitable distribution of the fruits of economic growth, effective land reform and fiscal reforms.

4. At least 40 per cent of the population of the developing countries were under fifteen years of age. Since those were the people who, in the coming decades, would develop or fail to develop their countries, it was vital to protect them from the hazards of childhood and to prepare them for useful lives. UNICEF could assist in that process by continuing to provide material and financial support to those parts of a country's development programme which were concerned with children and youth. With technical guidance from the specialized agencies, UNICEF provided supplies and equipment which the agencies could not provide. Similarly, the payment by UNICEF of stipends for the training of personnel at the local level continued to be of great value as a contribution to the development process. By the end of 1968, over 430,000 persons had received some type of training through UNICEF-assisted programmes.

5. The capacity of developing countries to make effective use of such assistance was steadily increasing. UNICEF could administer at least double the funds currently available. Greater aid from UNICEF would not entail a proportionate increase in expenditure by the agencies, for it would often be merely an extension of a broad programme already approved. In education, for example, UNICEF had begun with aid in training teacher trainers; in some countries, it had now reached the stage of assisting in training elementary school teachers. It would be highly desirable and administratively feasible for UNICEF to help to equip the schools to which those teachers were sent, in other words, to give the teachers the tools which they needed and which they had been taught to use.

6. In addition to its supply function, experience had proved that UNICEF could be helpful to Governments in preparing programmes to improve the situation of the young. Several members of the UNICEF Executive Board had urged the Secretariat to play a more active role in that direction. The aim was not to create a specialized sector for children and youth, but to include in national

development plans coherent and comprehensive measures beneficial to the young. In practical terms, it was not suggested that Governments should allocate more resources to children's programmes, but that UNICEF should assist Governments in tapping unused resources, particularly at the local level.

7. An increasingly frequent approach to such problems was the comprehensive project—included, wherever possible, in a larger development scheme. Several such projects, which involved the co-operation of more than one ministry and the technical co-operation of more than one specialized agency, had been approved by the Executive Board. Two Governments had stated that, much as they appreciated the supplies, equipment and funds to be made available for training local personnel over the next three or four years, they felt that UNICEF had already made its greatest contribution in helping them to develop a comprehensive programme of that kind.

8. The first victims of the population explosion were the children. The Executive Board had not authorized him to advise Governments on the control of population growth, but it had authorized him to extend UNICEF's traditional forms of assistance to programmes of family planning provided that they formed part of mother and child health services. UNICEF allocated some \$12 million a year to the improvement of basic health services; since 1966 it had further allocated some \$3.3 million for the family planning component, mainly in the form of transport for doctors and nurses and equipment for health centres. Mother and child health services in developing countries should be expanded as rapidly as possible, both to meet normal requirements and, where government policy permitted, to assist in family planning.

9. UNICEF was still gravely concerned at the serious and widespread child malnutrition which prevailed. Much time and energy had been devoted to the search for and development of protein-rich foods. Although substantial progress had been made, much remained to be done to ensure adequate production and availability of alternative food mixes for those in need; it was to be hoped that the Protein Advisory Group would be able to speed up progress in that direction in the next few months.

10. Co-ordination was built into the UNICEF assistance programmes. Almost every project was a joint venture of a Government, a specialized agency and UNICEF. Representatives of three specialized agencies were attached to UNICEF headquarters, standing policy committees were maintained with two more agencies, and there were frequent inter-secretariat consultations with others. At the field level, UNICEF was represented in some countries by the resident representative; in all cases, its field officers were instructed to keep in close touch with the resident representative.

11. In accordance with understandings reached in the summer of 1968 between the chief of the Federal Military Government of Nigeria, the International Committee

of the Red Cross and UNICEF, the latter had provided substantial relief assistance to children and mothers on both sides of the fighting lines in Nigeria. Nearly \$3 million emergency aid had been financed with funds raised largely through UNICEF's national committees, and donations of some \$16.5 million had been received in kind. A very substantial part of that total had already been used for the relief of children. Some problems had recently arisen concerning the distribution of relief supplies; discussions on those problems were still in progress. He could, however, assure the Council that UNICEF would do everything possible within its limited resources to carry out the tasks entrusted to it, in Nigeria as elsewhere.

12. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, although the *World Economic Survey, 1968* (E/4687 and Add.1-3) showed that the world production growth rate, industrial and agricultural output, investments, employment and international trade had all increased, the over-all picture was far from bright. The year had been characterized in the West by inflation and monetary crises, further assaults by monopolies on the working people's interests, and increased military expenditure. The economic and technological gap between developed and developing countries had widened, and there was growing discord between the developing countries and the imperialist Powers over the latter's neo-colonialist policy.

13. In analysing the world economic situation, a clear distinction should be made between the socialist and the capitalist systems. Over the past ten years, the countries members of CMEA had almost doubled their national income and now accounted for about one-third of the world's industrial output; they had achieved a level at which they should be able to make further rapid all-round progress. CMEA had recently drawn up a long-term programme of economic integration for the socialist countries which would raise their economic co-operation to a new level.

14. He gave a brief account of the USSR's economic achievements during 1968. Economic growth had remained rapid and stable. Industrial output had increased by 8 per cent, and had more than doubled since 1960. The reform of industrial organization had continued, and planning had been placed on a more scientific basis. Despite bad weather, agricultural output had been increased by mechanization, electrification and the use of chemicals. Real *per capita* income had increased by 6 per cent during the year, making a total increase of 20 per cent for the first three years of the current five-year plan. Better housing had been provided for some 11 million people during the year.

15. Although the USSR based its economic programmes on its own resources and efforts, it participated in a world-wide system of economic relations and in the international division of labour, which it regarded as a means

of strengthening international peace and friendship and as a basis for building socialism and communism.

16. In its economic relations with the developing countries, the USSR pursued a policy diametrically opposed to that of bourgeois civilization, which had enslaved millions in colonial countries for the benefit of the exploiting classes in a few selected nations. USSR policy was to help the developing countries to strengthen their economic independence. It was at present engaged in economic and technical co-operation with over seventy developing countries. Its trade with the developing countries had increased by 35 per cent between 1963 and 1967.

17. The USSR was willing to continue to expand its economic and technical co-operation with Western developed countries, but progress in that direction was still hindered by the discriminatory trade policies pursued by some of those countries. ECE could help to remedy that situation; by executing projects concerned with energy, transport and health, it could create an atmosphere more favourable to the solution of political problems, for example, through the convening of the European conference on problems of security and co-operation proposed by the Warsaw Treaty countries. The expansion of international economic activity was also hindered by the Western countries' economic instability, recurrent monetary crises and inflation, which were inherent in the capitalist system and in large measure the consequence of their heavy military expenditure. The claim made by one representative that the exploitation of man by man was no longer the chief vice of capitalist society was disproved by the ever-increasing number of strikes in the developed capitalist countries. The measures taken by those countries to check inflation achieved that end at the expense of the workers' interests. It was the duty of the Council, in virtue of Article 55 of the Charter, to defend the interests of the working people in such circumstances.

18. Although the *World Economic Survey* recorded an increase in the gross national product of developing countries, the progress they had made was far from adequate and the improvement in their economic situation had clearly been due to transitory influences. The *per capita* growth rate of their gross national product had remained virtually unchanged owing to the increase in their population. Their dependent position in the world capitalist division of labour had not changed either. Big monopolies still held key positions in the economy of those countries and largely controlled the direction of their economic development. In spite of some industrialization, their economies were still based on agriculture and extractive industry, while their imports consisted mainly of manufactures. The former colonial Powers accounted for more than three-quarters of the developing countries' foreign trade and extorted huge profits from them. The predominantly feudal and semi-feudal character of land tenure systems in the developing countries, outmoded techniques and the over-population of rural areas kept their agriculture in a state of stagnation and forced them to import foodstuffs. The expansion in their foreign trade

in 1968 had been largely nullified by unfavourable terms of trade; their external debt repayments absorbed two-thirds of the inflow of public capital and increased their dependence on the imperialist Powers.

19. Nevertheless, the developing countries were beginning to realize that economic progress could be made through the mobilization of their own resources, drastic social and economic reform, comprehensive development of the public sector, current and long-term planning and the application of science and technology. One of the Council's urgent tasks was to provide the developing countries with the fruits of advanced social and economic experience. The Council should also work out measures to counteract the policy of neo-colonialism, to protect developing countries from economic domination by foreign monopolies and exploitation by imperialist Powers, and to secure equitable conditions for them in the system of world economic relations. The work begun by UNCTAD on the principles of international economic relations should be continued, and the regional economic commissions given more active roles as centres for the promotion of regional co-operation.

20. Everyone recognized the potential benefits of science and technology, although one representative had warned that disoriented, ungoverned technological momentum could endanger mankind. That might apply to capitalist countries, where scientific and technical progress served only to enrich a minority and to increase the exploitation of the majority; it did not apply to socialist countries, where such progress was used to benefit the whole population. Be that as it might, the developing countries were denied the opportunity to apply scientific advances to the solution of their economic problems. International co-operation in matters of science and technology was vital to ensure that the progress made benefited all mankind.

21. It had become fashionable in the United Nations to emphasize the population problem. Some claimed that the world's population had already passed its optimum level, and that it grew more quickly than its means of subsistence. The solution to the problem of population growth should be sought, not in medicine, but in drastic social and economic reform: first and foremost, in the redistribution of national wealth and the liquidation of economic backwardness in the developing countries. Demographic methods alone would not resolve the problem; the proper function of the United Nations and the specialized agencies was to assist Governments in applying whatever policy they saw fit to pursue in the matter of population.

22. The Secretary-General, in the statement read out at the 1603rd meeting, had rightly emphasized the increasing importance of the role of youth in political affairs. Youth had an important part to play in the struggle of the working people to protect their interests, in national independence movements, and in campaigns for peace, social progress and national equality. Young people also

had a great contribution to make to economic development, especially in developing countries, in many of which they formed the majority of the population. The Council and the General Assembly should draw up a resolution or a declaration proclaiming the rights of youth in political, economic and social affairs. Such a document should affirm the rights of youth and its organizations to free political activity in defence of peace, democracy and social progress and against imperialism, neo-colonialism, neo-nazism and racism; it should also state that youth had a right to employment, education and social security. As a first step, the Council might adopt a resolution instructing the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights to draft such a declaration.

23. Under Articles 58, 63 and 64 of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council was the principal United Nations organ directly responsible for co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations family in the social, economic, scientific and technical fields. There was a tendency manifest among the executive heads of some of the agencies in ACC to try to channel that function of the Council to ACC and thus empower the latter body to determine the substantive policy of the United Nations in those fields. That tendency was evident from paragraph 16 of ACC's thirty-fifth report (E/4668 and Add.1). The ACC thesis was unconstitutional. The Council's co-ordinating activities were a prerequisite for the successful functioning of the United Nations. The principal co-ordinating and policy-making organ was, and must remain, the Economic and Social Council, as a representative body reflecting the points of view of all Member States. The executive heads of the United Nations Secretariat and the specialized agencies could not assume functions outside their competence without violating the Charter. His delegation strongly objected to any attempt to bypass the Council and to deprive it of the functions assigned to it by the Charter. It would regard any such action as an attempt by the executive heads to evade the control of the United Nations legislative organs and to place themselves above the States Members of the United Nations. His delegation would consider any proposal designed to enhance the Council's co-ordinating role and to place that important aspect of United Nations activities on a proper footing.

24. The main obstacles to social and economic progress were militarism, imperialist wars and neo-colonialism. The creation of a healthy international political climate would pave the way for international economic co-operation. The continuing aggression against the people of Viet-Nam seriously hindered economic development in Asia and the Far East. However, the formation of the revolutionary provisional government in the Republic of Viet-Nam should create favourable conditions for a just and peaceful settlement of the Viet-Nam problem. Israel's refusal to comply with the Security Council resolutions on the liquidation of the consequences of the aggression against the Arab countries and its continuing acts of provocation were obstructing international co-operation in the Middle-East. Another obstacle to broader international economic

relations was the Western countries' policy of ignoring the German Democratic Republic. The Soviet Union, for its part, would continue to apply a policy designed to ensure peace and to create favourable conditions for economic co-operation on the basis of mutual advantage and equal partnership among all the countries of the world, irrespective of their social system and level of development. The principle of peaceful co-existence would determine his delegation's approach to the items on the Council's agenda.

25. Mr. MOPOLO-DADET (Congo, Brazzaville) said that, at a time when a spacecraft was on its way to the moon, it was anachronistic that the Council should be faced with so many economic and social problems on earth. While three men were travelling through outer space, other men were living in sub-human conditions.

26. The Secretary-General's statement had laid down some useful guidelines for the Council's discussions. His delegation, in common with those of many other developing countries, attached particular importance to the orientation of United Nations economic and social policy.

27. It was gratifying to note that the developing countries had made considerable progress in recent years and that many research efforts were now coming to fruition. Nevertheless, in many such countries, the prerequisites for rapid economic development were far from satisfied. In fact, the developing countries were lagging ever further behind the developed countries and there were indications that, in future years, the gap would attain terrifying proportions. It was difficult, therefore, for developing countries to be other than pessimistic.

28. Although the United Nations was launching its Second Development Decade, the 1970s would be the first such decade for the most developing countries, for in the 1960s those countries had been taken up with their liberation from colonialism.

29. He greatly appreciated the efforts made by the specialized agencies in the past but he realized, as the executive heads had recognized in their statements, that a great deal remained to be done. A general feeling of frustration was observable in many developing countries, especially since the virtual failure of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Africa wished to escape from the world of theory into one of practice. It needed revolutionary forms of development which, it was to be hoped, would be included in the global strategy of development.

30. External aid, however munificent, would be of significance only if it was freed from imperialistic manoeuvres and was matched by an immense effort on the part of the developing countries themselves. Aid had all too often been wasted by the developing countries through ignorance of how best to use it. His country, which was engaged in national reconstruction and the

establishment of scientific socialism, was intensely interested in African integration, both regional and sub-regional. In a move towards an African common market, it had joined a customs union with its neighbours.

31. United Nations activities in Africa had been too disparate in the past and should be more closely co-ordinated. The United Nations had bestowed upon Africa an instrument, ECA, through which development could be co-ordinated. It should be candidly recognized that the African countries had not always been capable of making effective use of that instrument. Recently, however, some resolutions had been adopted to strengthen the powers of the Executive Director of ECA and his staff so that better use might be made of United Nations aid to African countries. The African States wished to be masters of their own development, and it was primarily for them to decide how to use the United Nations system for the development of Africa. Restructured regional economic commissions could produce an "open window" to Africa and the other developing regions. The choice facing the developing countries, in Africa as elsewhere, was between a static and a dynamic way of life; if the latter were chosen, there were greater opportunities than ever before in history. His country, for its part, had no doubt as to which it would choose.

32. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that the resolutions adopted by the Council and the General Assembly concerning preparations for the Second United Nations Development Decade had identified the problems and indicated solutions to them. The Council's task now should be to discuss ways of giving effect to those resolutions.

33. The Secretary-General's statement had provided a full and useful survey of the situation. It was generally realized that development was the responsibility of each individual country, and that planning and structural reforms were needed to improve the distribution of wealth in each country. The developing countries were acting on that realization, and there seemed little justification for the criticism that they made inadequate use of the resources supplied to them. In many developing countries, including his own, internal savings and external financing, coupled with political and economic stability, had made productive investment possible without neglect of investments which were not immediately productive, such as those made in the social sector. Mexico had maintained the same exchange rate with the United States dollar for fourteen years. The assertion that Latin America was set on an inflationary course was unjustified; the fact was that the developing countries, including those in Latin America, were suffering from the consequences of inflation and balance of payments difficulties in the developed countries. The gap between developed and developing economies was continually widening, and the urgently needed remedies could not be applied without the extensive and immediate collaboration of the developed countries.

34. The Council should submit to the General Assembly specific and practical proposals such as the developing countries had already made before various bodies. They had, for example, made such proposals on international trade at the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, although with little result. For many developing countries, the terms of international trade were increasingly unfavourable; the country producing raw materials was at a disadvantage compared with the country which processed them. Trade should be one of the sources of income of the developing countries; they would all prefer fair and stable prices to external financing, which was increasingly expensive.

35. The case for the developing countries had been well expressed by the representative of Norway (1607th meeting), who had deplored the paucity of results achieved by the Conference, particularly with regard to preferences. That representative had pointed out that the temporary problems of the rich countries should not be used as an excuse for curtailing aid programmes and had suggested that the Second United Nations Development Decade should begin by assessing the experience gained in the first. Like the United Kingdom representative (1604th meeting), he had warned the Council against theoretical speculation on political and practical matters. It had been particularly interesting to learn that, as a part of its contribution to the Second Development Decade, Norway proposed to levy a special development tax. It was to be hoped that other countries would follow Norway's lead in adopting specific practical measures to make international co-operation the means of improving the human condition.

36. Mr. JERBI (Libya) said that it was increasingly recognized that international co-operation was the only way to maintain peace in the world, and that the efforts of the developing countries to raise their level of living should be supplemented by constructive international action, including the establishment of an international trade system consistent with the requirements of accelerated development. Nevertheless, the imbalance of trade persisted, frustrating all attempts at development. The share of the developing countries in the world total of manufactured products had fallen from 6.6 per cent in 1955 to 5.8 per cent in 1965. Exports of primary commodities were expanding only slowly, but the demand for imports of manufactured goods was growing apace. The problem of deterioration in the terms of trade affecting primary commodity exports was now fairly well understood; some progress had already been made towards resolving it, and it was feasible to do more in that direction. A real effort must be made to resolve such problems as that of the restrictions applied by developed countries to imports of manufactures and semi-manufactures from the developing countries. At its fourth and fifth sessions, the Committee for Development Planning had suggested a number of measures to remedy the situation (E/4682, paras. 44 to 65), including a gradual reduction in the production of high-cost agricultural products by developed countries and the gradual elimination of discriminatory protection against imports from devel-

oping countries. The Committee also indicated that preferences should be granted in 1970 to most of the manufactured and semi-manufactured products originating in developing countries.

37. Owing to the inadequate flow of international financial resources, the developing countries were faced with serious problems. Financial co-operation lagged behind development requirements and hampered economic and social planning. Indeed, the flow of financial resources to developing countries had fallen from 0.87 per cent of the gross national product of the developed countries in 1961 to 0.62 per cent in 1966. The terms of aid were also inadequate; in particular, the time allowed for repayment of loans was too short. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in its decision 27 (II),<sup>1</sup> had recommended that each economically advanced country should endeavour to provide annually to developing countries financial resource transfers of a minimum net amount of 1 per cent of its gross national product. As recommended by the Committee for Development Planning, the attainment of that target should be a matter of first priority; the General Assembly had recommended in its resolution 2415 (XXIII) that that target should be reached by 1972. As pointed out by the Panel on Foreign Investment in Developing Countries in the report on its meeting held in Amsterdam in February 1969,<sup>2</sup> a massive increase in the rate of capital flow from all sources would be needed if a satisfactory economic growth rate was to be achieved in the developing countries. However, it must not be forgotten that the developing countries were responsible for utilizing their domestic resources properly, *inter alia* in order to prove that they could make an effective use of aid.

38. The less developed countries should have their due share in the application of science and technology to economic and social progress. The transfer of capital, technical assistance and science and technology to those countries would help to attain the goals of the Second United Nations Development Decade, and it was disappointing that the Trade and Development Board had been unable to reach agreement concerning UNCTAD's contribution to the Second Development Decade in the fields of international trade, financial resources for development and the transfer of science and technology. It was to be hoped that, at its resumed ninth session, the Board would remove that obstacle to the planning for the decade.

39. One of the main targets set for the first United Nations Development Decade by General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) had been a 5 per cent minimum annual rate of growth of aggregate national income in the developing countries. Irrespective of the decade's success or

failure in attaining that and other goals, it was significant that the developing and developed countries had made a united approach to the problems of development.

40. Little progress had been made at the three sessions so far held by the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. His delegation was prepared to accept the target of approximately 6 per cent suggested by that committee at its second session for the annual average rate of growth to be achieved in the developing countries during the decade (see E/4624 and Add.1), although it agreed with IBRD that each country must set its own growth target. In any event, the targets suggested could be regarded as satisfactory only for the transitional period required to establish the conditions for accelerated development, since they would result in only a negligible annual increase in the average *per capita* income of the less developed countries, particularly in view of the expected increase in the rate of population growth. The average annual increase in *per capita* income in the developed countries was some \$60; in the developing countries it was less than \$2. Therefore any target for over-all growth should be set in terms of national *per capita* income.

41. It had been estimated that nearly one-half the capital invested in the less developed countries was required to keep up with the increase in population. The need for national efforts to control the population increase was as great as the need for international co-operation in accelerated development; his delegation therefore welcomed the efforts of the United Nations system to resolve the population problem. Mankind was faced with the critical task of raising levels of living, reducing poverty and eliminating social injustice. All the means needed to attain those goals were available, and it was to be hoped that the challenge would be met by a collective effort on the part of mankind as a whole.

42. Mr. LÓPEZ HERRARTE (Guatemala) said that the first United Nations Development Decade had been marked by significant progress in Guatemala and in the other member countries of the Central American Common Market. A favourable growth rate had been achieved, economic development had been more adequately planned, important tax reforms had been applied, and both public and private investment levels had risen. The most important achievement was a considerable advance in health, education and social welfare. Those achievements were due in no small measure to the effective assistance of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

43. However, the process of economic integration of Central America on the one hand and the Guatemalan economy on the other were currently affected by the balance of payments deficit of the region as a whole and of each country individually. The prices of exports on the international market were falling, while the cost of necessary imports was rising. It was to be regretted that the developed nations which were members of the Inter-

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session*, vol. I: *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.II.D.14), p. 38.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.D.12, part one, para. 2.

national Coffee Agreement were encouraging the fall in prices instead of helping to restrain it. The terms of capital inflow were also unsatisfactory; an increase in outside investments was useless if the recipient countries were obliged to pay interest at rates which would lay a burden on future generations. If the developed market-economy countries increased their contributions to IDA, IBRD and IDA would be able to make joint loans at reduced interest rates.

44. He appealed to the developed countries to give urgent consideration to recommendation A.IV.18 of the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for the establishment of a system of supplementary financing.<sup>3</sup> The study requested of IBRD had been made,<sup>4</sup> but the proposal had been pursued no further. A revival of the project to coincide with the beginning of the Second United Nations Development Decade would be an effective contribution to sustained development.

45. It was to be hoped that, during that decade, the developed countries would open their markets to products from the developing countries, and would succeed in submitting to the UNCTAD Special Committee on Prefer-

ences, by November 1969, a plan for non-reciprocal preferences in accordance with Conference resolution 21 (II).<sup>5</sup> If the developing countries could find markets for their products, one of the basic problems of development would be resolved; if the Central American countries could increase their exports at reasonable prices during the first part of the coming decade, they would be able to go forward to more satisfactory development. Guatemala possessed the political will and the labour force; all it needed was the opportunity to increase its exports not only to the market-economy countries, but also to the socialist countries, with which it hoped soon to establish a significant flow of trade.

46. It was also to be hoped that the Second Development Decade would see a marked increase in private investment. Guatemala would continue to welcome private capital from abroad, provided that it was invested on a basis of mutual advantage and respect. His delegation hoped that all the plans and projects referred to during the Council's session would be successfully completed, to the benefit of the developing countries. The developed countries could not prosper fully unless those nations which required their aid and co-operation were able to share the fruits of human progress with them.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.

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<sup>3</sup> See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, vol. I: *Final Act and Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 64.II.B.11), p. 52.

<sup>4</sup> See IBRD, *Supplementary Financial Measures*, Washington D.C., 1965.

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<sup>5</sup> See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session*, vol. I: *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.II.D.14), p. 38.



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Friday, 18 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3.10 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

## CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Hill (ICC) .....	57
Mr. Ahmad (Pakistan) .....	58
Mr. Nicol (Sierra Leone) .....	59
Mr. Boglietti (WFTU) .....	60

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

*In the absence of the President, Mr. López Herrarte, first Vice-President, took the chair.*

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

1. Mr. HILL (ICC), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that the Special Consultative Committee which the Council of ICC had decided in 1968 to establish for the purpose of working closely with the United Nations, its economic agencies and GATT had now been set up and would hold its first meeting at United Nations Headquarters in November 1969. In addition to the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, IBRD, IMF, FAO, the ILO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNIDO and GATT had agreed to participate in its work.

2. ICC was convinced of the need for co-operation between the public and private sectors, and would concentrate on the problems of economic development in all countries of the world, especially on determining the role which the private sector could play and the areas where co-operation between the private and public sectors could profitably be intensified, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General and ACC.

3. All efforts to stimulate economic development, at least in the private sector, encountered the twin problems of trade and investment. For that reason, ICC had intensified its work in those areas during the past year, in particular by endeavouring to counteract the tendency to retreat from the concessions granted in the Kennedy Round of negotiations. Without undue pessimism about the future of international trade, it must be recognized

that, as had been emphasized by the ICC Congress held in Istanbul in May-June 1969, new initiatives would be needed in trade liberalization as soon as the concessions agreed to during the Kennedy Round negotiations had been fully applied. The Congress had, in fact, already outlined a ten-year programme for the period 1972 to 1982, under which Governments of industrialized countries would be invited to give high priority to the progressive elimination of outstanding tariff and non-tariff obstacles affecting manufactured goods, special measures to assist developing countries being envisaged. The implementation of that programme would coincide broadly with the Second United Nations Development Decade. The success of the programme, like the expansion of the world economy, depended on the maintenance and extension of a multilateral system of trade and payments—the cornerstone of economic progress. ICC had prepared a report on non-tariff obstacles to trade, as well as two reports on international commodity trade, which had been submitted to UNCTAD. It had also established valuable contacts with the chambers of commerce of the socialist countries of Eastern Europe.

4. With regard to investment, the other key factor of economic development, ICC's special interest was the role of private international investment. In that connexion, the ICC Congress had recalled the importance attached by foreign investors to the investment climate and to potential earnings. In view of the need to prepare a long-term development strategy, the report of the Commission on International Development established by IBRD under the chairmanship of Mr. Pearson was keenly awaited; the task of ICC would be to formulate, within that over-all strategy, a special strategy for private enterprise.

5. In 1967, ICC had commissioned a United States economist to carry out a study of international corporations. On the basis of that study and the conclusions reached by a special committee of ICC, the ICC Congress had adopted the conclusions which had been circulated to the Economic and Social Council (E/C.2/674). Those conclusions showed that the trend towards internationalization of business activity was not limited to the manufacturing industry, but was also to be observed in all types of industry and commerce, in banking and other services and in agriculture, and that a growing number of countries was involved. There was also a widespread desire in host countries to participate in the management and capital of those companies, and international corporations should try to meet that desire. One of the greatest impediments to the development of international economic relations consisted in the many barriers to free capital movement. In that connexion, ICC had recommended that Governments should give high priority to the



removal of those barriers. Finally, the ICC Congress had reiterated its belief that that mutual understanding, backed by agreement on specific issues affecting the relationship between business and Government, provided the best basis for fruitful economic co-operation.

6. During the past year, ICC had continued its work on suppliers' credits and had formulated important recommendations on company taxation with a view to eliminating double taxation. Much work had also been done in regard to industrial property and transport.

7. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) said that the deliberations of the Council had a very special significance at the present time, when a new decade of hope for the less developed countries of the world was about to open. When nearly three-quarters of the world's population were living at bare subsistence level, the development of the less developed countries presented the greatest challenge to mankind. The progress of science and technology now made it possible to ensure a decent standard of living for the entire human race, given the will to achieve a minimum of economic advance in developing countries.

8. The setting of specific targets for the development of the less developed countries in the first Development Decade had been a great step forward and had shown the international community's willingness to adopt practical measures to resolve the problem. The first Development Decade had had successes and failures. Its most significant feature had, however, been the idea of an international co-operative effort designed to set the less developed world on the road to progress; that idea should also inspire the Second Development Decade.

9. The results obtained during the 1960s had not been as encouraging as might have been hoped, but the average growth rate of 4.7 per cent achieved in the developing countries was very close to the target of 5 per cent. The fact that all the developing countries had not benefited equally from that growth rate showed the need for more intensified efforts in the future.

10. In that connexion, Pakistan provided an example of reasonable success in the development effort. The average growth rate of the gross national product had exceeded 5.5 per cent during the 1960s; agricultural production had increased by about 4 per cent per annum and industrial production by 8.6 per cent. Exports had been growing at about 8 per cent per annum or at about one and one-half times the rate of the gross national product. In considering those results, it should be borne in mind that Pakistan's *per capita* income was under \$100. The progress it had achieved proved that, contrary to the impression that might be given by certain pessimistic remarks concerning the results of the first Development Decade, the task undertaken, although enormous, was nevertheless manageable.

11. As the Second Development Decade approached, there was a growing awareness of the right priorities in

development planning. But although the developed countries showed a greater awareness of their obligation to help the developing countries, the over-all net flow of their assistance remained under 1 per cent of their gross national product. It was still hoped that resources would be released through a reduction in military expenditure. It was gratifying to note that IBRD had done much to improve the climate for foreign assistance. His delegation was anxiously awaiting the report of the IBRD Commission on International Development and hoped that its recommendations would have a decisive influence on the results of the Second Development Decade.

12. Efforts were continuing to formulate an integrated plan for that decade. It was to be hoped that the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade, set up by General Assembly resolution 2411 (XXIII) to draft an international development strategy for the 1970s, would reach agreement at its subsequent sessions on the various problems still pending (see E/4624 and Add.1). He noted with satisfaction that the Committee for Development Planning had come to certain conclusions about the international development strategy described in paragraphs 83 to 98 of the report on its fourth and fifth sessions (E/4862). He hoped that the machinery set in motion would produce a programme of bold action and would suggest practical measures for its implementation.

13. The formulation of targets was certainly important, but it was not enough. It was more important that countries should assume firmer commitments to attain those targets than they had in the first Development Decade. To put the urgent problems of poverty and the population explosion in proper perspective, the United Nations should draw up a charter of international development. The transfer of material and human resources could be based on the principle of an international welfare concept.

14. As a practical objective, the United Nations might adopt the goal of raising *per capita* income in the developing countries to a minimum of \$200. To do so would, of course, require a concentration of effort on the poorest regions of the world.

15. In order to achieve even reasonably modest growth targets in the Second Development Decade, there would have to be a significant increase in the flow of assistance from the developed to the developing countries. The target of transferring 1 per cent of the national income from the industrially advanced nations had certainly not been attained during the first Development Decade; the proportion had hardly been two-thirds of 1 per cent in 1968 and the net flow of aid was failing to keep pace with growing incomes. That trend must be reversed if the growth rate was to be accelerated in the developing countries, which were now in a position to absorb more aid than in the past.

16. With regard to the content of external aid, it was time to decide which were the real elements of aid and to

soften the hard terms of certain loans, which were creating serious debt-servicing problems. In a few cases, IBRD had had to organize debt rescheduling arrangements. The difficulties of debt repayment were being increased by the fact that the developed countries were continuing to apply trade policies directed towards restricting access to their markets for exports of manufactured goods from the developing countries. His Government had made several suggestions for softening the terms of assistance and hoped that the IBRD Commission on International Development would formulate practical and acceptable ideas on the subject. Attention should be drawn to the fact that repayment terms should be related to the repayment capacity of the recipient country; countries with a *per capita* income of less than \$100 should be accorded concessional terms.

17. The Second Development Decade would coincide with Pakistan's fourth and fifth five-year plans. During the fourth plan, his Government's aim was to achieve a growth rate deliberately limited to 6.5 per cent in order to ensure greater social and regional balance. More emphasis was being laid on self-reliance in the execution of the plan; 80 per cent of the necessary resources would come from domestic sources. The development of human resources would be given high priority. In that connexion, his delegation welcomed the initiative of the Shah of Iran in proposing the establishment of a corps of volunteers for development.

18. Man still continued to live in an ocean of poverty with a few islands of affluence, and that was a highly dangerous and explosive situation. The task was urgent; greater appreciation must be shown of the aspirations of the people living in the less developed parts of the world.

19. Mr. NICOL (Sierra Leone) said that, despite extremely useful contributions to the advancement of the developing countries, the results of the first Development Decade had fallen short of expectations. Aid might assume very varied forms, from tied loans to aid with no strings attached. It was necessary for the developed countries to specify to which category the aid they proffered belonged. Aid would always be necessary and welcome, but it should not in the long run cripple the recipient, either financially or morally. It was a hopeful sign that more and more developed countries were moving towards a more enlightened and liberal form of aid. It would be very useful if the Governments of the rich countries could persuade their nationals investing in the developing countries to show the same concern as was shown by their Governments for the countries in which they operated, so as to avoid the political clashes which too often occurred between the developing countries and foreign firms.

20. The developing countries had repeatedly urged that the profits made in their countries should be reinvested in the economy, particularly where tax concessions were offered. To quote one example, the sums deposited by nationals and companies of developing countries were too often used outside those countries by foreign commercial

banks and insurance companies, whereas they could have been put to very good use within those countries themselves. The developed countries might encourage their companies to reinvest in the developing countries, so that the Governments of those countries would not be forced to enact stringent legislation to that effect. It was only fair to note, however, that the situation was showing signs of improvement. Thus, his own Government had consolidated the position of its marketing boards through the intervention of a foreign commercial bank operating in its territory. But a great deal still remained to be done in the field of investment and reinvestment in the developing countries.

21. There was no need to emphasize the interdependence of economic and social progress. Any development plan should take account of all sectors, from education to public health and labour legislation, including population control and human rights.

22. Clearly, the development process could not proceed without a reservoir of skilled labour. For the developing countries, education in agriculture, commerce and technology should begin at an early stage and be both simple and practical. All school-leavers who remained without employment should be assured of openings. Lastly, the possibilities of adult education had too often been neglected. The replacement of specialists from the developed countries in fields such as mining technology and marine navigation by nationals of the developing countries had been one of the most encouraging features of the first Development Decade.

23. The delicate question of population control was of capital importance. Unless vigorous action was taken in the matter, development aid was in danger of losing its usefulness. From the practical angle, field workers should be nationals of the country concerned, in order to remove all suspicion of pre-natal genocide on the part of the world Powers. Research was also needed to discover simpler family planning methods. The problem had become more serious, particularly now that the developed countries were taking measures to check immigration.

24. His delegation fully sympathized with the reservations that had been made on the proliferation of committees and commissions and the expansion of the budget. It welcomed the fact that the Secretary-General and his staff had set about the necessary task of re-appraising and rationalizing existing organs. However, it might be several years before savings could be effected without loss of efficiency.

25. The problem of reorganization designed to improve efficiency and co-ordination also arose for the developing countries. Clearly, those countries must carry out regional schemes of trade co-operation and economic integration in order to achieve balanced growth in the shortest possible time. The region provided a better base than small countries for the starting of industrial enterprises. In fact, some countries and multilateral agencies had insisted

that aid must be supplied at the regional level in order to be effective.

26. Sierra Leone was one of many countries to have benefited from the assistance of UNDP, which had helped to set up its Economic Planning Unit. It was to be hoped that UNDP would draw the attention of the developing countries, particularly in Africa, to regionalization and to the success achieved elsewhere, as in the case of the Central American Common Market. When drawing up their development plans, the developing countries should take account of regionalization plans, as the central pillar in any programme for the conservation of foreign exchange reserves, the establishment of industries and a specialization determined by resources of raw materials and energy.

27. In connexion with such plans for economic integration, his delegation wished to pay a tribute to the work done in recent years by the regional economic commissions and by UNESOB. It hoped that those bodies would be closely associated with the planning of the Second Development Decade. In that respect, the Council should give favourable consideration to the guidelines enunciated in ECA resolution 187 (IX) (E/4651), which were of fundamental importance to the Second Development Decade.

28. Mr. BOGLIETTI (WFTU), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that the social situation had deteriorated in recent years both in the economically backward and in the developed countries. As the spokesmen for millions of workers had pointed out at the fifty-third session of the International Labour Conference, the realization of the right to work remained—except in countries with a socialist system of government—the chief objective for the next few years, particularly in the case of the developing countries.

29. The ILO World Employment Programme should therefore reflect something more than a clearer awareness of the magnitude of the problems to be resolved: it was not a question of planning to keep unemployment down to a certain level over a number of years, but of eliminating the causes. As stated in chapter I of the *World Economic Survey, 1968* (E/4687/Add.1), government programmes of a public works nature had proved to be mere palliatives; industrial growth and capital accumulation did not automatically resolve the employment problem, and employment, as a social objective, was still considered as liable to inhibit industrial growth. In those circumstances, the ILO and the other specialized agencies concerned should redouble their efforts to ensure the success of the World Employment Programme. Structural changes and radical reforms would also have to be made, particularly with regard to the system of land ownership. Without such reforms, it was very difficult to formulate and implement development plans and employment programmes.

30. Intervention by the public authorities should be focused on well-defined areas within the context of a

development and employment programme, with a view to launching a development movement which did not depend on the national and international choices of private industry. Such action should aim at the radical transformation of the economic environment. Programmes relating to the infrastructure would have to be carried out in the light of development plans and programmes. The control and selection of investments and consumption formed an integral part of that general policy. Moreover, the granting of all incentives, assistance and concessions should be subject to very specific undertakings with respect to production and employment, and special measures would have to be taken in the field of financing, taxation and foreign trade. Having regard to the importance of those questions, the Council should become a world centre for the regular exchange of information on experience relating to the role of the public sector and the State in economic and social development strategy.

31. As had been pointed out in the preparatory document for the seventh World Trade Union Congress to be held in Budapest from 17 to 31 October 1969, the main characteristic of the present era was the growing desire for profound changes in the society of the developed capitalist countries; the struggle of the workers and trade unions was being increasingly directed against the economic and political domination of the monopolies with a view to removing the key sectors of the economy from their control.

32. The five most representative unions in the iron and steel, engineering, electrical and electronic industries of France and Italy had declared that radical changes were necessary in order to ensure that international financial groups did not pursue their own private interests to the detriment of the general good. The iron and steel workers of Latin America had demanded, *inter alia*, a moratorium on the continent's external debt in order to facilitate larger investments and the creation of new employment openings.

33. Trade union and solid worker support was necessary for the implementation of such a policy. Without it, development would lead to growing imbalances which had direct repercussions on employment.

34. The United Nations and, in particular, the Council must ensure respect for civil rights and democratic freedoms in all Member States. During the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the ILO, the Chairman of WFTU had drawn attention to the close interdependence of civil rights and trade union rights and to the fact that the dialectic development of such rights would characterize social development in the forthcoming decades. In that connexion, it should be pointed out that, in its interim report, the ILO Study Group to Examine the Labour and Trade Union Situation in Spain had questioned the possibility of much progress in the peaceful development of the labour and trade union

situation in that country so long as imprisonment or other forms of detention remained recognized penalties for acts which, in other countries, would be considered as legitimate trade union activities, but which were regarded as illegal under Spanish law. The legislation in question also conflicted with ILO conventions Nos. 87 and 98, which had not been ratified by the Spanish Government.

35. The implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was, of course, in the interests of all. Those covenants remained the common denominator for all members of any society, whether industrially developed or developing.

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.



CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Tribute paid by the Economic and Social Council to the "Apollo 11" flight .....	63
Agenda item 2: General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>continued</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mrs. Zaefferer de Goyeneche (Argentina) .....	63
Mr. Constantinescu (Observer for the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) .....	65
Mr. Bomani (United Republic of Tanzania) .....	66
Mr. Bohiadi (Chad) .....	68
Mr. Buhler (World Confederation of Labour) .....	69

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

**Tribute paid by the Economic and Social Council to the "Apollo 11" flight**

1. The PRESIDENT wished to express the admiration felt for the remarkable technical achievement and courage of the three United States astronauts, two of whom had walked on the surface of the moon. He congratulated all those who had contributed to that undertaking, which had ushered in a new era for mankind, and paid a tribute to the memory of the United States astronauts and Soviet cosmonauts who had lost their lives in the course of their missions. He asked the United States representative to convey the sentiments of the Council to the three astronauts and their families, to the scientists and technicians of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and to the President, Government and people of the United States. He invited the Council to observe a minute's silence in honour of that historic event.

2. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) thanked the President and said he would convey to all concerned his kind message regarding the United States astronauts' landing on the moon. Since the dawn of civilization, many men had contributed to the fulfilment of that dream and had helped to lay the technological foundation for the launching of "Apollo 11". The power so achieved should be put to the use of progress and not become an instrument of destruction. The United States would always view that development as a responsibility assumed in the interest of all mankind.

AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*continued*)**

3. Mrs. ZAEFFERER de GOYENECHÉ (Argentina) associated herself with the President's message of congratulation to the United States people on the feat accomplished by the "Apollo 11" astronauts. That feat emphasized the need for the development of a universal conscience so that what was today a triumph of science would tomorrow be a triumph of a human race whose morality was on a level with its scientific accomplishments. The machinery available in the United Nations and the specialized agencies must be utilized for that purpose and, if that machinery was not as effective as was desirable, it would have to be transformed or eliminated.

4. Now that the first United Nations Development Decade was drawing to a close, it could be said that the targets fixed ten years before had virtually been achieved. But that was not enough to bridge the wide gap between the developing and the developed countries, and it was thus necessary to consider the real possibilities and limits of international co-operation and adapt them to the goals which such co-operation was intended to serve.

5. Efforts at co-operation in connexion with the Second Development Decade could merely complement the efforts of the countries themselves. Unfortunately, an appreciation of the complementary role of international co-operation had too often been lacking in both the developing and the developed countries. As a result of the aspirations aroused by the sight of the sustained progress of other nations the developing countries, realizing the ineffectiveness of the normal machinery of trade, had often been led to place excessive hopes in the possibilities of international co-operation and to expect results from bilateral and multilateral assistance which neither was capable of yielding. There were, however, positive aspects of such co-operation, which should be emphasized. For the developing countries, the first Development Decade had been a time of organization and classification, of identifying their problems and needs and seeking possible solutions. The Latin American countries had, for their part, given infinitely more than they had received. During the seven years in which the Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress had been in existence, the Latin American countries had invested \$132 thousand million, while the United States had supplied only \$5.7 thousand million, mostly in the form of loans, of which \$2.7 thousand million had already been repaid in the form of interest.

6. The developed countries often lacked the political will to devise and apply some of the most urgently needed measures of international co-operation. The absence of that political will in the developed countries was due to their fear that the adoption of certain

measures and the conclusion of certain international agreements might upset an order and system which had enabled them to make unparalleled progress. But those fears were unfounded: at the beginning of the first Development Decade, it had been estimated that the establishment of a generalized system of preferences for manufactures and semi-manufactures from the developing countries—a system which would enable those countries to increase their exports by \$10 thousand million per annum and thus to secure the necessary foreign currency to achieve the targets fixed — would have necessitated the reorientation of only a fraction of the productive capacity of the countries granting such preferences, representing a mere 4 per cent of the annual increase in their labour force. Despite the disparity between the advantages of such a system for the developing countries and the limited sacrifice it would impose on the contributing countries, discussions on its establishment had not been possible until the end of the first Development Decade.

7. International co-operation was not passing through a period of crisis, but rather the reverse: the means and resources available to it, although inadequate, were more extensive than ever before. A careful study should therefore be made to determine the sectors in which the efforts and co-operation of the international community were producing positive results and those in which the results were negative.

8. For example, commendable progress had been made in bilateral and multilateral technical assistance. The assistance provided by United Nations bodies had made it possible to introduce new techniques into a number of developing countries and to carry out projects in those countries which could never have been undertaken otherwise. It was now for the developing countries themselves to find ways of deriving full advantage from all the possibilities at present afforded by international co-operation.

9. Progress in financial co-operation was much slower. The total resources available for development purposes were still insufficient, and the machinery for supplying those resources needed improvement. Supplementary financing, commodity buffer stocks and the diversification of agricultural production in developing countries were all areas in which the stage of implementation measures had not yet been reached. A more favourable situation existed with regard to multilateral food aid. Because of their number and variety, the projects carried out through WFP had yielded excellent results. The resources available for that purpose must be considerably increased; in other words, WFP must be enlarged and the necessary steps taken to ensure that food aid was beneficial not only to the recipient countries but also to the developing countries which supplied foodstuffs.

10. On the other hand, very little progress had been made in the trade in commodities and in manufactures and semi-manufactures. Negotiations with a view to the establishment of a generalized system of preferences had

made no headway, and the Kennedy Round negotiations had brought only slight advantages to the developing countries. Many developed countries were still applying non-tariff protective measures which were truly discriminatory. Agricultural commodity trade had contracted rather than expanded. Nothing had been done to liberalize international commodity trade, to give commodities easier access to the markets of the developed countries or to discourage marginal production, which detracted from the effectiveness of the economy as a whole and limited the export possibilities of the developing countries. Large-scale international action was essential in that area, for it was through trade and not some form of aid that the developing countries would be enabled to achieve sustained growth.

11. The Argentine delegation fully appreciated the need to ensure that the agricultural sectors in the developed countries enjoyed income levels similar to those in the other branches of their economies, but it could not subscribe to national policies aimed at maintaining those income levels by subsidizing unprofitable production. There was no outlet on the international markets for surpluses so produced, except at absurdly low prices, and such surpluses compelled countries to devote to subsidy policies resources which could be better spent on structural reforms in unprofitable sectors. Such reforms would enable developing countries to expand their exports and income and thus increase their power to purchase capital equipment and durable consumer goods from the developed countries themselves. Until the agricultural structures of the developing countries were radically transformed, no progress could be made in the international liberalization of trade, whether between developed and developing countries or among the developed countries themselves, nor could the threats to the international monetary system be eliminated. That was a task to which a very high priority must be given in the future.

12. The developing countries could not of course hope to raise their level of living simply by increasing their agricultural exports: they must also be assured of adequate industrial growth. International co-operation in science and technology was only in its early stages. The adoption of modern techniques was essential for development, and the transfer of technology and of manufacturing processes from the developed to the developing countries should be facilitated. That transfer must not be accompanied by conditions that would offset the multiplier effect that such techniques should have on economies of the recipient countries. Developing countries must also be encouraged to invent and adapt new techniques. International co-operation should play a vital part in that connexion.

13. With regard to the human environment, her delegation hoped that the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, to be held in 1972, would provide an opportunity for defining all the relevant problems and for contributing to their solution.

14. In conclusion, the problem of youth must be resolved not by the demagogic method of giving young people the right to make decisions for which they were unprepared, but rather by increasing their possibilities for education and training and especially by giving more attention to the sectors of social development which seemed to be neglected in most contemporary societies. Within their respective spheres of competence, the United Nations and the specialized agencies should tackle that problem with the seriousness it deserved.

15. Mr. CONSTANTINESCU (Observer for the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) speaking at the invitation of the President, congratulated the astronauts, whose exploit was a triumph of modern technology testifying to the genius of mankind.

16. To illustrate his conviction that exchanges of information were always highly useful, he quoted the example of the co-operation that had existed for the past twenty years within CMEA and outlined its future evolution. His organization had studied most attentively the Secretary-General's reports, the statements already made and the documents before the Council at the current session. One of the most important agenda items was that relating to international strategy for the Second Development Decade, designed to prepare the ground for future economic and social progress. Mankind had reached a stage where the international division of labour could no longer be effected in the same forms and with the same methods as twenty years before.

17. The economic links between countries and peoples were contingent on the development of productive capacities and increased output. However, in the modern world that process also involved non-economic factors which impeded the potential progress of a world-wide division of labour and were particularly prejudicial to the former colonial countries. The victory of socialism in fourteen countries and the downfall of the colonial system underlined the need to find new avenues and methods of international co-operation. The argument that the industrial development of some countries could upset the balanced economic development of industrialized countries was belied by the progress made by the CMEA countries.

18. There was no disputing the fact that the development of international co-operation was extremely important in view of the differences and gaps which existed between countries in relation to their level of technological development and their resources. Indeed, while engaged in raising its scientific and technical potential and its level of living, a country might develop certain sectors of activity even if it did not possess all the necessary means to that end (raw materials, skilled manpower and so on). Hence the importance of creating economic links among sovereign States.

19. The purpose of CMEA was to promote co-operation among its members in order to speed up their develop-

ment processes and raise their living levels. The successes already achieved showed that the combination of the speedy development of each CMEA member and the raising of the over-all economic level met the requirements of general economic growth, as did economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

20. Thus, compared with the prewar figures, industrial output had risen substantially in the member countries of CMEA. In fact, industry played a leading part in the development of those countries, where it now accounted for more than half of the national income.

21. The workers' level of living had risen: in relation to 1960, their real wages had increased by 28 per cent in Bulgaria, 16 per cent in Hungary, 17 per cent in the German Democratic Republic, 32 per cent in Romania, 34 per cent in the USSR and 12 per cent in Czechoslovakia. The income of farm workers had risen owing to higher productivity in agriculture.

22. The economy of each CMEA member had undergone radical changes, which had made it possible to lay sound foundations for the coming years. Intensified scientific and technical co-operation had enabled the socialist countries to establish relations more in keeping with their rapid economic development. The differences observed between the development levels of the member countries should be eliminated by making the utmost use of the natural potential and advantages afforded by the socialist system on a world-wide basis.

23. The CMEA countries were co-ordinating their economic plans for the period 1971 to 1975 at two levels: bilaterally, by means of direct talks and consultations to examine the problems facing the various member countries and matters such as co-operation on geological, scientific and technical research, the supply of certain goods and the establishment of transport networks; and multilaterally, to study certain problems of concern to member countries and reach conclusions to serve as a basis for suitable solutions.

24. Another field of co-operation was that of specialization and collaboration in production. The study of the problem had started in 1955, and between then and 1968 CMEA had formulated recommendations on 2,350 different items relating in particular to models, aggregates, equipment and machinery. That co-operation had made specialization more effective.

25. Co-operation within CMEA in science and technology consisted of the exchange of information and documentation. Between 1948 and 1966, the member countries had exchanged more than 40,000 scientific and technical documents.

26. The substantial increase in the trade of the CMEA countries with the developed and developing countries might be cited as a specific example of the widening of trade relations to mutual advantage. Their economic co-

operation with all countries, including the developing countries, was based on the principle of reciprocal benefit and non-interference in internal affairs, and on respect for each country's sovereignty. The socialist countries made long-term public credit available at an interest rate of approximately 2.5 per cent, repayable in twelve years or more, and advantageous terms were offered for paying off the principal. Furthermore, the CMEA countries accepted, in settlement, deliveries of goods manufactured in plants built with the help of that credit. The member countries of CMEA also contributed directly to the training of skilled manpower even in the recipient countries.

27. For 1970 and beyond, CMEA was developing highly efficient methods of collaboration and giving close attention to the establishment of better economic relations so as to encourage the more rapid development of key activities such as electronics and the services sector, areas necessitating considerable investment and advanced research.

28. At the twenty-third session of CMEA, held in April 1969, a powerful impetus had been given to the economic co-operation established within that organization. The future directions of collaboration and the follow-up action to be taken on the decisions adopted had been discussed. The measures envisaged were intended to promote the co-ordination of economic development plans; that would continue to be the principal method of economic co-operation among the member countries of CMEA. It was planned to strengthen the relations between the institutes of member countries, establish whatever bodies might be necessary for the further improvement of co-operation and also to set up an investment bank. It was proposed to place increasing emphasis on developing links among the ministries, economic organizations and even the enterprises of the member countries. Those activities were accompanied by a steady improvement in the working methods of the organs of CMEA.

29. Improving such co-operation was a constant process, since the economic development requirements of the member countries had to be satisfied. Scientific and technical co-operation would also be promoted at all times in accordance with the principles of equal rights and the sovereignty of member countries and on the basis of mutual benefit.

30. Implementation of the measures approved at the twenty-third session of CMEA would help to strengthen economic co-operation. His organization would continue to apply those principles and would strengthen the economic, scientific and technical links among its members. All those aspects were interdependent and connected with the activities to be carried out during the Second United Nations Development Decade.

31. The contacts CMEA had with the United Nations bodies would, he hoped, be maintained and prove useful. The CMEA system of economic, scientific and technical

co-operation provided a convincing example of what could be done to promote human progress.

32. Mr. BOMANI (United Republic of Tanzania) expressed the hope that the Council would endeavour to find solutions to the manifold problems of international co-operation for development which, in the words of the Secretary-General, were bound to endanger peace and stability at the national as well as the international level.

33. The Council had chosen as the central theme of its forty-seventh session the preparation of an international strategy for the Second Development Decade. The volume of preparatory work already accomplished had aroused alarm and fears in some quarters that the Development Decade was being "over-prepared". While it was advisable not to engage in more theoretical work than was ever likely to be needed or applied in practice, it must be recalled that the failure of the first Development Decade was generally attributed to the fact that it had been launched without adequate preparation. Therefore the preparatory work by the various bodies concerned should deal primarily with the implementation of the objectives of the Second Development Decade and should be effectively co-ordinated and rationalized in order to increase its practical applicability.

34. The reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade on its first, second and third sessions (E/4624 and Add.1) and of the Committee for Development Planning on its fourth and fifth sessions (E/4682), which were before the Council, indicated clearly that considerable progress had been made in setting out the broad framework of the international development strategy for the 1970s and in defining some of its basic social and physical objectives. It was to be regretted that the achievements of the Preparatory Committee had been adversely affected by the non-participation of the socialist countries in its work and by the failure of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board to recommend measures and policies regarding a wide field of international co-operation in trade and external capital financing.

35. His delegation had been particularly pleased to note the emphasis which the Preparatory Committee and the Committee for Development Planning, in their recommendations relating to the development strategy for the 1970s, had placed on social objectives as opposed to physical production targets, and the special importance placed on a more equitable distribution of incomes and wealth in the developing countries. Real development goals were primarily social; in the last analysis, economic objectives were merely the means required to achieve them.

36. Economic progress in Africa had been sluggish because the gross domestic product *per capita* in 1966 had been less than \$200 per year in thirty-two African countries, compared with \$3,800 in the United States. Among the various factors cited as contributing to the slow econ-



omic growth were the inefficiency of the economic structures, the pattern of resource availability and use, the limited size of markets and the shortage of technical skills. In the view of his delegation, the true cause of the prevailing under-development in the African continent was not insufficient natural resources but the lack of capital and high-level manpower resources resulting from the historical circumstances of colonialism. At the time of the African countries' accession to independence, their economies had been geared to the production of one or two cash crops for the industrial requirements of the metropolitan Power, while all manufactures had been imported. In those circumstances, the question of the size of national or regional markets had not even arisen, much less that of economic integration, and the African countries had consequently remained economically isolated from one another. In the early years of independence, the African countries had been primarily preoccupied with problems related to the consolidation of political independence and nationhood. That was undoubtedly the reason why the first Development Decade had not been a period of growth in Africa.

37. Tanzania, for its part, had embarked upon a policy of economic self-reliance, aware that the burden of development rested squarely on the shoulders of the individual developing countries themselves. To that end, it had made vigorous efforts to ensure the maximum mobilization and full involvement of its domestic economic and social forces in the process of development. In its second development plan, which had just become operative, particular emphasis had been placed on rural mobilization. In order to make maximum and efficient use of the two scarce resources - capital and technical personnel - new socialist organizational methods centred on "Ujamaa" villages had been adopted. With a view to helping the individual peasant farmers, who did not have the financial resources which would enable them to improve their means of production by making use of modern scientific knowledge and technological methods, the second development plan stressed that the Government would aim increasingly at directing available infrastructural and institutional services into larger collective productive units, whose establishment it would actively encourage.

38. Tanzania had learnt from experience that any meaningful economic self-reliance was impossible without adequate national control. Appropriate measures had therefore been taken to ensure that the public sector assumed an increasingly predominant role in the economy. Similarly, effective measures had been taken for the consolidation and expansion of existing savings and investment institutions. Tanzania's policy of economic self-reliance did not mean, however, that it would become a self-sufficient society, and it attached great importance to regional economic co-operation, as had been demonstrated by its signature of the treaty establishing the East African Community. Negotiations were under way with a view to expanding the East African Community to include Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Somalia and Zambia. At their recent meeting at Lusaka, the heads of State of eastern

and central African countries had stressed the importance of increased regional economic co-operation in the next few years. In that connexion, he drew attention to the decisive role which ECA had played, in spite of limited personnel and inadequate financial resources. Despite the modest results achieved so far, the African States members of ECA were firmly convinced that the Commission was the most powerful instrument available for the economic and social development of Africa. During ECA's ninth session, the member States had agreed to restructure the administrative machinery of the Commission to enable it to play a greatly increased role in the coming decade. ECA had indeed a decisive role to play, particularly with regard to the promotion of economic co-operation among the countries of the region, the expansion of intra-African trade and the establishment or enlargement of multinational training and research institutions.

39. While the developing countries must, of course, seek to achieve self-reliance, their success would depend on global co-operative efforts. Tanzania's second development plan, for example, projected an increase in imports at the rate of more than 7 per cent per year, while exports were expected to grow at about 5.5 per cent; in other words, the resulting foreign-exchange gap would have to be met by external capital financing, which was therefore expected to increase at the rate of about 1.5 per cent per year. While the external sector played a most dynamic role in the process of economic development, it was also the most unstable and the least subject to individual national policies. In that connexion, the points raised on the eve of the Second Development Decade were essentially the same as those that had been raised for the first, namely, that the developing countries could not plan and carry out investment objectives in the 1970s if, within the period of a few years, the fall in the market price of a single export commodity, as had been the case for Tanzania with sisal, caused a country to lose much more foreign exchange than it was likely to receive in the form of external aid during the same period. Secondly, the volume and terms of external aid made available to those countries should be such as to ensure that viable growth would not be strangled for lack of foreign exchange. Lastly, aid policies should be tailored to development needs and to the debt-servicing capacities of developing countries and should not be motivated by the political will and whims of donor countries.

40. Tanzania had consistently emphasized the superiority of trade over aid; indeed, trade was more compatible with economic self-reliance; the proportion of external trade in economic activity was considerably higher; and foreign exchange earned through the export of goods and services had the advantage of being usable for financing imports without any tying as to sources of procurement or use. It was therefore essential that all countries should rationalize the international trade system as a matter of primary concern in the interest of the international community as a whole. It had been sufficiently demonstrated that the failure of the second session of the

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the problems of commodity price stabilization were largely due to the lack of serious attention on the part of the developed countries, which had, however, made special efforts to resolve their own problems in the Kennedy Round or by a system of special drawing rights. His delegation therefore hoped that the international trade arrangements contemplated as part of the international development strategy would include not only commitments but also a specific time-table for implementation, and that high priority would be given to the need for guaranteeing remunerative price levels for the export commodities of the developing countries.

41. His delegation firmly believed that the need for external aid would gradually disappear if, during the Second Development Decade, the developed countries gave to the developing countries, whose absorptive capacity had increased much more rapidly than had the volume of aid during the first Development Decade, aid in adequate amounts and on sufficiently flexible terms. Furthermore, the donor countries should reorient their aid policies away from prestige projects in favour of rural development programmes that would make it possible to ensure an equitable income distribution.

42. In any event, development problems required a dynamic and constantly evolving long-term approach. Two prerequisites for the success of an international development strategy were an increased application of the policy of economic self-reliance by the various developing countries and closer co-operation among the developed countries, on the one hand, and between those countries and the developing countries, on the other. If the first Development Decade was said to have failed, it was undoubtedly because those two prerequisites had not been fulfilled.

43. Before concluding, he wished to congratulate the United States and the Soviet Union on their achievements in space exploration during the first Development Decade. In that connexion, he associated himself with the remarks made by the President and the United States representative on the occasion of the first landing by man on the moon. It was essential, however, not to lose sight of the real and more pressing problems facing man on earth; the greatest priority should still be the conquest of the earth by ridding it of the ills suffered by the overwhelming majority of its inhabitants.

44. In conclusion, his delegation suggested that the theme of the international development strategy should be interdependence and co-operation. While the 1950s had been marked by the cold war and the 1960s by confrontation, it was essential that the 1970s should be a decade of co-operation.

45. Mr. BOHIADI (Chad) associated himself with the other delegations in warmly congratulating the Government and people of the United States on the success of the "Apollo 11" flight.

46. As the Secretary-General had emphasized in his statement, many of the most dangerous situations today were largely rooted in unresolved social and economic ills. Such situations would already have proved catastrophic if, at the end of the Second World War, the United States had not placed considerable financial and material aid at the disposal of the devastated nations through the Marshall Plan. Why could such solidarity, which had proved its worth in Europe, not be emulated by the wealthy countries for the benefit of the developing countries?

47. The gap in living standards separating the developed from the developing countries continued to widen and several decades of tremendous effort would still be required to enable the latter to attain one-tenth of the level of development of some of the advanced countries. Obviously they must rely on their own resources, but they must also be given external aid which should be untied and not subject to political conditions which might impair their sovereignty. The success of co-operation between the developed and less advanced countries depended largely on the latter's will to set up lasting and efficient concerted machinery; for no Power could resolve in isolation the range of complex problems caused by economic and social backwardness.

48. Above all, collaboration between the developed and the developing nations should be conducted with due regard for the recipients. It had often been found that the rivalry between foreign Powers in Africa, Asia and Latin America tended to aggravate the difficulties of those continents instead of assisting them to get out of the rut of under-development. The developed countries, instead of conspiring to impose particular policies on the young States, should help them to resolve their problems. That did not mean committing the under-developed countries to capitalism or socialism, but rather suggesting adequate remedies appropriate to the particular situation of each country without infringing its sovereignty.

49. The essential purpose of co-operation should be to increase the facilities which the advanced countries placed at the disposal of the developing countries and to make international collaboration more effective by radically altering methods of technical, economic and financial assistance. For that purpose problems such as completion of the general infrastructure, surveys aimed at establishing zones of regional prosperity, investment in medium-sized industry and in large industrial complexes, aid for transforming agricultural structures and for social development and the stabilization of commodity prices must be given priority. Due attention must be paid to the peculiar situation of the least advanced countries, especially the land-locked countries, of which Chad was one.

50. His delegation regretted that the hopes placed in the first Development Decade had been shattered; its disappointment was heightened by the failure of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Most of the developing countries had failed

by a considerable margin to reach the growth rate target of 5 per cent. The failure of the first Development Decade was due primarily to the shortcomings and the rigidity of world trade flows and the problems raised by foreign capital and external aid. The international community should bear in mind past experience in preparing for the Second Development Decade.

51. The responsibility for development rested with the less advanced countries themselves: international aid should merely supplement national effort. In demographic matters, for instance, the international organizations could not exercise control over the countries in any way: the solution of such problems should be left to the discretion of each State. The Republic of Chad, which had a very low population density, could not subscribe to the idea of international birth control.

52. The Committee for Development Planning and other United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and particularly the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade had a major role to play in working out a development strategy. The commitments which the developed and developing countries should assume in regard to external aid, while not constituting a legal instrument, should be clear and precise. The targets proposed should be revised periodically, and the important thing was the political will to achieve them.

53. Mr. BUHLER (World Confederation of Labour), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that the reports prepared by the Secretary-General showed that, although *per capita* national income had increased in the developing countries, the living conditions of the workers in those countries had deteriorated and the gap dividing the wealthy countries from the poor countries continued to widen. As many speakers had pointed out at the fifty-third session of the International Labour Conference, held in June 1969, the failure of the first United Nations

Development Decade should act as an incentive for achieving major social progress during the Second Development Decade.

54. One of the objectives of that decade should be the creation of a large number of employment opportunities in the developing countries. Governments, *entrepreneurs* and workers should co-operate towards that end, and the United Nations, in particular its Economic and Social Council, should make sure that all Member States took into account the possible repercussions of their national policies on the employment situation.

55. Society was passing through a period of profound transformation and unrest, and it was its duty to resolve the problems of peace and development. The alternative solutions offered by the capitalist, neo-capitalist, fascist and communist systems had all failed. In its advocacy of an up-to-date world trade-unionism, the World Confederation of Labour wished to contribute to the solution of the problems besetting the world.

56. The Confederation had held a conference in October 1968 to study the problems of world economic development in a humanist context. The conference had set up a standing committee to look into development problems and had decided to hold regional conferences on a continental basis and a world conference of developing countries.

57. The Second United Nations Development Decade must mark an era of progress for mankind with the participation of the entire world population; the professional and economic organizations representing the workers should have a say at all international meetings at which they were unfortunately not represented at present.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Monday, 21 July 1969

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 2:	
General discussion of international economic and social policy ( <i>concluded</i> )	
Speakers:	
Mr. Morse (ILO) . . . . .	71
Mr. Santa Cruz (Observer for Chile) . . . . .	72
Mr. Popov (Bulgaria) . . . . .	74
Mr. Ahmed (Sudan) . . . . .	76
Mr. Rodríguez Larreta (Uruguay) . . . . .	76

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 2

**General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4638, E/4674, E/4679, E/4687 and Add.1-3, E/4688, E/4695, E/4701; E/CN.11/878; E/CN.12/825 and Add.1; E/CN.14/435; E/ECE/741) (*concluded*)**

1. Mr. MORSE (Director-General, International Labour Office) observed that the Secretary-General, in his address to the Council, which had been read out at the 1603rd meeting, had called for a broad approach to the concept of development, while the ACC statement on the Second Development Decade (E/4718) emphasized the social elements which should form an integral part of development strategy. However, at a number of recent international meetings it had been asked whether the setting of social objectives for development might not hinder economic growth, and whether such a risk should be taken precisely when economic growth was needed to support the cost of social progress.

2. The International Labour Conference, at its fifty-third session, in June 1969—on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary—had instructed him to do all in his power to ensure that the Second United Nations Development Decade led to more significant social progress and a more equitable distribution of the fruits of development, through a development strategy which included the goal of significantly higher levels of employment. Unemployment was wasteful in economic and human terms, and could be politically destructive; it had been one of the underlying causes of the Second World War. The main long-range threat to world peace today lurked in the developing regions of the world, where peasants, landless agricultural workers, young people with neither jobs nor skills and the inhabitants of urban slums cherished new aspirations, partly as a result of increased exposure to the affluence surrounding them. A fuller and more productive life could be brought within the grasp of the great ma-

majority of the world's population, but efforts during the past decade had brought no perceptible improvement in their incomes or levels of living. The employment gap had widened, and it might well continue to do so, for in the next ten years some 226 million people would be added to the labour force of the developing countries.

3. Social unrest was not the only problem to consider. Economic growth without increased employment brought no benefit to the majority of the population in the developing countries, who therefore felt little commitment to the success of development efforts. Wider opportunities for earning from productive employment would increase and spread purchasing power, and thus lead to the creation of the mass markets essential to development.

4. It had been assumed that rapid development and the promotion of employment were mutually exclusive; yet Sweden and Japan, neither well endowed with natural resources, had both demonstrated rapid and steady economic growth accompanied, as a central element, by virtually full employment. Rapid growth involved changes in production methods, job content and employment structure. If job opportunities were enhanced through an employment and retraining policy in the developing countries, resistance to such changes would be reduced. The number of jobs must therefore be multiplied, with emphasis on the creation of productive employment. An abundant labour supply was a potential asset instead of a liability, but imagination, organization and determined leadership were needed to use it. The capital cost need not be high. The aim was to enable industrial workers, farmers and artisans to produce more with the means at their disposal; that required motivation as well as training. The hard work necessary would be performed only if the rewards were both visible and reasonable, and the workers' efforts must be organized by a comparable effort on the part of the managers of public and private production.

5. Some sectors relied upon capital-intensive methods of production which might reduce the number of jobs available. Developing countries with a surplus of labour and a shortage of capital should concentrate production and investment in those sectors of industry and agriculture where modern production techniques were more labour-intensive. A country which confined capital-intensive techniques to uses in which they were cheaper and more efficient than other techniques could save capital to use in providing more employment. There was ample scope for developing countries to produce, by relatively labour-intensive methods, goods competitive in quality and cost

with those of the most advanced industrialized countries. The first Development Decade had demonstrated that economic growth alone, even if accelerated, could not absorb the rapidly growing labour force of the developing countries unless the patterns of production were adapted to the relative abundance of labour and scarcity of capital prevailing in the developing countries. With simple tools and implements which could easily be produced locally, efficient organization of work, effective training and re-training and an adequate diet, labour-intensive manual methods could often be made as efficient as capital-intensive methods. Further efforts should be made to develop techniques which were modern in their efficiency but which absorbed more labour and less capital than the methods applied in the industrialized countries. The search for such techniques would offer scope for co-operation between developing and industrialized countries.

6. It was possible that at a certain stage a country might have to choose between faster economic growth and faster creation of employment, but the vast majority of developing countries would not reach that stage for many years. In the interim, a higher rate of investment and better utilization and more rational distribution of capital resources would contribute both to faster growth and to fuller employment. However, the task was difficult; it necessitated a revolution in current thinking on employment and production, and the systematic improvement of methods. Such were the aims of the World Employment Programme, which would be the ILO's major contribution to the Second Development Decade. The programme would not create jobs, nor would it produce an abstract system for resolving the world's employment problem. It would, however, help Governments to assess the nature and magnitude of their employment problems and to train manpower, leaving to them the task of directing their policy regarding investment, rural and industrial development, and education and training towards the expansion of employment opportunities. At the international level, the ILO would require the assistance of the United Nations system and of organizations outside the system in attaining its objectives. The ILO was grateful for the support already made available by UNESCO, UNDP, FAO, IDB, ECLA and OAS for the regional components of the World Employment Programme. For the programme to be successful, it must be closely linked to other components of the collective efforts to be made by the United Nations family during the Second Development Decade—which, in its turn, would not be a complete success unless very significant progress was made in employment. The question of substantive co-ordination within the United Nations family should be dealt with at the stage of preparation for the decade.

7. The problem of employment was first among the ILO's concerns, but a number of other items before the Council, including population, youth, the human environment, industrial development, and science and technology, were also discussed in the ILO report (E/4655 and Add.1)

and could if necessary be enlarged upon by ILO representatives during the Council's discussions.

8. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Observer for Chile), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, said that more than one-half of the world's population was living in conditions far below the minimum at which the human personality could reach its full development. Man still exploited man in many areas; violence constantly erupted between and within nations; and the world had not succeeded in adjusting its formulae for political and social co-existence to the new realities created by modern science and technology. It was the Council's responsibility to create conditions in which peoples could live together in peace, friendship and respect for human rights. The current discussion had so far been disappointing; instead of going thoroughly into the problems of development—the most vast and most pressing problems of mankind today—it had largely been devoted to marginal aspects of development and had produced no solutions of any real significance. It suggested that the Council was abandoning its historic responsibilities and becoming obsolete.

9. Never before had the Council received such comprehensive documentation on the economic realities of the world, or a more valuable set of ideas for resolving the development problem. The developing countries had proposed a series of solutions to crucial problems, and in particular for the removal of the external obstacles to their faster growth. Those solutions had the endorsement of the regional economic commissions and of the secretariats of UNCTAD, FAO, UNESCO, the ILO, WHO and IBRD. The developed countries had not openly opposed those solutions, although they had questioned their timeliness and the methods of applying them. Yet the debate on international policy had not analysed those solutions in depth and no dialogue had been established, at any rate with the countries which carried the greatest weight in world economic decisions, controlled the greater part of the world's technological and financial resources and dominated international trade. There was no indication that those countries possessed the political will for a great co-operative effort to tackle the development problem with the determination and the volume of resources required. The only exceptions were the statements made by the representatives of certain countries of medium economic strength, for example by the representatives of Belgium (1609th meeting) and Norway (1607th meeting), and that made by the French representative (1609th meeting), who had recognized the gravity of the situation of the developing countries and the inadequacy of international co-operation to improve it, and who had announced the readiness of his country to participate in important financial and commercial measures along the lines proposed by those countries.

10. The developing countries had repeatedly acknowledged their responsibility for their own development, while pointing out that they needed international co-operation in making full use of their domestic resources.

They had asked for a fairer international division of labour and, to that end, for a drastic reconstruction of commercial, economic and financial relations. The countries of Latin America, at a meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Latin American Co-ordination held in Viña del Mar in May 1969, had pointed out that, in the course of the current decade, the economic, scientific and technological gap between the developed and the developing countries had continued to widen, while external obstacles to the rapid economic growth of the Latin American countries had increased. Those obstacles included tariff and non-tariff barriers which denied fair access to the major world markets for the developing countries' commodities, manufactures and semi-manufactures; a steady decline in the volume, terms and methods of international financial aid, the effect of which was virtually nullified by the burden of debt servicing; the troubles of the international monetary system; shipping conditions; and difficulties in transferring modern technology to the countries of the region. The Latin American countries had called for the adoption of practical measures to remove those obstacles.

11. In his statement at the 1604th meeting, the United States representative had expressed some sound general principles but had never mentioned international trade. He had not said how his country proposed to open its markets to the products of the developing countries, or help them to transport those products more cheaply; how modern science and technology should be transferred to those countries; how their interests would be taken into account in modifying the international monetary system; or whether his country was prepared to accept, in the near future, the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the volume, methods and terms of financial aid. The United Kingdom representative had touched (1610th meeting) on a series of most interesting topics but had not said whether his country, in conjunction with its partners in OECD, was willing to adopt practical and effective measures to remove the external obstacles to development. The USSR representative had given no indication in his statement (1610th meeting) that his country had abandoned the unconvincing thesis that it could not contribute to financing the development of the developing countries because, never having been a colonial Power, it was not responsible for their condition. That representative's statement threw no light on his country's contribution to the transfer of technology, and gave no details concerning the application of the general preferences which the USSR had accepted in principle.

12. The representatives of both the United States and the United Kingdom had said that the developed and the developing countries should together seek to understand the needs and possibilities of the world and agree upon solutions. Both had mentioned the danger of confrontation between the countries of the northern and southern hemispheres, and had emphasized the need for a rational discussion between the two halves of the world

to find solutions in their common interest. The absence of understanding and of any genuine dialogue between the developed and the developing countries arose from the vast difference in outlook, the sense of urgency, and the nature of the problems faced in the two groups of countries. The developed countries seemed to have no conception of the sense of rebellion and frustration felt by the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America at the existing state of affairs.

13. It was true that some progress had been made in the developing countries during the past decade. The rate of growth of gross national product had increased from 4.7 to 5.4 per cent between 1967 and 1968, but not in all the developing countries, and the population of those countries was increasing by about 3 per cent per annum. The rate of progress was insufficient both in absolute terms and in comparison with that of the developed countries. According to the figures before the Council, it would take the majority of developing countries fifty years to reach a satisfactory level of development, while some of them would need more than a century.

14. It was also true that international co-operation had achieved much in the last twenty-five years, especially through technical assistance. The organizations of the United Nations family were instruments of great potential value. However, their resources were limited and many of them had developed into centralized bureaucracies out of touch with the economic, social and historical realities of the developing countries. Unfortunately, their centralization had been supported by the major contributing countries, and every move in the opposite direction entailed a long struggle by the developing countries, although experience had shown that the most creative ideas came from the regional economic commissions and the regional services of the specialized agencies. Moreover, any increase in the budget for new programmes or field services was strongly resisted, although the appropriations for administration and control constantly increased. There was a clear tendency to divert resources to voluntary programmes and to freeze regular budgets.

15. The international machinery for development existed but needed improvement. First, it should be decentralized. The developing countries should be given a bigger share in the formation of policy in the United Nations family of organizations. More needed to be known about conditions in the countries receiving aid. Again, the organizations should be given operational resources commensurate with the needs of those countries and with the means of the contributor countries. Co-ordination needed to be improved, but was no substitute for effective action in the field; it must be of such a nature as to leave each organization free to make statutory use of its technical capacity without outside interference. The Council had a necessary co-ordinating function, but its first duty was to act creatively and to provide guidance.

16. The programme for the Second Development Decade must not be a mere catalogue of possible measures or a vague statement of intent. It must be a commitment by all members of the international community to co-operation in applying a set of policies and practical measures which would genuinely transform the current state of affairs, which included a time-table, and which could be adapted to changing conditions. Just as the international community had made legal commitments to defend and promote human rights, so it should commit itself to promoting development, as the signatories of the Charter had pledged themselves to do in Article 56. That commitment should include the removal of the external obstacles identified by the Latin American countries at Viña del Mar, not as a target for the end of the Second Development Decade, but for action in 1969. There were grounds for hope that access to central markets for the manufactures and semi-manufactures of the developing countries through a generalized scheme of non-discriminatory, non-reciprocal preferences would be a reality before the Second Development Decade began. That would increase the capacity of the developing countries to import capital goods and would thus stimulate their industrialization.

17. He unreservedly supported the India representative's remarks (1608th meeting) concerning the problem and challenge of science and technology. The development of technology in the developing countries should be given absolute priority; genuine scientific and technical co-operation entailed the transfer of science and technology on favourable terms and in forms suited to the requirements of those countries.

18. Decisions should be taken without further delay to increase the volume of external financing for development to a minimum of 1 per cent of the gross national product of the contributing countries, and the terms and conditions of aid needed drastic modification. A positive feature was the abandonment of the "additionality" clause by the United States in making loans to Latin America. Transfers of capital to the developing countries had for many years been concentrated on private investment in mining. Aid from public sources barely covered the developing countries' outlay on debt servicing. The Latin American countries had declared at Viña del Mar that private investment should not be regarded as aid. The general belief that Latin America was receiving financial aid was disproved by the figures, which showed that it was helping to finance the development of the United States and other industrial countries. Private investment in Latin America meant in practice that much larger sums were withdrawn from that continent than were invested in it. The profits on the invested capital grew and multiplied enormously, but did so abroad. When the necessary changes were made in the international monetary system, the requirements of development should be taken into account and the developing countries should participate in the discussion.

19. The landing on the moon was the result of a combination of technical skill with a firm political will, massive financial support and excellent organization. Development was more important than the conquest of space and should be tackled with at least equal determination. The Council, which had the duty of directing international co-operation in the economic and social fields, should meet that challenge. As the President of Chile had stated at the opening of the Viña del Mar meeting, neither words nor good intentions were the answer. The peoples, and especially young people, needed tasks which would give purpose to their lives. Firm and irreversible political decisions were required. There could be no peace while vast communities were beset by poverty, ignorance and lack of purpose.

20. Mr. POPOV (Bulgaria) welcomed the expansion of United Nations activity in the economic and social fields; the large number of organs and organizations engaged in such activity demonstrated the importance attached by the United Nations to economic and social problems. However, there was a tendency for some of those organs and organizations to supplant the Council in matters within its exclusive competence; on the eve of the Second Development Decade, it was vital that the Council's responsibilities in the formulation of United Nations economic and social policy should not be underestimated.

21. The most useful statements made in the current discussion were those which approached the Council's problems realistically; he had in mind, in particular, the statement made by the USSR representative. The problems of development, and more particularly the problem of economic and social backwardness, must be resolved in conjunction with the general problems of the world economy. Favourable conditions for the accelerated progress of the developing countries could not be established unless optimum conditions were created for the development of the world economy as a whole; that would require the full participation of all countries in a just international division of labour, the removal of the existing discriminatory obstacles to development, and the elimination of the privileged position occupied by a small group of developed capitalist countries.

22. Bulgaria had first-hand knowledge of the aspiration to overcome economic backwardness and took a keen interest in problems of international economic co-operation and of development. The main tasks of his Government over the past twenty-five years had been to speed up industrialization, to mechanize agriculture and to train skilled manpower in all branches of the economy, science and technology. Economic backwardness had been eliminated, and there had been decisive advances in modern industrial and scientific development. Those achievements were due to the people's own efforts, to the mobilization of domestic resources, and to the co-operation of the countries members of CMEA.

23. Before the Second World War, Bulgaria's economy had resembled that of many countries just embarking on independent development. Industry had accounted for only 15 per cent of the national income; agriculture—then four times as important as a source of national income—had been primitive and low in labour productivity. It might encourage some developing countries to learn that, over the past twenty-five years, the volume of industrial production in Bulgaria had increased thirtyfold and agricultural production had doubled. A vital factor in the country's progress was mechanical engineering, which now accounted for one-quarter of Bulgaria's industrial output.

24. Industrialization and the socialist reconstruction of agriculture on a co-operative basis had transformed the pattern of employment and made for a more rational use of labour resources. Out of a population of 8.3 million, almost 470,000 had received higher or secondary specialized education. There were now ninety-six students per 10,000 inhabitants, as compared with sixteen in 1939; engineering students accounted for 43 per cent of the total. Great stress was laid on the development of science; there were 139 research institutes. It was clear that the reference in the Secretary-General's report on International Education Year (E/4707 and Corr.1, para. 46), to the world crises in education did not apply to Bulgaria.

25. The attention paid in the discussion to the problems of youth was fully justified. However, a number of speakers appeared to fear that future generations would reject what was now being done and the standards of behaviour and ideals now being inculcated into young people. In that connexion he would merely point out that youth had always been in the forefront of the struggle for progress, social justice, international co-operation and peace. Young people were rightly demanding consideration in the solution of current problems, and full participation in the political, economic and social life of their countries and of the international community. His delegation supported the view that the Council should request the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights to prepare a text on the rights of youth.

26. Development planning in the broadest sense of the term was now of great significance. The achievements in Bulgaria which he had described were largely ascribable to the adoption of planning as a basic principle of development. In recent years that principle had gained increasing recognition in United Nations documents. However, it was important to proceed on the basis of a unified over-all social and economic plan covering problems of education, health, social security, population and the like, as well as economic questions.

27. In connexion with the Second Development Decade, a number of delegations had referred to the paradoxical situation presented by, on the one hand, mankind's achievements in science and technology and, on the other hand, the difficulties encountered by some developing

countries in overcoming malnutrition, disease, ignorance and poverty. He saw nothing paradoxical in that situation. The backwardness of such countries was all too plainly due to centuries of exploitation by metropolitan Powers. The only solution was to wipe out the shameful heritage of the colonial era as quickly as possible. The international community must make every effort to protect the interests of the developing countries from economic dependence. In that connexion his delegation had listened with particular interest to the statements made by the representatives of the Congo (Brazzaville) (1610th meeting) and the United Republic of Tanzania (1612th meeting).

28. UNCTAD could make a more effective contribution to the Second Development Decade if certain points were borne in mind when the programme for action on international trade was prepared. First, all countries should do their utmost to give effect to the resolutions, recommendations and decisions already adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Secondly, practical results were unlikely to be achieved unless all countries applied the basic principles adopted at the first session of the Conference<sup>1</sup> and embodying its long-term objectives. Thirdly, the objectives of the Second Development Decade for international economic co-operation could be achieved only by putting international trade on a normal footing and removing all the obstacles erected by the developed capitalist countries and their economic groupings. Bulgaria's export earnings in 1968 had paid for only 92 per cent of its imports, not only because of the bad harvest, but largely because of discrimination by the EEC countries against its agricultural products.

29. ECE was making a fine contribution to the development of economic, scientific and technical co-operation among its member countries. He believed that the European conference on security and co-operation proposed by the Warsaw Treaty countries would help to create a favourable climate for extensive and mutually advantageous co-operation among all European countries, including those with different economic and social systems. An early solution must be found to the question of participation by the German Democratic Republic in the work of international economic and social organizations, including EEC. His delegation had requested that a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of that country should be circulated as a document of the Council's forty-seventh session (see E/L.1263).

30. One of the Council's major tasks was to make a thorough study of the problems involved in transferring scientific and technical knowledge to developing countries, where such knowledge had a crucial role to play in development. Much emphasis had lately been placed on the so-called population explosion as an alleged danger to economic development. In his delegation's view, the

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, vol. I: *Final Act and Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 64.II.B.11), p. 18.



danger had been exaggerated. Moreover, a reduction in population or in the birth rate would not resolve the pressing social and economic problems of the developing countries. Material and psychological motivation for lower birth rates in developing countries would entail discarding outmoded attitudes and applying drastic social and economic reforms. It was certainly necessary to influence population trends in regions of excessive population growth, but each country must decide for itself what prominence to give to demographic measures in its overall economic policy.

31. It had been rightly said that the success of any international action in the economic and social field depended on the political will of Governments; more specifically, it depended on the principles underlying their foreign policy. Those principles could only be the preservation of peace and peaceful co-operation among nations, in accordance with the Charter. International decisions were meaningless unless favourable conditions were created for their implementation. A few days of war could wipe out the efforts of a decade. At a recent conference of communist parties in Moscow, the socialist countries had voiced their determination to establish and maintain relations with other countries on the basis of peaceful co-existence among all States, irrespective of their social and economic structure. That policy had proved successful in the Balkans, and Bulgaria would make every effort to co-operate with all countries on the basis of mutual advantage, understanding and friendship.

32. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) observed that the Council's main tasks were to eliminate poverty, improve the quality of life and foster social justice. Progress in those endeavours would in turn help to reduce political tensions. However, the decentralized character of the United Nations system made co-ordination essential. Although many of the organizations in the system enjoyed independent or semi-independent status and drew up their own programmes, they all recognized the advantages of avoiding waste and duplication and of co-operating to attain common objectives. No field of activity could rightly be regarded as the exclusive preserve of a particular agency, for there was a large measure of interdependence. Co-ordination should therefore be a major feature of the Second Development Decade and should be applied at the regional and national levels as well as at the international level. Developing countries should make co-ordination an important element of their development effort; their plans and policies should be related to regional and international plans, and their sectoral growth rates should be geared to over-all growth targets.

33. The first Development Decade had not been a failure; too much had been expected of an experimental undertaking. It had provided useful experience and prepared the way for the Second Development Decade, which would have a better chance of full-scale success. There was now a better understanding of programmes and policies; the preparations would be more adequate and

imaginative; the developing countries were psychologically better prepared to discharge their responsibilities and effect the necessary reforms; and international action was more effectively concentrated and based on more adequate machinery geared to development needs. He regretted that the socialist countries were not participating in the work of the Committee for Development Planning and the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. He understood their reasons for not participating, but hoped that an amicable solution would be found, since those countries could make a useful contribution.

34. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay) said that, for the developing countries, especially those of Latin America, the past decade had been one of frustration. The economic gap between developed and developing countries had widened and the hopes of the latter had not been fulfilled. As the observer for Chile had already mentioned, the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Latin American Co-ordination, at its meeting in May 1969, had issued a declaration setting forth the objectives and aspirations of the Latin American countries and proposing forms of international co-operation which could help to close the economic gap. The meeting had recognized that the primary responsibility for action rested with the developing countries, and that foreign assistance played only a complementary role. It was now generally acknowledged that trade expansion was the most appropriate means of enabling the developing countries to make economic progress. However, those countries had not gained appreciably freer access to world markets since the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the tariff and non-tariff restrictions on primary commodities remained virtually unchanged. Negotiations on the subject in GATT had not been particularly successful. Discriminatory zonal preference systems, for instance, were particularly unfavourable to Latin American countries. Another obstacle to the expansion of their export trade was the diversity of regulations governing imports of foodstuffs in different markets. For example, Uruguay's meat exports faced widely differing health requirements. Standardization of such requirements would make it easier for exporting countries to comply with them.

35. Foreign financial assistance to developing countries had also failed to reach the target fixed for the first Development Decade and was running far short of the 1 per cent of the developed countries' gross national product recommended by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in its decision 27 (II).<sup>2</sup> Latin American countries had obtained only 10 per cent of their over-all financial requirements from foreign sources, whereas in April 1967 the Punta del Este conference had set a target of 20 per cent. Foreign debt servicing by Latin American countries in fact exceeded the inflow of financial assistance. Those countries would support any

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, Second Session, vol. I: Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.II.D.14), p. 38.

proposal designed to ease their debt repayment difficulties. He welcomed the IMF decision to contribute to commodity price stabilization by helping to finance buffer stocks.

36. He noted with regret the growing tendency for bilateral assistance to be tied to specific purchases from the donor country; that practice often obliged the recipient country either to buy goods at prices higher than those it would have to pay if it were free to choose its supplier, or to change its foreign trade pattern to the detriment of

its traditional suppliers. Uruguay believed in constructive negotiation as a means of resolving problems of trade and assistance. It was a firm believer in international co-operative action, and participated in regional co-operation. Developing countries could nevertheless achieve a great deal by their own efforts. His Government had recently managed to check serious inflation by adopting a new policy on prices and incomes without sacrificing the levels of living of its people.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 22 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10.10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

## CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut;	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries . . . . .	79

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

## AGENDA ITEM 7

## Regional co-operation:

- (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726);
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709)

1. Mr. STANOVNIK (Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe), introducing the annual report of ECE (E/4641), said that ECE had reshaped its long-term work programme and modified its methods of work so that it was better fitted to meet any new priority requirements. The ECE programme had been drawn up on the basis of four major priority goals: the development and expansion of trade (particularly East/West trade), co-operation in science and technology, the preparation of long-term projections and plans and the solution of problems of the human environment.

2. At its twenty-fourth session, ECE had decided that the time had come to take stock of what had been done so far and to see what steps could be taken to promote intra-European trade. It had also asked him to prepare an analytical report on the state of intra-European trade. Further, it had been agreed to give increasing attention to the less developed countries of Europe. It was often thought that the members of ECE were all developed countries, but, if an annual *per capita* income of \$600 was taken as the determinant, one-third of Europe would fall into the category of developing countries.

3. Within the large priority areas it had adopted, ECE had also singled out some specific priorities: industrial co-operation, new activities in the chemical industry, mechanical engineering and automation, standardization and water resources.

4. As for the preparations for the Second United Nations Development Decade, which were uppermost in

the Council's mind, he wondered how the work programme of ECE could fit in with the general efforts of the Organization. When the plans had been made for the first Development Decade, the basic objective had been a 5 per cent annual rate of growth of the gross national product; and when ways of achieving that rate of growth had been considered, it had been realized that there would be a trade gap.

5. The annual growth rate of the exports of developing countries to developed countries during the 1950s had actually been 3.4 per cent, while the projections constructed by the Secretariat had implied a growth rate of 3.6 per cent during the 1960s. To bridge the trade gap of \$20 billion, UNCTAD had calculated that that growth rate should be 6 per cent *per annum*. The 1 per cent financial transfer target had not been reached. The trade policy measures contemplated to bridge the gap had never been adopted; nevertheless, the real rate of export growth for the developing countries had been 6.3 per cent. The growth rate in the developed countries had averaged 5.2 per cent during the first Development Decade, instead of the 4.2 per cent on which the forecasts had been based.

6. The projections made for the Second Development Decade showed that an increase in the growth rate of only one-half of 1 per cent, which was the increase visualized for the developing countries during the 1970s, would mean over \$10 billion more in exports for the developing countries. In other words, the growth rate in the developed countries had important effects on the growth rate of the developing countries. The Second Development Decade should be a development decade for all, and growth in the developed countries was relevant to the growth of the developing countries.

7. The European countries had been experiencing two decades of almost uninterrupted growth. During those two decades, the gross output had more than doubled; *per capita* income had almost doubled, consumption of electric power had increased from 440 kWh *per capita* to 2,200 kWh, and housing construction had risen from 3.4 to 8.4 units per 1,000 inhabitants. During the same period, agriculture had begun to be based more on capital than on labour, and it seemed that the European economy was becoming a service economy. That rapid quantitative growth did not, however, give a true picture of the qualitative aspects of economic life. The idea of "external economies" was well known, but not enough was said about "external diseconomies". The modern economy used technology in such a way that it increased waste, which was discarded into the sea, the air and the general environment at the rate of five tons *per capita* every day.

8. ECE was aware that its view of the economy must be very comprehensive and that it must take account of social as well as purely economic factors. It had decided that in the decades to come much attention should be devoted to the problems of the human environment. The area covered by ECE contained 80 per cent of the world's technological resources, and thus also produced 80 per cent of the waste. Even before the Council had considered holding a conference on that problem in Stockholm, ECE had decided to deal with it in depth, not so much to define it, for it was already sufficiently well known, but to find specific solutions. For more than a decade human environment problems had been dealt with by ECE and its subsidiary bodies. Thus, the Steel Committee and the Coal Committee had been concerned with air and water pollution, and the Timber Committee with pollution provoked by the paper industry. ECE had realized, however, that a sectoral approach to those problems was not sufficient and that comprehensive solutions were required to the problems of the human environment. It had therefore decided to convene a meeting in Prague in 1971 to study the institutional problems involved and to examine how planning, scientific research and education could help to resolve environmental problems.

9. A new concept of economics was emerging from all those efforts: it was not enough to consider individual economic returns without also thinking of social economic returns, and the dimension of time must also be introduced into economic thinking. The regional economic commissions, which were centres of initiative, must ensure that a new approach was used in dealing with methodological questions so as to resolve the problems created by the intensive but disorderly momentum of technological advance.

10. The problems of science and technology also required a new approach. The contribution made by science and technology to economic and social growth was tremendous. For instance, such phenomena as the advent of the electronic computer and its increasing use (there had been 23,000 in use in 1963 and there would be 100,000 in 1970) and the rapidity with which the most advanced innovations were applied in industry indicated that there was no special compartment for science but that it was part and parcel of the economy and was being integrated into the economic apparatus. An international organization for co-operation, such as ECE, would fail in its duties if it did not take into consideration the problems connected with science and technology.

11. ECE intended to examine in depth the application of science and technology to economic and social development. That new approach raised two very important problems: science forecasting, and the transfer of technology. ECE had made projections of European demand for wood, iron ore and so on. Those sectoral projections were particularly important for the world economy as a whole and made it possible to frame long-term policies. ECE was also trying to intensify the transfer of technology. Technology, however, had to be compatible with

the economic mechanisms in the recipient country concerned, or what in medical parlance was known as "rejection" would occur. ECE was mainly concerned with the transfer of technology between East and West, in other words, between countries with different institutional structures. Its findings might be applied to the transfer of technology from the developed to the developing countries, which were not as homogeneous as might be thought.

12. Most of ECE's efforts, however, were devoted to promoting trade, particularly East-West trade. In 1953, the total exports of the West to the East had amounted to some \$600 million; in 1969 they were approaching \$5 billion. That figure was constantly rising and, for the last fifteen years, the average compound rate of growth had been 14.6 per cent *per annum*. Many obstacles, however, remained to be overcome. East-West trade might be greatly facilitated if emphasis were placed on the notion of reciprocity of opportunities rather than of concessions. The distance between the two notions was not great. Practical problems also hampered the expansion of East-West trade; for example, export promotion, marketing and standardization.

13. ECE's reconsideration of long-term trends in the European economy led to a number of conclusions. After being concerned with analysis for two decades, ECE must henceforth adopt a trans-sectoral, synthetic approach to such problems as environment, over-all planning, the application of technology, the strategy of growth and the qualitative elements of growth. Secondly, the dynamism of economic growth was such that flexible methods of work should be adopted. Otherwise, there was danger that methods of work would become rigid where they should be constantly made to conform to the needs of the moment. Finally, investments should be moved away from those sectors of the economy where the law of diminishing returns had started to operate and into other branches of the economy.

14. In conclusion, he suggested that the reorganization and reconsideration of ECE's programmes and methods of work had made it a more efficient instrument of international co-operation, especially for countries having different economic and social systems and different levels of development. ECE would thus be able not only to help European countries cope with their problems but also to make an appropriate contribution to the Second Development Decade.

15. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to part III of the ECE report, which set forth, among the resolutions adopted at the twenty-fourth session of ECE, resolution 4 (XXIV), entitled: "Simplification and standardization of documents and procedures in international trade". In operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of that resolution, ECE drew the Council's attention to the practical value of the work of simplification and standardization of procedures and documents for inter-

national trade; and to the desirability of co-ordinating that work on a world basis, and of strengthening the existing technical function of the secretariat to further that aim. In that connexion, ECE invited the Council to consider the establishment of secretariat arrangements for an effective co-ordination of the relevant activities with the work of ECE.

16. He also drew the Council's attention to section XII of the report on the meetings of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions held in 1969 (E/4709). The Council would certainly take note of the fact that the executive secretaries, meeting under the chairmanship of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, had already discussed that matter.

17. U NYUN (Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East), introducing the annual report of ECAFE (E/4640), wished to speak first of the economic situation of the ECAFE region. That situation had considerably improved in 1969 with a continuation of the progress in agriculture which had begun in 1968. In 1968, the rice harvest had been good and wheat production, especially in India and Pakistan, had greatly increased. That result had been largely due to the increased application of science and technology and to the widespread abandonment of traditional methods in favour of a modern system of agriculture. The economic growth rate had become more encouraging. In October 1968, the Expert Group on Programming Techniques had held that it was possible to achieve an average annual growth rate of 6 to 7 per cent in the gross domestic product. On the other hand, the projections for the next decade foresaw a trade gap which might amount to between \$4 billion and \$7 billion by 1975.

18. The recent decline in aid commitment, the increase in debt service charges and the general reluctance of the developed countries to ease the terms of aid or to remove the trade barriers for exports from the developing countries, were all factors which were causing great anxiety among the developing countries of Asia as to their future development plans. On the other hand, the constructive forces which were helping to bring about accelerated development through regional co-operation had never been so dynamic, as evidenced by the speedy establishment of the Asian Coconut Community and by the resolution, adopted in December 1968 in Bangkok by the third Ministerial Conference on Asian Economic Co-operation, for the formulation of an integrated regional co-operation strategy.

19. The year 1968 had been one of fruitful activities for ECAFE. Special emphasis had been given to major projects of regional importance which had encouraged the countries to work together, and to projects which had a bearing on the formulation and implementation of policies by Governments of member countries.

20. With regard to industrial development, many joint ventures, such as those in the iron and steel and petro-

chemical industries, were under examination by the Asian Industrial Development Council. The Asian industrial survey for selected areas in South-East Asia had been started in June 1969 and similar surveys covering other countries of the region were under active preparation.

21. As for the development of natural resources, the work of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas had yielded very encouraging results, and it had therefore been decided to set up a similar co-ordinating body for countries bordering on the Indian Ocean. In that connexion, ECAFE had adopted resolution 96 (XXV) concerning mineral resources of the sea, which invited the Committee for the Western Pacific and, in due course, the proposed committee for the Indian Ocean, to consider the role they could play in any international arrangements to be made in the light of the General Assembly resolutions.

22. With regard to water resources development, efforts had been concentrated on the preparation of the amplified basin plan of the Mekong project. In December 1968, the Typhoon Committee had been set up and was being serviced by the ECAFE/WMO joint unit on typhoons.

23. In respect of trade, the ECAFE Trade Promotion Centre had been active in organizing training courses in co-operation with UNCTAD and GATT. Preparations for the second Asian International Trade Fair, to be held in Teheran in 1969 with the participation of over forty countries, were progressing satisfactorily.

24. With regard to transport and communications, much progress had been made with the trans-Asian railway project which was to link Asia with the Middle East and Europe. The joint ECAFE/Japanese survey team had already completed its technical and economic railway surveys in several countries of the region. Continuing co-operation between ECAFE and ITU had led to the establishment of a telecommunication sub-committee. It was also proposed to set up a regional network to link all the countries of the region with modern telecommunication systems.

25. In social development, activities were being increasingly directed towards formulating programmes and policies as an integral part of economic development. The Commission had recommended in resolution 99 (XXV), *inter alia*, the constitution of a working party on social development in the ECAFE region. The secretariat was working on the establishment of a regional training and research centre for social welfare and development. ECAFE had established a population division to carry out its expanded population programme. The public administration programme had been successfully continued. ECAFE had endorsed, at its twenty-fifth session, the proposal for setting up a regional centre for development, administration and follow-up action was under way.

26. Among regional projects, he stressed the excellent progress of the Mekong development project. In

December 1968, the first international transmission of electric power in the lower Mekong basin had been inaugurated. One of the major successes of the Mekong Committee and the co-operating countries had been the completion of financial arrangements for the Prek Thnot project and the Cambodian irrigation project. That committee was directing its efforts to implementing the My Thuan bridge project in Viet-Nam. ECAFE hoped that the international community would contribute generously to that project, which was vital for the development of the country and for preserving freedom of traffic on the Mekong River. The plans for improving the main channel at Pa Mong were taking definite shape.

27. The Asian highway network continued to make good progress. Several sections of the priority routes had been completed. The first Asian Highway Motor Rally, which had been held in April 1969 and would be followed by other similar competitions, had shown that regional co-operation had become a reality. But much remained to be done and he appealed to the international community to help in carrying out that great regional project.

28. The Asian Development Bank, another regional agency, was continuing to play a vital role in the development of the region and had decided to set aside part of its capital for concessional loans. The Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning had achieved significant success and had exceeded the target set for its training programme.

29. The regional activities financed from technical co-operation programmes continued to form a vital part of the secretariat's task in implementing the ECAFE work programme. At its last session, the members of ECAFE had expressed the hope that funds would be forthcoming to implement various projects drawn up with the assistance of technical co-operation experts.

30. It was, however, necessary to reiterate the need for a more rapid decentralization of functions and responsibilities, both in technical assistance operations and in carrying out, at the regional level, a number of activities of concern to the United Nations family. Arrangements in that connexion had been made with certain specialized agencies through the establishment of joint units within the ECAFE secretariat. At its last session, ECAFE had noted the basic policy position of the United Nations, which had fully endorsed the ideas of decentralization. It had recommended the further development of ECAFE's technical assistance activities and had noted the role of inter-disciplinary projects in formulating regional and sub-regional programmes. It had, in conclusion, expressed the hope that ECAFE's budget and resources would be expanded. It had expressed deep appreciation of the manner in which the programme of work for the coming years had been presented and requested the secretariat to carry forward the good work already done, paying due attention to priorities and other essential factors.

31. It would be seen that ECAFE had launched upon an action phase. The priorities ECAFE had set for the Second Development Decade must not, therefore, be cut back for want of resources. That was the important consideration which ECAFE had had in mind in drawing attention to the need for expanding its resources. He was sure that the Council would give the matter its most careful and sympathetic consideration.

32. The imminence of the Second Development Decade made the current session of the Council especially important. The countries of the ECAFE region were looking forward with a real sense of anticipation to the proclamation of the Development Decade, which might be called the "decade of implementation" and which, they hoped, would usher in a new era for the developing countries. Although the first Development Decade had fallen short of expectations, the countries of Asia were aware of having accumulated a potential for growth which was bound to play a vital role in the forthcoming decade. It was against that background that ECAFE had adopted its resolution 94 (XXV), in which it expressed the opinion that the regional economic commissions had a crucial and decisive role to play in implementing the global strategy of the Second Development Decade.

33. The Asian countries were looking to the developed countries for active co-operation, particularly through the United Nations, its various organizations and agencies, the regional economic commissions and the Economic and Social Council. Without such co-operation, it would be impossible to resolve the urgent problems arising in the field of trade and aid.

34. Mr. QUINTANA (Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America) introducing the annual report of ECLA (E/4639 and Add.1), said that the results of the economic trends in Latin America in 1968 were reflected in much more encouraging indices than those of 1967 in both the domestic and the external sectors. That improvement had been observed in more countries of the region than had been the case in the past.

35. On the whole, the growth rates of the aggregate product and of industry had increased satisfactorily and the construction industry had grown even more rapidly in most countries of the region. Another outstanding feature had been the significant increase in both exports and imports in 1968. However, although the balance of payments deficit on current account had amounted to more than \$2 billion, it had been covered by inflows of foreign capital. Several countries, including Mexico, Brazil and Chile, had recorded peak figures for their foreign trade. As a result, supplies of goods and services had grown considerably, which had led to an expansion in consumption and investments.

36. The expansion of domestic production and imports had facilitated efforts to curb inflationary pressures. In those countries which had suffered from inflation in the last few years, prices had risen more slowly. However,

those results should be judged against the background of the general economic situation in Latin America and the region's position in world affairs; account should also be taken of the structural obstacles to development that still existed. That had been the approach adopted at ECLA's thirteenth session, at which a broad evaluation had been made of the successes and setbacks of the first Development Decade and consideration given to the outlook for ECLA and its role in the Second Development Decade.

37. One of the outstanding achievements of the first Development Decade had been the progress made in regional integration. Nevertheless, many countries had failed to meet the growth targets they had set in their national development plans or those established for regional co-operation programmes, so that there had been a widening of the gap between Latin America and the developed countries.

38. In the discussion of the region's internal problems, ECLA had focused attention on the following matters: persistence of the unequal distribution of income and wealth; increasingly serious structural unemployment; contrasts between the growth of different regions in each country; backwardness of agriculture; lack of progress in the transport and communications systems; and the slow growth of social services.

39. As a result of its examination of Latin America's external problems, ECLA had concluded that the region would find itself in an even more difficult position at the end of the current decade. Latin America's share in world trade would continue to decline and its need to import manufactures would increase. It was therefore necessary to reach the trade and external financing targets which the various international organizations had set. A source of grave concern was the accumulated foreign indebtedness, aggravated by the scarcity of external aid, rising interest rates, and the practice of tied loans.

40. Latin America must tackle three main economic problems if it was to change the trends of past years. The first was that not enough domestic savings were being generated. A recent study had shown that, if the savings-investment ratio remained unchanged and if no attempt was made to raise the region's annual growth rate to 6 per cent, there would not be enough domestic savings in sixteen of the countries studied to finance the investment required.

41. The second problem was that of the external trade situation and the possibilities of financing enough imports to achieve higher growth rates. The studies undertaken on the subject indicated that imports would have to grow at much the same rate, assuming that the process of import substitution continued, which might be difficult to achieve under prevailing conditions. Unfortunately, there was very little likelihood that export earnings would rise sufficiently to meet those needs. Even under the most optimistic assumptions, exports were not likely to expand as much as imports and there

would still be a sizable potential trade gap, made worse by foreign debt servicing.

42. The third problem was to create sufficient employment opportunities in the coming decade to reduce structural unemployment and to absorb the manpower which became available on the labour market. In its work programme, the ECLA secretariat had paid increasing attention to the current employment situation in Latin America and its future prospects. Some 40 per cent of the population of working age were underemployed, unemployed or vegetating in virtually non-productive activities. The situation might become worse in the next decade, for the labour force would probably grow faster than it had during the previous period. If that manpower were not absorbed, the tensions caused by unemployment would increase, to say nothing of the fact that much of the development potential of the countries of the region would continue to be wasted.

43. Referring to the development strategy for the coming decade, he pointed out that it had been agreed, at ECLA's thirteenth session, that the main objective should be to accelerate the economic and social growth rate. It was clear that the rise in the growth rate must be concurrent with appreciable advances in three particularly significant fields: employment, income distribution and balanced regional development. In the external sector, it was essential to expand and diversify exports and to increase the flow of financial assistance on more favourable terms than hitherto.

44. One prerequisite for achieving those objectives was a substantial rise in savings and investment coefficients. The Latin American countries were convinced that, in order to expedite development, it was necessary to mobilize, on a wider scale, all the human and material resources in various economic and social sectors of high priority.

45. Another key factor in the development strategy for the coming decade was employment policy. In that connexion, a more thorough study must be made of production technologies in the different economic activities in order to decide upon a policy which would make it possible to meet the manpower needs of activities that were of vital importance for economic development and to raise productivity in other sectors, without unnecessarily making the labour situation more difficult or adversely affecting the programmes specifically designed to absorb labour.

46. It must be borne in mind, however, that only a radical change in the conditions of the external sector would make it possible to achieve the internal objectives of a development strategy; the achievement of those objectives was undoubtedly linked with the expansion and diversification of the region's exports, the working out of new forms of external financial and technical co-operation, and the acceleration of regional economic integration.

47. At its thirteenth session, ECLA had taken various decisions on two subjects of special importance: the United Nations programme of action for the Second Development Decade, in so far as it applied to Latin America, and the guidelines for the secretariat's future work.

48. With regard to the Second Development Decade, ECLA had stressed the urgent need for the international community to strengthen and initiate programmes and measures of co-operation to remove the constraints on the development of Latin America. Among the subjects of special interest to Latin America, ECLA had emphasized the expansion and diversification of exports, the improvement of external financial co-operation, the strengthening of national planning systems, foreign private investment, shipping, the transfer of technology, and co-operation with regional centres for scientific development.

49. Furthermore, it had recommended that the secretariat should pay particular attention, in its work programme, to studies, research and advisory services relating to the mobilization of domestic savings, the participation of private enterprise, income distribution, employment, agricultural development, technological progress, the integration of national economies, regional and sub-regional economic integration, the boosting of production for export, the absorption of external financial and technical co-operation, research on natural resources, the continuation of population and social studies, the improvement of statistics and the rationalization of public administration. ECLA had also asked its secretariat to pay special attention to the study of methods and machinery likely to bring about the effective implementation of the various commitments undertaken by the developed countries with regard to their trade with the developing countries. In addition, it had requested the secretariat to lay greater emphasis on the identification and analysis of the internal problems of each country that were hampering the expansion and diversification of exports, with a view to formulating suggestions or presenting proposals to resolve them. Lastly, the secretariat had been requested to continue its collaboration with the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Latin American Co-ordination, in particular by preparing the studies requested of it by that body and taking part in its meetings in an advisory capacity. ECLA was thus collaborating in the definition of the bases for joint action by the Latin American countries in their trade with other countries and regions, particularly the developed countries.

50. With regard to external financial co-operation, ECLA had been of the opinion that such financing should be granted in accordance with national development policies and plans and should not be subject to conditions that limited the recipient country's ability to make basic decisions concerning its economic policy; it had also underlined the need to liberalize external credits, to abolish provisions which tied the use of such products to purchases in specific supplier countries, and to

strengthen genuinely multilateral external financial co-operation.

51. In the last two years, the ECLA secretariat had intensified the demographic work which it had been doing since 1956 in response to the instructions of the Secretary-General and because the special characteristics of population trends in Latin America had added a new dimension to the studies relating to the economic and social development of the region. The secretariat had decided to expand its work on those matters and had drawn up a three-year programme which it hoped would be financed to some extent by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. Under that programme, it was planned to prepare interpretative studies of population trends in the region in relation to the motive forces peculiar to its economic and social development and to design a conceptual framework within which criteria could be established for practical action.

52. Furthermore, in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1264 (XLIII) and General Assembly resolution 2361 (XXII), ECLA had decided to dispense with sessions of the Committee of the Whole which had been held biennially in the years when the Commission did not meet. Since it was obliged to submit to the Council once a year a full report on its activities and plans, ECLA had decided to request the Council to include a provision in paragraph 12 of its terms of reference which would take the new situation into account. It had also decided that, whenever an urgent matter arose, the Executive Secretary would be authorized to convene a special session of the Committee of the Whole. Lastly, it had decided to strengthen its Office for the Caribbean.

53. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the Council would carry out its work relating to the Second Development Decade with all the objectivity and intellectual freedom that it and its member Governments had always demonstrated.

54. Mr. GARDINER (Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa), introducing the annual report of ECA (E/4651 and Add.1), stated that the statistics relating to the economic situation in Africa which ECA had assembled for the *Survey of Economic Conditions in Africa, 1967*<sup>1</sup> had been brought up to date, despite the delay of almost two years in respect of certain sectors, such as national accounting data.

55. The latest *Survey* (E/CN.14/435) contained an analysis of the salient features of African economies and a general examination of economic performance in recent years. It set out the problems in a number of critical sectors such as manpower, education and training, agriculture, industry and the foreign sector. A revised version of the *Survey* contained a review of public finance and an assessment of gross domestic product and related statistics.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.II.K.4.



56. If the developing countries of Africa were to achieve minimal economic progress, their *per capita* output should grow by at least 3 per cent per annum. However, according to the preliminary estimates presented in the *Survey*, *per capita* product in the two preceding years had been growing by less than 2 per cent a year in twenty-eight African countries, by between 2 and 3 per cent in five countries and by more than 3 per cent in nine countries only. Moreover, 72 per cent of the population of Africa lived in the twenty-eight countries which had registered the lowest rates of growth. Thus economic development in most developing countries of Africa had been rather slow during the first seven years of the first Development Decade; it must be recalled, in that connexion, that the levels had already been very low in 1960.

57. There had nevertheless been some encouraging developments in such sectors as education, industrialization, health, development planning and economic co-operation. Indeed, economic development in the 1960s had been in sharp contrast to the leisurely way in which affairs had been managed prior to independence.

58. In regard to manpower, education and training, rapid progress had been made but qualitative changes conducive to institutional reforms were proving more difficult to effect. The most important improvement needed was in the quality and content of instruction. Thus priority should be given to training teaching staff, to raising gradually the requirements for entering the teaching profession and to the orientation of curricula towards economic development needs.

59. Agricultural output had been expanding somewhat slowly and African agricultural trade with the rest of the world continued to be characterized by a situation in which imports into Africa were growing more rapidly than exports from Africa. The reasons varied from country to country but it was hoped that subsequent surveys would deal with particular problems in detail. Although some African countries had not always paid sufficient attention to increasing agricultural output, it was gratifying that some progress had been made with the establishment of a Rice Research Centre in West Africa which might be the first of a series of multinational research and training centres and a precursor of multinational co-operation in agricultural and animal husbandry, as recommended by the heads of State and Government of East and Central Africa.

60. In most African countries, the rate of growth of industrial output in the 1960s had been significantly higher than the rate of growth of gross domestic product, although the proportion of industrial output in total output was still relatively low, i.e. about 11 per cent. On the basis of preliminary studies, ECA had identified certain specific industrial projects which seemed *prima facie* capable of implementation. The secretariat was selecting the most promising of those projects for the attention of investors and was preparing to promote negotiations with interested African Governments. ECA was also carefully

examining measures for encouraging domestic savings, strengthening implementation machinery, assisting an increasing number of African *entrepreneurs* and promoting small-scale industries. The ECA programme for industry had been submitted to UNIDO and would be put into effect in collaboration with that organization.

61. The unanimous acceptance by the developed countries at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of the desirability of establishing a general non-discriminatory and non-reciprocal system of preferences was of considerable importance, even though no agreement had been reached on the features of such a system. Three points were of especial significance for the African countries: reverse preferences; replacing existing preferences by a general system; and the product coverage of the proposed system. On the first point, the African countries held that the developed countries should negotiate among themselves and then propose specific solutions. In respect of the second point, African countries which had so far benefited from special preferences should be compensated. Finally, any new system should be closely related to the productive capacities of all developing countries; in other words, it should cover a wide range of processed and semi-processed products as well as manufactures.

62. Prior to the ministerial meeting of the Group of 77, held in Algiers from 10 to 25 October 1967, the African countries had proposed that special steps should be taken in favour of the least developed among the developing countries; that proposal had been adopted at the Algiers meeting. Since, at its second session, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had not taken a clear decision on the matter, the African countries were proposing that the various recommendations in favour of the least developed countries should be dealt with under a special United Nations programme to be instituted at the same time as the Second Development Decade. African persistence on that point was easily explained by the fact that most of the least developed of the developing countries were in Africa. Because of the inadequacy of aid and the special difficulties involved in developing the least advanced countries, however, it was thought in some quarters that international assistance should be channelled towards the most advanced of the developing countries. Nevertheless, subsequent events were bound to give the lie to that argument, in view of the immense natural resources and considerable reserves of the African continent.

63. During the past year, the African countries had continued their efforts towards economic co-operation. In the East African sub-region, Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania had begun to implement the treaty of co-operation which they had signed, and Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia and Gambia were planning to sign it too. In West Africa, a draft treaty to set up an economic community was being studied. Unfortunately, five of the fourteen countries of the sub-region were not yet parties to the protocol of the agreement which had

been signed. In North Africa, various studies on co-ordinated industrial development were almost completed, and by such means agreement should be secured among the countries concerned regarding selected projects covering the entire sub-region. In Central Africa, the problem of enlarging the Central African Customs and Economic Union to take in the Congo (Kinshasa) in addition to its original five members had still not been resolved, but a meeting was scheduled to be held during the course of the year to deal with that subject, and it was to be hoped that the Central African countries would feel able to take a longer view of their mutual economic relations.

64. The ECA approach towards co-operation was sufficiently flexible to provide for a wide variety of forms of co-operation, and the secretariat was encouraging Governments to enter freely into multilateral or bilateral groupings.

65. In a document entitled "A venture into self-reliance: ten years of ECA, 1958-1968" (E/CN.14/424), ECA had summarized ten years' experience. Under the Berlin Act of 1885, the African continent had been cut up arbitrarily to serve the interests of the administering Powers, while road-building, the laying of railways and the construction of navigable waterways had also been subordinated to the interests of those Powers. The result was that Africa was made up of forty-one independent countries, almost three-quarters of which had fewer than 5 million inhabitants each and domestic markets too tiny for the requirements of modern economics. Education had been neglected by the colonial Powers and did not meet the requirements of economic growth. Thus, whereas independence had considerably increased the policy options open to African countries, the colonial legacy had made the exercise of those options extremely difficult.

66. ECA had adopted as its prime aim that of assisting the African countries to modernize their economies as quickly as possible and thus to play their full part in the world economy. To accomplish that aim, it was essential to reshape the infrastructure to suit the requirements of economic growth, especially by providing effective commercial links between town and country; to rectify the smallness of national markets through economic co-

operation and integration; to provide an infrastructure in education, science, technology, public administration, the utilization of natural resources and the management of industrial and commercial enterprises and, finally, to change socio-economic institutions to facilitate their modernization. The probable effect of achieving those aims would not be an immediate increase in growth rates, but a decisive impact on performance might be expected during the second half of the 1970s.

67. Both OAU and ECA had recommended the establishment of transport networks and telecommunication links among African countries. In order to avoid wasteful duplication such as had occurred in the past, the Co-ordination Committee of the African Development Bank and IBRD, UNDP and ECA had begun to draw up a list of priorities which should facilitate international collective action.

68. At the ninth session of ECA, which had coincided with its tenth anniversary, a series of resolutions had been unanimously adopted, dealing, in particular, with the need to foster a spirit of self-reliance and to strengthen multinational and sub-regional co-operation, to counteract the inadequacies of current trade and aid, to ensure increased participation by member States in the activities of ECA—for which purpose three bodies were to be set up with well-defined terms of reference—and also dealing with the transitional provisions required for the overhaul of the ECA machinery, the intensification of ECA activities in specific projects and, finally, the relations of ECA and OAU. The general intention of those resolutions was to make ECA's operations more effective by increasing the contact between ECA and its member countries and by improving the co-operation between ECA and the other parts of the United Nations system.

69. ECA was satisfied with the achievements of the preceding ten years, but it was not complacent, for it was clear that very few African countries would meet the targets of the first Development Decade. It was equally clear that most African countries lacked a basis for a modern economy. Nevertheless, those countries were determined to make the necessary effort, provided they were helped by the international community.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Tuesday, 22 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries ( <i>continued</i> )	87

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Regional co-operation:**

- (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726)
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709) (*continued*)

1. Mr. KAMINKER (United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut), speaking on behalf of Mr. Martin, Director of UNESOB, introduced the report on UNESOB's activities (E/4659). Although UNESOB was doing its utmost to comply with the many resolutions requesting it to participate in the preparation of surveys and reports to various United Nations organs, its resources were too limited to permit it to do so. It had no specialists in power, transport, water resources or public administration. In many cases it acted merely as an intermediary, apprising the United Nations Secretariat of Governments' problems and apprising Governments of the Secretariat's information requirements. In some instances, the main value of UNESOB lay in its close contact with national authorities.

2. Governments looked upon UNESOB as a source of assistance supplementing UNDP; such assistance generally took the form of advice given to a government department by one of the advisers attached to UNESOB. Since each adviser had to serve several countries and could rarely spend more than a few weeks at a time in any one country, such assistance was little more than a stop-gap where there was no resident expert or where the expert found it difficult to deal with a problem alone. However, experience had shown that visits at regular intervals, to ensure continuity, mattered more than continuous residence. UNESOB could sometimes draw on the services of the inter-regional advisers and other experts. In order to avoid superficiality and dispersion of effort, it phased its activities so as to obtain a cumulative or combined effect,

and restricted them to a few priority tasks. That was all the more necessary since UNESOB, despite its limited budget, now had to act as a Middle Eastern outpost, not only for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, but also for the UNCTAD and UNIDO secretariats. Fortunately the nature of the problems of concern to national development authorities gave a clear indication of the general direction which UNESOB activities should follow.

3. More and more projects were being launched in the developing countries of the Middle East, and the resources available for development were increasing. Choices had constantly to be made, and it was now realized that the efforts made during the Second Development Decade would have to be directed consistently towards clearly defined objectives. Proposals for projects were increasingly related to specific programmes, plans and policies. UNESOB could best contribute to those efforts by acting as a regional information and study centre. The countries would need guidance on national accounts and the preparation of medium-term and long-term projections, involving research in such matters as population structure and distribution. UNESOB had started work in that direction. Its staff and the attached advisers would henceforth collaborate in the preparation of prospective and evaluative studies for the guidance of national development authorities; an example was the *Studies on Selected Development Problems in Various Countries in the Middle East, 1969*.<sup>1</sup> Such studies were increasingly needed by those authorities, by UNDP resident representatives, and by the Committee for Development Planning, and UNESOB proposed to concentrate on them, thus enabling countries to benefit from the experience of their neighbours and showing what could be done through international co-operation. It would be difficult for individual countries to form teams capable of carrying out inter-disciplinary studies in sufficient depth to be useful.

4. Such an inter-disciplinary approach to development problems meant adapting institutional structures and administrative procedures; consequently studies on the lines of the UNDP capacity study carried out by Sir Robert Jackson would be of great assistance. The inter-disciplinary approach had also stimulated inter-agency collaboration in the Middle East; joint efforts were to be made, for example, to improve projections of population trends and manpower needs. FAO had decided to second an agricultural economy expert to UNESOB, which was already co-operating closely with the regional offices of the ILO and UNICEF.

5. The small size of domestic markets made a multinational approach to development particularly necessary

<sup>1</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.C.5.

in the Middle East. In a region of small countries, planning, industrial development and international trade were closely linked. Those countries needed rapid industrialization, yet some large-scale industrial enterprises in their territories were working to only a fraction of their capacity. However, they were anxious to co-operate as fully as possible in the development of natural resources and the use of human resources, and UNESOB convened periodic meetings with national authorities for that purpose. Since it was often difficult to launch regional or multinational projects, UNESOB was taking a special interest in national projects which lent themselves to international co-ordination. Although the restoration of peace was the main preoccupation in the Middle East, peace would be lasting only if accompanied by international co-operation in the pursuit of economic and social progress.

6. Mr. LISSOUBA (Chairman of the Executive Committee, Economic Commission for Africa) paid a tribute to the late Mr. Tom Mboya of Kenya, who had been elected to the group formed to submit to the Council the resolutions adopted at the ninth session of ECA.

7. Recalling the conditions which had prevailed in African countries at the time of ECA's establishment, he said that, despite the progress made since then, the economic gap between those countries and the industrialized world had continued to widen. That trend had been accentuated by the failure of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Unemployment was increasing, educational facilities were inadequate for development needs, and science and technology had failed to speed up economic development. African States remained relatively isolated from one another, malnutrition was widespread, and islands of urban development were surrounded by vast areas where the rural population eked out a precarious existence. African countries still seemed to be incapable of converting their natural resources into the finished and semi-finished products they needed.

8. Delegations had come to ECA's ninth session in a mood of frustration, impatience and disappointment, realizing that a new approach and concerted action were urgently needed. The session had revealed a general conviction that independence would have to be given a new meaning and that member States, while safeguarding their independence, must recognize that they lived in an interdependent world. Thus the concepts of independence and integration in development had to be reconciled in increasing adherence to the principles and practice of regional economic co-operation. ECA resolution 187 (IX), commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Commission, and resolutions 189 (IX), 190 (IX) and 191 (IX) gave expression to that dual need and stated the basic objectives of the African countries. Under resolution 188 (IX), decisions concerning development objectives would henceforth be taken at a higher level, so as to safeguard the interests of member States and ensure their support. Resolution 189 (IX) provided for the reorganization of

the Commission's secretariat to meet the needs of the future, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Council on the decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and the strengthening of the regional economic commissions. The resolution also took into account the comments and recommendations of the Committee on the Reorganization of the Secretariat, especially those made in paragraphs 33 (a) and 37 of the Committee's report,<sup>2</sup> which had been confirmed by the Joint Inspection Unit after the unit had visited the Commission's secretariat. Resolution 190 (IX) provided for closer relations with OAU.

9. The member States had agreed that, if a global strategy for development was to achieve results in Africa during the next decade, it would have to be formulated, and its programming and execution in the region would have to be supervised, primarily by those most familiar with the region's development problems. Such action would need co-ordination, which could be carried out only by an organization, such as ECA, possessing a full understanding of development problems and processes. With its new structure, the Commission would have the confidence of Governments and would base its recommendations and decisions on the realities of African development. The Commission's co-ordinating activities would also help it to discharge its principal function of promoting African development. Only co-ordination could ensure that the best use was made of assistance resources, and it was the duty of the United Nations to ensure that assistance operations were efficiently carried out at the national and regional levels. Such co-ordination should be accompanied by decentralization of the administration of specialized agencies' activities in Africa, which should be delegated to ECA.

10. The Executive Committee established under ECA resolution 188 (IX) realized that the proposed restructuring of the Commission and its secretariat and the new roles assigned to them would entail the allocation of more funds by the United Nations. The secretariat should be reorganized in such a way that the activities of the sub-regional offices would supplement those of member States and would be associated with the work of experts from UNDP and other organizations in the sub-regions. Acting as co-ordinating units in their sub-regions in close association with the resident representatives, the sub-regional offices would be able to promote effective economic integration, introduce more rational methods and thus save United Nations resources. In view of the Secretary-General's reference to the financial problems involved in the proposed reorganization, the Executive Committee would submit detailed estimates of the funds needed. The Committee appreciated the need for economy, but it was essential that the funds supplied should be adequate, not

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes*, addendum to agenda item 74, document E/7359.

only to meet African needs and aspirations, but also to recover lost ground and eliminate inequalities.

11. In the 1960s the African peoples and their leaders had concentrated on laying the foundations of their independence; only in the 1970s would the region enter a development decade. The objectives which the observer for Chile had listed (1613th meeting) for developing countries would be attained in Africa if the resolutions adopted by ECA at its ninth session were approved by the Council.

12. Mr. VRATUŠA (Yugoslavia) said that the regional economic commissions were important to the activities of the United Nations system in that they reflected the characteristics of the regions they covered, developed close co-operation with national economies and institutions, and represented a regional synthesis of the world-wide activities of the specialized agencies. Their reports and the statements by their executive secretaries demonstrated the advances which they had made, especially in connexion with the preparations for the Second Development Decade. It was clear that complex and strenuous efforts were necessary, both within the regions and on a broader international level, to enable the developing countries to make use of preferences, develop trade promotion, modernize agriculture, increase industrial productivity and assimilate science and technology.

13. His delegation welcomed the fact that all the commissions had analysed the experience gained during the first Development Decade and were actively participating in the formulation of strategy for the second. They were also performing a useful service by encouraging integration and developing regional and sub-regional co-operation. The recent increase in operational activity in the commissions raised the problem of co-ordinating and integrating their work with that of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, and of supplementing those activities. It was evident from the commissions' reports and the statements of the executive secretaries that efforts were already being made in that direction; those efforts should be encouraged by the Council through arrangements for continuous co-operation among the commissions, such as regular meetings of executive secretaries. The co-operation between the commissions and UNIDO, and that between ECE and UNESCO in science and technology, were particularly impressive. In matters of science and technology, the commissions should co-operate closely not only with UNESCO but also with the other organizations concerned, bearing in mind the specific priorities of their respective regions.

14. ECE was doing extremely useful work with the aid of over 1,000 experts; its annual sessions afforded an opportunity for member States to evaluate their activities and lay down guidelines for new programmes. To make full use of that opportunity, further efforts should be made to bring ECE's membership to its full complement. Its twentieth anniversary, in 1967, had marked the be-

ginning of a new era; its members had reaffirmed their intention to use it as an instrument of co-operation among all European countries, regardless of differences in social and economic systems and of association or non-alignment with regional military blocs. The Executive Secretary had undertaken the necessary measures to ensure flexibility in meeting the new requirements for co-operation created by the development of science and technology. The organizational forms conducive to the development of "horizontal" activities deserved full support; in order to obtain lasting results, time, patience and mutual confidence were needed. Equal attention should be paid to the problems of trade, long-term economic projections and the human environment.

15. Yugoslavia attached great importance to the problems of the less developed countries of southern Europe and, in particular, to the development of tourism in that area. His Government welcomed the attention paid by ECE to the special problems of those countries, and had made a number of proposals on the subject. The development of tourism was of special importance both economically and as a contribution to international co-operation.

16. Political crises in Europe had impeded ECE's work considerably, but the European countries remained aware of the need to maintain and strengthen it. Successful economic co-operation was an essential factor in improving other forms of co-operation and political relations, and the Commission's role was therefore important not only to Europe but to the world as a whole. Since the situation in Europe affected not only development but also peace throughout the world, the European countries should actively foster the expansion of ECE activities, and Yugoslavia was ready to play its part in that task.

17. Mr. ECOBESCO (Observer for Romania), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, said that the regional economic commissions were making a definite contribution to economic and social progress throughout the world and helping to expand co-operation among States. Such co-operation was rendered increasingly vital by the scientific and technological revolution, but would not develop spontaneously. It required deliberate action by Governments and equal participation by all countries in the search for mutually acceptable solutions to the problems of co-operation in a changing world. Mutual advantage was the keynote of co-operation, which must be based on the principles of sovereignty, independence, equal rights and non-intervention in domestic affairs.

18. Over the years, the regional economic commissions had helped to identify the most pressing needs of their member countries and had carried out important projects of common interest. They played a special part in co-ordinating efforts to overcome under-development on three continents, and would have a wide range of tasks to perform in the Second Development Decade. Romania, itself involved in the process of development, showed its desire to establish co-operative relations with all countries

of the world by sending observers to the annual sessions of ECA, ECAFE and ECLA.

19. In a spirit of peaceful co-existence, Romania was developing its relations with all States, without regard to their social or political systems. It attached particular importance to ECE, which was the only organization devoted to general European co-operation in accordance with the principles of the Charter. Throughout its existence, ECE had provided an adequate setting for co-operation and had proved equal to the demands of economic and scientific progress; it had concerned itself principally with matters of common interest, contributing the exchange of information and experience to the development of economic co-operation.

20. At its twenty-fourth session, ECE had discussed the reorganization of its activities and structure. The discussion had shown the desire of European countries to increase and diversify economic, technical and scientific co-operation through ECE, and had identified the main objectives for that body's future activities. ECE's activities in science and technology were to be intensified and would promote co-operation within Europe and throughout the world. ECE was already co-operating with UNESCO in that field, and the executive secretaries had rightly welcomed UNESCO's proposal for joint action with all the regional economic commissions (see E/4709, para. 28), which would do well to follow the pattern of co-operation set between UNESCO and ECE.

21. There was an urgent need to organize the transfer of technology to the developing countries, but no specialized agency was responsible for all aspects of that process. ECE, some of whose members were leaders in technology, could lay the foundation for such transfer on both a regional and an international scale. Among ECE's other essential subjects of study were industrial co-operation, the application of modern mathematical methods and computer techniques to economic research, the human environment, the chemical industry and long-term programming. With regard to international trade, ECE should in future take a more active part in drafting practical recommendations for the removal of economic, administrative and commercial policy obstacles to trade between member States with different social and political systems.

22. Every session of ECE had yielded a valuable exchange of ideas, and every year its activities had been extended to cover new problems of special urgency. The increasing importance and complexity of its activities indicated the need for annual meetings, so that the work of its subsidiary organs could continue to be concentrated on the most pressing problems of economic development.

23. Consistently with its belief in the principle of universality, his delegation favoured admitting the German Democratic Republic to membership of ECE. That would end the discriminatory practice of ostracizing a sovereign State which was able and eager to contribute to European co-operation, and would increase ECE's efficacy. The

establishment of healthy relations among European States and the creation of a climate favourable to peace and security in Europe would have a beneficial effect on international relations everywhere.

24. ECE had valuable experience to share with the other regional commissions, and should therefore continue and increase its co-operation with them.

25. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) noted that the activities of ECE over the past year had culminated in a meeting at which its long-term programme had been considered and praise had been expressed for the Executive Secretary's report stressing the need to establish priorities for future action (see E/4641, paras. 405 to 414). Europe being in general an advanced continent, ECE had a basic role to play in the Second United Nations Development Decade.

26. His delegation welcomed the attention drawn by previous speakers to the problems of scientific and technical co-operation in Europe, and to the difficulties of the less developed European countries; in particular, it agreed with the representative of Yugoslavia as to the importance of tourism. ECE's experience in dealing with those two sets of problems would prove extremely valuable for other regions of the world. Closer co-operation among the regions was extremely desirable, and his delegation therefore welcomed the policy of holding regular meetings of the executive secretaries.

27. The representative of Belgium had suggested (1609th meeting) the establishment, perhaps in the regional economic commissions, of procedures for the mutual review of policies by member States, on the pattern of OECD. The Turkish Government had found that practice very useful, and believed that the suggestion should be discussed at the next meeting of executive secretaries.

28. The executive secretaries had rightly said that an element of regional or multinational approach must be gradually added to country programming to permit the emergence of a design for the United Nations effort in each region (see E/4709, para. 22 (a)); that recommendation should be considered in conjunction with the Belgian representative's comment that regional procedures would not prevent smaller groups of countries from agreeing on common policies or integrating their development plans and projects. Turkey was an associate member of EEC and hoped to become a full member, but it also retained its interest in programmes for the Middle Eastern region; for example, it was working successfully with Iran and Pakistan towards joint solutions for problems of mutual interest.

29. Mr. MAHDAVI (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) said that, since the Council's forty-fifth session, UNIDO had made substantial progress in its co-operation with the regional economic commissions. Extensive discussions had been held with the commissions and with UNESOB, leading to agreements on joint efforts

to harmonize programmes and to collaborate in specific projects. The agreement concluded with FAO, which generally reflected those reached with the regional bodies, provided for close consultation between FAO and UNIDO, particularly in the early phase of programme preparations, with a view to identifying projects of common interest and to full co-ordination of future programmes. The two organizations would co-operate in promoting the full utilization of their resources in Asia and the Far East, in particular through UNDP technical assistance projects. They fully recognized the importance of co-operating in the preparation and application of the strategy for the Second Development Decade.

30. Discussions on the application of the agreements reached with the regional economic commissions and UNESOB had been held during the meeting of executive secretaries. It had been decided that UNIDO industrial field advisers would be posted to the headquarters of the regional economic commissions and Beirut as liaison officers. The number of field advisers was to be increased as resources permitted, in agreement with UNDP. A particularly close relationship had developed between UNIDO and UNCTAD; the two organizations relied increasingly on the regional economic commissions to further their own programmes, and their executive heads had both participated in the meeting of executive secretaries.

31. Mr. HAMBRO (Norway) said that his delegation, having repeatedly stressed the need to make more use of the immense capacity of the various regional organizations to tackle some of the important tasks before the United Nations, was gratified to find the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions conscious of the responsibilities which the Council would increasingly lay upon them.

32. Each of the regional economic commissions had its special characteristics: ECE consisted mainly of the more advanced countries, while the other regional commissions were almost exclusively composed of less developed countries, although some major countries with global responsibilities were members of several commissions. The executive secretaries were the persons best placed to ensure inter-regional co-operation and contacts between them had become more systematic, as the report on their meetings (E/4709) showed. There was nevertheless still room for further efforts.

33. The Second Development Decade would, of course, involve all the regional economic commissions. It was vital that targets should be reviewed and adjusted in the light of the experience gained in the course of the decade, and the commissions were particularly well qualified to play a major part in that task.

34. Under the dynamic leadership of its present Executive Secretary, the activities of ECE had undergone a major re-orientation and re-organization. The main emphasis was now being laid on the development of trade, industrial, scientific and technological co-operation,

and the problems of the human environment. The decisions taken at its twenty-fourth session would channel ECE's activities in the direction of practical measures to facilitate trade and industrial co-operation between Eastern and Western Europe, thus tapping resources as yet underemployed.

35. ECE had long been engaged in the simplification and standardization of external trade documents. In 1963 it had reached an agreement on a model form of document known as the "ECE layout key", which had proved to be of great practical value in the European region. ECE recommended, in its resolution 4 (XXIV), that consideration should be given to the layout key whenever documents used in connexion with international trade were being designed. It would be advisable to make arrangements for world-wide work in that field; the best course would be for UNDP to appoint an inter-regional adviser on the simplification and standardization of documents and procedures for international trade, to be attached to UNCTAD. His delegation hoped that that work would be vigorously pursued as part of the effort to reduce non-tariff barriers to trade. It therefore invited the Council to consider and act upon the proposal made by ECE, which was endorsed by the executive secretaries of all the regional economic commissions (see E/4709, para. 59).

36. Mr. DARON (Belgium) said that the regional economic commissions were playing an important part in the work of the United Nations system. It was clear, however, that they would be required to develop even further in the future, particularly in connexion with the Second Development Decade. It was satisfactory, therefore, to find in the report of the executive secretaries' meetings two ideas which his delegation had frequently raised in connexion with the Second Development Decade. The first was that global targets would be more meaningful to individual countries in relation to the potentialities existing in the regions to which they belonged; the second, that regional economic commissions had an important role to play in assessing the economic and social progress achieved in the framework of the Second Development Decade. The regional economic commissions were particularly well placed to carry out such an assessment in their respective regions.

37. The report also stated that the regional economic commissions and UNESOB had become increasingly operational, and that that trend would apparently continue in the future. His delegation considered that the commissions should direct their especial attention to practical problems and should, for that purpose, maintain even closer relations with all organizations of the United Nations family which were active in their regions, particularly UNIDO. The regional economic commissions were faced with situations which were evolving very rapidly, and they had to adapt themselves accordingly. Their reports and resolutions showed that they were well aware of that need and were preparing themselves for the new duties to come.

38. ECE had made great efforts to re-orientate its activities in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the 1967 ministerial meeting. Some appreciable results had been achieved through the efforts of certain delegations which were anxious to make better use of ECE for economic and technological co-operation in the region, particularly between countries with different economic and social systems. His Government fully supported those developments.

39. In the general discussion of international economic and social policy, several delegations had suggested that ECE's activities should be expanded in the light of the efforts made on a broader scale to ensure European security. His delegation believed that ECE would succeed only in undertakings in which political aspects were minimal. The events which had occurred in Europe during the past year had of course had their effect on ECE's work, particularly on the decisions taken at its last session. There had been a halt, or at least a slow-down, in several fields of activity, such as scientific and technological co-operation: the establishment of a permanent organ of ECE to deal with science and technology had been postponed. Despite the unfavourable political setting, however, ECE's twenty-fourth session had produced satisfactory results, largely because, in general, delegations had concentrated on the economic and technological questions which were within ECE's terms of reference. The main result of that session had been the adoption of the measures proposed by the Executive Secretary for the reorganization of the Commission's structures and methods of work.

40. The most important question for ECE was that of trade, and the Executive Secretary had made some fairly optimistic remarks on that subject at the previous meeting. The Norwegian delegation had referred to ECE resolution 4 (XXIV), which had received the full support of the Belgian delegation.

41. Another important problem was that of the human environment. The meeting of governmental experts to be held in Prague in 1971 would serve as a precursor for the United Nations conference on the subject, to be discussed under agenda item 10 of the current session. It was to be hoped that both meetings would prove successful and that, despite the short period which would elapse between them, the United Nations conference would be able to make good use of the results obtained in Prague.

42. His delegation welcomed the decision of the Committee on Development Planning to hold a meeting at the headquarters of ECE on planning problems in the developed countries at a time when the senior economic advisers were considering the preparation of long-term projections in accordance with ECE resolution 7 (XXII). The advisers' efforts were closely related to the preparations for the Second Development Decade.

43. With regard to the principle of universality adduced by certain delegations in connexion with the participation

of Eastern Germany in the work of ECE, his delegation's position was well known and had not changed.

44. A regional economic commission, whether it existed to serve developed or developing countries, was an instrument of decentralization whose merits were increasingly recognized and which promised well for the future.

45. Mr. NOLAN (Ireland) said that the annual progress reports of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB revealed the progressive outlook of all those bodies and the attention they were paying to the utilization of advanced techniques for the exploitation of natural resources, to modern methods of economic research, and to the employment of advanced surveying techniques for their regional work. Such advances would all be needed in promoting the rapid economic growth required to attain the goals of the Second Development Decade. All the commissions were displaying a keen awareness of the part which the economic development of their regions would have to play in the over-all development strategy.

46. The Executive Secretary of ECE had rightly pointed out that the developed world must of necessity be as closely involved as the developing countries in the strategy for the Second Development Decade. Growth in the developed areas of the world would be reflected in the transfer of funds to the developing regions. Regional interdependence in that regard, as in many others, was becoming more clearly recognized and accepted. The Executive Secretary of ECE had taken valuable measures to rationalize and re-organize the structure of the Commission and to subject its methods of work to continuing scrutiny. The results of his endeavours to date had been unanimously endorsed by the members of ECE and were currently being put into effect by the secretariat and subsidiary organs of that body. Other organs of the Council would do well to follow that example and take practical measures to exercise firmer policy control, with a view to strengthening their work programmes during the period of change and redirection of priorities that must precede the Second Development Decade.

47. Like the other economic commissions, ECE provided a unique and important setting for the review of economic relationships within its region as a whole. Nowhere was that potential more evident than in matters of East-West trade. His country was keenly interested in the promotion of such trade, since its balance of trade with the countries of Eastern Europe favoured the latter by a ratio close to 10:1.

48. The regular, although informal, consultations initiated by the Executive Secretary with members of the permanent missions in Geneva kept the ECE member countries regularly informed of the Commission's activities and brought it into a closer relationship with them. Experience had shown that such consultations facilitated policy decisions and the exercise of control over ECE's work.



49. He welcomed the fact that three of the regional organs did not require any increased financial commitments for their forthcoming programmes. The proposals of ECAFE and ECA had significant financial implications which would be examined by the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in due course.

50. Mr. de SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that the UNESCO General Conference had stressed the importance of regional co-operation in developing science in member States and had issued two specific directives concerning Latin America and Africa. It had authorized the Director-General to study the possibility of establishing a programme for regional integration in education, science, culture and information as part of the movement for the integration of Latin America. It had also invited the Director-General, when preparing his future programme for the African region, to grant high priority to the recommendations and resolutions of the Nairobi Conference on Education and Scientific and Technical Training in relation to Africa, held in 1968.

51. In consequence, understandings had been reached between UNESCO and the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions and the Director of UNESOB concerning the application of science and technology to development. Immediately after the current

session of the Economic and Social Council, a series of consultations would be held between UNESCO and the regional economic commissions to lay down guidelines for their co-operation. A further reason for UNESCO's interest in such co-operation was its desire for closer relations with inter-governmental bodies established on a regional basis, such as OAS and OAU, which did not belong to the United Nations system. The intention was to reach practical working agreements in order to avoid duplication of work and to launch mutually complementary or joint activities. The executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions had invited UNESCO to identify projects suitable for joint action in science and technology.

52. The Director-General of UNESCO, in his annual report to member States, had stated that the problem of co-operation between UNESCO and the regional economic commissions arose in every region in which such a commission existed, particularly in the sphere of science and its application to development. He was prepared to study practical methods for such co-operation and to apply them to the attainment of common targets. UNESCO must not, however, be expected to renounce its constitutional responsibilities.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Wednesday, 23 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10.10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries ( <i>continued</i> ) .....	95

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Regional co-operation:**

- (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726)
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709) (*continued*)

1. Mr. PEREZ GUERRERO (Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) had been most interested to read the reports of the regional economic commissions and to hear the statements by their executive secretaries who, each year, enabled the Council to pinpoint the realities of the present-day world. He would be presenting the report of the Trade and Development Board at the Council's resumed forty-seventh session, but meanwhile wished to state the importance which UNCTAD had always attached to regional co-operation. Great value was derived, for instance, from the joint meetings of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions, held each year under the chairmanship of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. The meetings provided an over-all picture of the activities of those commissions, which were regional extensions of world-wide bodies. The commissions represented an essential intermediate level in that they had the advantage over the central bodies of being in closer contact with the facts, and therefore more familiar with the needs, of each region. At a time when Governments were redoubling their efforts to encourage multinational groupings and regional economic integration, purely national or purely global action was no longer enough; the collaboration of the commissions and of the regional planning institutes could prove a key factor in facilitating the orderly harmonization of those efforts.

2. UNCTAD was collaborating effectively in various fields with the regional economic commissions and UNESOB. During the last session of ECAFE, for instance,

UNCTAD had agreed to collaborate with the Commission in making the Asian Coconut Community a working proposition, for if action with regard to raw materials was to be taken at the world level, the regional efforts of all countries sharing common interests were essential. He had also decided to convene in late 1969 or early 1970 a meeting to study the problems of international trade in iron ore. For that purpose, the help of ECE would be most useful, as would that of the other commissions. With regard to export promotion, UNCTAD was maintaining close relations with all the regional economic commissions and benefiting from the invaluable experience of the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre.

3. The regional economic commissions were also well placed to deal with certain problems common to several countries, such as that of exploiting the resources of the sea-bed and ocean floor, which was of vital interest in terms of the additional resources which could thus be made available and exploited within the coming years for the good of mankind, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2467 (XXIII), but more particularly in that it would enable the developing countries to narrow the gap separating them from the developed countries. Moreover, the Executive Secretary of ECAFE had spoken (1614th meeting) of the regional and sub-regional efforts being made in Asia and the Far East to prospect the continental shelf offshore for oil and other minerals. Without underestimating the infinite possibilities which might be opened up as a result of the recent expedition to the moon, there was no doubt that the world still contained unsuspected resources which would soon enable man to overcome more easily the most urgent problems facing him, namely, those relating to his own planet earth.

4. With regard to the Second Development Decade, UNCTAD considered regional action to be indispensable not only at the target-setting and programme-preparing stages, but also at the implementation stage and at that of evaluating the results obtained. Moreover, as the Executive Secretary of ECE had stated (1614th meeting), it was vital that all the Member States of the United Nations should participate in the preparation and implementation of the programme for that decade. In that connexion, the over-all picture of the world economic situation called for some reflection, because if the ECE countries had progressed more rapidly than expected over the last twenty years, the balance sheet was decidedly less favourable in the developing regions.

5. Although everyone hoped that the dynamism of the industrialized economies would be maintained, it would

not automatically serve to speed up the economic development of the developing countries. In other words, the gap between rich and poor countries might continue to widen. The economies of the rich countries already had a built-in growth potential which derived even greater strength from the multinational groupings. Although it was desirable that the developing countries should go on trying to increase and diversify their trade among themselves, they consisted of groups whose economies were still weak and vulnerable.

6. In order to reverse the relative worsening of the trade position of the developing countries, the developed countries would have to make structural changes which would enable the developing countries to benefit from their economic prosperity, for instance, by offering easier access to markets, lowering tariff and non-tariff barriers, establishing fair and remunerative prices for products from the developing countries, and granting greater and more liberal financial aid. Actually what was needed was a better distribution of the benefits of international trade. Only in that way could the growth in the gross national product of the developed countries in Europe and other parts of the world bring real benefits to the developing countries.

7. There was a chance that a general system of non-discriminatory and non-reciprocal preferences might be in operation by the beginning of the Second Development Decade. On the other hand, it was impossible to say whether the recent rise in commodity prices was of more than a passing nature. There had been a distinct improvement in the terms on which financial aid was being granted to the developing countries, and it was still to be hoped that—both quantitatively and qualitatively—the action taken by the international community during the Second Development Decade would suffice to permit genuine progress to be made by the under-privileged countries. Stronger measures would have to be adopted with regard to international trade, in order to improve the distribution of income among the various members of the international community, as some countries had undertaken to do at the national level; it was essential for the developing countries to have a rate of growth at least equal to that of the developed countries if present disparities were not to become still greater. Due importance should be given to the problems of the less advanced of the developing countries, so as to enable them to catch up with the others. That was a field in which the three regional development banks had a useful and complementary part to play.

8. So far as population was concerned—an aspect which could not be overlooked in any action taken on behalf of the developing countries—it was for each country to soften the unfavourable impact of population increase on development, while respecting the convictions of its people. The problems were particularly acute in those developing countries where vast numbers of young people were not yet productively employed. In order to better the lot of those youngsters and involve them in national

and international action, the recent accomplishments of science and technology should be made available to the developing countries. In the view of UNCTAD, the transfer of technology could become a decisive factor in the economic growth of the developing countries; it called, of course, for efforts at international co-operation on the part of all United Nations bodies, with the Economic and Social Council and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs acting as co-ordinating centres. In order to prevent the evils of technology from outweighing the advantages it could offer the world, it was also vital that the technological climate should be improved by the establishment, at the regional level, of the necessary agencies and facilities to ensure that the gap between the industrialized countries and the developing countries in that respect narrowed instead of widening.

9. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) associated his country with the appreciation already expressed of the work being done by the regional economic commissions. As a representative of an Asian country, he emphasized that the report submitted by ECAFE (E/4640) recorded that the economic situation in Asia showed considerable improvement largely due to the growth of the agricultural sector.

10. In Pakistan, during the fiscal year 1967/68, the gross national product had risen by 7.5 per cent, agricultural production by 15 per cent and industrial production by nearly 7.8 per cent. On the other hand, because of the decline in prices, export revenues had not increased in the same proportion as the volume of exports. That fact, which was noted in the ECAFE report, continued to be of constant concern to the countries of the region, especially since, as a result of agricultural development, competition in commodity trade was likely to become more brisk.

11. Another factor that was impeding the economy of the developing countries of the ECAFE region was the lack of access to the markets of the developed countries. Despite the success of the domestic measures taken by the developing countries, the full potential of export expansion had not been realized owing to the restrictions and discriminatory measures that exports of manufactured goods continued to face in the industrially advanced countries. It was thus clear that, unless exports from the developing countries could find easy access to the markets of the high income countries, only very limited success could be achieved.

12. While it was true that the development of agriculture would help to promote a more balanced economy in the developing countries of Asia, it should not be regarded as the major solution to the problem. Not only the volume but also the value of production should be raised. For that reason, industrial development would continue to play an important part in the economies of those countries.

13. Within the framework of regional co-operation for development, Pakistan, together with other countries of the

region, was implementing projects to supplement national economic, social and cultural efforts.

14. With regard to the formulation of regional development plans and investment programmes, co-operation could not be fully successful until the Governments concerned had settled their outstanding differences, especially those of a political nature. The creation of an atmosphere of goodwill was a prerequisite for the implementation of measures of economic co-operation among nations.

15. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that France, which was either a member or an associate member of the four regional economic commissions, regarded the commissions' work as very important, for they constituted an essential link between the world-wide bodies and their individual members. The dangers of over-centralization were well known, but its opposite extreme—letting the regional bodies work without sufficient connecting links between them and without a common policy—must also be avoided. While it was normal that the work of concern to the various regional commissions should be adapted to the different conditions prevailing in each region, they must continue their efforts to ensure co-ordination among themselves and between their executive secretaries and other United Nations bodies. The information given in the report on the two meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709) concerning the co-operation among the commissions and the specialized agencies was therefore encouraging.

16. At their sessions in 1969, the regional economic commissions had concentrated on improving their efficiency and adapting their activities to the process of evolution in a world of increasingly rapid technological and scientific change. The desire for structural change had been dictated by the realization that the commissions were becoming more and more weighed down, and often confused, by their growing responsibilities and the proliferation of their subsidiary bodies. It had thus been a matter of prime necessity to establish orders of priority and to allocate responsibilities. ECE seemed to be leading the way in that area. Those essential reforms should make it possible to release the resources which the commissions wished to devote to certain social, scientific and technical aspects, without necessitating a vast increase in such resources.

17. The effort to go beyond economic considerations was a healthy sign, and the commissions should be very strongly encouraged to extend their activities to what had come to be known as the new trends. Nevertheless, they could not seriously be expected to cover any field of activity indiscriminately. Two risks must be avoided. First, new activities in certain areas, such as, for example, electronic machines, meteorology and scientific co-operation, must not lead to duplication or overlapping with work already being done by other United Nations agencies; such activities must clearly fall within the terms of reference of the commissions, and the commissions

must be able to carry them out with the means already at their disposal. Secondly, there was a tendency on the part of certain commissions, especially ECA and ECAFE, to play a more active part in projects of an operational nature. The desirability of such a trend was questionable; financial risks might well be involved; and it was doubtful whether such activities were even compatible with the role assigned to the regional commissions by the United Nations. The regional economic commissions had already penetrated deeply into the operational area through the regional development banks and planning institutes set up at their instigation and it was difficult to see what operational sectors were not already covered.

18. At the forty-fifth session of the Council, his delegation had expressed the hope that the economic commissions would play an important role in preparing and implementing the tasks of the Second Development Decade. He could not help thinking that the suggestions made so far in that area were still very modest and limited in scope. The work undertaken in connexion with the Second Development Decade might suffer from a lack of regional targets for growth rates to be achieved in the various regions.

19. The report which the Executive Secretary had submitted to ECE at its twenty-fourth session (E/ECE/717) —a remarkable document—had greatly facilitated the unanimous adoption of a resolution (5 (XXIV)) aimed at achieving three objectives: rationalizing structures, determining the responsibility of committees and striking a balance between traditional activities and new tasks. His Government was glad that the setting up of a sessional committee, which it had recommended, had proved useful and would in future make shorter sessions possible. The implementation of the resolution on structures would certainly create some difficulties, but his Government would fully support ECE in its efforts.

20. ECE was doing important work, especially in the development of trade among countries with different economic and social systems. That was an example of the most worth-while kind of regional co-operation and it must be developed concurrently with France's efforts to strengthen its trade relations and co-operation with the Eastern European countries. The new activities were proceeding in a methodical and orderly way; groups of experts had already met to study a wide variety of sectors.

21. ECE had provided a very promising framework for promoting co-operation in Europe. Some delegations had brought up the problem of the participation of Eastern Germany in the Commission's work. As no new factors had presented themselves, his Government's position on that matter remained unchanged.

22. The prospects open to ECAFE accounted for a rather different outlook. The vastness of the continent, the variety of its peoples and the diversity of their problems obliged ECAFE to proceed on a commodity-by-

commodity and project-by-project basis, or on a sub-regional and sometimes sectoral basis. It was to be commended on its efforts to further intraregional co-operation, whether through its work on behalf of commodities of importance to the region as a whole, such as coconuts, rice and rubber, or through those of its activities which were limited to one sub-region, for example, the work of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas. The Commission must also be encouraged to expand its activities in the social sector. On the other hand, while it was desirable that the Commission should engage in a variety of activities, it should not go too far in that direction. The proliferation of its activities and the dispersal of its resources could, in the last analysis, jeopardize its effectiveness.

23. ECA had decided, by its resolution 188 (IX), to change its structure by setting up a Conference of Ministers, an Executive Committee and a Technical Committee of Experts. It was to be hoped that those changes would enable it to establish increasingly better and closer relationships between the secretariat and its member countries, but there was reason to fear that they might slow up the machinery of the Commission, add nothing to its efficiency and prove to be very cumbersome. It was indeed necessary to strike a balance between the activities of ECA and the political body which grouped together the States of the African continent, but harmonization must not lead to subordination, and the measures adopted inspired perhaps more foreboding than hope in that regard. The draft resolutions which ECA was proposing for adoption by the Council deserved to be thoroughly discussed by the member States represented in the Council with a view to arriving at solutions acceptable to all of them, if possible. The projects carried out for the development of sub-regional cadres constituted one of ECA's unique contributions, but his delegation found it somewhat disquieting to note the expansion of operational activities and to read in the ECA report (E/4651 and Add.1) that, under its next programme of work, ECA intended to attach great importance to the evaluation and implementation of feasible industrial projects. If its work was to be productive, harmony must reign within the Commission. It had shown a very good understanding by its decision to achieve a better linguistic balance and a more equitable representation of all the member States in its secretariat.

24. For several months the burning issues of Latin America had been regularly in the news. The Executive Secretary of ECLA had stressed (1614th meeting) the difficulty of his task and the task of its secretariat. ECLA had a very fine history: it had been Latin America's school of economics, but now it needed to get its second wind. Its thirteenth session, held in Lima in 1969, seemed to indicate both that ECLA was aware of that fact and that it had not yet succeeded. It was true that it had oiled its machinery by dispensing with the regular sessions of its Committee of the Whole, and had thus complied with the recommendations of the Economic and

Social Council and the General Assembly. It was also true that it had been given new tasks: to expand its sectoral activities and to seek methods which would enable it to resume its role as adviser on the economic affairs of the continent. Although the results of the session might seem modest and ECLA appeared to be marking time, it was to be hoped that it would be able to resolve its difficulties. It had succeeded in surmounting the difficulty of having to coexist alongside the political body which comprised the States of the continent; by its ability to assert itself, it had set a good example.

25. UNESOB continued to do excellent work, and its *Studies on Selected Development Problems in Various Countries in the Middle East*<sup>1</sup> constituted a very relevant document in its coverage of the development problems of the countries of the Middle East.

26. His delegation was especially appreciative of the efforts of the regional economic commissions to take the Council's resolutions into account. Most of them had done so by reducing the number, frequency and duration of their meetings and by reviewing their orders of priority, and some of them by dispensing with or limiting their summary records and developing their consultations with the specialized agencies before undertaking new activities.

27. It was desirable that the tutelage exercised by the Economic and Social Council over the regional economic commissions should go further than the search, however necessary, for administrative reforms and economy measures. The Council should try to focus its discussions on two or three problems of interest to all the commissions.

28. Few periods could be as propitious as the next few years for bringing the concerns of the Council and the commissions closer together. The Second Development Decade was of paramount importance, and the Council and the commissions should, by making their respective contributions to it, avail themselves of the opportunity to consolidate the benefits of co-operation, which was as important among institutions as it was among peoples.

29. Mr. SWAMINATHAN (India) said that it was possible to draw two important lessons from the Council's debates and documentation. First, in view of the great diversity which existed among bodies of the United Nations, efforts to ensure effective co-ordination and the best possible utilization of resources should be redoubled. Secondly, activities at the centre and activities on the periphery should be co-ordinated: the centre should co-ordinate policies and the peripheral bodies should co-operate in the elaboration of policies and in their execution.

30. All regions should co-operate closely. As the Executive Secretary of ECE had observed, the greater part

<sup>1</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.II.C.5.

of the world's technology and financial resources were concentrated within the region of ECE. What was happening there was consequently of interest to all developing countries, and the sustained growth of Europe could greatly facilitate the transfer of resources and of science and technology to other regions. The studies and projections which had been made by ECE concerning such commodities as timber and iron ore provided a specific example of co-operation among the regional economic commissions. Such studies might be extremely useful for the developing countries which would be able to plan their production and exports accordingly. Perhaps other such studies on products of interest to developing countries could be instituted. Furthermore, the work undertaken to develop East-West trade would enable the developing countries to draw lessons which would be most useful for expanding their own trade.

31. His delegation would like, however, to have clarification concerning certain general projects described in the ECE programme of work for 1969/1970 (E/4641, pp. 68 and 69). Projects 01.1.7, 01.1.8, 01.1.9 and 01.1.10 had been given only priority B or C. Certain projects, particularly 01.1.7, should be given higher priority.

32. India was primarily and more closely concerned with ECAFE and naturally attached great importance to the work of that commission. Important steps had been taken in the Asian region: the third Ministerial Conference on Asian Economic Co-operation, held in 1968 in Bangkok, had adopted an important resolution on integrated regional co-operation in Asia (see E/4640, para. 389), and a Council of Ministers had been set up. Efforts would have to be made to overcome as quickly as possible one of the main impediments to the increase of exports from developing countries—the absence of adequate payment arrangements. In that connexion, close co-operation with the Asian Development Bank was needed. Operations such as the establishment of the Asian Coconut Community and the Asian Highway and Mekong Basin projects required the assistance of several Governments and were extremely useful for several countries of the region. ECAFE, through its work in the fields of population, trade promotion, industrial development, natural resources, manpower and infrastructure and its work in connexion with the Asian Highway and Mekong Basin projects, had proved that it was capable of providing essential assistance at the preparatory, processing and execution stages of multinational development projects. It should be added that the Group of Experts on Programming Techniques had accomplished excellent work relating to the growth rate of countries in the region. The preparatory work for the Second Development Decade should take into consideration one basic objective, which was to raise the level of living of the peoples of Asia.

33. India maintained close contacts with the countries in the ECA region; it co-operated with them in technical assistance; it had joined with them in initiating common industrial enterprises; and it had organized consultations on primary commodities such as tea. The African coun-

tries had formidable general problems of development. They also had special problems. One example was that the most populated areas were situated on the periphery of some countries and that there was a great void in the rest. The vast distances made the exploitation of natural resources, particularly water resources, extremely difficult. Every possible assistance should be provided to ECA and to the countries of that continent.

34. ECLA had developed extremely close co-operation in economic theory and planning. The working methods devised might be useful for all the regions of the world and, despite the great distances which separated them, Latin America and Asia might study together the best techniques of planning and executing projects.

35. UNESOB was situated in a region which was beset by very diverse and extremely complex problems. Some countries had the necessary financial resources but little infrastructure, whereas others lacked everything and had achieved only a very low level of development. The political and military situation in the region further complicated the solution of those problems. It was essential to provide substantial assistance of the appropriate kind to enable the less developed countries of the region to attain a satisfactory level of development.

36. Despite their diversity, all the developing countries constituted in effect a single region: for the most part, they had large populations, very low *per capita* incomes and therefore very low savings capacities. Hence a planned pooling of resources was desirable in order to achieve rapid development. He referred to the case of the members of the European community which, having failed in its objectives of political integration, had formed a framework enabling the countries concerned to exchange views and to work together in the economic field as a first step towards achieving political objectives.

37. Mr. NJOTOWIJONO (Indonesia) stressed the great importance of regional co-operation, which made it possible to apply the international development strategy in the light of the specific conditions prevailing in the countries of each region.

38. As indicated in the report of the Committee for Development Planning (E/4682), there were several reasons why such co-operation was particularly necessary. First, the slow expansion of exports from the developing countries made plan implementation more difficult by severely restricting those countries' capacity to import. A second reason was the slow growth of primary exports owing to inelasticity of demand, competition from synthetics and the difficulty of gaining access to the markets of the importing countries. Regional co-operation was also necessary because of the limited capacity of national markets to absorb domestic industrial products, and because of the steps which had to be taken to protect domestic industries and which reduced their competitiveness in foreign markets. Obviously the list was by no means complete, but regional co-operation might be especially useful in those sectors.

39. Turning to the work of the regional economic commissions, he remarked that there were problems which could be resolved only by strengthening co-ordination and co-operation between them and the other United Nations bodies.

40. Despite the achievements of ECAFE, results still fell far short of the expectations of the Asian peoples. Their annual *per capita* income was still below \$100 and there were still millions of unemployed. However, it should be noted that ECAFE had passed the stage of studies and disseminating information. What was needed was direct and speedy action. The ECAFE report (E/4640) indicated that the projections for the region foresaw a trade gap of between \$4 billion and \$7 billion by 1975. It was to be hoped that the developed countries would keep that serious problem particularly in mind.

41. The setting up of the Asian Coconut Community was a very important event because it reflected a change of attitude within the region towards co-operation. An association of that kind would benefit not only the producer but also the consumer countries and might help to speed up the establishment of an international agreement on coconut and its by-products. For that reason Indonesia hoped that the international community would give the new body its support and assistance.

42. ECAFE and the other regional economic commissions were bound to play a vital role in preparing the tasks of the Second Development Decade and implementing them. The political will of the countries of that region to formulate an integrated strategy of economic co-operation had already manifested itself in the resolution of the third Ministerial Conference on Asian Economic Co-operation. ECAFE should further explore the foundations on which that strategy could be based. Obviously, the regional strategy should be part of the global strategy for the Second Development Decade. In resolution 94 (XXV), ECAFE had defined its role and responsibilities in the regional implementation of the development strategy for the 1970s. It should be stressed that one matter of immediate concern to most countries in the region was the liberalization of regional trade and payment arrangements. The establishment of an ECAFE Trade Promotion Centre in May 1968 indicated that a serious attempt would be made to tackle those problems.

43. In view of the magnitude of the problems facing the region, it had to be acknowledged that the means available to ECAFE, which had a smaller budget than its counterparts in other regions, were very meagre indeed, particularly considering that the region was the biggest and most populous, and that the flow of aid *per capita* was much lower than in the other regions. He asked the Council to take a fresh look at those points, because it was necessary, in view of the development strategy, that the distribution of resources among the various United Nations bodies should be commensurate with the work they were expected to do.

44. Mr. ABE (Japan) asked whether, from the next summer session on, the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions, like the executive heads of the specialized agencies, could not make their statements under agenda item 2 (General discussion of international economic and social policy).

45. The regional economic commissions were called upon to play a major role in preparing for and undertaking economic and social development during the Second Development Decade. The best way for them to tackle the problems involved would be to complement the world-wide activities of the Council and other United Nations organs by focusing on the special characteristics of each region.

46. So far as ECAFE was concerned, the economic development of Asia, a region in which two-thirds of the world's population were concentrated, would have far-reaching effects on the global development of the world as a whole. However, the volume of economic aid, *per capita*, in that part of the world was far below that in other regions. He joined with the representatives of Pakistan, India and Indonesia in strongly emphasizing that the aspirations of the Asian countries must be taken into consideration in the strategy of the Second Development Decade. Japan, in co-operation with other developed countries, would spare no effort to ensure that the coming Development Decade was successful in the ECAFE region.

47. Of all the functions of the economic commissions, regional economic co-operation deserved special attention. However, it should not be forgotten that that type of co-operation was one element of the concerted action undertaken by the developing countries themselves, based on their own development efforts. That did not mean that the different regions should seek a common formula for co-operation. On the contrary, each region should try to find the form of co-operation which suited it best. Efforts at co-operation could also be made quite well at the sub-regional level. The third Ministerial Conference on Asian Economic Co-operation had adopted a resolution providing for the formulation of an appropriate strategy of integrated regional co-operation. But it was equally important that regional co-operation should also be directed outwards. For example, it should aim at promoting trade with third countries. ECAFE, at its twenty-fifth session, had quite rightly asserted that that approach was one of the basic principles of regional co-operation.

48. His delegation had always supported the decentralization of United Nations activities in economic and social matters and the strengthening of the regional economic commissions, in so far as that did not weaken the control and functions exercised by Headquarters. However, the recent tendency towards the proliferation of institutional machinery in the regional economic commissions called for careful examination to prevent the activities of the organs of the United Nations from overlapping with those of its commissions. In the case of the commissions, what

was needed was to make the best possible use of the Organization's limited resources, with due regard to priorities. His delegation noted with satisfaction that the formulation of ECAFE's programme of work and priorities for 1969-1970 had been considerably improved. It hoped that that progress would continue and endorsed ECAFE's request that the authorities concerned should support that work programme with its financial implications.

49. As for the relations between the regional economic commissions and other United Nations organs, ECAFE had adopted a resolution to amend its rules of procedure which would have the effect, *inter alia*, of strengthening those relations. The closer links between the Asian Industrial Development Council and UNIDO was a matter for gratification. His delegation hoped that the co-operation between those two organizations would facilitate still further the arrangements to be made in connexion with the organization of the second Asian Industrial Conference to be held in Japan.

50. Mr. MAHDAVI (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) drew attention to the fact that the first Asian Industrial Conference, held in 1965 within the UNIDO programme, had recommended the holding of a second conference. The recommendation had been endorsed by ECAFE and had not been the subject of any decision by the Industrial Development Board. Nevertheless, the UNIDO secretariat was already co-operating with ECAFE in the preparations for the meeting. UNIDO had suggested that the second conference should take into account the recommendations of the first and those of the International Symposium on Industrialization, held in Athens in November 1967. A minimum of research papers might be submitted, but it would be advisable to pay more attention to operational and promotional activities in industry and to promoting technical assistance to Asian countries, taking advantage of the facilities offered by UNIDO, the United Nations system in general, and bilateral sources. It had also been considered that the work of the second conference should be oriented towards the requirements of the Second Development Decade and in particular towards the setting up of national, regional and international machinery for assessing and reviewing industrial progress.

51. The necessary credits for UNIDO participation in the conference had been estimated at \$30,000, an amount which was already included in the estimates of financial implications submitted to the Council (E/4726). However, UNIDO wished to reserve its right to submit to the Secretary-General, if necessary, a request for any supplementary financing that might appear essential in the light of the outcome of the consultations being held in connexion with the second Asian industrial conference.

52. Mr. TERVER (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) recalled that, two years earlier, the head of the United States delegation, after emphasizing the importance he attached to the conclusion of agree-

ments between the regional economic commissions and FAO, with a view to establishing joint agriculture divisions, had expressed some disappointment at the results obtained. Although the relations between those commissions and FAO had undoubtedly been satisfactory, it was nonetheless true that they had been lacking in dynamism. The following year, the Director-General of FAO had come forward with a solution, namely, to merge the commissions with FAO regional offices at the regional level, but the FAO regional conferences had feared that such a solution would jeopardize the identity of FAO and its presence in the regions. The Director-General had therefore opted for another formula, namely, to maintain the regional offices but to ensure that their co-operation was organized on a sounder basis. To that end, he had provided new and dynamic solutions for a pilot region, taking care not to apply them to all the regions at the same time. It had been decided that Africa should be the pilot region for that experiment. Good results had already been obtained and it was to be hoped that they could subsequently be extended to all the regions.

53. The relations originally established had not been as effective as they might have been, first because they had been circumscribed within the unduly narrow limits of joint divisions which were unable to cope with all the agricultural problems of a region; secondly, because the recommendations of the consequences of the regional commissions sometimes arrived too late to be included in an FAO programme; and, thirdly, because FAO did not have the necessary executive staff to deal with those matters. It was understood that the regional representative would be directly responsible in future for the work of the joint divisions. As for the executive organs, a solution had been reached which seemed perfect at the secretariat level and had been approved by the Executive Committee of ECA. It had been agreed that the FAO Regional Conference should be the only conference in Africa in the agricultural sector and that it should be given the responsibility of working out a single programme for agricultural development in Africa, valid for both FAO and ECA. The Commission was participating fully in that programme. ECA and FAO were now co-operating very closely. The regional representative's role was henceforth clearly defined: he was required to establish frequent contact with the Executive Secretary according to a timetable of consultations and, after consultations, his team of technicians would be at the disposal of ECA. Furthermore, he was responsible in the regional office for relations with the regional banks and regional intergovernmental organizations. That experiment might be extended to other regions once it had proved effective, having regard to each region's peculiar characteristics. The co-operation between ECA and FAO was recognized by many bodies, including UNDP, which had requested them to organize jointly its rice conference and to take the necessary joint action to ensure the implementation of any resolutions that might be adopted at that conference.

54. An agreement had been concluded with ECAFE, providing that FAO would review the master plan of the



project for the development of the Mekong Basin, and also that FAO should outpost secretariat officials to follow the progress of its Indicative World Plan in the countries concerned with the plan.

55. Mr. AITKEN (Jamaica) was impressed by the vast scale of the regional economic commissions' activities and by the contribution that those commissions could make to the Second Development Decade. Perhaps their work would be better understood by States Members of the United Nations if wider circulation was given to their publications.

56. With reference to ECLA, he had listened with considerable interest to the analysis of the region's problems by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, whose

activity had been of help to Governments and enterprises in the region, particularly in the matter of the allocation of investments. He paid a tribute to ECLA's work in the Caribbean. Its support of a development plan should enable the international organizations to modify their procedures so that the project in question would receive the necessary financial backing. That question was at present being reviewed at a higher level. His Government endorsed the proposal that the Office for the Caribbean should be strengthened. Finally, he pointed out that paragraphs 445 and 446 of the ECLA report (E/4639 and Add.1) contained no mention of the reservations his country had made when the question of preferences was being considered.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Wednesday, 23 July 1969

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

at 3.5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Pages</i>
Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries ( <i>continued</i> ) .....	103

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Regional co-operation:**

- (a) Reports on the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726; E/L.1264, E/L.1265)
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709; E/L.1264, E/L.1265) (*continued*)

1. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) congratulated the regional economic commissions and UNESOB on their work, as revealed by their impressive reports. His country had the privilege and the responsibility of being a full or associated member of all the economic commissions. Its participation in the work of regional commissions other than ECE might appear to be a geographical anomaly; but it was not an economic anomaly, for the United Kingdom had economic interests in all parts of the world.

2. ECE was an important and useful forum for consultations between Eastern and Western Europe, in which experts could discuss economic and social matters unhindered by political considerations. Indeed, the Commission's capacity for useful work was limited only by the resources available to it. The most important item on its agenda at its last session had been the Executive Secretary's report on his proposals for restructuring the Commission (E/ECE/717), which it had endorsed unanimously in its resolution 5 (XXIV). All that remained was to implement those proposals. He welcomed in particular the suggestions made for the improved presentation of the *Economic Survey of Europe*, and was gratified that the Commission had felt able to dispense with summary records to a large extent. His country was keenly interested in the problems of pollution and intended to play its full part in ECE's discussions on the subject.

3. Several representatives had raised the question of the composition of ECE; his delegation's position on that subject remained unchanged.

4. The other regional economic commissions had submitted valuable reports, but had yet to lay out their work in accordance with the system of priorities devised by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at the Council's request.

5. ECLA, like ECE, had decided to dispense with or greatly reduce the preparation of summary records of its plenary meetings. It was to be hoped that ECA would follow suit at its next session, and that ECAFE would review the contrary decision that it had taken in April 1969.

6. The new institutional arrangements proposed by ECA in its resolution 188 (IX) were most interesting but, since their financial implications would have to be examined by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, his delegation must reserve its position except for the comment that some of the recommendations appeared very costly indeed. On the general question of decentralization raised by those recommendations, it seemed unwise for the Council to forestall the findings of the UNDP Capacity Study which would be available later in the year. Consequently he felt some misgivings concerning the seven-Power draft resolution on regional co-operation (E/L.1265), although much of its content was quite unexceptionable.

7. It was to be hoped that, in the near future, ECE and ECAFE would make known their views on the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 2478 (XXIII), that United Nations bodies should consider meeting on a biennial rather than an annual basis.

8. His delegation welcomed the arrangements made by ECAFE for the members of permanent missions at Bangkok to examine the Commission's work programme before its annual session; that innovation was worthy of consideration by the other regional economic commissions.

9. Some of the resolutions recently adopted by ECLA had been accepted by the United Kingdom only as representing the views of the developing countries. If the Council endorsed those resolutions, his delegation would have to enter a similar reservation.

10. Mr. NICOL (Sierra Leone) introduced the eight-Power draft resolution on the role of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB in the Second United Nations Development Decade (E/L.1264).

11. The admirable reports of the regional economic commissions revealed that remarkable progress had been made in many fields and that equally impressive achievements were projected for the future. The Secretary-General, speaking at the opening meeting of the ninth session of ECA, had described the Commission as the United Nations window for seeing African economic and social problems through African eyes as well as in relationship to the over-all international economic structure (see E/4651, annex VI); that observation was borne out by the ECA report (E/4651 and Add.1) and the statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA (1614th meeting).

12. The African countries were well aware that the useful work carried on by the specialized agencies in their territory had a direct bearing on the social and economic advancement of the developing countries of the region. The review of the Commission's activities made at Addis Ababa at its ninth session, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, had been marked by a general desire to move forward on all fronts. The desire to associate more Africans in the work of ECA and of the specialized agencies active in Africa was in no way inconsistent with the United Nations principle of universality or with the acknowledged shortage of skilled staff in many parts of Africa. More positive efforts could undoubtedly be made to persuade the specialized agencies and ECA to employ, and individual Governments to release, highly qualified staff to work in the African region, so that they might continue to serve their own countries indirectly while gaining experience in the service of the international organizations.

13. At its ninth session, ECA had strongly recommended decentralization and had acknowledged the urgent need for closer association with individual Governments in United Nations projects and in the frequent consultations required in connexion with them. The various countries of Africa, in an attempt to correct the man-made distortions of African geography, were coalescing into sub-regional groups for mutual co-operation; it was obvious that ECA programmes would be more effective if they were linked with such groups.

14. The developing countries appreciated the fact that steps were being taken to ensure effective co-operation between the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions in the implementation of work programmes. The sponsors of the eight-Power draft resolution urged that a more substantial and effective decentralization of operational activities should be carried out, in accordance with numerous resolutions of the Council and of the General Assembly. The vast physical distances and poor communications in many African countries made it essential that work should be organized in smaller units than elsewhere. In his delegation's view, adoption of the draft resolution would assist the UNDP Capacity Study.

15. Mr. MOPOLO-DADET (Congo, Brazzaville) congratulated the executive secretaries of the regional econ-

omic commissions on their reports and assured them of his country's support and collaboration in the difficult and delicate tasks which lay ahead of them. One overriding idea was expressed in all those reports, namely, that the commissions needed a profound structural and functional transformation. The young countries of Africa regarded the regional economic commissions as an indispensable link between the United Nations and individual States; their views had been well expressed in the statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA.

16. The peoples of Africa wished to direct their development along their own lines. They acknowledged that considerable results had been achieved in development and that new and promising prospects were emerging, but the fact remained that the prerequisites for rapid economic development were all too often lacking. Those peoples realized that their economic backwardness was being aggravated over the years by a dramatic growth in population and that political independence, although vitally necessary, was not helping them to catch up. In the African view, it was time to replace theory and condescension by practical realities and genuine international solidarity. The African States were striving for economic autonomy and integration so as to rid the continent of adverse foreign influence; they sought to create an African market through a methodical sub-regionalization which would respect the particular characteristics of each country. They wanted co-operation, not gifts.

17. The work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in Africa had, in the past, been too heterogeneous and unco-ordinated. United Nations operations in Africa should be regrouped through the regional co-ordinating body, namely, ECA. To that end the Commission had adopted a number of resolutions which reflected the dual concern of Africa with integration and autonomy. The chief purpose of those resolutions was to strengthen the position of the Executive Secretary of ECA both at the headquarters of the Commission and in the sub-regions, and to ensure that he would lead the secretariat in the direction which the African States wished it to take. Those States wished to be the masters of their own development policies. He was well aware that the Council had no authority to debate the financial implications of those resolutions; what the African States desired was that the Council should accept them in principle.

18. He appreciated the importance of the UNDP Capacity Study and realized that it could help to rejuvenate the United Nations system. However, he felt that the Council should provide guidelines for the study rather than simply accept its proposals. The reconstruction of the United Nations system must not be allowed to make its machinery more unwieldy than it already was; the specific purpose of the resolutions adopted at the ninth session of ECA was to lighten that machinery and render it more effective.

19. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) welcomed the awareness shown by the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions and by the Director of UNESOB that the effectiveness of those organs needed to be increased, for they were the most appropriate United Nations agencies to promote greater economic co-operation in and between their respective regions.

20. ECA had been operating under exceptionally difficult conditions, as was shown by the "Survey of economic conditions in Africa in recent years" (E/CN.14/435). The details of the proposed changes in the institutional machinery of ECA were given in the Commission's report. It was possible, however, that the African States' motives for adopting resolutions to that end were less evident. ECA had been established in 1958 and, throughout the past decade, the interests of the majority of its present member States had been represented by foreign, non-African Powers. Contact between ECA and its member States had remained limited or, at any rate, physically remote. For that reason, and because its resources were inadequate, ECA had not been able to carry out its work effectively. A number of representatives had expressed reservations concerning the financial implications of the ECA resolutions. At the outset of the Second United Nations Development Decade, that attitude was most disturbing. If the decade was to be successful, the primary institutions of development must have adequate resources.

21. The purpose of the seven-Power draft resolution on regional co-operation, of which his delegation was a sponsor, was to secure more rational co-ordination between ECA and the competent organizations of the United Nations system, and extra funds to enable ECA fully to carry out its functions. He hoped that the Council would adopt it unanimously.

22. Mr. AHMED (Sudan), recalling how ECE had been adapted since its establishment to the changing conditions in Europe, said that the time had come to adapt ECA to Africa's present-day needs. He therefore fully endorsed the reorganization proposed in the resolutions adopted at ECA's ninth session. Over the past ten years ECA had made commendable efforts to meet the needs and aspirations of African States; it now needed to be strengthened so that it might play a still greater role in the continent's economic development. It had hitherto concentrated on studies designed to give clear understanding of development processes in Africa and to indicate how obstacles to concerted action could be overcome. It had identified Africa's problems and had laid the foundations for African co-operation. The time had come for it to take practical action to promote economic development.

23. By endorsing the resolutions adopted at ECA's ninth session, especially resolutions 187 (IX), 188 (IX), 190 (IX) and 191 (IX), the Council would enable ECA to take such action. The proposed reorganization would involve no changes in the Commission's terms of reference, no departure from accepted United Nations practice and

procedure, and no increase in the Commission's workload, but would enable it to deal more efficiently with the problems of African countries. The proposed new timetable of meetings would provide fuller opportunities for contacts between experts, specialist staff and the representatives of Governments and other organizations. The emphasis would be on harmonization and co-ordination; decentralization would replace domination by a single body. The principle of decentralization had long since been accepted in the United Nations and was recognized in a number of resolutions which the General Assembly and the Council had adopted after careful consideration of apprehensions expressed by the Secretariat concerning the possibility of encroachment on the prerogatives of the Secretary-General. The regional economic commissions were trying to secure more effective decentralization of United Nations activities in their regions in order to ensure that those familiar with local conditions and needs could play a more prominent role in the formulation and implementation of projects and operational programmes. They were seeking, not the transfer of the Secretary-General's prerogatives to the executive secretaries, but the voluntary delegation of certain powers and the redistribution of responsibility for the sake of greater efficiency. Such matters as staff recruitment, financial administration and the issue of contracts for Special Fund projects would remain the responsibility of the United Nations Secretariat.

24. Mr. ZVEZDIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that ECE's long-term programme of work would enable it to play a more effective role in promoting economic co-operation among all European countries and in removing obstacles to trade between countries with different economic and social systems. Such co-operation was at present hindered by the discriminatory trade policies pursued by some Western European countries and their closed economic groupings, and by the exclusion of the German Democratic Republic from the Commission's activities. Full economic, scientific and technical co-operation among European countries would create a favourable climate for the elimination of political tension; it might then be possible to halt the arms race and reduce military expenditure, with considerable benefit to economic and social progress. The USSR would continue to help ECE to promote such co-operation among all European countries, and was in favour of the European conference on problems of security and co-operation proposed by the Warsaw Treaty countries.

25. The Council should support ECAFE's efforts to promote regional economic co-operation, for ECAFE was the only international organization able to work out and apply the principles of regional economic development in Asia and the Far East. The ECAFE secretariat had provided useful assistance in connexion with planning and industrialization. However, economic development prospects in that region largely depended on the restoration of normal political conditions. Cessation of the war waged by the United States in Viet-Nam would have a very favourable effect. The establishment of a collective secur-

ity system in Asia would also help to promote stability, co-operation and regional economic development, and he hoped that his country's suggestions on the subject would be widely supported by countries in that region. ECAFE should give more assistance in specialized training and prospecting for natural resources. It seemed necessary to establish a second co-ordinating committee for exploration of the continental shelf of countries bordering on the Indian Ocean. ECAFE's assistance should be concentrated mainly on projects concerned with the development of key industries, agriculture, technical and administrative training, prospecting for and development of natural resources, and economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

26. ECA had rightly given prominence to industrialization, water resources development, modernization of agriculture, regional trade and economic, scientific and technical co-operation. It had worked out useful principles for regional and sub-regional division of labour. However, the creation of sub-regional economic communities in northern, western, central and eastern Africa involved complex problems and should be undertaken gradually, with full consideration for the national interests of participating countries. The ECA secretariat should make a more effective contribution to the development of agriculture and forestry in African countries which, although possessing vast areas of productive land, still imported foodstuffs on a large scale. The Commission should also help African countries to reduce the quantities of natural resources exported without adequate remuneration. The success of ECA's long-term programme of work would depend on the co-ordination of its efforts with national plans and development programmes, the reforms effected in African countries, the creation of a viable public sector, and the measures taken to counteract the discriminatory trade policies of Western economic groupings.

27. ECLA had wisely concentrated its attention on research, planning, industrial development, foreign trade and economic integration. The Commission's secretariat would do well to prepare a long-term plan of economic and social research. He was glad to note that Latin American countries were trying to strengthen their national economies, speed up their development, check the exploitation of their natural resources by foreign capital, obtain equitable terms of trade and promote economic co-operation based on the principle of equality. Those countries recognized the need for drastic economic and social reforms and were understandably concerned to ensure that foreign assistance was not used as a means of interfering in their domestic affairs. The USSR welcomed ECLA resolution 291 (XIII) asking the Commission's secretariat to study ways of expanding trade between Latin American and socialist countries.

28. A major obstacle to international economic co-operation in the Middle East was Israel's continued policy of provocation and refusal to comply with the Security

Council's resolutions on the liquidation of the consequences of the aggression against Arab countries.

29. The Council should devote more attention to regional economic co-operation and should give the regional economic commissions a more effective role in promoting such co-operation. However, the activities of the regional commissions should be co-ordinated more closely with those of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies active in the economic and social fields. As to the proposals made in the reports of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB, his delegation believed that, in view of their financial implications, final decisions on such matters should be deferred until the next session of the General Assembly; in his country's opinion, the United Nations budget should not be increased.

30. Mr. AL-ANSARI (Kuwait) hoped that UNESOB, having now submitted a report to the Council, would continue to do so annually; that would help to preserve it from the semi-oblivion to which it had hitherto been consigned. The Arab countries were working out plans for a common market and a customs union, rationalizing their national development plans and making progress with industrialization. However, their governmental machinery was cumbersome and they needed assistance to simplify administrative procedures and eliminate redundancy. UNESOB could also help them to develop energy resources at the national and regional levels, to use natural gas for power production, to improve their transport and communications systems, and to tap ground-water resources.

31. UNESOB had already provided useful assistance. However, its staff had not increased since 1966, despite the fact that it was now regarded as the Middle Eastern outpost of the United Nations, of UNCTAD and of UNIDO, and would have to act as the rallying point of the region's preparations for the Second Development Decade. That would not be possible with present staff and resources, which must therefore be increased. UNESOB should, for instance, be put in a position to convene annual regional conferences of UNDP resident representatives and representatives of Arab Governments on economic and social development topics, with special reference to Development Decade targets. The Middle East, in fact, needed a fully-fledged regional economic commission.

32. Mr. BOHIADI (Chad) said that the material resources and methods of ECA were totally inadequate for tackling the immense problems facing African countries. Reforms were needed if ECA was to play its rightful part in resolving those problems. At its ninth session, the Commission had called for more decentralization of operational activities; the reorganization of the structure and functions of the secretariat; the institution of sub-regional offices to serve large economic areas of co-ordinated investment and to advise Governments on objectives for general planning and public administration in the Second Development Decade; and closer co-operation with organ-

izations of the United Nations family and with specifically African organizations.

33. He had been surprised to hear representatives maintain that, in view of the financial implications of those proposals, their consideration should be deferred until the next session of the General Assembly. He did not share the French representative's view (1616th meeting) that the proposals would impede the functioning of the Commission without increasing its efficacy, and would involve heavy expenditure. The intention of the proposals had been precisely the opposite. The United Nations Secretariat was of course entitled to exercise control, including financial control, over the regional economic commissions in such matters as the harmonization of their activities with those of outside organizations. He failed to see why the French representative, having admitted that the United Nations family of organizations should avoid excessive centralization, should be apprehensive about accepting the conclusions of ECA's ninth session, which were in no way revolutionary.

34. He appealed to the delegations which had expressed similar doubts to reconsider their position, so that an acceptable solution might be found to ECA's problems. The Commission's proposals were wholly consistent with the objectives of the Second Development Decade, and no member of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade had voiced any apprehension about the financial implications of any component of the global strategy. All that was needed at present was to agree on the general direction to be taken in the regional economic commissions' future activities under the development strategy. In that respect, the opinions expressed by the delegations of Argentina (1612th meeting) and Uruguay (1613th meeting) and the observer for Chile (1613th meeting) were consistent with the conclusions reached at ECA's ninth session. His delegation would reject any argument advanced to dissuade the Council from adopting the two draft resolutions just submitted.

35. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that the reports submitted by the regional economic commissions showed their desire to turn from theory to action. The various regions they represented, although equal in importance, differed in nature and were confronted by different problems; the United States welcomed the efforts made by the commissions to encourage the development of each region along the lines appropriate to it. The reports paid commendable attention to the problems of reorganization and reconstruction with a view to synthesizing activities into a concerted programme, and brought out the difficulty of moving from agreement on abstract principles to specific action by Governments. They showed that the commissions were sensitive to the human aspects of planning and development, in other words, that they were aware of the need for competent manpower and of the need to involve the population as a whole in the development process.

36. A general effort was being made to improve the quality of human life. ECE was preparing for a conference on problems of the environment, while the other commissions were studying population problems. Those problems raised delicate considerations from the human and cultural standpoints, but his delegation believed that regional and national attitudes could be successfully reconciled in a comprehensive global approach to the subject.

37. His delegation agreed with the view that a more intensive process of decentralization was needed during the Second Development Decade; the vitality of the regional economic commissions showed how effectively they could be used to transform over-all policy into action at the regional level. However, decentralization would be effective only if adequate safeguards were provided against duplication and proliferation of activities. A regional approach to the strategy for the Second Development Decade was admittedly essential, but a balance must be struck between decentralized operational activities and centralized policy planning, which in its turn required the widest possible participation. There should be careful co-ordination with UNIDO, UNCTAD and UNESCO, and the other specialized agencies which were already active in the various regions. ECE was already co-operating closely with UNESCO; the other regional commissions would do well to follow that example, which would aid them in their efforts to adapt to their own purposes techniques available in the more developed countries and also to develop indigenous techniques. For example, the use of scientific prediction as an instrument of long-term planning, as described in the ECE report (E/4641), could serve, with suitable adaptation, as a model for other regions.

38. ECAFE was performing extremely valuable work in the Mekong delta, with beneficial effects on the political as well as on the economic situation in the area. Its concentration on population problems and on the development of manpower was also extremely useful.

39. The Executive Secretary of ECA had drawn attention (1614th meeting) to the need for reorganization, for quality of content in planning and for attention to educational innovations and to the problems of the less developed countries of the continent; he had provided a useful reminder that the success of development should be measured not only in quantitative terms but also in terms of greater freedom for the population to participate in the attainment of its objectives. His delegation hoped that the expanded role of ECA in the programming of technical assistance, referred to in paragraph 3 of the seven-Power draft resolution, would not impair the central role of UNDP in that area. It also hoped that it was true that, as stated in the CEA report, the Africanization of the ECA secretariat would not offend the principle of universality of recruitment of the United Nations staff by the Secretary-General and would not affect the level of efficiency of the staff.

40. The ECLA report (E/4639 and Add.1) gave a perceptive analysis of the problems involved in achieving an equal distribution of wealth, in widening the range of employment opportunities, in diversifying trade, in increasing autonomy in trade and aid, and in providing purchasing power and self-direction for Latin America. His delegation sympathized with all those aims; it welcomed the Commission's decisions to hold meetings of the Governing Council of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning once instead of twice a year, and to dispense with the meetings of the Committee of the Whole in even years.
41. His delegation also welcomed the attention drawn in the ECE report (E/4641) to the danger of premature simplification of complex problems; the Commission's resolution 4 (XXIV) on simplification and standardization of documents and procedures in international trade; and the efforts of ECE to resolve the critical problems of trade between Eastern and Western Europe. In the latter endeavour the Commission could make a special contribution by increasing understanding between different political and economic systems. The Commission's experience in reorganizing and streamlining its structure and programme and in scientific and technological co-operation could also benefit the other regional commissions.
42. UNESOB had a special role to play in a critically vulnerable area of the world; his delegation hoped that special attention would be paid to the possibility that economic and social co-operation in the Middle East might help to resolve its problems.
43. His delegation had not yet had time to study in detail the financial implications of the two draft resolutions before the Council or those of the recommendations of the regional economic commissions (E/4726). It hoped that, within the limits of the resources available, the Secretary-General would attach due importance to the activities of the regional commissions.
44. Mr. SHERIF (Libya) said that the reports of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB reflected their progressive achievements, which contributed to the decentralization of United Nations development activities.
45. Over the ten years since the establishment of ECA, the Commission's secretariat had made satisfactory progress in identifying Africa's problems and in paving the way for economic co-operation on that continent. The ECA report gave a full account of such activities as sub-regional economic co-operation, trade development, money and finance, industrial development and small-scale industries, agriculture and natural resources development, improvement of statistical services, manpower development, public administration, and training and research institutions. The studies and investigations carried out by ECA on those subjects had laid the foundations of a future plan of action for the economic and social benefit of Africa as a whole.
46. At its ninth session, ECA had concluded that the time had come to move from theoretical studies to practical action for development, in which ECA would play a central part. It had drawn the attention of member States to the need for self-reliance, for multinational and sub-regional co-operation, and for individual and collective support for the programme of work and priorities assigned to the ECA secretariat. It had expressed the consensus among the member States that the motivation for development must be generated within Africa; and it had recognized that it must improve its relations and co-operation with the Economic and Social Commission of OAU with a view to accelerating the development of the region.
47. His delegation would welcome an opportunity for the Council to discuss the draft resolution submitted by ECA (E/4651, part IV). It supported the eight-Power draft resolution.
48. Mr. POPOV (Bulgaria) said that the importance of the regional economic commissions as organizers of multi-lateral economic co-operation on a regional basis was continually increasing; they contributed to the economic development of the countries in their respective regions, and to the establishment of good relations among those countries. His delegation shared the view that the Council should increase their role in regional economic co-operation.
49. The activities of ECE over the past twenty years had demonstrated the need for broad co-operation on a basis of equality between European countries with different economic and social systems. At its twenty-fourth session, ECE had reviewed its organizational structure and methods of work on the basis of proposals submitted by the Executive Secretary; as a result, its activities would be improved in the traditional fields of co-operation and extended to new fields. For the first time in its history, ECE had adopted a long-term programme which gave prominence to scientific and technological co-operation, long-term economic planning and East-West trade.
50. Bulgaria was particularly interested in the first and last of those subjects. Important aspects of scientific and technological co-operation were theoretical research into forecasting and long-term planning, the application of technical progress to economic growth, the development of statistical standards, the exchange of information and documentation, and the establishment of joint programmes. In the field of East-West trade, the Commission sought to create an atmosphere propitious to the removal of political, commercial, administrative and other obstacles to trade among its members.
51. The Bulgarian Government particularly welcomed the plenary sessions of ECE, at which Government representatives exchanged views on its activities and adopted decisions on its future objectives. ECE was extremely valuable as the only organ for economic and technical

co-operation among European countries with different economic and social systems.

52. His delegation considered that the German Democratic Republic, a developed country maintaining diplomatic relations with countries in all parts of the world,

should be admitted to membership of ECE in order to bring its economic and scientific potential to bear on the complicated problems of European and international economic co-operation.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.





CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries ( <i>continued</i> )	111
Agenda item 8:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(a) United Nations Development Programme	
(b) United Nations Capital Development Fund	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General	114

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Regional co-operation:**

- (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726; E/L.1264, E/L.1265)
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709; E/L.1264, E/L.1265) (*continued*)

1. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that his delegation agreed in general with the remarks made in the debate regarding the importance of the work of the regional economic commissions and the need to facilitate their work and to encourage co-ordination and decentralization. At future meetings the Council should perhaps begin its discussions after hearing the statements of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions and of the Director of UNESOB.

2. The Executive Secretary of ECLA had mentioned at the 1614th meeting the progress made by countries in the region; nevertheless, there were still problems to be resolved, especially in the spheres of trade and financing. Trade had become a battle in which the chief weapon was technological progress. The developing countries still had a long way to go before they could claim to take part in the battle on an equal footing, and it was therefore right to plan the establishment of a preference system and the application of equitable prices.

3. Mr. RODRIGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay), supported the Mexican representative's suggestion regarding the po-

sition to be given in the agenda to the study of the reports of the regional economic commissions and of UNESOB.

4. He did not share the view expressed by the delegation of a European country that ECLA had lost its effectiveness in the region within its purview. The task of ECLA, which had done excellent work, was to analyse and study the problems of the region. For decisions regarding the policy it should follow, there existed at the regional level intergovernmental bodies such as OAS and the Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination.

5. His delegation fully understood the remarks of the Executive Secretary of ECLA regarding the economic situation of the Latin American countries and the size of their balance of payments deficit, which had been partly offset by entries of capital. He wished to stress, however, that the element of assistance contained in loans granted on favourable terms represented less than half of the total aid, which was really very little. The policy of price stabilization practised by Uruguay should also be mentioned as one of the factors which had enabled certain countries in the region to check inflationary pressures.

6. Among the problems of concern in the region the Executive Secretary of ECLA had mentioned the system of tied loans whose harmful effects were particularly noticeable in the Latin American countries. As a result of that system, as was well known, those countries were compelled to buy products and articles which they did not need. It was to be hoped that that system would be abandoned.

7. After recalling the main directions of the activity of IMF in recent years, he expressed the view that the prospects for trade in commodities were not perhaps as bleak as had been implied. There were encouraging factors, among which should be included the ideas put forward at the sixth Conference of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, held at Port of Spain in June 1969, regarding the establishment of an interest equalization fund. In conclusion, he drew attention to the fact that ECLA had modified its activities in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council so as to concentrate its efforts on the most important sectors of activity, and that it had decided to continue to meet every two years and to dispense with the meetings of the Committee of the Whole which had previously been held in the intervening years.

8. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Observer for Chile), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedures said that Chile,

the host country for ECLA, gave constant support to the work of the Commission.

9. For twenty years the process of development of the Latin American countries had been to a large extent directed and promoted by ECLA, which had prepared an inventory of the economic and social situation of the region and had devised an appropriate development theory. Before its establishment, solutions had been sought basically through studies and contributions from Europe and the United States, but ECLA had launched a regional co-operation movement which had contributed to the creation of the Central American Common Market, LAFTA, IDB and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. After defining trade and development problems within ECLA, the Latin American countries had been able to make a notable contribution to the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

10. The reports submitted by the Executive Secretary of ECLA and by that body itself gave an account of what had happened in the economy of Latin America over the past two years. The Executive Secretary of ECLA had drawn attention to the fact that the global product of the countries of the region had increased by 5.7 per cent during the period despite the poor agricultural output in Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and Uruguay, but it should be noted that the situation had somewhat improved in 1968 in Chile, where agricultural production had increased by 4.7 per cent, mainly as a result of an agricultural development plan, agrarian reform and a prices policy. The Uruguayan representative had also mentioned the need for very rapid expansion of the exports of Latin American countries. The developed countries should be aware that, if they really implemented a policy which substantially increased the exports of developing countries by allowing easy access to their markets for the manufactures and semi-manufactures of those countries, they could realize a substantial profit, because the Latin American countries would be able to buy a very much larger volume of capital goods.

11. Paragraph 383 of volume I of the ECLA report (E/4639) gave some idea of the problems which the development of Latin America would encounter in future years, and a solution to those difficulties was urgently needed. It was also to be noted, as indicated in paragraphs 389 and 390 of the report, that the volume of loans, together with their terms and conditions was far from satisfactory. There had, however, been progress in structural reforms: the Latin American countries were making immense efforts to modernize their infrastructure and improve the living conditions of their peoples; the help of IDB in that connexion was invaluable, and IBRD had recently adopted a more positive policy in that sphere.

12. With regard to the regional integration movement, it was regrettable that the political situation in Central America was endangering the success of the very prom-

ising scheme for integration represented by the Central American Common Market. The regional integration movement was continuing: on 28 May 1969, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru had signed at Bogotá a sub-regional integration agreement intended to harmonize the economies of those countries and improve the standard of living of their peoples. The agreement, signed within the framework of LAFTA, proposed co-ordination in the sphere of economic policies and envisaged the establishment of a strategy for the development of the sub-region; such a strategy would enable the economic development of member countries to be accelerated, infrastructure problems to be resolved, the differences in development between various countries to be reduced, and greater benefit to be derived from the progress of science and technology. The member countries of the sub-region had undertaken to co-ordinate their development plans and to harmonize their economic and social policies with a view to achieving integrated planning. In the sphere of customs, the decision had been made to establish a common external tariff to come into force by 31 December 1980, and a minimum external tariff would be approved before 31 December 1970. The decision had also been made to grant preferential conditions to Bolivia and Ecuador with the aim of reducing economic differences in the sub-region. That scheme for integration might serve as a precedent for other areas.

13. In order to resume the position they had occupied in 1960 in comparison with developed countries, the Latin American countries should increase their income by 5 per cent a year at least, in other words, multiply by three the present rate of increase of their exports. To that end, the countries themselves must intensify their efforts: they must increase savings, reform structures, particularly in agriculture, bring about an improvement in income distribution, establish a more effective employment policy and, above all, produce a radical change in the conditions of external trade, as was recommended in the resolutions adopted by ECLA.

14. The Chilean Government attached particular importance to some of the resolutions adopted by ECLA at its thirteenth session. In the first place, it gave full support to resolution 288 (XIII) relating to the ECLA Office for the Caribbean: the countries of that sub-region should receive increased aid from United Nations agencies and from regional bodies. Resolution 286 (XIII), relating to the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, was also of the greatest interest; the Institute was making a notable contribution in the sphere of research into the problems of development and the training of experts. Under the terms of that resolution, the Secretary-General and UNDP were invited to provide the necessary support in order to convert the Institute into a permanent body and to ensure its financing over the long term; the Institute would not be able to pursue its activities if its financing continued to be as precarious as it was at the present time. In general, the regional planning institutes should enjoy the advantages that UNDP had given to applied research work in agriculture, namely, exemption from the requirement of counterpart support

from the beneficiary countries. Attention should also be drawn particularly to resolution 292 (XIII), relating to external financial co-operation, which constituted a veritable statement of principle giving the Latin American countries' viewpoint on the question. That declaration of principle was true for the whole problem of financial co-operation with the developing countries.

15. ECLA was now beginning a new stage in its existence. It should go further with the study of the problems already identified and propose fresh solutions which sovereign States might adopt more easily and without stops and starts. It should also co-operate in the process of regional integration and consequently examine the possible repercussions of measures which might be taken to that end. With regard to trade, ECLA should naturally collaborate actively with UNCTAD, but it should also co-operate directly with the other regional economic commissions which, owing to their closer contacts, could improve the trade of the developing countries as a whole. Such collaboration should also be extended to cover joint studies. It was noteworthy in that respect that ECLA had been requested to examine with FAO the effect of plans implemented in Europe for the restructuring of agriculture in order to determine the possible consequences of similar plans in other regions. An invitation should be extended to ECE to take part in the study in view of the experience it had acquired in that sphere.

16. The PRESIDENT announced that the general discussion on agenda item 7 (a) and (b) was concluded and invited the Council to vote on the draft resolutions submitted to the Council by the regional economic commissions. Those draft resolutions were in part IV of the reports of the various commissions. Document E/4726 showed the financial implications of the recommendations of the commissions.

17. In addition, a draft resolution on the role of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB in the Second United Nations Development Decade (E/L.1264) and a draft resolution on regional co-operation (E/L.1265) had been submitted.

18. Mr. MAS (France) considered that draft resolutions E/L.1264 and E/L.1265 required detailed study, and suggested that consideration of those two texts should be postponed. If that suggestion was accepted, voting on the four draft resolutions proposed by the regional economic commissions should also be postponed, as those draft resolutions, and particularly the one submitted by ECE (E/4651, part IV), were closely related to the other two drafts.

19. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) proposed the adoption of a draft resolution on UNESOB reading as follows:<sup>1</sup>

*"The Economic and Social Council,*

*"1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4659);*

<sup>1</sup> Subsequently circulated as document E/L.1266.

*"2. Requests the Secretary-General to take the appropriate measures to strengthen the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut by providing it with the necessary expertise and other means which will enable it to discharge efficiently its functions in the field of social and economic development."*

20. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1264 had agreed to add a number of amendments to it. If those amendments were accepted, the sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1265 would withdraw their text.

21. In the first place, two paragraphs should be added to the end of the preamble to resolution E/L.1264, to read:

*"Endorsing the proposals for re-organization in resolutions 188 (IX) and 189 (IX) of the Economic Commission for Africa, aimed particularly at strengthening the sub-regional offices,*

*"Taking note of the memorandum of the Executive Committee of the Conference of Ministers of ECA,"*

and a fourth operative paragraph should be added, to read:

*"Recommends that adequate resources be made available to enable the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen its sub-regional offices."*

22. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that the draft resolution proposed by the regional economic commissions, the draft resolution on UNESOB and draft resolutions E/L.1264 and E/L.1265 were closely related and should be considered in detail. It would be desirable to refer them to the Co-ordination Committee so as to avoid any duplication or overlapping. The amendments to those various draft resolutions, including the one his delegation intended to propose, could be studied by that committee.

23. Mr. NICOL (Sierra Leone), supported by Mr. SINGH (India), said that the four draft resolutions submitted by the regional economic commissions had already been thoroughly studied by the commissions and that there was no reason to resume the discussion on the subject. The Council should adopt the four draft resolutions immediately, reserving the possibility of considering the other three texts at a later date or of referring them to the Co-ordination Committee.

24. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) was not in favour of the suggestion made by the Mexican representative. In the first place, the Council had already decided, at the beginning of the current session, how the various agenda items should be divided among the Council itself, the Co-ordination Committee and the Economic Committee. There was no reason to change that decision. Moreover, the reports and draft resolutions submitted by the regional economic commissions had already been considered

in plenary meeting. The draft resolutions had been studied in detail by the regional commissions; the Council had only to adopt them.

25. Following a procedural discussion between Mr. OLDS (United States of America), Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta), Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico), Mr. ABE (Japan) and Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom), Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) formally proposed that the discussion on the various draft resolutions submitted to the Council should be suspended, in accordance with rule 54 of the rules of procedure. That would enable delegations to hold consultations to determine the best procedure to follow.

26. The PRESIDENT put the proposal of the USSR representative to the vote.

*The proposal was adopted by 21 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 8

##### Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/4609, E/4706, E/4663):

- (a) United Nations Development Programme
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General

27. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the note by the Secretary-General (E/4663), which followed General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII), in which the Council had been requested to study the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development and to include in its report to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session, if possible, conclusions and recommendations on that subject.

28. Mr. COOMARASWAMY (Assistant Administrator, United Nations Development Programme) presenting the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP on its seventh and eighth sessions (E/4609 and E/4706), said that the conception of the first United Nations Development Decade as a failure was over-simplistic and therefore exaggerated. While there had indeed been disappointments, it was also true that never before in human history had so much been accomplished by national and international efforts in a single decade. When the first Development Decade had been promulgated, many had considered too bold the target of a 5 per cent rate of growth of aggregate national income. It was highly significant that, according to latest reports, the low-income countries as a group had already reached that target, even before the end of the decade. Admittedly, progress in the struggle against hunger, ignorance, disease and the other ills from which the developing countries suffered had not been as rapid as it might have been, and population

growth had diminished and in some cases wiped out benefits which might have been enjoyed. All things considered, however, the efforts of the low-income countries had produced heartening results.

29. For the first time, agricultural production had begun to increase more rapidly than population growth; the expansion of the industrial sector and other areas of infrastructure building, while uneven, had been generally impressive. Untapped natural resources had been uncovered and vast strides forward had been made in education and training. Advances in science and technology had been particularly outstanding during the decade, especially with regard to agriculture, industry, the production of raw materials, health and education.

30. One of the most important of the less tangible but hardly less critical accomplishments of the first Development Decade had been that the officials and private citizens in the developing countries had been caught up in what might be called a "rising tide of realism" and that those concerned with administering development assistance programmes had acquired both greater humility and greater confidence. It could therefore be said that, regardless of all that remained to be done, the over-all results of the first Development Decade had been positive, inasmuch as the lot of millions of children had been improved and attitudes were now more favourable to development.

31. In the view of the Administrator and his colleagues, the stage was set for the United Nations to serve as a "revolutionary instrument" for economic and social change, as the Secretary-General had said in his opening address read out at the 1603rd meeting. Among the positive achievements of the past few years was the growth in multilateral capital, technical and pre-investment assistance. For example, annual commitments for projects had risen from \$50.7 million in 1958 to \$237.2 million in 1963, and to \$430.4 million in 1969. At its eighth session, the UNDP Governing Council had considered various structural and procedural innovations designed to make technical assistance from the United Nations system more productive.

32. The two programmes adopted by the Governing Council at its seventh and eighth sessions represented a substantial new commitment of resources in the matter of technical assistance. They included 156 major new pre-investment projects and supplementary financing for undertakings in the Special Fund component, estimated to cost some \$329 million on completion; \$137 million had been earmarked from the central resources of UNDP and the equivalent of \$192 million was to be contributed in cash and kind by the recipient Governments. In addition, the Governing Council had earmarked approximately \$79 million for projects under the Technical Assistance component for the year 1969 and had approved the distribution of about \$85 million for technical assistance activities for 1970. In that connexion, there was reason to welcome the increased financial sup-

port of Member States, whose contributions had reached a new high level in 1969—\$196 million—7 per cent above the figure for 1968. However, that increase must not be allowed to generate complacency, for the needs to be met far exceeded the available resources.

33. On the whole, the main emphasis on the programmes approved in 1969 remained unchanged, although greater emphasis had been given to follow-up assistance to projects requiring continued support or to those with a relatively short initial phase of exploration and preparation as well as to projects calling for more systematic forms of inter-agency collaboration, industrial projects for the establishment of manufacturing industries and national and regional projects concerning transport and communications networks.

34. At its eighth session, the Governing Council had reviewed UNDP's operations in 1968. In that connexion, it should be pointed out, having regard to the small proportion of UNDP's share in the total United Nations budget, that in 1968 UNDP had provided \$212 million, including agency overhead costs, for the implementation of technical assistance activities in over 120 developing countries. That figure represented an increase of some \$40 million, or 25 per cent, above the 1967 level. An almost equal amount of project support by Governments had made it possible to launch or carry forward 3,400 projects, including 2,814 technical assistance undertakings.

35. In the Special Fund component, 595 major projects had been under implementation during 1968. On 31 May 1969, 248 projects had been completed since 1959, 589 had been under execution and 188 were being prepared.

36. The 1968 expenditure on projects in the Special Fund and Technical Assistance components had provided 8,200 experts, including the services of 1,000 consultants. About one-fifth of the experts had been nationals of sixty-six developing countries receiving UNDP assistance. In addition, over 8,000 fellowships had been awarded during the year, mainly under the Technical Assistance component.

37. While it was not possible to assess with any precision the total impact of UNDP, he wished to cite a few statistics which would indicate some measure of the achievements thus far. Pre-investment projects supported by UNDP had directly or indirectly stimulated investment commitments exceeding \$3,000 million.

38. Less readily quantifiable, but perhaps even more important, were the results being achieved by UNDP in education and training. UNDP had estimated that more than 300,000 persons in the developing countries had thus been able to upgrade their technical and professional skills. Furthermore, through laboratory work and applied research in UNDP-assisted institutes, developing countries were adapting already proven modern technology to local conditions.

39. The Administrator had been able to hold a completely frank discussion with the Governing Council on the difficulties and shortcomings that militated against even more effective operations and to explore practical remedies with it. Further attention had been given, for example, to the problem of the better co-ordination of assistance efforts within the United Nations system. The Governing Council had again placed emphasis on the need for programming to originate at the country level and for making more use of the resident representative in order to ensure the co-ordination of the advice to be given to Governments on the use of UNDP resources. Another problem considered of primary importance was that of the timely recruiting of international field personnel. In that regard, the Governing Council had endorsed the Administrator's proposals and had urged still greater use of experts from developing countries.

40. The main policy decisions adopted by the UNDP Governing Council calling for specific action by the Economic and Social Council included the draft resolution on regional and inter-regional technical assistance projects (E/4706, annex III) and the draft resolution on the 1970 regular programme of technical assistance (E/4706, para. 305 (d)).

41. The Governing Council had taken a number of other decisions. First, in regard to the UNDP Revolving Fund, it had approved the arrangements for administering the fund as an entity and not having it sub-divided into designated amounts for particular purposes; henceforth, the fund would finance contingency activities prior to approval of projects under the Special Fund component, the execution of its investment-oriented feasibility studies and projects such as those under the Special Industrial Services programme. The size of the fund would be increased from \$8.5 million to \$12 million. Secondly, in regard to the mobilization of development capital, the Governing Council had endorsed the Administrator's proposal to finance from the Revolving Fund, up to a ceiling of \$200,000 per project, the preparation of short-term investment-oriented feasibility studies. Thirdly, the Governing Council had attached great importance to the Administrator's suggestion that UNDP should support, on an experimental basis, activities in basic research, particularly in agriculture, and had authorized the Administrator to exempt any Government or Governments requesting the implementation of such projects from having to provide counterpart support. Fourthly, in regard to family planning, a comparatively new area of UNDP activity, several members of the Governing Council had welcomed the agreement reached under which UNDP would be entrusted with the administration of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. Fifthly, in regard to industry and trade, the Governing Council had welcomed the increase in the volume of assistance being provided for industry and had also urged that UNDP should seek to improve trade more actively by co-operating closely with the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre. Sixthly, in regard to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the Governing Council had reaffirmed its

earlier decision to proceed as soon as possible with the fund's operations and had agreed that, as an interim measure, one way of utilizing resources would be to make available, for UNDP-assisted projects, equipment provided by contributing countries against their pledges to the fund. The Council had also requested the Administrator to explore wider possibilities for making the fund fully operational. Lastly, the Governing Council had discussed a suggestion put forward by the Administrator concerning the need for increasing UNDP's association with bilateral and other multilateral sources of technical co-operation.

42. At its eighth session, the Governing Council had heard an oral progress report by the Commissioner for the Capacity Study, Sir Robert Jackson. The first draft of the study would be ready by the end of September; it would then be circulated to the Governments and agencies concerned. The Governing Council had therefore decided to undertake a preliminary review of the report at its ninth session, in January 1970, and then to convene a special session in March 1970 for substantive consideration of the document.

43. With regard to UNDP's role in the Second Development Decade, the Administrator had already sent a number of observations to the bodies responsible for formulating an international development strategy. The members of the Governing Council generally endorsed the view that the primary role of UNDP should be that of an instrument for assisting the implementation of that strategy. The Administrator was acutely aware that whatever combination of elements might be incorporated in the global development strategy, massive injections of technical and pre-investment assistance were a prerequisite for the more rapid progress of the developing countries. Furthermore, none of the targets put forward could be met alone by transfusions of capital and more enlightened trade policies; the countries' own endeavours were the first prerequisites of progress. To organize those endeavours, most of the countries would need technical and pre-investment assistance on a much larger scale than ever before. UNDP would therefore have an increasingly important role to play in the future. Aware of the needs of the future and of the realities of the present, the Administrator had set attainable targets. While it was disappointing to note that the goal of \$350 million for 1970 suggested by the Secretary-General was not likely to be reached, the approximately \$200 million pledged for 1969 made it possible to hope that the level of \$250 million would be reached in 1970. In that connexion, the Administrator and his colleagues had been heartened by the news that the executive head of the Government of the largest contributor had recommended an increase of over 40 per cent in its contribution to UNDP.

44. Mr. HOO (Commissioner for Technical Co-operation), referring to the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP on its seventh and eighth sessions, said that the Governing Council had a twofold responsibility in reviewing the United Nations technical co-operation programme, namely, to review United Nations activities as

a participating and executing agency, and to review and approve the regular programme of technical co-operation.

45. The Economic and Social Council also had before it a note from the Secretary-General (E/4663) which was intended to assist it in its consideration of General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII) calling on the Council to consider the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development. The Secretary-General, believing that youth increasingly wished to become involved in the development process, considered that a volunteer service would provide a means of making a positive contribution to development programmes of the United Nations system.

46. At its seventh session, the Governing Council of UNDP had had before it a study by the Secretary-General (DP/RP/6 and Add.1) on the purposes and objectives of the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation and its relationship to the programmes of UNDP. The study illustrated the special role of the regular programme and its usefulness, indicating that its importance transcended the relatively modest sums appropriated for it. The regular programme was an important source of funds, not only for projects for technical assistance in the fields of social development and public administration, but also for such projects carried out at the interregional and sub-regional levels. Furthermore, it was the only source of financing for the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and the programme of technical co-operation in the field of narcotic drugs. It was therefore one of the basic elements of United Nations efforts to promote regional co-operation and to implement the development policies established by the General Assembly and the Council and its subsidiary bodies. The Governing Council of UNDP had endorsed the recommendations concerning the future orientation and role of the regular programme of technical co-operation which the Secretary-General had submitted in paragraph 8 of his study.

47. Those recommendations had been followed as far as possible in the formulation of the 1970 regular programme, which had been approved by the Governing Council at its eighth session, when it had welcomed the emphasis placed on public administration and social development.

48. He drew the Council's attention to paragraph (d) of the decision adopted by the Governing Council (E/4609, para. 181), which contained the changes proposed by the Secretary-General in the programming and budgeting procedures for part V (Technical programmes) of the United Nations budget, and which required action by the Economic and Social Council.

49. By virtue of that decision, the current system of separate section appropriation for part V of the regular budget would be converted to a chapter approach in the form of targets to be applied to the major fields of activity, including industrial development. In its resolution

23 (III), the Industrial Development Board had recommended the retention of a separate section for industrial development in part V (see E/4708). Some members of the Governing Council of UNDP, at its eighth session, had expressed their disappointment at the Industrial Development Board's recommendation and had recognized that the question would have to be resolved by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session.

50. He emphasized the extent of the technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General in 1968. The appropriations for 1968 had been used to send 2,374 experts to 108 developing countries and territories and to grant 1,821 fellowships to fellows from 124 different countries for study in eighty host countries. In addition, as of 30 April 1969, the United Nations was serving as executing agency for 182 Special Fund projects with a total cost of \$367.2 million. The Secretary-General was constantly striving to improve technical assistance by a whole series of measures.

51. In 1968, 49 per cent of regular programme resources, 19 per cent of technical assistance resources and 26 per cent of expenditures on Special Fund project had been devoted to projects at interregional and regional levels.

52. It was the policy of the United Nations to involve the regional economic commissions and UNESOB more deeply, not only in its technical co-operation activities but also in the planning and programming of all technical co-operation within their respective regions. It was looking into ways of expanding their role in preparing and carrying out regional projects, appraising Special Fund projects requested by countries in their region, commenting on the reports of experts and participating in *ad hoc* country missions.

53. The Secretary-General trusted that, with increased resources, better planning and operational methods and closer collaboration between agencies of the United Nations system, and taking into account the resources available from bilateral programmes, the technical co-operation programmes of the United Nations would result in strengthening its contribution towards achieving the objectives of the Second Development Decade.

54. Mr. CAPPELEN (Norway) said that, with the support of the developing and the developed countries, UNDP had become the largest international pre-investment and technical assistance agency in existence: in 1969, more than 100 Governments were expected to contribute about \$200 million. His Government attached the greatest importance to UNDP, which clearly enjoyed the full confidence of the developing countries, and it channelled through that body a considerable part of its appropriations for development assistance.

55. The increase in voluntary contributions to UNDP was encouraging, even though the rate had slackened in 1969. That tendency should not be allowed to continue

and thus result in stagnation in the growth of contributions to UNDP. Norway intended to continue to increase its contributions. In that connexion, it should be remembered that six relatively small countries were at present supplying more than 30 per cent of the voluntary contributions to UNDP, a proportion approximately four times higher than their regular share of the United Nations budget. It was therefore heartening to note that the President of the United States had recently announced his intention to maintain and increase his country's contribution to UNDP; he hoped that that announcement would be taken as a challenge by other countries.

56. His country was also concerned with finding ways of increasing the efficiency of UNDP. When the results of the important Capacity Study being carried out by Sir Robert Jackson were known, radical changes might be found necessary. A number of changes had already been made as a result of the preparatory consultations, but the publication of the final report would provide a unique opportunity to undertake basic reforms, thus preparing the ground for improved operational efficiency during the Second Development Decade. It was essential that no momentum should be lost after the publication of the final report; his delegation therefore fully supported the decision to hold a special meeting of the Governing Council of UNDP in March 1970 to discuss the study. It would then be for the Council to ensure that the recommendations of the Governing Council were carried out.

57. UNDP was at the very heart of the development assistance activities being carried out by the United Nations family; it was in a position to ensure effective co-ordination at the field level and to integrate all the efforts being made towards development. Since the Administrator was responsible for all UNDP operations and was alone competent to recommend to the Governing Council the projects submitted by Governments, he had to follow closely the work of the executing agencies. The strengthening of the role of the UNDP resident representatives was, in the view of his delegation, the best means of enabling the Administrator to fulfil that responsibility.

58. Two of the decisions taken by the Governing Council of UNDP at its eighth session, namely, that relating to investment-oriented feasibility studies and that concerning a new type of support for agricultural research, warranted particular comment. With regard to the feasibility studies, it might be said that the record of UNDP so far—\$2,800 million in investment attracted by sixty-nine UNDP projects—was quite impressive. However, his delegation thought that there was still room for pre-investment work designed to attract from all sources capital for investment in the developing countries. His delegation wholly approved the decision to carry out new feasibility studies much less costly than the traditional type, aimed at directly securing financing for projects, whether prepared by UNDP or not. With regard to agricultural research, it seemed that one of UNDP's main tasks should be to spread knowledge of the revolutionary

results of basic agricultural research, particularly in connexion with the development of high-yield varieties of wheat and rice.

59. Like a number of other members of the Governing Council, his delegation believed that UNDP should support applied research rather than pure research; in other words, it should concern itself with the direct application of research in the developing countries by means of projects prepared on a national or regional basis.

60. The Governing Council's decision concerning the Revolving Fund had the full support of his delegation, since it introduced an element of flexibility which would enable the Administrator to respond to needs of the developing countries which required rapid action. Norway was also pleased that agreement had been reached concerning the activities of the Special Industrial Services.

61. With regard to the draft resolution submitted by UNDP to the Economic and Social Council concerning the regular programme of technical assistance for 1970

(E/4706, para. 305), and more particularly the third preambular paragraph, which mentioned a recommendation made by the Industrial Development Board at its third session, his delegation wished to draw attention to the decision taken by the Governing Council of UNDP at its seventh session (E/4609, para. 181). Under the terms of its decision, the Governing Council was to recommend that the Economic and Social Council should propose to the General Assembly the abolition of the system whereby appropriations under part V of the budget were required under separate sections. Without in any way wishing to reduce the funds available for industrial development, the importance of which was undeniable, his delegation still thought that the solution originally proposed by the Governing Council of UNDP would best meet the need for flexibility in the programme. Subject to that reservation, his delegation found the draft resolution acceptable. It also supported the draft resolution on the new procedures for regional and interregional technical assistance projects (E/4706, annex III).

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.





**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Thursday, 24 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3.5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 8:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(a) United Nations Development Programme	
(b) United Nations Capital Development Fund	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General ( <i>continued</i> ) .....	119

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 8

**Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/4609, E/4663, E/4706):**

- (a) United Nations Development Programme
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (*continued*)

1. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that the statement submitted by the Administrator of UNDP to the Governing Council at its eighth session<sup>1</sup> demonstrated both a laudable capacity for self-criticism and the imagination needed to meet the demands of the 1970s. The most significant proposal made in that statement was that a small proportion of programme funds should be devoted to basic agricultural research wherever there was a promise of improving nutrition, using *inter alia* research organizations outside the United Nations system. The proposal had the support of FAO, and his delegation welcomed the decision of the Governing Council (E/4706, para. 191 (b)) authorizing the Administrator to submit such projects in future programmes.

2. The Administrator fully realized the importance of ensuring that preinvestment projects led to investment; preinvestment studies must be designed to yield results more promptly, in a form which gave potential investors the information necessary for their decisions. Potential investors, whether private individuals, national firms, Governments or international organizations, must be associated with such projects from the outset and be consulted on their design and methods. They also needed prompt access to the reports prepared; Governments desiring UNDP assistance in obtaining investment should co-operate in forwarding the results of the preinvestment study to the potential investor as quickly as possible.

3. The proposal to devote more assistance to local banks, savings societies and credit unions in mobilizing domestic

capital was extremely welcome. The task would be of vital importance to the success of the Second Development Decade, and he believed that the developing countries would be eager to take advantage of such assistance. In an endeavour to make better use of the Revolving Fund, the Administrator had been authorized to undertake special short-term investment feasibility studies; the fund was to be increased from \$8.5 million to \$12 million and administered as a single unified fund (E/4706, para. 245). Those measures would enhance the efficiency of the programme in general.

4. The Council was well aware of the need to improve the co-ordination of aid from different sources, in order to provide countries with an integrated programme of external assistance. The UNDP proposal in that connexion opened the door to co-ordination not only among international sources of assistance, but also with bilateral sources. Any such measure was subject to the consent of the Governments concerned, but it was an important step in the right direction. The proposed new arrangements for regional and inter-regional technical assistance projects were in the interests of Governments, and his delegation would support the draft resolution set forth in annex III to document E/4706.

5. It was to be hoped that the UNDP Capacity Study would provide a blueprint for the organization needed to attain the objectives of the Second Development Decade. His delegation welcomed the Governing Council's decision to give prompt attention to the final report of the Commissioner for the Capacity Study (E/4706, para. 214 (c)), and supported the suggestion made by the French delegation to the Governing Council that the report should first be circulated in the original language only, in order to give Governments extra time to study it and to prepare for the discussion. He hoped that the Governing Council and the specialized agencies would be in a position to submit concerted proposals for action on the study to the Council at its forty-ninth session, so that the Council, in its turn, might make recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session.

6. The United Kingdom was a firm supporter of the regular programme of technical assistance, and welcomed the draft resolution submitted by the Governing Council (E/4706, para. 305 (d)). As to the arrangements for approval and review of the regular programme, his delegation supported the proposals made by the Secretary-General to the Governing Council at its seventh session.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Document DP/L.108.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, E/4609, para. 177.*

7. With regard to the proposal to create an international corps of volunteers (see E/4663), negotiations were in progress with a view to the preparation of a draft resolution.

8. Mr. VAKIL (Observer for Iran), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, said that youth in the developing countries was the largest source of manpower and the most dynamic factor for change. His Government believed that volunteer service afforded an excellent opportunity for young people to make a positive contribution to economic and social progress.

9. During the past five years, over 15,000 young people had participated in nation-building projects in Iran. Under the dynamic leadership of the Shahinshah, the Government of Iran had set up a literacy corps, a health corps, an agricultural extension and development corps and a women's corps. After six months' professional training, participants spent eighteen months as teachers in rural schools, medical aides in remote villages, agricultural extension workers or community development assistants. The programme was of immediate benefit to the villagers, acquainted educated people with the tasks of development, and gave the young volunteers a sense of dedication and an enthusiasm for the promotion of progress and prosperity.

10. The success of the programme had led the Shahinshah to propose in 1968 the establishment of an international corps of volunteers for development, and the General Assembly, at its twenty-third session, had unanimously adopted resolution 2460 (XXIII) requesting the Council to study the feasibility of the idea. The background information supplied by the Secretary-General (E/4663) would greatly facilitate the Council's task; he drew attention, in particular, to the comments made by the special rapporteurs to the Commission for Social Development (E/4663, annex, C.1, paras. 84 and 85).

11. His Government believed that the effectiveness of such volunteers would be greatly enhanced if they were united in an international corps under the United Nations flag. The objectives of the corps should be to strengthen the development effort by extending the range of assistance provided by senior experts, and to tap the reservoirs of energy and talent of youth. Such an international corps would offset the reluctance of some countries to accept too many volunteers from any one country, would provide an opportunity for participation by volunteers from developing countries, and would facilitate the exchange of experience on a people-to-people basis. As a partnership between developed and developing countries involving both international and local personnel, it would promote both development and international understanding. It would be entirely in keeping with the purposes of the United Nations and of UNDP, and the idea of volunteer service had the approval both of the Secretary-General and of the Administrator.

12. Without replacing experts, volunteers would help to bridge the communications gap between those providing

and those receiving aid; the experience of FAO, which had used volunteers for the past five years, was a valuable guide. As his Government saw the scheme, the volunteers would serve without regard to financial gain; the corps would be open to volunteers from all parts of the world who possessed the necessary qualifications. They would aid specialists in all fields of activity in which they were considered necessary by the requesting Governments and UNDP experts, and would work in conjunction with local counterpart officials. Candidates would be nominated by Governments and non-governmental organizations, and individuals would be free to apply.

13. It was to be hoped that funds could be obtained from the same broad range of sources. His Government believed that the most suitable means of financing the corps would be a trust fund administered by UNDP. Recipient Governments would be expected to participate in meeting the local costs of the volunteers, which might be credited as counterpart contributions to UNDP; where a Government could not do so, local costs should be covered by the trust fund in order that all countries might benefit equally.

14. The services of volunteers should be used only in development programmes and projects certified as eligible by the executing agencies of the United Nations system; volunteers should not fill established posts at the Headquarters of the United Nations or its agencies. No volunteer should be sent to a country without its approval, or remain without its permission. The final decision regarding the number of volunteers and their assignment to specific programmes or projects would rest with the executing agency and the recipient country. It was desirable that volunteer personnel should acquire the legal status of international civil servants by taking a United Nations oath of office.

15. His Government wished to avoid creating unnecessary and expensive structures, and therefore favoured a simple and flexible working arrangement: the volunteer corps and the trust fund should be administered by UNDP.

16. The United Nations could appear in the eyes of youth either as part of a tired establishment or as a revolutionary instrument in the search for global partnership. As one step towards the second alternative, his delegation hoped that the Council would take action on the General Assembly resolution.

17. Mr. AKSIN (Turkey) said that the reports submitted showed the efficiency of the Governing Council's work and the dynamic nature of UNDP's response to the changing and expanding needs of the developing countries. Even before the results of the Capacity Study were available, UNDP was broadening its activities and streamlining its operations. In particular, the improved reporting procedures, the new arrangements for the Revolving Fund, the introduction of short-term feasibility studies, the new measures for training counterpart personnel and the emphasis on an integrated regional approach would make for better use of the limited resources available and increase UNDP's effectiveness.

18. His delegation hoped that the proposed investments in basic agricultural research, which would necessarily mean a reduction in direct technical assistance, would be made only when there was a reasonable certainty of immediate tangible benefits to the developing countries. He was glad that UNDP was henceforth to administer the Special Fund for Population Activities (E/4706, para. 95); it would thus be able to render valuable aid in family planning, and he hoped that Member States would contribute generously to that fund. It would also be desirable for UNDP to expand its activities in connexion with tourism, where judicious investment could lead to a rapid increase in foreign currency earnings. His delegation looked forward to learning the conclusions of the Capacity Study and the ensuing decisions of the Governing Council.

19. There were a number of delays in the execution of Special Fund projects. First, there was a delay between the submission of a request to the Administration and its approval by the Governing Council; it was to be hoped that the backlog of such requests could be reduced. After approval of a request by the Governing Council, delays often arose from the failure of the participating agencies to agree on their respective roles and jurisdictions, and from the difficulty of recruiting suitable experts. The latter task was not an easy one, but recruiting unsuitable experts was no solution.

20. His delegation supported the draft resolutions submitted by the Governing Council in paragraph 305 (d) of, and annex III to, the report of its eighth session (E/4706).

21. Turkey had voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 2186 (XXI) establishing the United Nations Capital Development Fund; it was somewhat discouraged that the only result of efforts to implement that resolution was to be a token exchange of equipment among the developing countries themselves, rather than the financing of capital investment projects by a substantial flow of funds from the developed to the developing countries.

22. His delegation had listened with interest to the statement made by the representative of Iran; it welcomed the initiative taken by the Shahinshah with a view to the establishment of an international corps of volunteers.

23. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) said that UNDP had already rendered great services to the developing countries and would no doubt continue to do so. The funds allotted to UNDP were not always commensurate with the importance of the projects to be covered, but the efficiency of its field work and of its administrative staff had won it the sympathy of all the developing countries and of many developed countries. Developing countries sometimes took a diffident view of bilateral aid and other types of multilateral aid, but they had no misgivings about UNDP.

24. His delegation noted with satisfaction the steps taken by the Administrator of UNDP to bring the Capital Development Fund into operation, and hoped those efforts would continue until the fund was fully effective. It was

regrettable that the developed countries had shown some mistrust of the fund and reluctance to contribute to it. The Administrator should explore other possibilities of utilizing the existing and future resources of the fund and should consult international financial institutions, particularly the regional development banks. He appealed to all Member States, whether developed or developing, to make every effort to supply the fund with the resources it required, in cash or in kind, to meet the aspirations of the developing peoples. As the Turkish representative had suggested, the purpose of General Assembly resolution 2186 (XXI) had to some extent miscarried; it was to be hoped that that situation would soon be remedied.

25. Although the Special Fund and Technical Assistance components had been under a single management for some years, problems of co-ordination still persisted. Every effort should be made to ensure that the work of UNDP was not hampered by bureaucratic rigidity. There was also a danger that UNDP might be loaded beyond its capacity; it might be advisable to impose a limit to its work load so as to ensure that unwieldiness of size did not prevent rapid action for development.

26. With respect to the study on the problem of personnel training, his delegation agreed with the Administrator that measures should be taken to improve the training activities of both components of UNDP. To that end the number of fellowships for counterpart personnel should be increased considerably and every effort should be made to ensure that fellowship study took place at local or regional establishments.

27. His delegation noted with particular satisfaction the decision by UNDP to help the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in his work for African refugees; it was to be hoped that such assistance would be expanded; it was the responsibility of the entire international community, which had taken no action to cure the evil at its source.

28. Those countries receiving UNDP assistance which possessed the necessary resources should gradually take over a bigger proportion of the cost of projects; poorer countries, such as his own, might reasonably expect UNDP to take their difficulties into account.

29. He urged the participating and executing agencies to make every effort to eliminate delays in the execution of projects approved by the Governing Council; such delays were apt to upset the time-tables for development in the recipient countries.

30. In matters of family planning, UNDP should be careful to abide by the general principle that projects should be launched only at the request of the recipient Government.

31. The practice of allocating a fixed proportion of UNDP funds to regional and inter-regional projects should be discontinued; such projects should be financed as UNDP's total resources permitted.

32. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should grant a request for a hearing on agenda item 8 (c) which had been addressed to him by the Secretary-General of the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service, an inter-governmental organization which had long been in contact with the United Nations system.

*It was so decided.*

33. Mr. SKATARETIKO (Yugoslavia) observed that the Technical Assistance component of UNDP had been in existence for twenty years and that the Special Fund component had been operationally active for ten years. Both had contributed substantially to the identification of the natural resources of the developing countries and to the preparation of projections for their future development on the basis of modern science and technology. Many projects partly financed by UNDP had helped in mobilizing the natural resources of the developing countries. UNDP was undoubtedly the most important multilateral body engaged in financing pre-investment activities with a view to the economic and social development of the developing countries.

34. Although the sums earmarked for Special Fund projects at the eighth session of the Governing Council were considerably smaller than those approved at the previous session, his delegation was pleased to note that industry was now far better placed than formerly in the allocation of projects and that UNIDO was beginning to fulfil the role assigned to it by the General Assembly. UNDP should co-operate more closely with UNCTAD in initiating and approving trade projects, and should increase the number of projects concerned with science and social development.

35. From particulars of requests received and resources allocated to Special Fund projects,<sup>3</sup> it would be seen that approximately 70 per cent more requests had been submitted than the Special Fund had been able to finance in the first decade of its existence. The number of requests was evidence of the enormous efforts which the developing countries were making to overcome their economic backwardness, and of the increased capacity of those countries to absorb financial resources. In such circumstances, the question arose how far UNDP was capable of meeting the growing needs of the developing countries. Without an increase in its financial resources, the requests he had mentioned could not be met within the next ten years.

36. It was therefore vital that voluntary contributions to UNDP, particularly from the advanced countries, should be expanded considerably. His Government, like many others, had progressively increased its contributions to UNDP over the years and felt that the process should continue. The appeal made by the Secretary-General for an increase in contributions to UNDP to \$350 million by 1972<sup>4</sup> must be met in full if the international community genuinely

<sup>3</sup> See DP/SF/R.8 and addenda.

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 1A*, para. 110.

desired to reduce the ever-widening gap between the elementary needs of the developing countries and their resources. In that connexion, the announced intention of the United States to increase its contribution to UNDP by 43 per cent, announced at the 1604th meeting, was an encouraging sign.

37. The next question to be considered was whether the United Nations machinery was geared to make rational and effective use of the anticipated increase in financial resources. His delegation hoped that the Capacity Study would indicate ways of eliminating the existing weaknesses in that machinery. The study should take into account activities which were now in the embryonic stage but which should play a significant part in the global development strategy for the future. Such activities included the Capital Development Fund. It was regrettable that the developed countries still maintained a negative attitude towards that fund. Its significance for the developing countries was amply demonstrated by their readiness to make the largest possible contributions to it. He believed that the developed countries would soon come to realize why the developing countries considered that the fund's operational activities would render the whole United Nations system more efficient and profitable in the coming decade. His delegation welcomed the decision taken by the Governing Council at its eighth session (E/4706, para. 286 (b) and (c)).

38. Mr. BITTREMIEUX (Belgium) observed that UNDP was constantly evolving in an endeavour to meet the needs of the developing countries more effectively. Its activities were increasing in complexity as a result of the widening of preparatory aid, the introduction of internal evaluation machinery and provision for the study of follow-up investment. They were also increasing in variety, as witness the so-called initial-phase projects, feasibility studies and regional research projects exempt from the requirement of counterpart contributions. Procedure was also evolving, as witness the continuous programming system of the Technical Assistance component, the new system for introducing regional technical assistance projects and the removal of separate divisions from the Revolving Fund. All such developments were welcome, for they demonstrated the desire to meet requirements more effectively and more flexibly and were consistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX).

39. The resolution specified that each of the two components was to retain its special characteristics, budget and procedures. As to the first of those requirements, some Special Fund projects seemed more concerned with technical assistance than with pre-investment, while others did not appear really appropriate for either component. That situation weakened the separation of budgets, while the new organization of the Revolving Fund broke down the barriers between contingency assistance (Technical Assistance) and preparatory assistance (Special Fund). The procedures of the two components were still distinct but lacked uniformity. For instance, the Administrator was authorized to approve any Technical Assistance projects which involved less than \$200,000, whereas all Special

Fund projects, whatever their cost, had to be submitted to the Governing Council.

40. The purpose of General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX) had been to combine the two components; in practice they had merely been articulated more or less superficially and on a relatively short-term basis. In view of the evolution of UNDP—in itself a welcome development—it might be desirable to consider the idea of merging the two budgets more effectively and making the two sets of procedure more uniform.

41. Problems of co-ordination arose between the agencies of the United Nations system and between different sources of aid. He was glad to note that closer links were being forged between the various organizations of the United Nations system; the new method of joint programming should make it possible to integrate activities by country and by region, and to end independent programming by each organization. The agreement reached between UNDP and FAO concerning agricultural technical advisers illustrated what could be done in the direction of integrated technical representation in the field. Representation at country level should be considered from the standpoint of United Nations economic and social activities as a whole rather than from that of individual agencies, and it was better to strengthen UNDP field offices, directly or indirectly, than to leave each agency to establish its own local offices.

42. The co-ordination of United Nations activities with other programmes, bilateral or regional, was equally important. His Government had informed the Administrator of UNDP that it was fully prepared to establish closer links between UNDP and its own bilateral programme, both in the exchange of information and in field execution; it had instructed its diplomatic representatives to maintain closer liaison with the resident representatives.

43. In the coming Development Decade, the regional approach to development problems would be increasingly important. Unfortunately, UNDP regional projects, especially those of the Technical Assistance component, were open to criticism. The evaluation of various training projects had revealed serious weakness and gaps. It was clear from the Administrator's statement to the Governing Council at its eighth session<sup>5</sup> that not all seminar-type projects were suited to the specific development needs, opportunities and resources of the participating countries. The Special Fund regional projects were probably more effective but raised problems, for example with regard to counterpart requirements. The new procedure concerning Technical Assistance regional projects, which gave the initiative to the countries concerned rather than to the executing agencies, was an improvement, but it would be well to review the principles governing such projects—their type, their objectives and their duration—in an endeavour to improve their efficiency.

<sup>5</sup> Document DP/L.108.

44. The report of UNITAR on evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation (E/4649) confirmed that the participating agencies had difficulties in meeting their commitments, and particularly in the recruitment of experts. The same definition of an international expert had been in use for twenty years. Yet in such activities as rural development, young people working alongside the local authorities, and supervised by qualified specialists, could make up in enthusiasm and devotion what they lacked in experience. One way, therefore, to compensate for the shortage of suitable staff was to modify the conditions of recruitment for experts in certain sectors. Other appropriate measures included the maintenance of an inter-agency card index, the standardization of procedure, training for experts, and increased use of experts from developing States. Again, he was by no means sure that all participating agencies had paid sufficient attention to sub-contracting, including the placement of sub-contracts with scientific, university and research institutions. Many of the points he had mentioned would doubtless be dealt with in the Capacity Study.

45. His country was in favour of volunteer service. Some 760 voluntary workers belonging to Belgian organizations had been active in the developing countries at the end of 1968. Voluntary service in Belgium was left to private initiative; the State intervened only in order to enrol approved volunteers for social security. His delegation considered that voluntary workers had an important part to play in supplementing the work of experts; that the activities of voluntary workers should be linked as systematically as possible with development projects, including UNDP projects; and that any new voluntary work prompted by the United Nations should be administered through the existing machinery. The Secretary-General's note (E/4663) was a useful starting point but raised a number of questions which called for further study.

46. Mr. ENNALS (World Federation of United Nations Associations), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that the United Nations and its agencies were revolutionary in purpose in that they were committed to changing the nature of society. That challenge had not yet been fully communicated to public opinion, old or young. His organization believed that it would be impossible to make a success of the Second Development Decade unless young people in both developed and developing countries recognized the importance of the event and became directly involved in development programmes, either at home or abroad. His organization was directly concerned with the selection, recruitment and training of young people for volunteer programmes, under which some 200 qualified young people were at present working on bilateral or multilateral projects in forty countries. It had therefore welcomed the appeal of the Shahinshah of Iran for increased United Nations efforts in connexion with volunteer programmes.

47. Unskilled young people could make a valuable contribution to some aspects of reconstruction and development, but his organization's programmes were concerned basically

with the use of qualified personnel who had not yet gained enough experience to be experts. United Nations volunteers should never be in competition with young people of the developing countries, or regarded as a substitute for experienced experts. They could perform many tasks for which local personnel had not yet been trained in adequate numbers and which did not call for the special experience of experts. His organization had collaborated with UNHCR, UNRWA, UNDP, FAO, ITU, ECA and UNICEF, and greatly appreciated their willing co-operation. Recent visits to twelve countries in North and West Africa, where volunteers were at present working, had shown not only that they were making a useful contribution, but that many more volunteers could be absorbed.

48. The World Federation of United Nations Associations agreed with all the basic assumptions made by the Secretary-General (E/4663, paras. 12-16) and endorsed the Universal Charter of Volunteer Service drawn up by the Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service. Of the five possibilities listed in paragraph 22 of the Secretary-General's note regarding the nature of a volunteer corps, his organization opposed options (a) and (c) and favoured option (d), for a corps which was part of the United Nations system and administered by UNDP. The name "volunteer corps" might prove confusing; his organization would prefer to see the Council establish a United Nations volunteer programme as an integral part of UNDP.

49. Appropriate arrangements would have to be worked out for financing volunteers within the United Nations system. The entire cost should not be met by the country supplying the volunteers, since volunteers from more munificent countries might then be chosen in preference to more suitable volunteers from other countries. It would be better to arrange for the recipient country to pay part of the costs, so as to discourage requests for volunteers as a cheap alternative to experienced experts. The local costs of volunteers should be included in the project budget.

50. With regard to timing, it would be a mistake to send thousands of United Nations volunteers into the field without adequate preparation. However, volunteers were already being used effectively within the United Nations system. He hoped that any resolution adopted by the Council would encourage United Nations organs and agencies to increase the use of volunteers in their respective programmes and that the Council would ask the Secretary-General to plan an expanded United Nations volunteer programme to coincide with the Organization's twenty-fifth anniversary. The World Federation of United Nations Associations would be glad to take part in further consultations on the subject. The launching of a United Nations volunteer programme, if properly handled, could do much to win the support of young people for the Second Development Decade.

51. Mr. AL-ANSARI (Kuwait) said that developing countries attached special importance to UNDP's training activities because most of them lacked a competent public administration and had not yet adopted such useful aids to

resources utilization as cost accounting and market research. UNDP research programmes were also of great importance to such countries, which needed assistance in industrial as well as agricultural research. UNDP could play a major role in infrastructure development, which was unlikely to attract foreign investment. His country particularly welcomed UNDP's assistance in the development of transport and communications, hydroelectric power, geothermal energy projects and river basin development; developing countries could not undertake projects in those fields with their own unaided resources.

52. UNDP could contribute to the formation of a global development strategy, for its experience embraced the entire range of United Nations assistance activities. However, it would have to co-operate more closely with other agencies in the preparations for the Second Development Decade. The success of UNDP's operations was borne out by the steady increase in voluntary contributions, although its total resources were still small in relation to the needs of the developing countries. However, experience had shown that the quality of assistance was often more important than the quantity. He hoped that there would be broader regional co-operation in future. He supported the idea that UNDP resident representatives should attend the Council's sessions.

53. Expressing Kuwait's appreciation of the assistance received in connexion with desalination, he announced his Government's willingness to share its experience in that field and would welcome visits by experts and government representatives to its desalination plants.

54. Mr. MAHDAVI (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) said that frequent consultations took place between the Executive Director of UNIDO and the Administrator of UNDP on matters of common interest. That applied *inter alia* to the programming and approval of projects under the Special Industrial Services programme. The Industrial Development Board, at its recent session, had expressed the hope that the UNDP Governing Council would take appropriate action to ensure the availability of funds for the continued operation of that programme in view of the increasing number of requests for such assistance. The Administrator had responded by proposing that about \$2 million should be made available annually in the form of a revolving fund for expenditure under the Special Industrial Services programme, with a ceiling of \$4 million for commitments in any one year. UNIDO welcomed that arrangement and hoped that the assistance requirements of developing countries under the Special Industrial Services programme would be reviewed at future sessions of the Governing Council in order to ensure the availability of funds consistent with the programme's past development and commensurate with future needs.

55. The Industrial Field Adviser programme was another area in which UNIDO collaborated with UNDP. The field advisers had been instrumental in ensuring better co-ordination of United Nations activities in industrial development at country level. Of the ten advisers already assigned

to selected groups of countries, some were also acting as liaison officers with the regional economic commissions and UNESOB. He was glad to note that the Governing Council recognized the need to expand the programme along the lines indicated by the Industrial Development Board, and that the Administrator of UNDP intended to accede to UNIDO's request for ten more industrial field advisers in 1970 in order to meet the growing need for their services.

56. The Industrial Development Board had also emphasized the need to increase UNIDO's participation in technical assistance programmes. It had expressed the view that the resources made available to UNIDO should be increased, that the present proportion of industrial projects in UNDP was inadequate and that UNIDO should place more emphasis on the expansion of field activities. In 1968, UNIDO had been entrusted with eight Special Fund projects, accounting for only 4.7 per cent of the total UNDP programme. He was glad to note that many members of the Governing Council had expressed the hope that UNIDO would be given greater responsibility for the execution of industrial projects.

57. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) expressed appreciation of the efficient proceedings of the UNDP Governing Council. Its report prompted four observations on ways of strengthening the work of UNDP.

58. First, the United States and other countries might substantially increase their contributions to UNDP if they were confident that the United Nations system had the capacity to provide services on a larger scale without sacrificing quality, efficiency or economy. The results of the UNDP Capacity Study should therefore be made known as soon as possible, so that a meaningful exchange of views could be held not later than at the January 1970 session of the Governing Council.

59. Secondly, existing resources had not hitherto been adequately used to increase the impact of assistance. That assistance could be greatly enhanced, for instance, through recourse to universities, research institutes and professional organizations which possessed the necessary competence and capacity. The private sector all over the world also had a stake in the process of development and was prepared to contribute to it. The role of youth was only one aspect of that global potential.

60. Thirdly, there were new kinds of international resources not yet sufficiently exploited for development purposes. It might be possible, for instance, to form consortia of corporations with the capacity to contribute to the comprehensive regional development of natural and human resources.

61. Fourthly, certain significant current trends could be strengthened in order to increase the impact of UNDP's services. In 1968, for example, the net flow of public and private assistance from the seventeen member countries of DAC had totalled \$12.9 billion, accounting for 95 per cent of all financial and technical assistance received by developing countries and representing almost 1 per cent of the

combined national income of the contributing OECD countries. During 1968, the capital flow to developing countries had increased by 15 per cent and loans had been granted by official agencies on considerably easier terms than hitherto. That flow of funds represented the pay-off on UNDP's extensive pre-investment and technical assistance activities. There was greater diversity in the sources of the flow of assistance, as many developed countries were rapidly increasing their contributions. Until recently, United States assistance had been well in the lead; in 1968, for the first time in OECD's history, the United States contribution, although higher than ever before, had represented substantially less than one-half the total net flow from DAC countries to developing countries. The recent slight decline in assistance from public sources had been more than offset by the sharp increase in the flow of private funds. Although bilateral assistance still accounted for over 90 per cent of the total, countries were channelling increasing financial assistance through multilateral agencies. Lastly, it was necessary to increase direct financial support to UNDP. The United States hoped to contribute \$100 million to UNDP in 1970, an increase of 43 per cent over 1969.

62. He would deal with the question of volunteers and the role of youth when a draft resolution on the subject was placed before the Council. His delegation supported the draft resolutions submitted so far under agenda item 8.

63. Mr. DUBEY (India) commended UNDP on its efforts to extend the scope of its activities to new areas of critical importance to the developing countries, to adapt its activities to those countries' needs, and to improve the quality of its assistance. The Capacity Study, which was nearing completion, would be a further step in that direction. At each successive session, the Governing Council made some progress in streamlining and improving the quality of UNDP. The revised procedure proposed by the Governing Council for programming regional and inter-regional projects embodied the principle that the choice of projects for which technical assistance would be sought rested entirely with the planning authorities of the recipient country. His delegation supported that proposal.

64. He was glad to note that substantial progress had been made in exploring the prospects for making the United Nations Capital Development Fund operational at an early date. He hoped that, in undertaking the further studies requested by the Governing Council, the Administrator would make suggestions designed to preserve the multi-lateral character of the fund and to enable recipient countries to obtain supplies from the most competitive source. The Capital Development Fund could not become effective until it received the unstinted support of developed countries. The developing countries had nevertheless decided to make the fund operational as soon as possible in order to demonstrate how great were its potentialities and how acute was the need for capital development assistance.

65. As his delegation had stated in the Governing Council, the United Nations regular programme of technical assist-

ance was justified by the fact of its continued existence. It had accumulated valuable expertise and contacts at the national, regional and international levels and had become an important adjunct to multilateral development activities.

66. The resources available for UNDP's activities were meagre in relation to the developing countries' needs. He regretted that the \$350 million target proposed by the Secretary-General for 1970 had had to be revised at a time when the developing countries' capacity for absorbing

assistance was increasing—partly as a result of UNDP's efforts—and when IBRD was doubling its lending activities. He was glad that the United States intended to increase its contribution to UNDP, and he hoped that other developed countries would do likewise, especially in view of the ambitious objectives envisaged for the Second Development Decade. UNDP had proved to be one of the most successful ventures in international assistance.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.





CONTENTS

Agenda item 8:	Page
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(a) United Nations Development Programme	
(b) United Nations Capital Development Fund	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (continued) .....	127

President: Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 8

Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/4609, E/4663, E/4706):

- (a) United Nations Development Programme
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (continued)

1. The PRESIDENT suggested that the list of speakers on agenda item 8 be closed.

*It was so decided.*

2. Mr. AITKEN (Jamaica) noted that UNDP was extending its activities into new areas, such as family planning, basic research and also finance, as mentioned in paragraph 99 of the report of the Governing Council on its eighth session (E/4706). That was a step in the right direction. It was, moreover, true that UNDP always reacted quickly and positively to real needs, as the action taken in the case of the Capacity Study showed. It went without saying that the expansion of UNDP had been made possible by the voluntary contributions, which, although they had fallen short of expectations, were showing a steady increase.

3. One very controversial aspect of UNDP was the United Nations Capital Development Fund. In view of the fact that the fund's resources were very limited and were made up mostly of non-convertible currencies (90 per cent), it had to be admitted that it was almost impossible for the Administrator to carry out the mission assigned to him. For that reason, the Jamaican delegation had supported the Administrator's decision to take a pragmatic approach.

4. Finally, his delegation would vote for the two resolutions submitted by the Governing Council of UNDP to the Economic and Social Council for approval (E/4706, para. 305 and annex III), although it regretted that the

Council had to refer to the General Assembly a matter which mainly concerned co-ordination, as was the case of the draft resolution on the 1970 regular programme (E/4706, para. 304).

5. Mr. VIAUD (France) emphasized the importance of the annual discussions on the United Nations development activities, which made it possible to take stock of the situation and to exchange views on the direction UNDP should take in order to speed up the economic and social progress of the less favoured countries. The French delegation considered UNDP to be a body which took action on behalf of the international community while promoting co-operation and co-ordination between the international organizations and national bodies. It served first of all as an organ for action by the international community through the economic, technical and educational projects carried out in the developing countries. In that connexion, there was reason to be pleased that UNDP, chiefly for humanitarian reasons, had recently become concerned with possible measures for remedying protein deficiencies. With regard to educational projects, note should be taken of the intention to give new impetus to technical assistance in public administration. That was a field which, strictly speaking, fell more in the domain of the United Nations regular programme, but as it was difficult to separate the various components of technical assistance in a given area, it also came within the province of the Governing Council of UNDP. His delegation fully approved that initiative.

6. UNDP also included a group of relatively new activities involving basic research in agriculture and population problems. As for the first activity, his delegation would be ready to encourage UNDP to finance basic research projects aimed at increasing agricultural production provided that the previous work and experience of national research institutes were taken into account. His delegation would agree to UNDP's taking action regarding the population problem with a view to helping certain countries to resolve their demographic problems and to train specialized personnel in birth control procedures, but on two conditions. First, as the Upper Volta representative had emphasized (1619th meeting), any UNDP action in that area must not be initiated unilaterally but must follow a formal request from the country concerned. Secondly, UNDP must never participate directly in carrying out such projects; at the formulation stage, any demographic policy was the responsibility of the public authorities and, at the implementation stage, it depended on the conscience of individuals and couples. Finally, whenever UNDP acted on a request for technical assistance in population matters, WHO should, whenever possible, be chosen as the executing agency in view of its long experience in that area.

7. The United Nations Development Programme was also a factor in co-operation and co-ordination at the international level, owing particularly to bilateral action, which had yielded encouraging results by considerably increasing the resources available within the framework of UNDP. Thus, the bilateral aid given by France under UNDP arrangements exceeded France's annual contributions to UNDP. Its total participation in United Nations technical assistance activities amounted to some \$10 million. UNDP was also a co-ordinator in that it usually chose United Nations specialized agencies as executing agencies, and co-ordination was involved in both project selection and the allocation of resources. In that connexion, it was to be hoped that Sir Robert Jackson's Capacity Study would help the Council to ensure the smooth operation of all aspects of technical assistance throughout the world. Without attempting to limit direct financing, UNDP should establish closer working relationships with the international and national financing bodies. Where IBRD was concerned, it could not be denied that the action taken by UNDP would have been ineffective in the absence of close co-operation between the two bodies and exhaustive consultations for the establishment of priorities.

8. His delegation continued to believe that some of the activities of the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance should be gradually assumed by the technical assistance component of UNDP, as had been done before in the case of the OPEX programme. The possibility might also be considered of expanding UNDP to include technical assistance in the field of public administration. Likewise, in order to tighten the working relationships with the executing agencies and the specialized agencies, the Geneva office of UNDP should be reinforced with staff transferred from New York and should be empowered to formulate operative plans—a function which, it should be emphasized, was a matter not of decision-making but of execution.

9. Mr. von SCHENCK (International Secretariat for Volunteer Service), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII), which followed a proposal by the Shah-inshah of Iran, had aroused interest among all those concerned with volunteer service.

10. The Economic and Social Council had been established at the end of the Second World War with the aim of safeguarding the newly won peace through development and international co-operation. If technical co-operation was to be effective there was obviously a need for experts, but also for agents who had to forgo any material advantage for the sake of direct contact with the population. In that connexion it was noteworthy that volunteers accounted for almost a third of the total personnel in bilateral technical co-operation. As the proportion was much lower in the case of multilateral aid he hoped that the Council would encourage organizations attached to the United Nations to draw increasingly upon the services of volunteers. The younger generation was aware of the privileges and duties arising from membership in the international community

and was keen to take part in development activities through international co-operation. The International Secretariat for Volunteer Service, along with other organizations, had accordingly decided to form multinational teams of volunteers and to make them available to Governments and to organizations attached to the United Nations, which should be encouraged to make greater use of them.

11. The number of volunteers had increased from 5,000 at the most in 1962 to some 100,000 in 1969, while voluntary service had at the same time entered new areas of activity. Volunteers no longer worked only overseas but also in their own countries. As an example it was sufficient to cite Iran, where there was one volunteer for every 2,000 inhabitants and where volunteer service had become an important factor in development. Efforts must be considerably increased, however, since at the world level the proportion was only one volunteer for every 300,000 inhabitants.

12. For that reason, the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service had greatly welcomed the idea put forward by the Iranian delegation regarding the establishment of a working group to examine possibilities and propose solutions. In that connexion, the considerable autonomy of voluntary organizations, even when governmental, should be noted and also the wish by volunteers to take part in the preparatory stage of activities in which they were participating. But, in addition to the establishment of a working group, organizations attached to the United Nations should be invited to associate, without discrimination, a greater number of volunteers in the implementation of their projects, and encouraged to use multinational teams of volunteers placed at their disposal by international organizations, provided of course there was an express request from the Governments concerned. The development services of developing countries should receive greater support in accordance with the aims of the Second Development Decade, and governmental and non-governmental organizations should increase their help in that sphere.

13. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) said that UNDP had become through the Special Fund and the Technical Assistance programme an important source of expert services, training and equipment services, and preinvestment studies, and gave considerable support to the efforts of the developing countries to increase their economic growth. Pakistan had derived many benefits from the UNDP and hoped that it would continue to expand to meet the growing needs of the developing countries during the Second Development Decade.

14. Although the pledged contributions for 1969 amounted to nearly \$200 million, which was an encouraging sign, the resources of UNDP must be increased. His delegation had been happy to learn that the President of the United States had proposed to the United States Congress an increase of 43 per cent in his country's contribution to UNDP; other countries should also be encouraged to increase their financial support.

15. The UNDP should support activities in pure and applied research. Much emphasis had been rightly laid on the problem of population control. Many developing countries, including Pakistan, were implementing large-scale family planning programmes, but the birth control techniques so far devised had not proved sufficiently effective and there was need for technological advance in that field; UNDP should give some attention to that subject.

16. It was very disappointing to note that contributions to the United Nations Development Fund remained extremely small and that 90 per cent of the resources available were in non-convertible currency. His delegation therefore agreed with the decision of the UNDP Governing Council to initiate the fund's operations as soon as possible as an interim measure, and hoped that the UNDP Administrator would continue his consultations with Governments and international organizations with a view to finding ways of making the fund operational.

17. In conclusion, he drew attention to the interesting initiative of the Shahinshah of Iran in proposing the establishment of an international corps of volunteers for development.

18. Mr. SHERIF (Libya) congratulated the UNDP Administrator on his success in strengthening the technical assistance programmes in a consistent manner. The reports of the Governing Council reflected the increasing growth of multilateral capital assistance as well as technical and pre-investment assistance. It was noteworthy that priority had been given in the Special Fund component to projects for the development of agriculture, industry and infrastructure. Furthermore, UNDP gave a special emphasis to applied research and to training projects at the regional and inter-regional levels.

19. UNDP was an indispensable contribution to the building up of international co-operation but, as it implied a large transfer of skills through international organizations, several stages of experimentation were needed in order to determine the most effective procedures.

20. The responsibility for deciding upon technical assistance programmes should continue to rest with recipient Governments. It should be noted, however, that international organizations sometimes lacked sufficient understanding of the development problems of individual countries, which caused them to take an over-theoretical approach to technical assistance. The normal programmes of international organizations needed to be more closely oriented to the needs and problems of individual countries; those organizations should prepare comprehensive country studies within their fields of competence which would increase the effectiveness of their projects. The new system of "project programming" was very promising in that respect.

21. No technical assistance project could be successful, however, without the provision of counterpart personnel,

which should be assured at the outset of the project or at least in the course of its execution.

22. The available resources for technical assistance had been spread over too large a number of projects that had led not only to a dispersal of effort but also to the attaching of insufficient importance to the achievement of the desired results in a particular project. His Government believed that many Special Fund types of projects, particularly those concerned with general surveys, research and training, lent themselves to a regional or sub-regional approach in their formulation and implementation.

23. Projects executed under the technical assistance component and implemented on the basis of reimbursement of costs by recipient Governments, sometimes led to considerable difficulties because the resources needed for their execution had to be deposited in advance in special allocation funds: and the formulation of the projects required separate negotiations with each specialized institution. His Government had submitted several proposals to UNDP that projects implemented by means of such special allocation funds should be subject to the same procedure as the regular technical assistance programmes.

24. Mr. VILLALVA ACEVEDO (Mexico) was gratified to note that UNDP continued to expand regularly and was increasing its efforts to make the best possible distribution of the resources at its disposal.

25. His country, which had always supported UNDP—it had recently increased its contribution—felt that UNDP's activities were one of the best ways of accelerating the economic and social development of the developing countries. The work done in Mexico with the collaboration of UNDP had been carried out in an excellent atmosphere of understanding between Mexican and international personnel and the desired aims had been reached. Mexico had submitted important projects to UNDP for work needed in various fields.

26. Mr. ABE (Japan) noted that, over the past ten years, voluntary contributions to UNDP had continued to increase at an annual rate of about 13 per cent, rising from roughly \$55 million in 1959 to over \$183 million in 1968. That remarkable increase testified to the importance which the international community attached to the work of UNDP; for its part, UNDP had responded by constantly improving the quality and effectiveness of its activities.

27. The success of UNDP depended, however, on a number of factors which it was difficult to quantify, particularly the spirit of collaboration and confidence in the programme evinced by the developed and the developing countries. Admittedly, UNDP was still running into many difficulties: its resources were still inadequate, the recruitment of experts in the field was often a difficult matter, and the efficiency of the implementing bodies was not always fully satisfactory. Moreover, administrative costs

were still rising faster than the contributions of Member States.

28. The Governing Council and secretariat of UNDP should continue to study important questions such as the intensification of the co-ordination of activities in the field, the improvement of project-evaluation methods, the determination of priority sectors and the examination of the report by Sir Robert Jackson, Commissioner for the Capacity Study, which would cover a large number of highly varied topics.

29. His delegation fully supported the initiative taken by the Shahinshah of Iran in proposing the setting up of an international corps of volunteers for development, but considered that the enterprise raised many highly complex problems which should first be very carefully studied.

30. Mr. PANGGABEAN (Indonesia) noted with satisfaction that the scope of UNDP was steadily growing; its role in the implementation of an international development strategy would be of capital importance.

31. Although financial contributions to UNDP were increasing and had reached a record level in 1969, a slowing-down in the rate of increase had been noted in recent years. The trend was all the more disturbing in that the Governing Council of UNDP had stated in its report that investment efforts in the developing countries would have to be doubled if the rate of economic growth was to exceed that attained in the first United Nations Development Decade. The resources at present available for pre-investment activities were far too small to permit the attainment of the 6-7 per cent average growth rate laid down for the 1970s; the developed countries would therefore have to increase their contributions to UNDP.

32. The development of most of the developing countries called for urgent improvements in the agricultural sector; UNDP should give greater assistance to projects carried out in that sector, in order to accelerate the process of modernization which had already been achieved in some fields, such as food production. Agricultural development was, moreover, intimately connected with the problem of unemployment and underemployment. The abundant human resources of the Asian countries were not being fully utilized, so it was important that education, training and research should be fostered in the developing countries. Such efforts should not be viewed solely in terms of higher education: technical schools and vocational training centres should receive priority, with particular stress on agriculture. To a large extent, the initial success in food production had been due to the activities of extension workers, who had taught the farmer new methods and techniques; UNDP should take that aspect into account in its training programmes.

33. Then again, the trade sector was one of the most important factors of economic growth. In the view of his delegation, the absence of UNDP programmes concerned with trade and trade promotion should be remedied as soon

as possible. Although UNCTAD and GATT were more closely involved in the matter, trade was a sector which UNDP could not ignore. It was to be hoped that UNDP's initial approach to the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre would be followed up by the preparation of more practical programmes. His delegation was gratified to note the increasingly close co-operation between UNDP and UNIDO, and welcomed the approval of the Special Industrial Service projects which were to be carried out jointly by those two bodies.

34. The resources earmarked for Asia were still low in relation to its needs and the magnitude of its problems, and should be increased. The resources allocated to the developed countries of Europe, on the other hand, could be devoted to the development of less advanced regions whose need for them was much more pressing. Similarly, the richer countries should contribute proportionately more than the poor countries and, in some cases, counterpart costs should be reduced or waived entirely.

35. Recruitment procedures should be improved in order to avoid delays in project implementation. Serious consideration should also be given to the possibility of the recruitment of experts, whom many of the developing countries were already in a position to supply.

36. His delegation welcomed the closer links of co-operation between UNDP and IBRD. Since UNDP placed emphasis on the pre-investment aspects of projects, thus transforming them into bankable projects, IBRD and the other financing agencies were more readily able to provide the necessary financing. In Indonesia, for instance, a pre-investment study of highways carried out by UNDP had resulted in substantial credit-financing from IBRD.

37. The administration of the United Nations Fund for the Development of West Irian, which rested with the Administrator of UNDP, had resulted in some extremely valuable projects being carried out in that area.

38. His delegation was able to accept the general policy decisions which the Governing Council of UNDP proposed to adopt.

39. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) pointed out that, although the Governing Council of UNDP had in 1969 adopted 181 projects representing a total value of more than \$329 million, UNDP's resources were still far too small.

40. His delegation had already stated on several occasions that UNDP should play a more active part in industrial development activities, and was pleased to note that the number and scope of projects carried out in that field had increased. UNDP should give priority to the industrialization of the developing countries in accordance with the wishes of the General Assembly which, moreover, had created UNIDO. It should also strengthen the financial resources of UNIDO so as to enable that body to become an efficient organ for accelerating the industrialization of the developing countries.

41. Bulgaria, which itself needed assistance in the field of industrialization, gave UNDP all the financial aid it could afford. Its contribution in terms of experts was much greater, however, and more than 2,000 Bulgarians were at present working in various developing countries under bilateral and multilateral contracts.

42. Like many other countries, Bulgaria paid its contributions in non-convertible currencies; it would be useful if the UNDP secretariat could consider how advantage might best be taken of contributions in local currencies. The task should be a simple one.

43. Bulgaria was prepared to organize vocational and advanced training courses for specialists from the developing countries in sectors which had attained a level of achievement comparable with that of the more developed countries: for instance, in public health, agriculture, planning, prospecting for natural resources, mechanical engineering and so on. Bulgaria was at present organizing, in collaboration with some of the specialized agencies, several seminars to enable specialists from the developing countries to perfect their knowledge in those fields. In that respect it should be noted that Bulgaria was offering highly qualified specialists who should be employed in increasing numbers by the specialized agencies for carrying out projects in the developing countries.

44. With regard to the training of experts, his delegation supported the idea expressed at the eighth session of the Governing Council of UNDP, that those sent on mission to the developing countries should evince a genuine vocation for that kind of work. At the meeting of representatives of the national committees for the recruitment of experts, several delegations of developing countries had expressed the view that the draining-off of highly skilled cadres from their own countries to the developed countries could to some extent be checked if they were recruited for service with the international organizations; they could thus contribute to the development of the region. UNDP and Governments should make a thorough study of the problem.

45. The increasing number and variety of projects carried out by UNDP in the developing countries required that the role and responsibilities of the resident representatives should be strengthened, from the point of view both of the evaluation and of the implementation of projects. The co-ordinating role of the regional economic commissions should also be strengthened.

46. The development of UNDP activities held out a hope that UNDP would have greater financial resources at its disposal during the Second United Nations Development Decade, and that the rational utilization and distribution of those resources would make an appreciable contribution to the economic development of the less advanced countries. His delegation hoped that Sir Robert Jackson's Capacity Study would make for a more accurate assessment of the possibilities open to the international organizations in that respect, and offer specific recommendations for improving

the effectiveness of the work being done by United Nations bodies with regard to multilateral assistance in general.

47. Mr. RANA (India) paid a tribute to the Shahinshah of Iran for his initiative in favour of the formation of an international volunteer corps which could make an important contribution to the process of development, and would constitute a positive expression of the motives and aspirations of young people. In addition, it would be a means of giving widespread publicity to the work and aims of the Second Development Decade, and would mobilize public opinion.

48. He drew the Council's attention to the relevant recommendations of the Commission for Social Development and to the views expressed in the report of the special rapporteurs<sup>1</sup> appointed to undertake a review of technical co-operation activities in social development. He hoped the Council would comply with the steady stream of requests regarding the setting up of the volunteer corps.

49. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stressed that technical assistance projects, if implemented in good time and adapted to conditions in the recipient country, could make a great contribution to resolving economic and social problems in the developing countries. For that to be achieved, two requirements had to be fulfilled: the processing of applications for assistance and the implementation of approved projects should be speeded up, and care should be taken to ensure that the evaluation missions were made up of highly qualified experts chosen in accordance with the principle of geographical distribution. Those two requirements were far from being met.

50. The seventh and eighth sessions of the UNDP Governing Council had shown that industrialization held an increasingly important place among the problems to be resolved in the developing countries. His delegation hoped that the officials of UNDP would show understanding in that connexion, and noted the contribution that UNDP was making to the training of national experts and cadres; but it would have preferred the data set out on that subject in the reports on the seventh and eighth sessions (E/4609 and E/4706) to have included additional information, especially any which would have shown whether the recipient countries were satisfied with that type of assistance, and what experts they needed. A more detailed evaluation of the situation should be undertaken, in an attempt to work out future prospects.

51. His delegation was convinced that the expansion and improvement of UNDP's activities depended on the participation of all countries who were ready to share their knowledge and experience. It was eminently desirable that the German Democratic Republic should take part in those activities as of right. It was extremely regrettable that UNDP was wasting part of its resources in implementing projects in countries which could afford to join in aggression against Viet-Nam or attack the Arab countries.

<sup>1</sup> E/CM.5/432.

His delegation had noted the fall-off in applications for OPEX projects and the projects of phase II. It reaffirmed its position on the regular technical assistance programme, a position which it had already set out many times.

52. Mr. NYIRABU (United Republic of Tanzania) expressed his delegation's appreciation of the efforts which had already been made or were planned in the way of progress and innovations in UNDP's recruiting processes and principles. However, more must be done to speed up the consideration of applications for assistance submitted to UNDP. The idea of drawing up a full list of available experts should be energetically pursued. In addition, recipient countries should have a more effective right to oversee the final choice of applicants, because the personal element could be decisive, and only Governments were qualified to pronounce on the matter. In the case of some important posts, UNDP should endeavour to submit to the Governments concerned, for selection purposes, a list of the names of the experts; the best solution would even be to give recipient countries the right freely to recruit the experts of their choice.

53. Greater attention should also be paid to the possibility of sending trainees into local establishments, at least within a given region. UNDP should help such establishments to improve their installations.

54. Referring to the delays which sometimes occurred in the implementation of approved projects, he said that the existing system of earmarking sums within the funds made available should be replaced by a system allowing recipient countries to use them in a flexible way within the limits of credit allocations.

55. His delegation noted with satisfaction the effort which had been made to co-ordinate bilateral operations in the field and operations of the same type undertaken by UNDP. The exchange of technical information should be expanded and institutionalized. UNDP should be able to achieve more in that area, by training counterpart staff or supplying material for projects financed on a bilateral basis.

56. His delegation subscribed to the idea of convening a special session of the Governing Council to examine the Capacity Study, with the participation of Sir Robert Jackson. While that study was being completed, however, reforms or improvements that were found necessary should not be put off.

57. His delegation, which attached great importance to the United Nations Capital Development Fund and saw no danger of overlap with existing financial institutions, regretted the inadequate progress achieved in that matter. It hoped the fund would soon receive contributions from the developed countries, and was glad to note that the Administrator of UNDP was to examine the possibility of applying new methods of conducting the fund's operations and that he thought the fund's only problem was the

meagreness of its resources, which limited the scope of its operational activities.

58. Mr. RANA (India) thought it would be appropriate to hear the representative of the Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service.

59. The PRESIDENT proposed that that suggestion should be accepted, in conformity with operative paragraph 19 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

*It was so decided.*

60. Mr. HENDERSON (Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service) said that his Committee congratulated the Shahinshah of Iran on taking the initiative which had resulted in the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII). The Committee had had a long and close association with UNESCO and was currently planning, with the Out-of-School Department of UNESCO, three pilot projects on which multinational teams of volunteers would work with UNESCO experts on UNESCO-assisted projects.

61. The Committee brought together 130 affiliated member organizations. They were non-governmental voluntary organizations with headquarters in both the industrial and the developing countries. They were now tending on the whole to focus their activities on the implementation of projects directly related to the social and economic advancement of developing countries, in accordance with the Universal Charter of Volunteer Service, which had been approved in December 1968 by the sixteenth Conference of the Co-ordinating Committee.

62. He stressed young people's desire to participate in development programmes and contribute to combating the handicaps under which two-thirds of humanity laboured. The United Nations family was the obvious instrument through which a truly international programme of voluntary service should be organized.

63. At the same time, the Committee felt that an international scheme, especially during the initial phases, should be complementary to existing bilateral volunteer programmes, by reason of the experience which those organizations had in selecting, training and placing volunteers. As for the name to be given to any United Nations volunteer programme, in order to avoid causing confusion and misunderstanding it could simply be called an international voluntary service.

64. The Committee considered it vital that any international volunteer programme should be able to stimulate participation by nationals of the host countries, and in that connexion he welcomed paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's note (E/4663), which was in accordance with one of the basic principles of the Universal Charter of Volunteer Service. He strongly urged that the idea of posting teams to

United Nations projects should be stressed in formal documentation, and was prepared to co-operate closely with any working group which might be set up to produce a plan for a United Nations voluntary service or programme. He hoped that the setting up of the volunteer corps or programme would be achieved by stages, and that the Council would agree that the programme was a necessary step preliminary to the establishment of such a volunteer corps within the United Nations system.

65. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution by which the Council took note of the reports on the seventh and eighth sessions of the UNDP Governing Council (E/4609 and E/4706), and the draft resolutions contained respectively in document E/4609, para. 181 (*d*) and in document E/4706, para. 305 (*d*) and annex III.

*The draft resolutions were adopted unanimously.*

66. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) introduced a draft resolution on the creation of an international corps of volun-

teers for development,<sup>2</sup> and quoted the relevant passages of General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII) and of Council resolution 1407 (XLVI), which were the constitutional basis of the text. The sponsors had been guided by the conviction that the younger generation intended to play an important part in the development process, and that the international community had a duty to meet those aspirations. Operative paragraph 3 of the draft contained recommendations concerning the general principles which the Secretary-General should bear in mind in considering the matter.

67. The PRESIDENT proposed the closure of the debate on agenda item 8, on the understanding that the Council would return to the draft resolution which had just been submitted when it had been circulated.

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.

<sup>2</sup> Subsequently circulated as document E/L.1269.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Friday, 25 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries ( <i>resumed from the 1618th meeting</i> )	135
Agenda item 8:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(a) United Nations Development Programme	
(b) United Nations Capital Development Fund	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General ( <i>continued</i> )	136

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Regional co-operation:**

- (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726; E/L.1264/Rev.1, E/L.1265, E/L.1266)
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709; E/L.1264/Rev.1, E/1265, E/1266) (*resumed from the 1618th meeting*)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolutions submitted by the four regional economic commissions which appeared in part IV of their respective reports (E/4639, E/4640, E/4641 and E/4651), the joint draft resolution on the role of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut in the Second United Nations Development Decade (E/L.1264/Rev.1) and the draft resolution on UNESOB submitted by Kuwait (E/L.1266).

2. Mr GRUNEWALD (France) said that, since agreement had not yet been reached on a generally acceptable text for the joint draft resolution and some delegations wished to submit amendments to the text, it would be wiser to defer a vote until full agreement had been reached.

3. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed. It would be useful to continue the informal consultations as a number of points still needed clarification. The fullest possible agreement should be reached on matters of principle before the joint draft resolution was taken up by the Council and put to the vote. That would facilitate the Council's decision and would give the African countries more time to explain their objectives.

4. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) said that, while the sponsors of the joint draft resolution wished it to be adopted unanimously, they would prefer the Council to consider all the draft resolutions on regional co-operation together, since they were interrelated.

5. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed.

6. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) said that, although some time would be lost if consideration of all the draft resolutions on the item was deferred, it would be inadvisable for the Council to take note of the draft resolutions submitted by the regional economic commissions without knowing what working would be used in joint draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.1, which was closely linked with one of them. He did not know what objections had been raised to that draft resolution and suggested that delegations wishing to propose amendments should be asked to submit them in writing within a certain time. Meanwhile, further consideration of the item should be deferred to allow the informal consultations to continue.

7. The PRESIDENT suggested that further consideration of the item should be deferred until the morning of Thursday, 31 July, and that any amendments to joint draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.1 should be submitted by 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 29 July.

8. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) supported the suggestion. His delegation would be in a better position to discuss the draft resolution if it knew what points were at issue in the informal negotiations. Under rule 34 of its rules of procedure, the Council could not approve a proposal involving expenditure from United Nations funds until the Secretary-General had prepared a separate estimate of the costs involved. The Council could take a decision on the draft resolutions submitted by the regional economic commissions because their financial implications were presented in document E/4726. Although joint draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.1 seemed to cover the same ground as the relevant resolutions in ECA's report (E/4651), it nevertheless contained certain phrases which implied that additional staff and resources might be needed. That would involve additional expenditure and the Council could not therefore take a decision until it had been informed of the financial implications by the Secretary-General. Moreover, two of the draft resolution's operative paragraphs recommending action which could involve additional expenditure referred to UNESOB as well as the regional economic commissions. However, UNESOB did not function as a regional economic commission and could not be treated as an intergovernmental body for financial purposes.



9. Mr. NICOL (Sierra Leone), supported by Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta), suggested that delegations which objected to the present text of draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.1 should indicate what amendments they intended to propose, so that members could consider them before resuming the discussion.

10. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation had already explained its position during the informal consultations, but was ready to clarify it further.

11. Mr. STUGU (Norway) supported the President's suggestion.

12. Mr. ABE (Japan) also supported the President's suggestion, adding that, although the Council's approval of the reports and work programmes of the regional economic commissions implied endorsement of the expenditure involved, it did not imply approval of the necessary appropriations. That could only be done during the debate on the budget at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, when all delegations would be free to express their views on each item of expenditure.

13. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) emphasized that the statement of financial implications in document E/4726 applied also to joint draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.1, which proposed only what was already set forth in the reports of the regional economic commissions.

The draft resolution had no additional financial implications.

*The procedure suggested by the President was adopted.*

*The meeting was suspended at 3.45 p.m. and resumed at 4.55 p.m.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 8

**Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/4609, E/4663, E/4706, E/L.1269):**

- (a) United Nations Development Programme
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (*continued*)

14. The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the draft resolution introduced by Kuwait at the 1620th meeting on the subject of volunteers (E/L.1269) was not available in French or Russian, consideration of the item should be postponed.

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Monday, 28 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10.5 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Election of a Vice-President .....	137
Agenda item 15:	
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees .....	137

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

**Election of a Vice-President**

1. The PRESIDENT said that, by virtue of rule 23 of its rules of procedure and a decision which it had taken earlier, the Council was required to elect a Vice-President to replace Mr. Fakhreddin (Sudan) who was unable to attend the session.

2. Mr. JERBI (Libya) nominated Mr. Ahmed (Sudan).

*Mr. Ahmed (Sudan) was elected Vice-President by acclamation.*

AGENDA ITEM 15

**Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/4677 and Corr.1)**

3. Prince Sadruddin AGA KHAN (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), introducing the report (E/4677 and Corr.1), said that while the refugee problem was, in terms of numbers, a comparatively minor one, it was a living proof that men had failed to live in harmony. The Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, unanimously supported at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, had been able to do a certain amount of useful work towards the achievement of solutions to that eminently humanitarian problem.

4. The basic aims and intentions of UNHCR remained unchanged: it sought permanent solutions to refugee problems by helping the persons concerned to cease being refugees.

5. After a brief flare-up, the situation in Europe seemed to be becoming stabilized once again. The role of UNHCR had been less to provide funds, because European Governments had faced the situation with generosity, than to supply expertise through its representatives in the countries concerned. The aim had been to facilitate voluntary repatriation and, where that could not be done, to help the people concerned to move as quickly as possible to avoid stagnation.

6. In Latin America, the Office was continuing to assist aged and handicapped refugees who had been resettled there many years previously. No new problems had arisen but, to deal with that residual case-load more effectively, appropriate administrative arrangements had been made in UNHCR representation, particularly in Argentina, where many refugees coming within the competence of UNHCR were living, and where increasing facilities were being made available for the handicapped among them.

7. In Asia, the Office was still concerned with the settlement and rehabilitation of Chinese refugees in Hong Kong and Macao and of Tibetan refugees in India and Nepal. As a result of certain missions undertaken by his representatives in the area, a number of Governments had raised the problem of certain groups of refugees who might be without protection or status. Consequently, it might be necessary to strengthen the Office in Asia.

8. Although his Office was not concerned with the Palestinian refugees, who were the responsibility of UNRWA, the tragic situation in the Middle East had created problems for other refugees also. Many such refugees had been economically and socially uprooted as a result of events and his Office had been called upon to increase its aid to them and also, wherever possible, to promote the movement of those people to countries where they could lead a more stable economic life.

9. The greater part of his work was still concentrated in Africa. The situation had not improved in that new groups had been added to the existing refugee population, while the situation in Nigeria had created a number of refugee problems outside that country, particularly in Equatorial Guinea. To meet that need and to respond to frequent requests received from Governments, he was obliged to intensify the implementation of his protective function and his programmes of material assistance.

10. Considerable progress had been achieved in the matter of protection. Since the forty-fifth session of the Council, the number of accessions to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees had increased from fifty-three to fifty-six while ratifications of the 1967 Protocol to that Convention had risen from seventeen to thirty-five. In addition, the Netherlands had submitted to the Governments signatories to the 1957 Hague Agreement relating to Refugee Seamen, a draft protocol designed to extend the benefits of the Agreement to refugees covered by the 1967 Protocol.

11. Refugees had to be given a status consistent with the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol. The Office was judged not only on the basis of its achievements with regard

to large groups but also on the basis of what it was able to do for the protection of the individual; in that connexion, its presence had to be strengthened in the field. The situation in Africa frequently precluded the possibility of exercising the protective function from headquarters and he therefore intended to add offices to the existing branch offices in West Africa and East Africa. There would be two such offices dealing with protection, with representatives who would be in a position to travel from country to country as needed. There had been an accumulation of refugees in African urban centres and that process, added to the existing exodus from the rural areas to the urban centres, had increased unemployment, produced social and economic problems of all sorts and given rise to a certain amount of political tension. It was gratifying, therefore, that OAU had set up a wide network of correspondents in many different African countries under its Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees; those correspondents sought opportunities for refugees in Africa. The success of that initiative was essential if the creation of a hard core of refugees, such as that which had developed in Europe in the post-war years, was to be avoided. If each country considered that it was another country's responsibility to take in such refugees, all doors would be closed to them and their ultimate settlement and rehabilitation might become virtually impossible.

12. The Office's programmes in the rural areas had also to be strengthened so that, by providing opportunities in the field, hope was given to refugees who might otherwise go to the city and find no opportunities there either. By providing such opportunities in Africa and by strengthening the OAU Bureau, the brain-drain would also be limited since refugees who left Africa, sometimes settled permanently outside the continent.

13. Voluntary repatriation was the best solution to any refugee problem but it could resolve only a small part of it. In the meantime, the obvious answer was to give the refugees an opportunity to live a normal life in their countries of asylum. A concerted approach was required, since UNHCR assistance quickly brought the refugees to a level of living similar to that of the local population. From then on, the problem became one of development. An *ad hoc* meeting of the United Nations specialized agencies and programmes had been convened in Geneva in January 1969 to study the role of each United Nations body in an integrated refugee settlement scheme. The results of the meeting were reported in detail and analysed in the thirty-fifth report of ACC (E/4688, paras. 11-14). Excellent results had been obtained with a view to increasing the scope and speed of co-operation between UNHCR and other members of the United Nations system in the rural settlement of refugees. Furthermore, in some countries the development agencies had either already taken over or would take over in the relatively near future.

14. Unfortunately, some countries had been rather reluctant to adopt the integrated zonal approach since there was a feeling that refugees were only there temporarily and

would eventually go home. That was a very dangerous attitude to adopt, because uncertainties, complications and additional costs to the international community could arise very rapidly. An office such as his own could not continue relief indefinitely: that would be bad for the refugees themselves, bad for the countries concerned and financially and administratively crippling for UNHCR. The countries which had accepted the integrated zonal development approach could testify to its success.

15. In other parts of the world where, for various reasons, the refugee problem had not been resolved, its stagnation had generated instability and unrest. If refugees were to be converted into active and fully productive human beings, they must be given a status guaranteeing them the fundamental rights of the individual. It would be paradoxical, indeed, if a refugee who became uprooted from his own country as a result of injustice or discrimination were to find himself in a category of his own in the country of asylum. A refugee was a man like any other man, and any man could become a refugee.

16. In Africa, there was the possibility that the refugees of today might be the leaders of their countries tomorrow. To facilitate their settlement, the Office had intensified its educational and vocational training activities, with the expert assistance of UNESCO and the financial assistance of the Scandinavian Governments.

17. A lesson had been learned in Africa: cheap and hasty schemes simply did not work. A settlement had to be really effective and viable or it was merely a thin disguise for relief. The total cost of a well-organized settlement was a trifle to most Governments and the Office had attempted to maintain a reasonable average ceiling of programme needs and targets over a year.

18. If the United Nations Development Decade was aimed at overcoming poverty, distress and under-development, the refugees should not be forgotten. There could be no better application of the plans for the proper utilization of human resources.

19. Assistance to refugees was not simply a work of charity and not even a work of justice; it was a constructive effort aimed at resolving the problem once and for all and ensuring that thousands of individuals should make a positive contribution to the general prosperity of the countries which had opened their doors to them because they supported the universal principle of the right of asylum.

20. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) was sure all members of the Council would agree that the record of the High Commissioner for Refugees was one of which the United Nations could be proud. Many countries had received refugees while nationals of others were refugees abroad and, in some cases, a country found itself in both categories. All such countries had developed strong ties with the High Commissioner and had co-operated with him in the pursuit of the common objective.

21. Refugees constituted a human problem of the first order which was as complex and many-sided as man himself. Its solution required sympathy, understanding, patience and tolerance. In addition to being a human problem, however, it was also an economic, social, legal and political problem which could have serious and far-reaching implications for societies and Governments. Effective measures to resolve the problem constituted a positive contribution to human welfare, economic and social development, the elimination of tension and friction between States and, consequently, world peace. The Sudan attached the greatest importance to the High Commissioner's work and would continue to support him in the future, to the full extent of its possibilities, as it had done in the past.

22. His delegation strongly endorsed the idea that the objective of the High Commissioner's activities was not to promote dependence on material assistance or to create an army of unemployed living in foreign countries and causing economic and social problems for their host countries, but to resettle refugees and render them capable of earning their own living and participating in the normal life of their countries of residence. Material assistance was simply a temporary and transitional necessity.

23. The main function of the High Commissioner was the settlement, education and training and legal protection of refugees, the ultimate aim being either their full integration in the country of residence or their voluntary repatriation to the country of origin. In that connexion, he was happy to note that, during the period under consideration, some 20,000 refugees had been voluntarily repatriated.

24. During the year covered by the report, the Office had been most active in Africa. The number of refugees in that continent had risen from 860,000 at the beginning to 950,000 at the end of the year. The High Commissioner was, quite rightly, placing the main emphasis on rural settlements, one of the most important features of the rehabilitation programme. It was also the most interesting for the host countries since it had an important part to play in their economic and social development. A most welcome trend had been the close co-operation between the High Commissioner, Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations and social welfare bodies. The report revealed many examples of the positive results so achieved. He welcomed the decision by the ILO and UNESCO to contribute to refugee programmes in Africa and to provide expert advice and funds under their own technical co-operation programmes. Similar initiatives taken by FAO, WHO, UNICEF and WFP involved not only the extension of support and consultative services but also the supply and provision of equipment. Assistance to refugees was a fine example of an area in which concerted action could produce the best results. His Government supported the High Commissioner's efforts to intensify such co-operation and endorsed the conclusions of the *Ad hoc* Inter-Agency Meeting, held in Geneva in January 1969, that co-operation between the High Commissioner's Office and other United Nations bodies could be extended, particularly at the first and second stages of settlement.

25. The Office had also made considerable progress in the legal aspects with respect to the protection of refugees, their social and economic rights, right of asylum, recognition of their status and their acquisition of new citizenship.

26. His delegation was happy to note the increasing co-operation between the High Commissioner and OAU. One result of that co-operation was the new draft convention governing the specific aspects of the problem of refugees in Africa, adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers in February 1969, which was complementary to the 1959 Convention and the 1967 Protocol.

27. Much valuable work had been carried out by the High Commissioner and his staff in the Sudan. Large and elaborate settlement projects had been initiated in the south and east for the settlement of refugees from neighbouring countries. The primary objective of the scheme was to assist the refugees to attain a satisfactory level of self-reliance and to reach the economic and social levels of the local population. That was particularly important as a prerequisite for zonal rural development schemes at a later stage under the national development plan. A similar project for an even larger settlement of refugees had been worked out by the Sudanese authorities with the High Commissioner's representative in Khartoum, in close co-operation with the specialized agencies operating in the Sudan, on the basis of various feasibility studies and surveys carried out by the Sudanese Government.

28. As a result of such schemes and of the general co-operation between his Government and the High Commissioner's Office, an atmosphere of mutual confidence and respect had been created and reinforced by recent visits to the Sudan by the High Commissioner himself and by senior members of his staff.

29. With respect to financing, it was regrettable that little more than half of the programme target for 1969 was covered by funds paid or pledged by Governments. He strongly urged member Governments to increase their regular contributions or to make special contributions for the High Commissioner's Programme since that would constitute a highly unselfish gesture for a highly noble cause.

30. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) said that, at its nineteenth session, the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, of which he was a member, had been unanimous in its desire to re-elect Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan to the office of High Commissioner, and he therefore welcomed the unanimous confirmation of that desire by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

31. The report of the High Commissioner was succinct and informative. One striking aspect was the discrepancy between the programme which had been successfully carried out and the obvious inadequacy of the financial resources of UNHCR. The main reason for that fortunate state of affairs was the method of work adopted, involving the establishment of priorities. An example was the

increasing importance attached to the problems of refugees in Africa, which accounted for 60 per cent of the total budget. Another equally important priority was the holding of inter-agency meetings. The Office regarded refugees as future producers, individuals and families requiring economic assistance and a legal status. Since its own resources were inadequate, it made wise use of the services of other international organizations and of the aid of those countries whose Governments welcomed refugees. Striking examples referred to in the report were the programmes in Burundi and the Central African Republic, whose success the Turkish Government earnestly desired.

32. Another aspect of co-ordination was exemplified by the *Ad hoc* Inter-Agency Meeting, held in Geneva in December 1968, on the use of volunteers in United Nations projects, which had been attended by a representative of the Office and was referred to in *HCR Bulletin*, No. 4. The conclusion of that meeting brought to mind General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII), requesting the Council to study the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development and was a result of the initiative of the Shahinshah of Iran. In his study of the implementation of that resolution, the Secretary-General would be advised to consider, *inter alia*, the use of young people in connexion with UNHCR projects.

33. The High Commissioner's report appealed for more financial resources. The Turkish Government particularly welcomed the increasing aid provided by the Scandinavian countries, and above all, the new contributions from developing countries. In spite of a heavy refugee burden, Turkey had doubled its contribution in 1968. His Government was also interested in such aspects of UNHCR's activities as nutrition and the protection of refugees; it had taken steps, including exemption from customs duties, to promote the sale in Turkey of records of the World Star Festival, and congratulated those responsible on the success of the Festival. The success of UNHCR's activities was due not only to its rational approach to the problems confronting it, but also—and perhaps more importantly—to the dedication of the Commissioner and his staff.

34. Mr. MBAPILA (United Republic of Tanzania) was glad to note that the High Commissioner's activities continued to be guided primarily by humanitarian considerations. His Government was grateful for the assistance it was receiving under the UNHCR programme, particularly as the number of refugees in Tanzania was increasing. It fully supported the High Commissioner's policy of encouraging refugees to participate in the host country's economic and social life, especially in rural communities. Emphasis was quite rightly placed on education, which would enable the refugees to assume political and economic responsibilities when they returned to their own countries. The refugee problem was basically a political one: most of those arriving in Tanzania had faced great dangers and hardships to escape from Portuguese colonial rule. It was the responsibility of the United Nations and its Member States to secure universal acceptance of humanitarian principles and to eliminate colonialism, oppression and injustice so that

refugees could return to their own countries. Meanwhile, it was the duty of the international community to give the refugees every possible assistance.

35. Mr. CAPPELEN (Norway) noted with satisfaction that progress in the resettlement of refugees had continued and that a growing proportion of them were self-supporting. The co-ordination and integration of refugee assistance with general development programmes was a prerequisite for any lasting solution to the refugee problem. The High Commissioner's participation in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Consultative Board had already proved useful and he was glad to note that UNHCR was strengthening its relations with other agencies. He endorsed the conclusion, reached at the *Ad Hoc* Inter-Agency Meeting on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, that UNDP action and *ad hoc* action by specialized agencies should be undertaken when necessary and on the recommendation of UNHCR. Zonal development plans were of particular importance and he was glad that the inclusion of some African refugee settlements in future zonal development projects was being considered. Early contact between UNHCR and the agencies was essential for a smooth transition from emergency assistance to development assistance. He appreciated the active participation of African Governments in the execution of several refugee projects which would also benefit the local population. His Government had long ago mentioned the need for secondary and higher education for refugees and again recommended the earliest possible inclusion of secondary education in the UNHCR programme. As it was often difficult to find suitable employment for refugees to make them self-supporting, he hoped that the ILO's action under the World Employment Programme would also benefit refugees.

36. The number of new accessions to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol had been encouraging. The draft convention governing specific aspects of the refugee problem in Africa, adopted by the OAU, was further proof of the concern of African States for refugee protection. Norway intended to apply the 1957 Hague Agreements relating to Refugee Seamen to refugees covered by the 1967 Protocol.

37. The High Commissioner's appeal had resulted in a significant increase in contributions during 1968, but there was an urgent need for still greater funds in 1969. Norway believed that Governments should bear the main responsibility for basic UNHCR programmes and was increasing its contribution by 25 per cent. Voluntary organizations would continue to have a valuable role to play in UNHCR programmes.

38. Mr. ABE (Japan), after expressing appreciation of the dedicated efforts of the High Commissioner and his staff, said that, in view of its complexity, the refugee problem called for more vigorous concerted action by UNHCR and all the other United Nations agencies concerned. While he agreed with the High Commissioner that UNHCR's true *raison d'être* was to find and apply permanent solutions to the refugee problem, he felt that the only real permanent

solution to the problem was to eliminate its fundamental causes. Meanwhile, he hoped that the High Commissioner would continue to enable refugees to participate fully in the economic and social life of the host country.

39. Mr. TUBBY (United States of America) expressed particular satisfaction with UNHCR's participation in pioneer rural development projects, such as the one in Burundi, being carried out in co-operation with other agencies. The international protection of refugees was UNHCR's main responsibility and the international community should continue to single out problems which needed urgent attention. Refugees should be able to participate fully in the economic and social life of their host country, enjoy equality under national law and live in dignity. Their permanent segregation in refugee settlements could only result in political unrest. Refugees should not be returned to their countries if they feared persecution there.

40. UNHCR should maintain its role in Africa, where the refugee problem was becoming increasingly complex. Its programme should continue to help refugees to become self-supporting as soon as possible. The United States had acceded to the 1967 Protocol, although it already accorded full rights and protection to refugees. He hoped that other countries would accede to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol and would conscientiously apply them both.

41. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom), expressing his Government's full confidence in the High Commissioner and his staff, noted with satisfaction the progress made in the international protection of refugees and the growing material assistance provided for them. Increasing attention was quite rightly being concentrated on Africa's refugee problems and he expressed support for the rural settlement programmes. He welcomed the increasing inter-agency co-operation in assistance to refugees, especially the action mentioned in paragraph 15 of the High Commissioner's report. He hoped that such co-operation would continue. His Government had contributed the equivalent of \$300,000 to the 1968 UNHCR Programme and would continue to make similar contributions. Recalling that the Council had long since found it unnecessary to discuss the High Commissioner's actions or policy, he asked whether it would be possible to arrange for the High Commissioner to report direct to the General Assembly, thereby reducing the Council's work-load.

42. Mr. PAPIĆ (Yugoslavia), noting with satisfaction the increase in the number of signatories to the 1967 Protocol, welcomed the draft convention adopted by the Council of Ministers of OAU in February 1969 supplementing the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol. He was also glad to note the increasing co-operation between UNHCR and other United Nations bodies. His Government supported the High Commissioner's humanitarian efforts and endorsed his appeal for financial support.

43. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved by the High Commissioner, his global approach to the refugee problem and his policy of

concentrating efforts where they were most needed. In view of his limited resources, the High Commissioner rightly tried to enlist the full support of the other United Nations bodies concerned. The need for an integrated approach and continuous co-ordination should always be borne in mind. His Government had increased its contribution to the UNHCR programme in 1969.

44. Mr. MAS (France) expressed approval of the guiding principle applied by the High Commissioner and commended him on the progress made, especially in Africa, despite the increase in the number of refugees. He supported the High Commissioner's policy of promoting the integration of refugees in the economic and social life of the host country and also the strengthening of UNHCR's co-operation with UNESCO, UNDP and WFP. In Europe the limited funds available greatly restricted international refugee assistance but, if the flow of refugees continued, international action on a wider scale would become necessary.

45. The High Commissioner had rightly emphasized the importance of the international protection of refugees. France already applied most of the principles embodied in the 1967 Protocol, to which it would shortly accede. He noted with satisfaction that UNHCR had participated in the International Conference on Human Rights, held in Teheran in 1968, the conference of the International Law Association, held in Buenos Aires in 1968 and meetings of OAU. He hoped that, in the course of their co-operation in connexion with International Education Year, the agencies concerned would try to promote refugee education and training.

46. His Government supported the wise humanitarian principles applied by the High Commissioner and his political approach to the refugee problem.

47. Mr. van BELLINGHEN (Belgium) said that the question how man in the twentieth century, although unable to eliminate the war and tension which were responsible for the refugee problem, had nevertheless been able to take joint action to remedy that problem, could be answered only by reference to the devotion, competence and energy of the High Commissioner and his staff.

48. Belgium had a long tradition of hospitality to refugees; his Government had made substantial contributions to UNHCR since 1955, and was increasing its contribution as from 1969. It had ratified the 1967 Protocol and was thus a party to all international instruments concerned with refugees. To mark that ratification there were plans for the settlement in Belgium, in co-operation with social organizations, of a small number of handicapped refugees. His Government was aware of the urgency of the refugee problem, and was convinced of the excellence of the work done by UNHCR, especially in Central Africa, where co-operation with the specialized agencies was leading to the social reintegration of refugees. The aim of integrating refugees into society deserved the energetic and extensive support of all the specialized

agencies and of Governments, and his delegation therefore hoped that the Commissioner's appeal for additional contributions would be successful.

49. Miss MUTER (Indonesia) congratulated the High Commissioner on the dedication, imagination, competence and energy which he and his staff had demonstrated, and for the new dimension of humanitarian concern which he had brought to his Office. There had been a recent shift in emphasis from Europe to Africa and Asia. Indonesia was deeply concerned at the refugee problem, and welcomed the humanitarian efforts adopted by the international community. Her delegation endorsed the recommendations concerning UNHCR's future activities in the report, and shared the High Commissioner's satisfaction at the growing response by Governments to appeals for contributions. However, the minimum target sought by the Executive Committee could not be reached solely through contributions by Governments; the contributions of non-governmental organizations therefore continued to play a vital role, and the High Commissioner's appeal for continued contributions was therefore justified.

50. Mrs. ZAEFFERER de GOYENECHÉ (Argentina) said that her Government fully supported UNHCR's work. On behalf of the Mexican delegation, she wished also to state that the Mexican Government supported the Commissioner's activities. She welcomed the specific reference by the High Commissioner in his statement to Argentina's support; in October 1968, Argentina had ratified the 1967 Protocol and had undertaken to assist in the resettlement of both partially and totally incapacitated refugees.

51. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said that his delegation welcomed UNHCR's imaginative and constructive programmes, which went beyond social welfare and included social and economic reconstruction. Such programmes could be implemented only with the co-operation of Governments in an effort to resolve the problems which persisted as a result of political, economic and social discrimination. His Government supported UNHCR's efforts in that direction, and would continue to contribute to the fullest extent possible to its work.

52. Mr. JERBI (Libya), speaking on behalf of his own delegation and that of Kuwait, commended the High Commissioner and his staff on their excellent work, which was well reflected in the report.

53. Mr. NOLAN (Ireland) said his Government sincerely appreciated UNHCR's work over the past year and would continue its support for the protection and relief measures undertaken. A few years previously it might have been felt that UNHCR's activities were coming to an end, at least in Europe; however, as a result of the redefinition of the concept of refugees and of certain events which had taken place, that hope had not been fulfilled. The increase in the number of refugees in other parts of the world made it clear that the end to the problem of refugees was not in sight. His delegation was confident that every thing possible was being done, and believed that the Council should unanimously endorse the report.

54. Prince Sadruddin AGA KHAN (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) said that until it was possible, once injustice and man's inhumanity to man had been eliminated, to end the work of his Office, he and his staff would continue to work with dedication. He wished to thank all those who had offered their advice, encouragement, guidance and support.

55. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any objection, he would assume that the Council was in favour of unanimously adopting a draft resolution reading:

*"The Economic and Social Council*

*"Takes note with satisfaction of the report prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/4677 and Corr.1) for transmission to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session."*

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 12.20 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Monday, 28 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 8:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General ( <i>resumed from the 1621st meeting</i> ) .....	143

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

*In the absence of the President, Mr. Ahmed (Sudan), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

AGENDA ITEM 8

Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:

(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (E/4663; E/L.1269, E/L.1270) (*resumed from the 1621st meeting*)

1. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) said that his delegation considered it necessary that an international corps of volunteers for development should be established; it whole-heartedly supported the eight-Power draft resolution (E/L.1269).

2. Mr. POSNETT (United Kingdom) considered that the Secretary-General's note on the establishment of an international corps of volunteers for development (E/4663) was very helpful. His delegation was in general agreement with the statement made on the subject by the Iranian observer (1619th meeting). No-one, however, seemed to have taken the trouble to inquire how far the developing countries desired the establishment of a volunteer service. It was to be hoped that steps would be taken to ascertain the views of those countries on the creation of such a service.

3. His delegation, like that of Iran, considered that the volunteers should be used for the implementation of United Nations projects, and that the specialized agencies and the Administrator of UNDP should be closely associated with the study envisaged in paragraph 2 of draft resolution E/L.1269. Thought must also be given to the administrative arrangements for recruitment, training, co-ordination and financing.

4. His delegation suggested two guiding principles: efforts should be made to maintain the high standards which had been fixed by existing organizations and to see how far standardization could be achieved while retaining some

degree of flexibility. It was clear from the discussion that some Governments and international organizations had a great deal of experience in the matter, which should be put to use in the study requested of the Secretary-General. In that connexion it would be well to take into account the statement submitted by the International Student Movement for the United Nations (E/C2/685) and the statement of the representative of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (1619th meeting).

5. His delegation considered that it would be more effective and more economical to build on existing foundations. Paragraph 22, sub-paragraphs (b) and (e), of the Secretary-General's note came very close to his delegation's ideas.

6. With regard to the name, it would be preferable to use some such title as "International Volunteer Service" or "Volunteers International" and to avoid acronyms such as UNIVOL or INTERVOL.

7. Recipient Governments should be asked for their views concerning the local supervision and administration of the volunteers. Those duties might perhaps be given to resident representatives or project managers. The Secretary-General should look into that aspect of the matter and would do well to consult recipient Governments and existing volunteer organizations in order to learn their methods of field supervision.

8. A start should be made on a modest scale, so that any shortcomings and defects of the system could be put right without difficulty at the outset. The volunteers should not have the status of civil servants; in that connexion, the experience of FAO might be taken into account. His delegation, too, felt that a volunteer should never be in competition with the young people of the developing countries or be looked upon as a replacement for a qualified expert. That point should be taken into consideration by the Secretary-General. As to the composition of teams, the final word lay with the recipient Governments.

9. Council resolution 849 (XXXII) ought perhaps to be revised, for it appeared to limit the extent to which unpaid volunteers could be assigned to UNDP projects or the cost of their services charged to a project budget. Perhaps rules should be drawn up in order to secure a minimum of uniformity.

10. On the subject of financing, the representative of the World Federation of United Nations Associations had said that increased use of volunteers could save the time of experts. It would thus be possible to reduce the cost of projects. It should be possible to ensure that the volunteers



did not become an additional burden entailing an increase in expenditure. His Government saw no necessity to set up a trust fund at the present time if Council resolution 849 (XXXII) was appropriately amended, and he would be unable to support the establishment of such a fund.

11. Mr. VIAUD (France) reminded the Council that, when he had spoken in the general discussion, he had paid a tribute to the initiative of the Shahinshah of Iran. His Government had particularly welcomed the idea because, even before the suggestion had been made, it had arranged to send volunteers to developing countries.

12. Draft resolution E/L.1269 corresponded only in part to the views of his delegation, which considered it important to take into account the efforts already made by some Governments, including his own. The purpose of the French amendments (E/L.1270) was simply to take up in the operative part the idea expressed in the fourth preambular paragraph.

13. His delegation agreed with the Secretary-General that volunteers could remain under their own organizations and be attached to projects receiving United Nations assistance simply by means of the good offices of the United Nations and its agencies acting as intermediaries (E/4663, para. 23). That was the whole idea of co-operation between multi-lateral and bilateral aid. For that reason the draft resolution must take into account the fact that the United Nations could call on existing organizations. The right course was to make use of what some Governments had already done rather than ask them to do something unfamiliar to them and to change their methods. It was important that such Governments should find in the draft resolution some acknowledgement of their efforts. Since his Government had only recently seen the French text of the draft resolution, his delegation hoped that the Council would not vote on it immediately.

14. Mr. HOO (Commissioner for Technical Co-operation), presenting a statement of the financial implications of draft resolution E/L.1269, said that the cost of the study which the Secretary General was invited to carry out under operative paragraph 2 could be covered by appropriations for consultants and *ad hoc* groups of experts. Inasmuch as the expert consultants called upon to take part in the study would have to travel, allowance should be made for travel and other expenses up to a maximum of \$2,000. If the Council, at its forty-eighth session, asked the Secretary General to carry out other studies, a further statement of financial implications would be submitted in due course.

15. Mr. McDONALD (United States of America) supported the idea of establishing an international volunteer service; young people should be allowed to serve the international community and to take part in the development of the less advanced countries. He urged the expansion of national volunteer services for development and said that his Government would be prepared to assist others by passing on the experience gained in that area in the United States.

16. However, it would be necessary to make a thorough study of the problems involved in such an enterprise, taking into account the experience gained in such matters and calling on the help of existing volunteer organizations, of the volunteers themselves, and of experts familiar with international problems.

17. His delegation also supported the amendments submitted by the French delegation (E/L.1270), because the wording of operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution E/L.1269 seemed to prejudge the results of the study which the Secretary-General was to make.

18. Mr. KINGUE (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) stated that the UNESCO General Conference, at its fifteenth session, had decided to take new action, for and with young people, to give young people a greater part in national activities. In addition, the Director-General of UNESCO had been authorized to carry out work designed to enlist the participation of young people in national and international development and to associate them as closely as possible with UNESCO's activities, both at the planning stage and at that of implementation. The General Conference had noted the plans put forward by the secretariat, and young people could henceforth be associated, at the request of member States, with UNESCO-assisted projects. UNESCO's experience in such matters pointed to certain conclusions.

19. First, the supply of volunteers usually exceeded the demand, for financial and political reasons. All over the world, young people wished to help, but not unconditionally. The aid rendered should not smack of paternalism or charity and should not be exploited for national political ends. Moreover, the employment situation in some countries explained why the offer of volunteer services sometimes met with resistance.

20. Secondly, bilateral programmes of volunteer service had been developing for some years, and the means available to them far exceeded those which would be allotted to any future programme carried out under United Nations sponsorship. Such programmes should continue to develop under bilateral co-operation, and it was for the Governments giving and receiving aid to take all pertinent decisions.

21. An international corps of volunteers could be extremely useful if the volunteer teams were made up of nationals of several countries, inspired by a true international spirit, and if such teams included volunteers from developing countries so that the volunteer services did not become the exclusive preserve of the rich countries.

22. In order to finance such a volunteer corps it would probably be necessary to establish trust funds, but contributions to such funds should not be tied to the exclusive use of volunteers from the contributing country. The Council would not be able to take any final decisions on questions of organization without a preliminary study of the subject, which should be carried out in consultation

with existing volunteer organizations. If delegations agreed with that view, operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution E/L.1269 should be amended to specify that such organizations should take part in the proposed study.

23. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that the study which the Secretary-General was invited to carry out on the practical arrangements for establishing an international corps of volunteers should take into account the great contributions made by the various existing volunteer organizations, international and national, non-governmental and inter-governmental.

24. However, his delegation wondered whether operative paragraph 2 might not give rise to difficulties. It provided that the Secretary-General should submit his report and recommendations to the Council at its forty-eighth session through the UNDP Governing Council. That seemed a very meagre allowance of time, and it would perhaps be better to say that the report should be submitted at the Council's forty-ninth session. With that proviso, his delegation supported draft resolution E/L.1269 and the French delegation's amendments.

25. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, his delegation had expressed understanding of the Iranian delegation's motives in suggesting that young people should participate in meeting the requirements of the developing countries for skilled personnel. With regard to the proposal for the establishment of an international volunteer corps, however, it had had and continued to have some doubts. First of all, it considered that the skilled manpower requirements of the developing countries should be met through intensified training programmes, and that bringing foreign volunteers into the developing countries might make the problems of employment in those countries even more acute and render the training of skilled personnel more difficult. Furthermore, the establishment of an international corps of volunteers would lead the United Nations to a further expansion of administrative machinery which was already overblown and to an increase in administrative expenses which were already very high. However, his delegation had not opposed the draft resolution under which the General Assembly had requested the Council to study the feasibility of creating a corps of volunteers.

26. At the present stage his delegation would not oppose a new study, but draft resolution E/L.1269 contained two unacceptable provisions. First, in the fourth preambular paragraph, the Council was asked to acknowledge the important contribution of national volunteer schemes and also the useful work being performed. It was true that volunteer services had sometimes done very useful work, for example in Iran, but the results were by no means so favourable in all cases; there had been instances of so-called volunteers from certain national organizations being expelled from a good number of developing countries for reprehensible activities. Secondly, under operative paragraph 1, the Council "welcomed" the idea of establishing

an international corps of volunteers. That statement was premature, to say the least; the Council could express an opinion only after examining the study which the Secretary-General was to make under operative paragraph 2.

27. In view of those considerations, his delegation would abstain from voting on the draft resolution.

28. Mr. EKONDY-AKALA (Congo, Brazzaville) thought that the Council could take no final decision at that stage concerning the establishment of an international corps of volunteers. The study of that questions should be postponed until delegations and the United Nations bodies concerned had examined the Secretary-General's report.

29. His delegation could express no opinion on draft resolution E/L.1269 before transmitting the text to its Government together with the comments of the United Kingdom, French and United States representatives. The developing countries had painful memories of certain volunteer corps and, despite the sincerity of its sponsors' intentions, the draft resolution would have to be studied in detail by those countries if it was not to serve as a pretext for new misbehaviour.

30. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) said that no one could question the lofty intentions of the sponsors of the draft resolution; his delegation, however, which had voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII), considered that it was too soon for a final decision on the subject. It might perhaps be desirable to give all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations an opportunity to study all aspects of the problem. Furthermore, it would be preferable not to take any decision, even in principle, on the establishment of an international corps of volunteers without knowing what practical consequences such a decision would have. It would therefore be better to await the conclusions of the Secretary-General's study; an international corps of volunteers should in no case serve as a cover for activities totally unrelated to the desire of young people to participate in the development of the developing countries. Consequently his delegation would be unable to vote in favour of the draft resolution before the Council.

31. Mr. OUANGMOTCHING (Chad) expressed his gratitude to the Shahinshah of Iran for originating the idea of establishing an international corps of volunteers. His country, which was benefiting from the help of volunteers sent from various countries under bilateral arrangements, supported draft resolution E/L.1269 and the French amendments (E/L.1270).

32. Mr. CRANE (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that FAO approved the idea set forth in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution that the Secretary-General should be asked to study the creation of an international corps of volunteers. Furthermore, his organization considered that the general principles laid down in operative paragraph 3 were flexible enough to allow the experience of FAO and other organizations to be turned to account.

33. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) thought that, after hearing the statements of various delegations, he should make a few remarks concerning the draft resolution of which his country was a sponsor. After thanking those who had expressed themselves in favour of the basic idea of the draft resolution, he proposed that, instead of amending the operative part as suggested by the French representative, the Council should find a new wording for the preamble, and in particular for the fourth paragraph, which would extend it to cover the activities of government agencies. If it was so amended, it should be possible for the draft resolution to be adopted unanimously or even by acclamation.

34. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) said that it was difficult for him, as one of the sponsors of the draft resolution, to accept the French amendments, because they ran counter to its aim and spirit and above all to the request which the General Assembly had made to Council in its resolution 2460 (XXIII). Consequently his delegation would oppose the amendments.

35. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) noted with regret that the discussion on the draft resolution had revealed profound differences of opinion. As the Tanzanian representative had pointed out, the French amendments appeared to depart from the instructions given to the Council in General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII).

36. In a spirit of compromise, he moved the adjournment of the debate so that a text acceptable to all delegations might be worked out and submitted to the Council.

37. Mr. RANA (India) shared the Tanzanian and Kuwaiti representatives' objections to the French amendments; he recognized the utility of government agencies in that connexion, but it would be going too far to include the idea in the operative part of the draft resolution. With regard to the amendment to operative paragraph 1, it should be remembered that, in that paragraph, the Council was not taking a final decision but merely confirming the merits of the idea of establishing an international corps of volunteers.

38. In the circumstances, his delegation supported the Kuwaiti representative's motion to adjourn the debate.

39. Mr. McDONALD (United States of America) supported the motion to adjourn the debate for consultations.

40. Mr. LECOURTIER (France) observed that the text of the draft resolution was not as simple as it might seem at first glance and had revealed major differences of opinion. He supported the motion to adjourn the debate on the subject.

41. The CHAIRMAN accordingly suggested that the debate on the draft resolution should be adjourned until the next meeting and that, in the meantime, the sponsors of the draft resolution and of the amendments should be invited to consult together in a spirit of compromise.

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Thursday, 31 July 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10.10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 16:	
International Education Year	
Report of the Economic Committee .....	147
Agenda item 4:	
Economic planning and projections	
Report of the Economic Committee .....	147
Agenda item 8:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General ( <i>continued</i> ) .....	147
Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries ( <i>resumed from the 1621st meeting</i> ) .....	148

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 16

**International Education Year**

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/4729)

1. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested separate votes on paragraphs 3 and 4 of the draft resolution submitted by the Economic Committee in its report (E/4729). As her delegation had explained in the Economic Committee, it favoured the underlying purpose of the draft resolution but considered those paragraphs unnecessary.
2. The PRESIDENT put paragraphs 3 and 4 to the vote.
 

*Paragraph 3 was approved by 22 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

*Paragraph 4 was approved by 22 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*
3. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), explaining her vote, said that the draft resolution was extremely important and that, as a matter of principle, there should be no restriction on any States desiring to participate in the International Education Year. That principle was recognized in the preamble, but was limited in the operative part to "Member States".

4. The PRESIDENT put the draft resolution as a whole to the vote.

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

AGENDA ITEM 4

**Economic planning and projections**

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/4730)

5. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that, in the Economic Committee, his delegation had expressed certain reservations concerning the reports of the Committee on Development Planning on its fourth and fifth sessions (E/4682). The last sentence of the text which the Economic Committee had recommended (E/4730) to the Council for insertion in its report to the General Assembly did not reflect those reservations.

6. Mr. KODACHENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the words "and taking into account the opinions expressed during the course of the present discussions" should be added to the text recommended by the Economic Committee.

7. The PRESIDENT suggested that the reservations expressed by the representatives of the United Kingdom and the USSR might be met by including a reference to them in the summary record.

8. Mr. KODACHENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) agreed to that suggestion.

9. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objection, he would take it that the text recommended by the Economic Committee in paragraph 3 of document E/4730 should be inserted in the Council's report to the General Assembly.

*It was so decided.*

AGENDA ITEM 8

**Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:**

(c) **Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (E/4663; E/L.1269/Rev.1, E/L.1270) (*continued*)**

10. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) was happy to say that the informal negotiations held since the item had been

previously dealt with had culminated in an agreement. Consequently, the original draft resolution on the international corps of volunteers co-sponsored by his delegation (E/L.1269) had been withdrawn and replaced by a new agreed draft resolution (E/L.1269/Rev.1). He hoped that the text in its new form would receive wide support.

11. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) said that various delegations, including his own, were awaiting instructions from their Governments concerning the position they should adopt on the draft resolution. Since it appeared possible that, in due course, the draft could be adopted unanimously, he suggested that the vote should be postponed until later in the day.

12. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, as a result of informal talks held between his delegation and others, he would withdraw his amendments (E/L.1270) to the original eight-Power draft resolution (E/L.1269). His delegation was strongly in favour of the underlying idea of the draft resolution and had always supported it. The amendments it had submitted were based on the desire to ensure that the efforts made by various countries at the national level to establish a volunteer corps should be taken into account in connexion with the proposed international corps. The type of resolution his delegation wanted was one which would enable international organizations to make use of volunteers already recruited by Governments.

13. Although, in a spirit of compromise, his delegation had accepted the revised draft resolution, it regretted that the principle he had enunciated, which was fully recognized in the preamble, was not fully expressed in the operative part. He hoped that the Secretary-General would not feel limited in any way by the more restrictive language of the operative paragraphs but would establish a link between the international corps of volunteers and the various national volunteer corps. If his views were reflected in the summary record, the Secretariat would be able to take them into account.

14. Mr. MOPOLLO-DADET (Congo, Brazzaville) said that, like the representative of Pakistan, he was awaiting clarification and instructions from his Government. He therefore hoped that the vote on the draft resolution could be postponed until the next meeting.

15. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, the vote would be postponed until the following meeting.

*It was so decided.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 7

##### Regional co-operation:

(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4726; E/L.1264/Rev.2, E/L.1271, E/L.1272)

##### (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709) (resumed from the 1621st meeting)

16. The PRESIDENT said that the draft resolutions in part IV of the reports of ECE (E/4641), ECAFE (E/4640), ECLA (E/4639) and ECA (E/4651) were before the Council. Amendments to the last-mentioned draft resolution had also been submitted by France (E/L.1271).

17. In the case of the draft resolution submitted by ECLA, the Council would recall that the executive secretary of that commission had stated that ECLA's terms of reference should be amended. If the draft resolution concerning ECLA's annual report were adopted, he would assume that the Council also approved the amendments proposed by the Executive Secretary.

18. In addition to those four draft resolutions, the Council also had to act on the draft resolution on the role of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB in the Second United Nations Development Decade (E/L.1264/Rev.2). He suggested that the various draft resolutions should be considered in the order in which he had enumerated them.

19. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) proposed that revised draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2 should be considered before the others. The Council had been unable to discuss the reports of the regional economic commissions and of UNESOB the previous week because no agreement had been reached on the draft resolution in question.

20. He informed the Council that Yugoslavia had become a sponsor of the revised draft resolution, which attempted to take account of the views expressed by various delegations at the 1621st meeting, with particular reference to those of the French delegation.

21. In the last operative paragraph, the reference to sub-regional offices had been dropped since the sponsors had been informed that, apart from ECA, none of the regional economic commissions had sub-regional offices.

22. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that ECLA also had some sub-regional offices.

23. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) did not think that the order in which the various draft resolutions were taken up was very important. However, the revised draft resolution had originally been predicated on the report of ECA. It would therefore appear more appropriate to deal with the reports of the other regional economic commissions first, then with the ECLA report and lastly with the revised draft resolution.

24. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the revised draft resolution concerned all the regional economic commissions and not ECA alone.

25. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) supported the Tanzanian representative's proposal that the revised draft resolution should be taken up first. Apart from the reasons already adduced for that procedure, he pointed out that, if the draft resolutions were adopted in the order suggested by the President, it would imply that they were being taken up in increasing order of difficulty. There was no doubt that the revised draft resolution was the most controversial of the draft resolutions in question.

26. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the Council agreed to deal immediately with the revised draft resolution (E/L.1264/Rev.2) and the relevant amendments (E/L.1272).

*It was so decided.*

27. Mr. SHAHEED (International Labour Organisation) described the ILO's collaboration with the regional economic commission and UNESOB and welcomed the emphasis placed in the draft resolution on the importance of consultation within the United Nations system. Any unilateral change in the process of consultation would disrupt the pattern of collaboration and detract from the effectiveness of international efforts. Since the effectiveness of the regional economic commissions was due largely to their dependence on the strength of the international community as a whole, maximum use of existing resources was of paramount importance. At all levels, including the regional level, the ILO adopted an integrated approach so that its activities were mutually supporting. Its collaboration with the regional economic commissions enabled it to benefit from their regional knowledge and expertise. It also maintained close working relationships with other regional organizations such as OAU, OAS, the League of Arab States, the Council of Europe, CMEA, the Colombo Plan and the South Pacific Commission. Its policy of decentralization and its new field structure were in fact designed to permit day-to-day collaboration with the regional economic commissions.

28. The ILO's African network included the regional office in Addis Ababa, area offices in Cairo, Lagos, Algiers, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Lusaka and Yaoundé and a country representative in Kinshasa. The process of decentralization was continuing. In 1968, 40 per cent of all the ILO's technical co-operation activities had been in Africa, compared with 14 per cent in 1960. The number of ILO expert missions in Africa had increased from 94 in 1961 to 452 in 1968. 44 of the 106 countries receiving technical assistance through the ILO were in the African region. He gave some details of ILO-executed projects in Africa. Co-operation between the ILO and ECA had been substantially intensified since the second ILO African Regional Conference in 1964. The ILO contributed to the work of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, had organized two seminars on labour statistics jointly with ECA, and had collaborated with the ECA Working Group on Manpower and Training. The informal meetings of the heads of the regional offices of United Nations agencies in

Africa, under the chairmanship of the executive secretary of ECA, had further improved co-ordination. The third ILO African Regional Conference, to be held in December 1969, would consider the ILO's technical co-operation programme in Africa, labour administration and employment policy. It was expected that the African countries would outline their activities under the World Employment Programme and indicate what assistance the ILO could provide. ILO regional teams would help countries to formulate programmes for raising the levels of employment and training in the years ahead.

29. Mr. CRANE (United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization) said that FAO was particularly concerned that agricultural development should play its due role in harmonious economic and social development and that it provided technical assistance for that purpose not only during the preparatory stages but also during the execution of programmes and projects. Under arrangements which had proved satisfactory to all concerned, FAO had collaborated closely with the regional economic commissions in the initial conception and preparation of development programmes and projects for which it had a recognized responsibility. It felt, however, that the execution of programmes and projects or sectors of projects within its field of competence should remain its responsibility. Experience had shown that the continuing support of the competent specialized agencies was indispensable during the whole period of programme or project execution; that decisive phase required technical competence and imposed a responsibility which could not be delegated or shared without grave risk. FAO's governing body had discussed the problem on several occasions and wished to be informed in advance of any proposed changes in present practice.

30. Mr. KINGUE (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) reaffirmed UNESCO's willingness to intensify its already valuable co-operation with the regional economic commissions. UNESCO believed that the action it was already taking, which would enable it to establish the joint work programmes mentioned in the seventh preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, should not be a one-way process: the specialized agencies should not be asked to establish programmes on which they had not been consulted. He therefore suggested that the words "formulation and" should be inserted before the word "implementation" in that paragraph. He also suggested that the words "of the United Nations" should be inserted after the word "activities" in operative paragraph 1. That wording was already used in the third preambular paragraph. He did not quite understand what was meant by the last part of operative paragraph 1, or how the technical assistance and development projects were to be co-ordinated.

31. The PRESIDENT said that only members of the Council could propose amendments to draft resolutions and that the changes suggested by UNESCO could therefore be considered only if proposed by a member.

32. Mr. VIAUD (France), introducing the amendments proposed by his delegation (E/L.1272), said that the second

revision of the draft resolution made the first and third French amendments unnecessary and that he would withdraw them. Although he agreed with the idea expressed in operative paragraph 4, he believed that its purpose would be achieved faster if the recommendation was addressed to UNDP, which had the necessary resources and provided experts. If the sponsors agreed to insert the words "by UNDP" after the word "available" in operative paragraph 4 he would withdraw his fourth amendment. It would be more expeditious for ECA countries to submit proposals for the projects they wished to have implemented direct to UNDP for approval by its Governing Council than to make a vague recommendation through the Economic and Social Council and subsequently the General Assembly.

33. In its present form, the recommendation that expertise and resources should be made available to ECA would exclude assistance from UNDP, which financed technical assistance for countries only. The assistance recommended could then be financed only by a budget appropriation for ECA itself. That would be inconsistent with the present distribution of functions and responsibilities among United Nations bodies. If operative paragraph 4 was amended as he suggested, the Council would in effect be requesting UNDP to take a specific course of action. The request of the ECA countries would then receive early consideration.

34. He had no objection to the first part of operative paragraph 1. Since he accepted the principle that there should be more substantial and effective decentralization of operational activities in accordance with the resolutions of the Council and the General Assembly, he also accepted the administrative and financial implications of such decentralization. However, if it tried to specify what those implications would be, the Council would encroach on the prerogatives of the General Assembly, which alone was competent to assess the administrative and budgetary implications of decisions taken by United Nations bodies. He therefore suggested the deletion of the second part of the paragraph, starting with the words "and that adequate staff".

35. Mr. STUGU (Norway) was in favour of the ideas expressed in the draft resolution but thought that the proposed amendments had considerable merit. He agreed that the second part of operative paragraph 1 should be deleted, as it was unnecessary or at least premature to refer to the financial and other implications of the proposed action. He would be prepared to accept operative paragraph 4 if it was reworded to read:

*"Recommends further that favourable consideration should be given to requests for the necessary expertise and other adequate resources to be made available to ECA with a view to strengthening its sub-regional offices"*.

36. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) agreed that, if the second part of operative paragraph 1 was deleted as suggested by the French representative, the financial and other implications of the proposed decentralization would no doubt be properly assessed and favourable consideration

might be given to providing the necessary means. Authorization of the necessary assistance would presumably be supported by delegations which accepted the principle expressed in the first part of the paragraph. However, the sponsors felt that the draft resolution should give some indication of the resources that might be needed to carry out decentralization. Such a reference was in conformity with the purpose of the draft resolution. The amendments to operative paragraph 4 proposed by France and Norway could raise constitutional difficulties, since UNDP could make expert services and other resources available to the regional economic commissions only on the basis of requests from the States members of those commissions. Moreover, UNDP was not the only possible source of the assistance which would be needed. The sponsors therefore preferred to avoid restricting the recommendation to UNDP and to use a wording which left open the possibility of recourse to other sources of assistance.

37. Mr. AITKEN (Jamaica) said that his delegation had doubts about the implications of operative paragraph 1, since it had not been aware that the expansion and co-ordination of technical assistance and development projects was to be a major function of the regional economic commissions. If those commissions were to be given additional resources, the purposes for which the resources were to be used would have to be clearly specified. If there was doubt on that point, his delegation would find it difficult to accept the second part of operative paragraph 1.

38. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) said that, if the French amendment to operative paragraph 1 were adopted, the paragraph might be taken as a criticism of the Secretary General for not taking more effective measures. If the Secretary-General was to carry out more substantial and effective decentralization, he must be given the means to do so; although the Council was obviously not in a position to allocate funds, it could not consider the recommendations of the paragraph in isolation from their possible cost.

39. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) pointed out that operative paragraph 1 did not constitute a decision by the Council, but merely a recommendation that the appropriate budgetary organs should give the matter their attention.

40. It would be unwise to restrict operative paragraph 4 to UNDP, since there were many other organs competent to provide the necessary expertise and resources.

41. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that his Government, while strongly in favour of decentralization, was also aware of the need to consolidate and simplify central policy-making. Although it was not the usual policy within the United Nations system to reduce the level of activity in one area in order to strengthen another, he hoped that operative paragraph 1 would take the recommendations of document E/4726 into account, so that its implementation would not impose further financial strain on the system but would lead instead to the reallocation and redistribution of funds already available. In

that context the phrase “without prejudice to any similar activity undertaken by them” was perplexing, since it suggested expansion and co-ordination without regard to any other parallel programmes—a situation which would lead to duplication.

42. With regard to operative paragraph 4, he appreciated the point that its scope should remain as broad as possible. It might be possible to amend the wording so as to incorporate the reference to UNDP in the French amendment without thereby restricting the scope of the recommendation.

43. Mr. VIAUD (France) said he would welcome information on the financial implications of the revised draft resolution.

44. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs), replying to the representative of Jamaica, said that the interpretation which the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions would place on operative paragraph 1 would be not that the commissions should in any way undertake the functions of recipient Governments, but that they should assist them in the selection and rationalization of programmes. Any other interpretation would constitute a total departure from normal procedures.

45. It should not be forgotten that UNDP was not the only United Nations organ engaged in technical assistance. The United Nations itself had regional advisers, recruited on a permanent basis to provide general advisory services in such fields as economic and social planning, industrial programming, trade and development and public administration. Those items were at present financed under part V of the regular budget, within which some additional resources might be found. However, those resources were not unlimited, since the level of contributions to the regular technical assistance programme had remained constant for a number of years, although the purchasing power of the actual funds had decreased.

46. With regard to the precise financial implications of the draft resolution, it must not be forgotten that there was always an element of uncertainty about such estimates. While it was impossible to predict what the General Assembly's attitude to the recommendations would be, he believed that the Council should indicate as clearly as possible the sources from which it expected their implementation to be financed. It would be necessary to hold consultations with UNDP on the contribution it could be expected to make, and subsequently to negotiate with the services of the administration for the submission of a request for additional credits. The cost of the additional staff would appear, as did all staff costs, in section III of the budget, which was generally adopted as a whole.

47. Mr. SINGH (India) said that the reference to UNDP in the French amendment to operative paragraph 4 raised a question of principle. It was not the responsibility of UNDP to finance offices of the Secretariat or its subsidiary organs; so to involve it would blur the distinction between operational activities and the regular functioning of offices and bypass the procedure for the submission of requests by Governments for UNDP projects. His delegation believed that expenses of the type referred to should be met from the United Nations budget; for example, as the Under-Secretary-General had suggested, through the regular programme of technical assistance.

48. He wished to allay the fears of the United States representative regarding the last phrase of operative paragraph 1; its purpose was clearly to ensure that the regional economic commissions would co-ordinate their activities with those of the specialized agencies, avoiding rather than creating duplication.

49. Mr. RODRÍGUES LARRETA (Uruguay), supported by Mr. GALLARDO MORENA (Mexico) and Mr. AITKEN (Jamaica), said that certain aspects of the draft resolution were somewhat confusing. According to its title, it dealt with the role of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB in the Second Development Decade, but the final preambular paragraph referred to the resolutions of one regional economic commission and operative paragraph 4 referred to the strengthening of the same commission, which might create the impression that the other commissions did not require the same support. It might therefore be preferable to have two separate draft resolutions.

50. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) supported the French amendment to operative paragraph 1. To go into greater detail on the means of achieving decentralization would be to prejudge the forthcoming recommendations of the UNDP Capacity Study and the report of the Commission on International Development established by IBRD (Pearson Commission).

51. Neither the original text of operative paragraph 4 nor the French amendment was entirely acceptable. Both singled out one regional economic commission for specific mention, and while the first would have implications for part V of the budget, the French amendment would mean involving UNDP in a new type of activity which should ideally be conducted for all the commissions rather than one.

52. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the French amendment to operative paragraph 4 and suggested the replacement of the words “member States of the various African sub-regions” by “member States of the Economic Commission for Africa”.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.





**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Thursday, 31 July 1969

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

at 3.5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 7:	
Regional co-operation:	
(a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut	
(b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (concluded) .....	153
Agenda item 8:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:	
(a) United Nations Development Programme	
(b) United Nations Capital Development Fund	
(c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (concluded) .....	157

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Regional co-operation:**

- (a) Reports of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (E/4639 and Add.1, E/4640, E/4641, E/4651 and Add.1, E/4659, E/4726; E/L.1264/Rev.2, E/L.1266, E/L.1271, E/L.1272)
- (b) Report on the meetings of the executive secretaries (E/4709) (concluded)

1. The PRESIDENT called upon the Council to vote on the French amendments (E/L.1272) to draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2.

*The French amendment to paragraph 1 of the draft resolution was adopted by 13 votes to 12, with 1 abstention.*

2. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the French amendment to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

3. Mr. VIAUD (France) accepted the suggestion made by the USSR delegation at the previous meeting that the words "member States of the various African sub-regions", in the French amendment to paragraph 4, should be replaced by the words "member States of the Economic Commission for Africa".

4. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) asked for particulars concerning the situation which would thus arise. Referring to the four spheres mentioned at the end of the amendment as requiring certain studies and consultations, he thought it risky to include such a limited enumeration.

5. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2 and the French amendment were aimed at establishing certain advisory services. Such services were already in existence and it was legitimate to think that the texts in question were designed to intensify them and systematize their use. Their cost was charged to part V of the regular budget of the United Nations. They might also be charged to UNDP; in that case, their financing would be carried out under the same conditions as UNDP financing of certain services, such as, for example, those of the FAO agricultural advisers. Otherwise it would be necessary to revert to the usual ways of financing the services of experts for a given Government; that, however, was different from the organization of advisory services on a more or less permanent basis, such as draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2 and the French amendment seemed to entail.

6. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay) reiterated his objections to both texts and was surprised that a draft resolution supposedly covering all the regional economic commissions should contain provisions relating to only one of them. For that reason his delegation would abstain from voting.

7. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) was surprised that the Uruguayan delegation, at the current stage of the discussion, should be raising fundamental objections to a draft resolution that had been submitted some time before; such objections should constitute an amendment submitted in the proper form. Draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2 was the outcome of the combination of two texts, one of which had concerned ECA. In view of the special problems besetting ECA, it had been decided to deal with the matters of concern to it in the eighth preambular paragraph and in operative paragraph 4. That was not a new procedure and there was nothing surprising about it.

8. The explanations given by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs were entirely satisfactory to his delegation, although it thought that the French amendment was not entirely in accordance with the purpose of the draft resolution.

9. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay) said that he was entitled to explain his delegation's vote on an amendment which erred on the side of partiality as did the draft resolution to which it referred.

10. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) proposed the following amendment:

*"Urges the United Nations Development Programme and other appropriate agencies to give favourable con-*

sideration to such requests as may be made by the member States of the regional economic commissions, severally or collectively, for placing at their disposal the services of experts and such other services essential to the development of the regions.”

That wording would accommodate any arrangements which might seem appropriate to a given commission.

11. Mr. VIAUD (France) and Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) accepted that amendment.

12. Mr. SINGH (India) said that he would accept the text proposed by the United States representative provided that no reference was made to any particular body. There was no reason why UNDP should be singled out, and he suggested that the reference to it should be deleted.

13. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) accepted that suggestion.

14. Mr. VIAUD (France) could not accept that proposal. It would be possible, however, to take the Indian representative's idea into account by changing the first sentence of his amendment to read: “*Urges* the appropriate institutions, including the United Nations Development Programme”

15. The PRESIDENT suggested that the meeting should be suspended.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting was suspended at 3.45 p.m. and resumed at 4 p.m.*

16. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the various forms of wording suggested actually cloaked important fundamental differences. In one case—and specifically that of UNDP—the institutions concerned were powerful, well-financed organizations which based their work on voluntary contributions and could give favourable consideration to any request which might be submitted to them. In the other case, if the reference to UNDP was omitted, as the Indian delegation had proposed, the draft resolution would relate not only to such organizations but to all organizations financed under the United Nations regular budget.

17. The Secretary-General's report on the financial implications of the recommendations of the regional economic commissions (E/4726) must be taken into account and the matter should be referred to the appropriate United Nations financial bodies. It was true that priority must be given to the requests submitted by the regional economic commissions, and his delegation had said that those commissions were essential for strengthening the activities of the United Nations, but it had specified that their work should first be made more effective.

18. In the circumstances, it would be preferable to retain the text proposed by France and the United States.

19. The PRESIDENT put the Indian amendment to the vote.

*The amendment was adopted by 14 votes to 2, with 10 abstentions.*

20. The PRESIDENT announced that the sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2 accepted the amendment proposed by the French delegation, with the sub-amendments proposed by the Indian delegation. He put draft resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2, as amended, to the vote.

*The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by 22 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.*

21. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) regretted that his delegation, which had co-sponsored the draft resolution, had had to abstain from voting because one of the most important elements of the text had been deleted.

22. In another connexion, his delegation hoped that the report which the Council was to submit to the General Assembly would include a sentence calling attention to the fact that the issue had given rise to divergent opinions, which it would be advisable to take into account. The sentence in question might read: “The Economic and Social Council requests all those concerned to take particular note of the various views expressed during the consideration of resolution [here the serial number of the resolution which the Council had just adopted would be inserted], particularly at the 1624th and 1625th meetings of the Council.”

*It was so decided.*

23. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that while his delegation approved of much of the resolution that the Council had just adopted, some doubts had prevented it from supporting the text as a whole.

24. In the first place, with regard to the financial aspects, his delegation considered that account should be taken of the Secretary-General's report (E/4726) on the financial implications of the proposed measures. Account should also be taken of the statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs that the manner of resolving the financial problems involved had not yet been made perfectly clear. That was why his delegation considered that a definitive decision could not be taken until after the matter had been examined by the competent United Nations bodies; a halt should be called to the constant increase in the Organization's budget, which was not at present accompanied by a parallel increase in the economic and social activities of United Nations bodies. The United Nations could and should find ways and means of intensifying its assistance to the developing countries by making its work more effective.

25. In the second place, the resolution underlined the need to reinforce the role of sub-regional organizations

within the purview of ECA. His delegation considered that, first and foremost, the work of the regional economic commissions should be considered as a whole: it might be easy to separate, but it was more difficult to reunite, and it was important to preserve the integrity of the commissions.

26. Miss HARELI (Observer for Israel), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, said that her delegation would not reply to the totally unjustified references made to her country during the discussions on agenda item 7; those references had been made for political reasons and there were other bodies in the United Nations to deal with such matters.

27. It was, however, necessary to point out that the resolution just adopted was not perfectly clear. UNESOB and the regional economic commissions did not have the same status. UNESOB was part of the United Nations Secretariat and was not an intergovernmental regional economic commission. It could have no policy-making functions, because such functions could be exercised only by intergovernmental bodies. Nothing contained in the resolution could change that fact.

28. A regional economic commission for the Middle East had not yet been set up for reasons which were well known and which her Government very much deplored. It was Israel's fervent hope that that commission would come into being and it was fully prepared to co-operate in its establishment in order to further economic and social development in the region.

29. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) observed that the Economic and Social Council, a sovereign body, had adopted the resolution in question with full knowledge of the facts and that the observations which had just been made on the subject were at variance with the resolution. Further, declarations of intent were not enough and practical action was necessary, but not of the kind at present to be seen: the aggression continued with the expulsion of populations and the procession of misery and persecution resulting from Israel's occupation of Arab territories.

30. His delegation requested that its statement should be reproduced *in extenso* in the Council's report to the General Assembly.

31. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the draft resolutions on the annual reports of ECE, ECAFE, ECLA and ECA, as submitted by those commissions in part IV of their reports.

*The draft resolution on the report of ECE (E/4641) was adopted unanimously.*

*The draft resolution on the report of ECAFE (E/4640) was adopted unanimously.*

32. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that some of the measures recommended in the

ECAFE report had major financial implications. His delegation had endorsed that report, but it considered that all questions of a financial nature associated with the extension of the Commission's work should be examined by the competent organs of the General Assembly.

*The draft resolution on the report of ECLA (E/4639) was adopted unanimously.*

33. The PRESIDENT pointed out that, as suggested in paragraph 489 of the ECLA report, the Commission had decided to request the Council to add the following paragraph to article 12 of the Commission's terms of reference: "For those years in which the Commission does not hold a session, the Executive Secretary shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report of its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, after approval by the chairman of the session in question and after circulation to Governments of member States for their comments and any necessary modifications."

34. He requested the Council to vote on that paragraph.

*The paragraph was adopted unanimously.*

35. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, when ECLA had decided at the beginning of its last session to dispense with summary records, many translators and précis-writers had found themselves out of work and had spent their time sight-seeing. It would be desirable, when certain organs decided to dispense with summary records or to limit documentation in compliance with the recommendations of the General Assembly, that the Secretariat should take the necessary steps to ensure that such a situation did not recur.

36. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) replied that the Office of Conference Services had inevitably had to keep the necessary précis-writers on hand so long as the Commission had not actually decided to dispense with summary records. So far as sight-seeing by conference staff was concerned, he was certain that the authorities in New York and in Santiago, Chile, had made sure that such activities were not charged to the United Nations budget.

37. The PRESIDENT recalled that the French delegation had proposed a number of amendments (E/L.1271) to the draft resolution on the ECA report (E/4651).

38. Mr. VIAUD (France) thought that the Council should take note of the resolutions adopted by ECA; to endorse them might give the impression that the Council was encroaching on ECA's responsibilities. That, in any case, was the practice in regard to the draft resolutions relating to the other regional economic commissions. Further, the Council could not take the place of the African delegations by endorsing resolution 190 (IX), on relations with OAU; it

would be more appropriate for the Council to take note of ECA's intention to establish working relations with OAU.

39. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) would not object to the substitution, in paragraph 3 of the draft resolution on the ECA report, of the words "Takes note in particular, of the resolutions" for the words "Endorses particularly the resolutions", but thought that it would be better to retain the reference to the specific resolutions adopted by ECA rather than to refer to "the resolutions in part III".

40. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) acknowledged that, in the draft resolutions submitted by the other regional economic commissions, the Council took note of the resolutions adopted, but the expression "takes note" was not strong enough in the particular instance under discussion; ECA had adopted important resolutions with a view to intensifying its work and introducing structural modifications. Rather than adopt a negative neutral attitude, it would be better to maintain the word "endorses".

41. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) did not object to the substitution of the words "takes note" for the word "endorses" in the draft resolution on the ECA report; that change was justified on grounds of uniformity and because the Council had already, in the last paragraph of the preamble to resolution E/L.1264/Rev.2, endorsed resolutions 188 (IX) and 189 (IX) relating to the reorganization of ECA.

42. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) agreed with the representative of Upper Volta.

43. Mr. VIAUD (France) understood that the representatives of Tanzania and Upper Volta did not oppose the French proposal to replace the word "endorses", in paragraph 3 of the draft resolution on the ECA report, by the words "takes note". He therefore proposed that a separate vote should be taken on that amendment.

44. The PRESIDENT put the French amendment to the vote.

*The amendment was adopted.*

45. Mr. DANIELI (United Republic of Tanzania) said that he did not understand the purpose of the French amendment to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution under consideration and he requested the French representative not to press for the new wording.

46. Mr. VIAUD (France) recalled that in a similar case the Council had merely taken note of the working relations established between ECLA and OAS. His delegation had no ulterior motive in putting forward its amendment, as it had no objection in principle to the Council's endorsing the wish of ECA to establish working relations with OAU. Consequently, if the delegations of Tanzania and Upper Volta considered that the text of paragraph 4 of the draft

resolution on the ECA report was preferable, the French delegation would concur.

47. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) proposed, in view of the amendment to paragraph 3, the deletion of the word "also". Paragraph 4 would therefore begin: "Endorses resolution 190 (IX) on ...".

*It was so decided.*

48. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution on the ECA report (E/4651), as amended.

*The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted.*

49. Mr. VIAUD (France) pointed out that he had agreed to accept the original text of paragraph 4 of the draft resolution on the ECA report; he wished, however, to remind the Council that the main purpose of the French amendment was to express the hope that the two bodies—ECA and OAU—would work not only in a spirit of co-operation but also on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.

50. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) emphasized the magnitude of the financial implications of the ECA report, which would entail an even heavier burden than in the case of ECAFE. All financial questions should be submitted to the competent organs of the United Nations so as to avoid any unnecessary increase in the Organizations's budget.

51. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution on regional co-operation submitted by the delegation of Kuwait (E/L.1266).

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

52. The PRESIDENT pointed out, with regard to the question of simplifying and standardizing documents and procedures in international trade, to which the Council's attention had been drawn both in ECE resolution 4 (XXIV) (E/4641, part III) and in section XII of the report of the meetings of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions in 1969 (E/4709), that a number of statements endorsing the endeavours made in that field had been made during the discussions. He therefore suggested that the Council should take note of ECE resolution 4 (XXIV) and of the report of the meetings of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions in that connexion.

*It was so decided.*

*Mr. Ahmed (Sudan), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

## AGENDA ITEM 8

**Reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/4609, E/4663, E/4706; E/L.1269/Rev.1):**

- (a) United Nations Development Programme
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (*concluded*)

53. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of the revised draft resolution on technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (E/L.1269/Rev.1), proposed that the phrase "which fulfil the general principles mentioned below under part 2 (a) and (d) of this resolution" should be inserted in the fourth preambular paragraph after the words "national volunteer schemes". He hoped that that slight alteration would enable the Council to adopt the draft resolution unanimously.

54. Mr. EKONDY-AKALA (Congo, Brazzaville) wished to reiterate the importance which his country attached to the matter under discussion. Since he had not received fresh instructions from his Government, he would confine himself to restating his delegation's position, hoping to clear up some misunderstandings before the Council took a final decision on the matter. He paid a tribute to the sponsors of the draft resolution, most of whom represented developing countries, on their good intentions, but the fact was that it was often difficult to draw a distinction between teams of experts and teams of volunteers, and it was to be feared that international volunteers might often conceal unworthy motives. Several developing countries, for example, had had unfortunate experiences with envoys of the United States Peace Corps.

55. He would not oppose the idea of a study on the establishment of an international volunteer corps provided that the political aspects of the matter were not disregarded. One question was whether the international volunteers to be sent to less advanced countries ostensibly to provide development aid would be armed, as had some French citizens who had been arrested recently when engaged on a mission on behalf of an international organization.

56. In those circumstances, he would be obliged to abstain from voting on the draft resolution under consideration.

57. Mr. VIAUD (France) was satisfied with the amendments made by the sponsors to the original draft resolution and which had enabled the French delegation to withdraw the amendments it had submitted. Furthermore, the addition suggested by the representative of Kuwait to the fourth preambular paragraph of the revised draft resolution was quite acceptable to his delegation, for it was in keeping with the characteristics of the French volunteer services and

was one of the conditions for a unanimous vote, or at least a vote by a large majority, in the Council.

58. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that most of the differences had been ironed out in the revised draft resolution, and consequently would be able to support it, although he had one rather important reservation to make with reference to the fourth preambular paragraph which, even in its amended form, was still too general. Although some countries had admittedly had favourable experiences with national volunteers, there were also cases where so-called volunteers sent abroad by national organizations had been expelled by the developing countries that they were supposed to assist. The purposes of volunteer activities also varied a great deal.

59. While voting for the draft resolution as a whole, the Soviet Union interpreted the word "contribution", in the fourth preambular paragraph, as referring solely to the experience acquired by the developing countries themselves. His delegation had already had occasion to voice serious doubts about the idea of establishing an international volunteer corps.

60. Mr. AITKEN (Jamaica) stressed that the draft resolution under consideration could not be interpreted as a call to Governments to slacken their efforts to establish national volunteer services. Jamaica for one had derived great benefit from the work of volunteers, which had enabled it to form a national corps; hence its support for the idea of establishing an international volunteer corps in no way detracted from the regard in which it held national services.

61. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) would vote for the draft resolution since, in the matter of volunteers, his country had been luckier than others, for it had managed to derive great benefit from the national volunteer services it had received. That comment seemed called for after the pessimistic remarks of the representative of the Congo (Brazzaville). His delegation would support the draft resolution precisely so that some pitfalls could be avoided in international volunteer work.

62. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the revised draft resolution (E/L.1269/Rev.1), as amended orally by the representative of Kuwait.

*The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by 23 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

63. Mr. SINGH (India) first congratulated all those who had taken part in preparing the draft resolution on the spirit of compromise which they had shown, especially the observer for Iran. Furthermore, on behalf of all the sponsors of the draft resolution, he proposed the inclusion of the following passage in the Council's report to the General Assembly: "The Council welcomed the support

and interest which Governments had shown following the inspiring initiative of His Imperial Majesty, the Shah of Iran”.

64. Mr. CAPPELEN (Norway) and Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) supported the Indian representative's proposal

concerning the inclusion of a tribute to the Shah of Iran in the Council's report.

*The proposal was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.



CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 11	
Multilateral food aid .....	159
Agenda item 14	
Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund .....	159

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 11

**Multilateral food aid**

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/4734)

1. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the report of the Economic Committee on multilateral food aid (E/4734) and invited the Council to vote on the draft resolution relating to the target for pledges to the World Food Programme for the period 1971-1972, which appeared in paragraph 4 of the report. That draft resolution had been approved by the Economic Committee (497th meeting) by 18 votes to none, with two abstentions.

*The draft resolution was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

AGENDA ITEM 14

**Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/4711, E/L.1273)**

2. Mr. DOGRAMACI (Chairman, Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund) said that the session of the Executive Board, held in Santiago, Chile, in May 1969, had afforded members the opportunity of acquainting themselves with the problems and programmes concerning children and youth in the Latin American continent. The main theme of the session had been the role which UNICEF might play in the achievement of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade. It had been stressed that two-fifths of the population of the developing countries were under fifteen years of age, and they must be protected from social hazards and given the training and motivation which would enable them to make a constructive contribution to the development of their countries. The Board had therefore been of the opinion that one of the first tasks of UNICEF should be to encourage developing countries to take into account the needs of children and youth in their national development plans, and to help in the systematic study of the means whereby that might

best be done. A national policy for children and youth was an essential part of any comprehensive development programme, and co-ordination would make the investments of the various ministries concerned more effective. Once it was recognized that children and youth were the agents as well as the beneficiaries of development, action must be taken to carry out a corresponding policy. There was a greater need than ever for UNICEF to offer material and financial assistance, and it might therefore be necessary to establish an organization with a wide network of services, and to arrange training programmes, launch pilot projects or expand existing projects. UNICEF should support a national policy for children and youth, or, if no such policy existed, it should assist elements which could be brought together to create one.

3. UNICEF had extended its efforts to utilize the services of the younger generation. Various forms of organized youth groups in the developing countries were receiving UNICEF aid, which in rural areas was sometimes sponsored by agricultural extension services or affiliated with the school system, and in urban areas was under the social welfare administration. Young people had always participated to some extent in programmes receiving UNICEF aid; and UNICEF was currently employing an increasing number of volunteers in field projects, and had established a more active relationship with some of the main organizations and Governments providing volunteers for service in developing countries.

4. An innovation at the 1969 session of the Board had been the consideration of UNICEF assistance by country rather than by functional sector. That was another step towards fuller application of the "country approach" method, whereby aid was given in accordance with priorities established by the Government concerned and in support of their development objectives.

5. UNICEF material aid had consisted primarily of supplies and equipment and the financing of local costs, largely for training purposes. Training, including supplies and equipment for training institutions, had absorbed about one-third of UNICEF aid. About 49 per cent of programme allocations in 1969 had been for health, of which slightly over three-quarters had been devoted to building up basic health services, in which maternity and child health networks figured prominently and which also included services concerned with such matters as immunization, village water supplies, health and nutrition education and family planning. More than 11,000 main and 29,000 subsidiary health centres had received technical equipment from UNICEF by the end of 1968, and over thirty countries where family planning was directly associated with mother and child health services had received UNICEF

aid. The balance of aid in connexion with health had been spent on malaria eradication programmes. All aid in the health field was given in close co-operation with WHO.

6. The May 1969 session of the Board had reviewed aid in village water supply and environmental sanitation programmes. The aid consisted mostly of drills, pipes, pumps, equipment to manufacture simple latrines and other supplies; and the proportion of local participation in construction and installations was usually high. In the ten-year period under review, some \$17 million had been allocated to eighty countries; in general the projects had been successful, and the principle that the projects should be regarded as demonstrations that would encourage earlier implementation of a national programme remained valid. In India, the demonstration concept had to be applied flexibly, since additional local resources alone could not extend water supply programmes in areas where deep drilling was necessary; larger amounts of aid from UNICEF or other acceptable sources were required.

7. In most developing countries, child malnutrition was more serious than had been realized. It was therefore a matter of great concern to UNICEF that allocations in 1969 had remained at the level of 10.8 per cent of the total programme allocations, although some elements of nutrition were included in allocations for health and education. The best hope in rural areas was the applied nutrition programme, and in urban areas efforts were continuing to produce and distribute protein-rich weaning foods. There were good prospects for the production of "Superamine" in Algeria, and for the initiation of similar schemes in a number of other countries. The basic problem remained that of persuading Governments to give adequate priority to human nutrition programmes in addition to, or as part of, their policies of stimulating agricultural production. Co-operation between UNICEF, WHO and FAO would continue to be essential, and the Director-General of FAO had reaffirmed his commitment to such co-operation.

8. Aid for education had amounted in 1969 to 25.7 per cent of all programme allocations. By the end of 1968, more than 1,080 teacher-training schools and about 37,900 associated primary schools had received UNICEF equipment; and 93,425 teachers, auxiliary workers and other staff had been trained with UNICEF stipends. All education activities had been carried out in co-operation with UNESCO, and UNICEF was giving full support to the International Education Year planned for 1970. Although allocations for pre-vocational training were still relatively small, the activity was potentially important, in that it related to the preparation not only of children whose education was likely to stop at the primary level, but also of those who remained outside the regular school system. The Board had agreed that such projects should not concentrate on the preparation of potential industrial workers, but should give young people for whom there was as yet no place in the industrial sector a preparation which would enable them to introduce more modern techniques into agriculture and other traditional activities.

9. Four per cent of the programme allocations were for family and child welfare projects, carried out in collaboration with the Social Development Division of the United Nations Secretariat. Projects were aimed at improving the care of children both within and outside their homes, through various child welfare and youth agencies, day care centres, community development projects and women's clubs in rural areas.

10. UNICEF was still called upon to provide aid in emergencies. An allocation of \$2.4 million had been approved for assistance in Nigeria, for the purchase of children's foods, drugs and vehicles, and for freight and other items. Donations in kind and pledges, mostly food-stuffs, to the value of about \$16.3 million, had been received from Governments by 1 March 1969. The supplies and equipment had been distributed mainly through the good offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and of church groups on both sides of the fighting lines. The 1969 session of the Board had approved an allocation of \$1.6 million for Nigeria with which to continue emergency aid and start the rehabilitation of health and education services.

11. The Board had been informed by the Executive Director that the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam had invited the Polish representative to the Board to visit Hanoi on behalf of UNICEF immediately after the Board's session, and his report was now awaited. With regard to the Republic of Viet-Nam, close contact had been maintained with the League of Red Cross Societies, and an allocation of \$200,000 had been approved to continue the programme of emergency feeding.

12. Increased emphasis was being placed on the evaluation of UNICEF programmes and projects; in recent years, broader appraisals had been undertaken in association with the technical agencies concerned, and by using especially appointed consultants and field staff in such matters as leprosy control, family and child welfare, milk conservation schemes, maternal and child health, applied nutrition and education. UNICEF had participated in inter-agency consultations on improving the methods of evaluation, and it maintained the practice of co-ordinating programme assistance with the specialized agencies which were involved at all stages of the planning, implementation and assessment of UNICEF-aided projects. The Board had urged that organizations such as IBRD, UNDP and WFP should also be associated in project preparation and planning, and had noted that steps had already been taken to achieve such co-ordination.

13. In its efforts to meet the growing needs of mothers, children and young people, UNICEF could administer at least double the funds currently available, at relatively little strain on it or on the United Nations system as a whole. No basic change in the present methods of co-ordination with the technical agencies would be needed, and more aid from UNICEF would not require a proportionate increase in expenditure by the agencies. Current UNICEF resources were seriously out of proportion to its tasks; and many



practical project proposals were waiting to be developed. It was increasingly recognized that the training and welfare of the younger generation were important to national development programmes. Training was reducing the personnel shortage for executing projects; and with greater numbers of trained staff working in schools, health centres and welfare and extension services, there was a corresponding need for tools, supplies and equipment. UNICEF had reduced its funds in hand to the lowest prudent level, so that income could be used as soon as received, and expenditure now had to be held to the level of income. Allocations proposed to the Board at its 1969 session had therefore been restricted to about \$46 million. If a steady growth in income continued, the current income target of \$50 million might be reached in 1970. There had been wide support among Board members for a future target of double that figure, a level which the international community could easily afford. As a step towards attracting additional funds, the Board had confirmed the system whereby contributions from governmental and non governmental sources could be accepted for specific projects for which commitments had been approved, for fields of aid in which projects had been approved, and for projects which the Board had noted as worthy of support if additional contributions were forthcoming. Projects so noted for the first time in 1969 would involve commitments of about \$16 million, and allocations of \$6 million for the first year of operations.

14. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) said that since 40 per cent or more of the population of the developing countries was under the age of 15, there was a close relationship between the activities of UNICEF and the Council's tasks in connexion with agenda item 13 (Programmes of international action relating to youth). It was mankind's duty to ensure the fulfilment of the crucially important task of protecting young people against social hazards and preparing them for a useful life contributing to development

15. He particularly welcomed the statement by the Chairman of the Executive Board of UNICEF, since Mr. Dogramaci had made an important contribution to the national life of Turkey by creating an establishment consisting of a hospital for young people and adults, a university and a research centre dealing with problems of children and adolescents, and he was now equally active in the international community.

16. In connexion with UNICEF's role in the preparation and implementation of the Second Development Decade, particular value was to be attached to the Executive Board's conclusion that one of UNICEF's first tasks should be to encourage developing countries to take the needs of children and young people into account in their national development plans and to help them do so by the systematic analysis of possible procedures. Long-term planning for that purpose could only be beneficial, and the more active and dynamic role which UNICEF could play in drawing world attention to the needs of children in the developing countries and to the action that could be taken was therefore of vital importance.

17. The "country approach" referred to in paragraph 40 of the Executive Board's report (E/4711) would, he thought, enable recipient countries to make more effective use of UNICEF aid.

18. Because of the varied tasks it performed, UNICEF must co-operate closely with other international organizations such as UNDP and the specialized agencies, and particularly WHO and UNESCO. The report stressed that need, and, to the extent that such co-ordination was effective, UNICEF's task would be greatly lightened.

19. He wished on behalf of the co-sponsors to introduce the draft resolution contained in document E/L.1273. The preamble to the draft was based on the Executive Board's report, and it expressed satisfaction in general terms with UNICEF's work. The operative paragraphs appealed to member Governments and to other contributors to increase their contributions to UNICEF. Without such an effort, it would be difficult if not impossible for UNICEF to supply the increased volume of aid which would be required of it, especially during the Second Development Decade. The statement by the Chairman of the Executive Board to the effect that UNICEF could administer at least double the funds at present available had been particularly striking in that connexion.

20. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said it was clear from the report of the Executive Board that UNICEF had done much to help children and had carried out more than 500 projects in a large number of countries. While her delegation appreciated the work done by UNICEF, it wished to draw the Council's attention to the continuing expansion of UNICEF programmes and to the fact that they were moving away from the organization's basic task, namely, the provision of aid to children. In her delegation's view, UNICEF should endeavour to remain within the limits established for its activities and concentrate on executing the most effective programmes for meeting the immediate and urgent needs of children of pre-school and school age in the developing countries. The Council had been informed that a large percentage of UNICEF's resources had been allocated to programmes concerned with family planning and the organization of communal services. While those were, of course, very important, they were not directly concerned with the needs of children and youth and were outside the competence of UNICEF.

21. She wished to refer to the experience of her country and other socialist countries in the matter, since that information might be useful to the developing countries. The USSR had set up a large network of institutions for the provision of assistance to mothers and children. In connexion with preparations for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin, the founder of the Soviet State, particular attention was being paid to child care and the training of young people. The plan for 1969 provided for an increase in the number of children's institutions. In that connexion, she pointed out that 46 million children were attending general educational

schools in the USSR and that primary and secondary education was provided free of charge. Many practical measures had been taken to improve the educational and social services available to children. Furthermore, the child mortality rate had declined by 41 per cent in the past decade. It should be noted that, having been carried out in the relatively short period of fifty years, all those improvements demonstrated the opportunities offered by the socialist method of development.

22. UNICEF should assist such important programmes as those relating to health, education and pre-vocational training. In that connexion, she noted that there had been a drop in the percentage of resources allocated to health programmes in the past two years and that the child mortality rate in the developing countries was still very high.

23. The Council had been informed at the current meeting that UNICEF had found a way to assist the children in the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam. Her delegation appreciated those efforts, but wished to point out that considerable time had elapsed in arriving at a solution of that problem. It hoped that steps would be taken to speed up the assistance to be provided to the children of that country.

24. With regard to the children of South Viet-Nam who were already being assisted by UNICEF, she considered that UNICEF should now establish contact with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam on the matter.

25. With reference to the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution E/L.1273, she said that UNICEF should not adopt a "country approach" but should give priority to the problems facing children. As to the seventh preambular paragraph, her delegation did not feel that it was appropriate, because it did not correspond with the facts. In that connexion, she recalled that UNICEF had taken more than a year to respond to the emergency needs of children in the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam. With reference to operative paragraph 1, she said that her delegation, in particular, had not endorsed the policies and programmes of UNICEF. It considered that the Council should revert to the practice usually followed and merely take note of the report in question. If that was done, her delegation would be able to vote in favour of the draft resolution. If not, it would request a separate vote on that paragraph.

26. Mr. SHAHEED (International Labour Organisation) said that, in the long and fruitful history of co-operation between the ILO and UNICEF, a process of built-in co-ordination had developed which greatly facilitated prompt and effective action in matters of common concern. It also applied to concerted action in those fields with other organizations of the United Nations family.

27. In the early years, co-operation between the ILO and UNICEF had been on a limited scale and had concerned only the vocational rehabilitation of handicapped children. An important change of emphasis had occurred following

the series of policy decisions taken by the Executive Board of UNICEF in June 1961 based on a survey of the needs of children carried out in 1960-1961. The ILO contribution to that survey had dealt successively with the various youth questions within the ILO sphere of competence, placing special emphasis on the need for more adequate and effective vocational assistance to out-of-school children and young persons in the developing countries, and suggesting the possibility of setting up youth vocational centres. The policy decisions taken by UNICEF's Executive Board at that stage had involved approval of UNICEF programme extensions in various fields, including aid for projects providing vocational assistance to out-of-school children and young persons. Through such aid, it had been hoped to develop a comparatively fresh and realistic approach to the problems of the masses of "post-primary" children and to fill in gaps, and complement, the training and related facilities being developed by the ILO under other programmes. It had been recognized that such youth centres would have social as well as vocational objectives and that each must have a firm and realistic basis, with an economically sound structure taking due account of the needs and possibilities of the employment market.

28. Since mid-1963, UNICEF-aided youth projects of concern to the ILO had taken shape rapidly, largely as a result of the initiatives of UNICEF field staff working in close co-operation with ILO field personnel.

29. By the end of 1968, UNICEF, with the co-operation of the ILO, had provided assistance amounting to \$3.3 million for pre-vocational training schemes in twelve countries. In addition, there were many educational schemes assisted by UNICEF, at both the primary and the secondary levels, which included an important element of pre-vocational training. In all such UNICEF-aided projects, the ILO was consulted on the technical aspects. UNICEF provided financial assistance (largely for equipment and supplies) not to the ILO but direct to the Governments concerned, which retained maximum responsibility in the planning and execution of projects.

30. Thus, through flexible relations and systematic consultation at the headquarters and field levels, UNICEF fully recognized the technical competence and responsibility of the agencies co-operating with it; that had proved a useful and effective means of reviewing programme developments and anticipating problems in launching new types of projects. The ILO therefore wished to express its appreciation of the pragmatic and constructive approach displayed in those concerted efforts to deal with problems of common concern to the two organizations.

31. Turning to more recent developments, he referred to the decision taken by the Executive Board in 1968 to appraise UNICEF's assistance in the field of pre-vocational training of youth.<sup>1</sup> At the request of the Executive Director, the ILO had undertaken, in co-operation with

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8*, para. 73.

UNICEF and in consultation with UNESCO, an assessment of joint ILO/UNICEF-assisted pre-vocational training projects in a number of selected countries. That assessment, which was contained in document E/ICEF/L.1272, had been given favourable consideration by the UNICEF Executive Board at its 1969 session in Santiago, particularly in regard to the guidelines presented for future work in that field. The survey had drawn attention to the crucial situation of early school-leavers, which constituted one of the most serious problems facing developing countries. To help to remedy the situation, it was proposed to develop specific programmes with the active participation of other United Nations bodies, including FAO and UNESCO. In developing programmes in the field of pre-vocational training, the following criteria had been considered appropriate: (a) Governments which were concerned about the problem of inadequately educated and unskilled early school-leavers and had the requisite resources to deal with the problem should have their attention drawn to pre-vocational training as a solution; (b) particular attention should be given to developing such projects in countries where employment possibilities existed, i.e., developing countries which were endowed with natural resources offering large investment possibilities but whose population was lacking in basic skills; (c) existing projects should be examined for possible complementary pre-vocational training activities, with such training being linked, wherever possible, to efforts being made at the country level under the World Employment Programme so as to avoid any waste of funds; and (d) attention should also be given to developing pre-vocational training opportunities and activities for girls, as well as to the extension of such training in rural areas.

32. In conclusion, he submitted that the application of the guidelines and criteria just mentioned could provide considerable scope for concerted action between UNICEF, the ILO and the other international organizations concerned within the framework of broad policies and programmes (such as the World Employment Programme and the International Education Year) to help in resolving one of the most crucial problems of the present time.

33. Turning to draft resolution E/L.1273 which was before the Council, he welcomed the reference in the sixth paragraph of the preamble to the close co-operation existing between UNICEF and other organizations of the United Nations system. It would be interesting for the Council to analyse the reasons for that success, which might provide lessons for use in other fields of activity.

34. Mr. DØRUM (Norway) said that among the many organs within the United Nations system, UNICEF occupied a unique position in the public mind. It was gratifying to note from the report of the Executive Board that, within the resources available, UNICEF was responding to the challenge of its reputation in world opinion in a convincing manner.

35. In his statement to the Council (1610th meeting), the Executive Director had concentrated on the long-range

economic and social functions of UNICEF and its contribution to the Second United Nations Development Decade, stressing the human factor in all development activities. By the end of the Development Decade, many of today's underprivileged children would have come of age, and the role of UNICEF in improving their ability to support themselves and contribute to the development of their society could hardly be overestimated.

36. The report before the Council showed that UNICEF was continuing to direct the greater part of its efforts to long-term programmes of benefit to children. Although UNICEF had a vital role in acute emergency situations, his delegation hoped that the emphasis on long-term programmes would continue. As the Executive Director had stated in paragraph 9 of his latest report to the Executive Board (E/ICEF/586 and Corr.1), "sudden temporary disasters must not make us lose sight of the disasters which are with us all the time". Among the latter was the constant malnutrition of children caused by an insufficiency of protein-rich food. That was a field in which the role played by UNICEF was an important one and could certainly be much greater if UNICEF had the necessary resources. He therefore shared the Executive Director's hopes that UNICEF, in co-operation with FAO and WHO, would succeed in accelerating progress in that urgent matter.

37. Another vital area in which UNICEF was increasingly engaged was that of family planning. The growing realization of the need to reduce current birth rates would presumably present UNICEF with greatly increased tasks in that field, in which it was in a unique position to help Governments requesting assistance.

38. His delegation wished to give credit to UNICEF for being among the pioneers within the United Nations system in realizing the need for co-ordination, integration and evaluation in development activities. At headquarters and in the field, UNICEF, in an exemplary manner, was working hand in hand with Governments and the various organizations in the United Nations system.

39. The Executive Director and his staff were, it seemed, not being adequately supplied with the means to carry out their overwhelming task. The target endorsed by General Assembly resolution 2432 (XXIII) of annual government contributions amounting to \$50 million must be reached, and it was encouraging to note in that connexion from the Executive Board's report that income from Governments now appeared to be rising at a significant rate and that the estimate for 1970 was in the \$47-50 million range (E/4711, para. 180). Norway's contribution for 1969 was about one-third higher than for the preceding year and his Government intended to raise still further its contribution for 1970.

40. Through their voluntary supporters, the national UNICEF committees were doing a great deal to give moral and material support to UNICEF and thereby promote international understanding of development problems in general. Income from private sources in 1960 had risen by

nearly 42 per cent to about \$8 million, while the increase in government contributions had amounted to no more than two-tenths of 1 per cent.

41. With reference to draft resolution E/L.1273, of which Norway was a co-sponsor, he said that the operative part endorsed the policies and programmes of UNICEF and appealed for increased contributions. His delegation hoped that the draft would meet with the Council's unanimous approval.

42. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that the presence in the United Nations family of an agency concerned with the welfare of children was of vital importance.

43. He wished to comment on some elements in the Executive Board's report which were of particular importance for the United Nations family as a whole. The first was the Board's practice of making field trips. It was fair to say that the sensitivity of UNICEF's programming was in large measure a reflection of the integrity with which the Board sought to acquaint itself at first hand with the real problems and possibilities of children around the world.

44. The second point was the element of flexibility exhibited in the profile of the Board's programmes over the years. In his delegation's view, the debates on the allocation of resources summarized in the annual report showed sensitivity to the need for flexibility.

45. With reference to the USSR representative's remarks, he said the degree of care and attention given to youth in the USSR removed the need for emergency planning, but that type of comprehensive planning was not typical of many areas of the world. His delegation hoped that UNICEF's current preoccupation with vocational training would be regarded, not as an attempt to pre-empt the role of the ILO or UNESCO, but as a means of drawing the attention of Governments in some parts of the world to the critical needs of youth. Where such emergency measures duplicated what were more appropriately the functions of other agencies and more comprehensive Government planning, that was perhaps the point at which they began to lose their usefulness.

46. His delegation commended UNICEF for its responsiveness to the urgent and immediate elements of disaster and tragedy in the world, and particularly to the plight of the children affected by the Nigerian-Biafran tragedy.

47. Although the catalytic role of UNICEF involved a rather elastic view of the age limit, he thought that in most countries the age of fifteen might be an appropriate point at which concern for youth might more properly be transferred to another agency.

48. His delegation commended the Board's practice of carrying out an annual evaluation and review. The emphasis placed on pre-vocational training and environmental sanitation illustrated the importance of devoting attention to critical issues which could be examined in depth.

49. UNICEF provided a model of inter-agency co-operation. Children must be viewed as human beings, and not merely from the point of view of the labour force or agriculture; and all the organizations in the United Nations system should contribute to the co-ordination of efforts made to meet their needs. UNICEF's efforts to achieve such co-ordination should not, therefore, be construed as an attempt by that agency to duplicate the functions of other bodies. His delegation renewed its pledge of support for the important programmes of UNICEF and expressed its especial appreciation of the work done by the secretariat.

50. Mr. VIAUD (France) considered that the results of the Executive Board's session in Santiago in May 1969 were encouraging and gave grounds for hoping that in future UNICEF would be more efficient and make better use of available resources.

51. His delegation appreciated the humanitarian work being done by UNICEF, in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and certain States, in the troubled areas of Africa, and also the efforts being undertaken on behalf of child victims of the conflicts in the Middle East and Far East.

52. Generally speaking, his delegation found itself in agreement with the new trends in UNICEF's permanent activities. The effectiveness of UNICEF's assistance programmes would, he thought, be increased by the decisions taken by the Executive Board in Santiago such as those concerning the "country approach" (E/4711, para. 40), consideration of opportunities for action on an age-group basis, emphasis on long-term programming, establishment of a group of "noted" projects (*ibid.*, para. 35), and the reorganization of UNICEF's African offices.

53. The global approach to problems, which was the only one suitable for the evaluation of long-term programmes, would make it possible to achieve better co-ordination of the activities of the different international organizations principally and indirectly involved and to take account of the priorities laid down by the responsible Governments, which alone were capable of assuming responsibility for the political options involved. His delegation supported the efforts being undertaken in the health and education sectors in co-operation with the United Nations, the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, UNDP and other bodies. It was, however, important, as the USSR delegation had pointed out, that UNICEF should beware of over-ambitious programmes in which its action might become diluted and ineffective. Efforts to promote the welfare of children were in need of consolidation, and it should always be borne in mind that UNICEF's resources were limited.

54. The French Government's contribution to UNICEF was one of the largest contributions which it made to any international body. The direct contribution amounted to 7 million francs a year. The French Government was also making indirect contributions, such as those to the International Children's Centre, and would be increasing them in future years so that UNICEF might benefit from increased resources.

55. With regard to the draft resolution, his delegation supported the appeal to member Governments and other donors to make every effort to increase their contributions to UNICEF. It hoped that the criticisms which had been voiced, for example by the USSR, would be taken into account and that appropriate new formulations would be found, so that the draft resolution would meet with unanimous support.

56. Miss MUTER (Indonesia) thanked UNICEF for the assistance which it had given to her country. The close co-operation which had been established between her Government and UNICEF was of great benefit. Indonesia's concern for mother and child was well known, and her delegation was pleased that UNICEF had broadened its role. A comprehensive policy for children and young people was most helpful to developing countries. The "country approach" (E/4711, para. 40), whereby aid was given in accordance with the priorities established by the developing countries concerned, was a very constructive one. UNICEF must have greater resources if its activities were to become more extensive. Her delegation fully supported draft resolution E/L.1273, which was intended to benefit the younger generation in general.

57. Mr. ABE (Japan) said it was particularly encouraging that UNICEF's activities had been directed in recent years not only towards emergency aid but also towards support for development in general. It was important, however, that UNICEF, in view of its limited resources, should make the best possible use of the available financial and human resources. His delegation noted with satisfaction the efforts being made to achieve co-ordination between UNICEF and the ILO, UNESCO, FAO, WHO and other international organizations with regard to the planning and execution of projects. UNICEF had a great contribution to make in fields such as health and nutrition. It was to be hoped that such action would lead to the active participation of young people in the future development of their own countries. A good example of co-operation between international bodies was provided by a recent agreement under which the UNDP representative in Japan was also appointed UNICEF representative in that country. Such a step would strengthen assistance for development in Japan. The Japanese Government would continue to do everything possible to help UNICEF in its noble and humanitarian work.

58. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) expressed satisfaction that UNICEF's programme was being maintained and enlarged and that the agency as a whole was very much alive to the needs of the developing countries. The Chairman of the Executive Board had rightly pointed out in his statement that two out of every five persons in the developing countries were under fifteen years of age. Efforts to further their welfare were consequently of particular importance, especially as the children of today would be the citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

59. The "country approach" adopted by UNICEF was correct and would make the best use of available resources for the developing countries. There was no basis for the

apprehension that such an approach would somehow require UNICEF to enter fields which were outside its competence. All that it meant was that UNICEF assistance would be better integrated and co-ordinated with the over-all development plan of each country.

60. Paragraph 155 of the Executive Board's report stated that only about 4 per cent of the value of all supplies procured by UNICEF was purchased locally rather than imported. As an overwhelming proportion of the aid provided by UNICEF consisted of supplies and equipment, UNICEF should try to purchase local supplies as far as possible. Such enlarged local purchases would greatly help the developing countries to expand local production and industry.

61. UNICEF's aid for the improvement of water supplies by methods such as the sinking of wells had been of great benefit to India. His delegation was also very pleased that, two years earlier, UNICEF had embarked upon family planning activities and that it was at present expanding those activities. UNICEF's allocation for family planning activities in India had shown a welcome increase of \$200,000. He hoped that draft resolution E/L.1273 would meet with unanimous approval.

62. Mr. JERBI (Libya) said that his delegation welcomed the idea, expressed in the report of the Executive Board, of encouraging developing countries to cater for children and young people in their national development programmes, especially as the world was now on the threshold of the Second United Nations Development Decade. His Government had always followed with keen interest the humane services provided by UNICEF for children and youth and was well aware of the difficulties which UNICEF faced. It felt sure, however, that UNICEF, in the light of its past achievements, would be able to overcome those difficulties.

63. His delegation agreed with the Executive Board that "assistance offered by UNICEF to projects should encourage, for the benefit of children, the convergent efforts resulting from co-ordination of such services as health education, social welfare and agricultural extension" (E/4711, para. 33). The country approach, whereby UNICEF aid would not follow a fixed pattern in each country and would take account of differing opportunities and needs, was a wise one.

64. One of the main objectives of UNICEF was to encourage special care for unschooled children and youth in order to train them and place them into economically active groups. The problem was a serious one for Arab countries, where 15 million young people had been deprived of schooling, and it seriously impeded economic and social development. His delegation wished to thank UNICEF for having helped the Libyan Government to organize a seminar at Tripoli on unschooled children and youth unable to complete their schooling. The seminar had adopted a series of recommendations which were to be submitted early in 1970 to a comprehensive Arab regional seminar in Beirut. On the occasion of that seminar, his

Government and UNICEF had signed an agreement to co-ordinate their activities for the welfare of children.

65. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) said that UNICEF had acquitted itself well in a wide field of activities over the years and his delegation fully appreciated its valuable work in Pakistan. UNICEF had been helping the developing countries to formulate plans which would affect future generations. Inter-agency co-operation was very important, especially on the threshold of the Second Development Decade, and he hoped that it would increase. With regard to the need for more UNICEF resources, referred to in paragraphs 35-37 of the Executive Board's report, his delegation fully supported the appeal for increased contributions to UNICEF and hoped that the appeal would receive sympathetic consideration. The text of draft resolution E/L.1273 should be amended to take into consideration the views expressed by the USSR so that it would receive the unanimous support which it deserved.

66. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said that it was important to realize what a large number of very young people there were in the world. As the Chairman of the Executive Board had pointed out, two out of five persons in the developing countries—which comprised two-thirds of the world—were under 15 years of age. The proportion under 21 was even larger. The world was faced not only with the problems posed by youth but also with the challenge of youth. At its current session the Council had laid considerable emphasis on youth; there was even an item on its agenda which concerned programmes of international action relating to youth (item 13). If the older generations were to appear credible to the young generation, they would have to move quickly from talk to action. Governments and the international community would have to take practical and imaginative steps to restore hope and provide opportunities for youth.

67. The Executive Director was confident that UNICEF could administer at least double the funds at present available with relatively little strain on UNICEF itself or on the United Nations system as a whole. Such a practical step as increasing the funds available should not be beyond the means of the international community. Furthermore, UNICEF did not receive any of its resources from UNDP, which should be an instrument for the development of the individual. The United Nations Development Programme would be a misnomer if it continued to place disproportionate emphasis on economic criteria without due regard for social criteria.

68. He then referred to follow-up investments for projects, such as the supply of drinking water and environmental sanitation in villages, applied nutrition, rural development and urban community services. It should be a matter of immediate concern for IBRD and Governments, through bilateral assistance, to provide the necessary follow-up investments. It was to be hoped the the efforts referred to in paragraphs 125 and 126 of the Executive Board's report would yield favourable results in the form of co-operation between UNICEF and WHO with IBRD,

UNDP and other relevant agencies, so that the necessary resources would be forthcoming.

69. An example of co-operation in a district of Jamaica was provided by the West Kingston Trust, which had been set up with assistance from the private sector and then taken over by the people of the area, by whom it was now being operated. The West Kingston Trust provided a basic infrastructure in the district for maternal and child care, but resources in Jamaica as a whole were still generally inadequate and external resources were needed before the main problem could be properly tackled.

70. The education and training of health personnel was another area in which considerable resources and energy were required. His delegation supported the efforts being made to provide courses of study relevant to the urgent needs of the developing countries.

71. It was very useful for UNICEF to encourage local purchases of supplies, which would help promote local production and industry. Such a policy might well result in a saving on administrative expenses, but it should be borne in mind that in many developing countries local production was on a small scale.

72. It was significant that many Governments would like to be more closely associated with the work of the Executive Board, by becoming members. Such a step would make for greater participation by the developing countries and might lead to countries making larger contributions to UNICEF.

73. Draft resolution E/L.1273 should prove generally acceptable if a few minor drafting changes were made. In the third preambular paragraph the words "to make provision in their long-term development programmes" should be replaced by "in implementing their...", because the use of the words "to make provision" might involve certain administrative functions which did not concern UNICEF. In the fifth preambular paragraph the order of the words "regional" and "national" should be reversed to obtain the right emphasis. In operative paragraph 1 the words "and programmes" should be deleted, as the Council had considered policies, not programmes.

74. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that, although his delegation whole-heartedly supported UNICEF's activities, it believed that the amount allocated within the budget of UNICEF to education and vocational training was somewhat high in relation to other allocations, perhaps excessively so in view of the resources already devoted to education and training by other organizations. Paragraph 80 of the report referred to UNICEF's intention to re-examine in a few years' time its criteria for aid to education; his delegation looked forward to the results of that review.

75. His delegation welcomed the reference in draft resolution E/L.1273 to the co-operation between UNICEF and other organizations of the United Nations system and

would support the resolution as it stood, or with any amendments found necessary by the co-sponsors in order to achieve unanimity.

76. Miss ILIĆ (Yugoslavia) noted with satisfaction that one of the main themes of the 1969 session of the Executive Board, held in Santiago, had been the part which UNICEF could play in achieving the objectives of the Second Development Decade. Her delegation welcomed the Board's view that the first tasks of UNICEF should be to encourage developing countries to take into account the needs of children and youth in their national development plans and to help with a systematic analysis of how that might best be accomplished.

77. Since between 40 and 50 per cent of the population in the developing countries consisted of children and young people who must be protected from social hazards and trained and encouraged to assume responsibility in the development of their countries, close co-operation between UNICEF and other organizations in the United Nations family was extremely desirable. Her delegation would support draft resolution E/L.1273 and hoped that it would be possible to adopt it unanimously.

78. Mr. KENNAN (Ireland) said his delegation was proud to act as a sponsor of the draft resolution. His Government appreciated UNICEF's continued emergency aid to Nigeria and had decided to make an additional contribution of \$25,000 specifically for that purpose.

79. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) said his delegation did not agree with the view that UNICEF's role in health programmes should be limited. Health was a necessity if young people were to play a full part in the life of their society, and the co-ordinated programmes of UNICEF and WHO were therefore extremely valuable. UNICEF should also play a leading role in family planning. The problems of

children and young people were extremely urgent, and his delegation therefore supported the draft resolution as an endorsement of UNICEF's contribution to the solution of those problems.

80. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait), speaking on behalf of the delegations of Libya and Sudan as well as his own, said that they wished to co-sponsor draft resolution E/L.1273. Kuwait welcomed UNICEF's activities on behalf of the children of the world and particularly appreciated the support for Palestinian refugees referred to in paragraph 145 of the general progress report of the Executive Director (E/ICEF/586).

81. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) believed that the Council's work would be greatly facilitated if UNICEF were in future to submit at the end of its report a draft resolution for adoption by the Council.

82. With regard to the draft resolution before the Council, he believed that it would be desirable to use only one of the two abbreviated forms, either "UNICEF" or "the Fund". It might also be possible to improve the balance by transferring some paragraphs, for example, the third, fifth and sixth, suitably amended, from the preambular to the operative part. Greater stress would thus be placed by the Council on UNICEF's aid to developing countries, its intention to give increased attention to assisting in the promotion of integrated services, and the close co-operation between it and other organizations. The seventh preambular paragraph added little to the resolution, since it merely reiterated one of UNICEF's basic functions. Operative paragraph 1 could advantageously be reduced in length, avoiding reference to the vague concept of "the younger generation".

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Friday, 1 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 14: Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund ( <i>concluded</i> ) .....	169
Agenda item 20: Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations .....	170

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 14

**Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations  
Children's Fund (E/4711; E/L.1273) (*concluded*)**

1. Mr. DOGRAMACI (Chairman of the Executive Board, United Nations Children's Fund) assured members of the Council that all comments made during the discussion would be brought to the notice of the Executive Board, which would be guided by them in its future work.

2. At the end of the debate on the item, he had some comments to make. First, with regard to the "country approach", it was essential that requests for assistance should come from Governments, which should also decide the priorities in national plans and programmes for children. Such requests were then submitted to the competent United Nations agencies for approval before they could be considered by UNICEF within the limits of its financial resources. In some cases, however, when government plans were rather vague, UNICEF tried to influence the preparation of plans in the interests of children. Furthermore, it was often difficult to distinguish between measures taken in the interests of children and those taken in the interests of the population as a whole; that applied, for example, to measures taken in such fields of activity as health and hygiene. As to family planning, whenever a Government so requested, courses were included in the programmes of mother and child care carried out by WHO or with its approval.

3. Mr. BENLER (Turkey), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of the nine-Power draft resolution (E/L.1273), announced some changes in the text. First, Chad, Kuwait, Libya, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Upper Volta should be added to the list of sponsors. Secondly, as the representative of the Upper Volta had pointed out, it seemed preferable to give the name of the United Nations Children's Fund in full wherever it appeared in the draft resolution.

4. At the suggestion of the Jamaican representative, the third preambular paragraph could be amended to read as follows:

*"Welcoming the action being taken by the United Nations Children's Fund to assist developing countries in implementing their long-term development programmes for meeting the health, nutritional, educational and social welfare needs of the hundreds of millions of children under fifteen years of age in those countries."*

In the fifth preambular paragraph, the order of the words "regional" and "national" could be reversed. The seventh preambular paragraph might also be amended to read:

*"Noting further that the United Nations Children's Fund must remain on the alert and responsive to the emergency needs of children and mothers."*

In the French text of the eighth preambular paragraph, the "word *"citoyens"* could be replaced by the word *"ressortissants"* or *"nationaux"*. Lastly, operative paragraph 1 would read:

*"Endorses the policies of the United Nations Children's Fund aiming at providing aid for countries in the protection and in the preparation for future responsibilities of the younger generation."*

5. He hoped that the draft resolution, as revised, would receive unanimous support.

6. Mr. VIAUD (France) felt that the choice of the word to be used in the French text of the eighth preambular paragraph depended on the intentions of the sponsors. The term *"ressortissants"* would be the most appropriate if the sponsors meant merely the persons living in the developing countries. If, on the other hand, the concept of nationality was involved, the term *"citoyens"* or *"nationaux"* would be better.

7. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said that, in the English text, the change in operative paragraph 1 gave rise to a difficulty in the order of words. It would be better to say: *"Endorses the policies of the United Nations Children's Fund aiming at providing aid for countries in protecting the younger generation and in preparing them for future responsibilities"*.

8. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested that the Russian text of the fourth preambular paragraph should be brought into line with the English text of the draft resolution.



9. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) said that, in the English text of operative paragraph 1, it would be better to say "... the policies of the United Nations Children's Fund which aim at providing aid ...".

10. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) thought that the best formula would be "... the policies of the United Nations Children's Fund which aim to provide aid ...".

11. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) still felt that the main grammatical difficulty lay in the order of words at the end of the paragraph.

12. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) withdrew his proposal concerning the eighth preambular paragraph; in the last analysis, the term "*citoyens*" seemed to him preferable.

13. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution on the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/L.1273), as amended.

*The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by acclamation.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 20

##### **Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (E/4668, E/4712)**

14. The PRESIDENT recalled that, at its 1568th meeting on 19 November 1968, the Council had decided that its President and the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples should hold further consultations on the implementation of the said declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In addition, the General Assembly, in its resolution 2426 (XXIII), had requested the Council to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies in implementing the relevant General Assembly resolutions. Pursuant to the Council's decision and the General Assembly resolution, consultations between the Chairman of the Special Committee and the President of the Council had taken place on 17 July 1969. The results of those consultations were set out in document E/4712.

15. The Council might also wish to refer to General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII), paragraphs 10 to 14 of the thirty-fifth report of ACC (E/4668), and the report on the implementation of the said declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations submitted by the Secretary-General to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/333).

16. Mr. KARASSIMEONOV (Bulgaria) reminded the Council that in General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII), which was a sequel to its resolution 2311 (XXII), the Economic and Social Council had been requested to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the co-ordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies in implementing the relevant General Assembly resolutions. It was to be hoped that the discussion now beginning would enable the Council to play its co-ordinating role in that connexion.

17. With regard to the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions by the specialized agencies, it was very encouraging to note that three agencies—WHO, the ILO and UNESCO—had devoted special attention to their participation in the process of decolonization. At its 1968 general conference, each of those organizations had included in the agenda a special item on that problem and had expressed itself in favour of co-operation with the United Nations in the matter. In particular, the General Conference of UNESCO had, in November 1968, adopted a resolution on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII), which even included provisions of a constitutional nature. That resolution demonstrated convincingly that UNESCO had decided to take an active part in the process of decolonization, which could not be blocked by any obstacle, constitutional or otherwise.

18. The Special Committee had recently studied the contribution of other specialized agencies on the basis of their replies to the Secretary-General's letter of 5 March 1969; the replies were reproduced in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.109/333). The report showed that, in accordance with a decision taken by ACC, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had convened an *ad hoc* inter-agency meeting on assistance to refugees in Africa. At its forty-seventh session, ACC had approved the conclusions and recommendations of that meeting and had expressed the view that they should pave the way for increased inter-agency co-operation on behalf of refugees in the countries concerned.

19. In pursuance of operative paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII), the Secretary-General was in touch with the executive heads of the specialized agencies. The activities of the Secretary-General and ACC would certainly help the specialized agencies and other international organizations to give wide application to the General Assembly resolutions. Indeed, the replies to the Secretary-General's letter showed that some agencies had already taken steps in the right direction. Other organizations, such as WMO and IMCO, had gladly accepted the Secretary-General's offer to assist the specialized agencies in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant General Assembly resolutions. FAO, for its part, had requested guidance regarding the measures which it might take to implement those resolutions. In that connexion, his delegation suggested that FAO should be guided by the experience of other specialized agencies, particularly UNESCO, which had found ways of implementing the resolutions in question.

20. On the whole, therefore, after a period of hesitation, the majority of the specialized agencies and international organizations had decided to take part in the work of decolonization. It was regrettable, however, that IBRD had refused to co-operate with the United Nations and to comply with its resolutions in matters of decolonization, despite several approaches by the Legal Counsel of the United Nations. The Bank's attitude had been strongly criticized. It must in any case be admitted, as had the Special Committee, that matters had rarely passed beyond the stage of good intentions and that very few effective measures had been taken by the specialized agencies in that sphere.

21. In order to rectify that situation, it was essential that the specialized agencies should redouble their efforts and show more initiative, with the assistance of all the competent bodies of the United Nations. To that end, some members of the Special Committee had suggested the establishment of a sub-committee to make a systematic study of the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions by the specialized agencies and the international organizations associated with the United Nations. His delegation endorsed that suggestion.

22. In his delegation's view, the Council should also redouble its efforts to co-ordinate the activities of the specialized agencies in that sphere, should intensify its relations with the Special Committee, and should take the initiative more often, as it had done in the matter of inter-agency co-operation for the benefit of refugees.

23. It was gratifying to note that very fruitful consultations had been held between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee in pursuance of the General Assembly's recommendation. Among the suggestions put forward as a result of those consultations, on which the President of the Council had submitted a report (E/4712), his delegation particularly endorsed the view that any suggestions the executive heads might be able to advance in that regard should be useful. Another worth-while suggestion was that for the conclusion of relationship agreements or other arrangements with OAU. The conclusion of agreements for co-operation with OAU in the sphere of decolonization was the best starting point for effective assistance to those peoples of Africa who were still struggling for their national independence. Indeed, his delegation endorsed all the suggestions made in the President's report; in its view, they should be included in the document to be prepared by the Council after the discussion.

24. It might be worth pointing out that, during the Special Committee's visit to Africa, the national liberation movements had been unanimous in requesting the assistance of the agencies and organizations associated with the United Nations and had stressed the role which those bodies could play in the heroic struggle they were waging against colonialist and racist régimes. The competent organs

of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should do everything in their power to help to eliminate the last remnants of colonialism.

25. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) reminded the Council of the instruments produced at the historic session held by the General Assembly in 1960, in which many heads of State and leading figures had taken part. That session had given birth to the declaration made in resolution 1514 (XV) and had led to the subsequent adoption of texts confirming and applying it.

26. Decolonization had proceeded fairly satisfactorily on the whole, but it had reached an impasse in the case of the oppressed peoples of Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and the territories under Portuguese domination. The General Assembly had tried to resolve that problem in a number of ways. Thus, in its resolution 2426 (XXIII), it had reiterated its appeal to the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations to extend their full co-operation in the achievement of the objectives and provisions of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions. It had recommended that they should work out, in co-operation with OAU and, through it, with the national liberation movements, practical programmes of assistance. It had appealed, in particular, to IBRD and IMF to withhold all assistance to the Governments of Portugal and South Africa, and had recommended that the Bank withdraw the loans and credits it had granted to those Governments.

27. In a letter to the specialized agencies and organizations associated with the United Nations, the Secretary-General had stated *inter alia* that he would appreciate receiving from them practical suggestions regarding the best ways and means of achieving the full and speedy implementation of the relevant resolutions. The replies to that letter were reproduced in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.109/333); his delegation drew attention to the absence of any reply from UNESCO. The replies varied greatly, from the negative position of IBRD and IMF to the co-operative attitude taken, in particular, by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, FAO, WHO and the ILO.

28. IBRD took refuge in legal arguments to the effect that it was not obliged—indeed, under its articles of agreement, was not free—to comply with a request such as the one to withhold its economic assistance from Portugal and South Africa. In the circumstances he wondered whether IBRD considered itself competent, under those articles of agreement, to conclude co-operation agreements with OAU. As to IMF, the terseness of its reply made all comment superfluous.

29. The ILO, whose reaction was fairly satisfactory, could do still more to help the peoples of Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and the territories under Portuguese domination through its training programmes.

30. FAO, in its reply, described the assistance it was providing to refugees from the territories under Portuguese domination. The argument that it was concerned only with those territories because Southern Rhodesia and Namibia were not members of FAO was untenable, and FAO should comply with the recommendation in operative paragraph 3 of resolution 2426 (XXIII) that programmes of assistance should be worked out in co-operation with OAU. A situation in which some agencies and organizations could evade their responsibilities by taking refuge in legal arguments was utterly unacceptable.

31. His delegation welcomed the initiative taken by ACC in sponsoring an *ad hoc* inter-agency meeting on assistance to refugees in Africa, and expressed satisfaction that note had been taken of the hope expressed by the High Commissioner for Refugees that greater flexibility could be introduced into procedures currently followed by some of the agencies in the field of assistance to refugees (E/4712, para. 8). That problem could be resolved if the specialized agencies agreed to recognize its extreme importance and abandoned their negative attitude.

32. A recommendation should be made to the governing bodies and deliberative organs of the specialized agencies and organizations associated with the United Nations to request their executive heads to submit memoranda outlining the relevant resolutions and decisions and indicating what measures had been and would be adopted by the organization concerned to assist in the attainment of the objectives set, and what difficulties had been faced in applying those measures. In addition, those bodies should reaffirm their decision not to render assistance to Portugal and South Africa. In that connexion, his delegation wondered what difficulties UNESCO might have encountered and what suggestions it felt able to submit. Lastly, it might be recommended to the deliberative organs that they consider the possibility of establishing a committee to examine the measures adopted and the difficulties met, to make suggestions and to report on the problems arising.

33. The Council should recommend that the matter be kept permanently on the agenda of ACC and of the joint meetings of ACC and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, so that the executive heads of the specialized agencies could keep abreast of developments.

34. When the representatives of the specialized agencies had reported on the difficulties they faced in carrying out their instructions, the Council might make specific suggestions in the form either of a consensus or of a resolution. As FAO had observed in its reply, the United Nations should give some indication how the specialized agencies could assist in applying the principles laid down in the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

35. Mr. OUANGMOTCHING (Chad) said that the Secretary-General's report on the ways in which the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations were implementing the

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was far from satisfactory and showed only slight progress. Some specialized agencies persisted in ignoring the wishes of the General Assembly expressed in its resolutions and refused to comply with them. His delegation deplored the fact that the appropriate steps had not been taken and that only a few of the specialized agencies had put forward practical suggestions on ways and means of implementing those resolutions. It was particularly regrettable that, apart from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the ILO, the specialized agencies had not co-ordinated their activities with OAU. The Council should invite the specialized agencies to indicate what steps they intended to take to implement the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

36. Mr. COLMAR (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) said that the Office was helping 470,000 refugees from the territories referred to in the aforementioned resolutions, most of whom were in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In 1968, the emergency aid programme of the High Commissioner's Office had totalled \$820,000, to which should be added allocations outside the programme amounting to \$100,000 in 1968, and various other forms of assistance from bilateral or non-governmental sources which could not be estimated in precise figures but were greater than previous figures. In 1969, the total amount to be devoted to aid to those categories of refugees would be \$980,000 or more.

37. As the President of the Council had indicated in his report (E/4712), some progress had been made in inter-agency co-operation, thanks mainly to the results of the *ad hoc* meeting held in January 1969. That co-operation had taken various forms.

38. WPF, for example, had continued to supply food rations for those refugees who were being established chiefly in Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania. FAO had appointed a team of experts which had gone to Zambia to study a plan for the establishment of refugees from Angola in rural areas, and it had provided a geological expert who was to make a study of a refugee settlement area in Tanzania. WHO had also sent an expert to Tanzania to study the setting up of a dispensary, and UNESCO had sent one to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in connexion with the training of Angolan refugees. The ILO was examining the possibility of training some of them in home handicrafts. UNICEF had supplied equipment and pharmaceutical products for four mobile medical units. IBRD had said that its Nairobi office would provide expert assistance in the study of problems of refugee settlement. ITU, WMO, ICAO and UNIDO had made a number of suggestions concerning refugee education and vocational training.

39. The High Commissioner's Office had very recently signed an agreement with OAU aimed at strengthening the co-operation of the two bodies in the field of assistance to refugees. As the High Commissioner had pointed out, however, the delays and difficulties encountered in the

implementation of integrated rural development projects for refugees were often due to the fact that Governments themselves were slow in making requests for assistance or experienced difficulties in doing so.

40. Mr. CONSOLO (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) said that, at the inter-agency meeting convened by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the purpose of examining possibilities of assisting refugees in Africa, IBRD had indicated that it could contribute to those activities in the form of technical services. The Bank's permanent mission in eastern Africa could, through its agricultural development service, take part in planning and implementing refugee relief programmes. That service had helped 30,000 African families to establish themselves in Kenya, and it had assisted the United Republic of Tanzania to carry out refugee relief programmes.

41. With reference to the observation made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, he pointed out that all agreements with other inter-governmental bodies had to be approved by the IBRD Board of Governors; it was therefore impossible to say at that stage whether any agreement with OAU would or would not be approved. The Bank had, however, always invited OAU to take part, as an observer, in the meetings of its executive directors.

42. Over the next five years, IBRD intended trebling its investments in Africa and giving financial assistance on especially favourable terms. The success of the Bank's operations depended, however, on the reconstitution of the resources of IDA; that process, after a long period of uncertainty, was making headway.

43. The Bank's attitude to African countries was wholly constructive and it intended to intensify its efforts to contribute to their economic and social development.

44. Mr. de SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that UNESCO had taken steps in 1968 to implement the General Assembly's resolutions on decolonization. At its fifteenth session, the General Conference had adopted a resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and another relating more especially to Portugal. In the first of those resolutions, the General Conference had reaffirmed its condemnation of all forms and manifestations of colonialism and racialism, and had drawn the attention of its Executive Board and Director-General to the necessity of a further intensification of UNESCO activities with a view to rendering assistance to peoples fighting for their liberation from colonial domination and to drawing up practical programmes to that end in co-operation with OAU and the national liberation movements. Following that resolution, the Director-General had approached the Secretary-General of OAU for the purpose of examining together with the national liberation movements what contribution UNESCO could make.

45. Under that resolution, UNESCO intended to provide the African countries with increased aid in the planning and financing of education, teacher-training for primary and secondary schools, and promotion of literacy. In the sphere of science, the aim of UNESCO's activities was to provide States with the means of obtaining information and taking decisions, thus permitting the determination of a national scientific policy, and to establish research and training centres facilitating the acquisition and transfer of science and technology. UNESCO also proposed to publish a comparative study on the statutory elimination of racial discrimination and a study on the economic aspects of the racial problem.

46. He hoped that that information would be transmitted to the Special Committee on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, for inclusion in the Committee's report to the General Assembly.

47. Mr. ALI (International Labour Organisation) said that the Director-General of the ILO had informed the Secretary-General in 1968 of the decisions taken by the Governing Body of the ILO in response to the requests made by the General Assembly in its relevant resolutions. Those decisions had been communicated to the General Assembly.<sup>1</sup> In June 1968, the whole matter had been referred to the Governing Body by a unanimous decision of the International Labour Conference.

48. The Economic and Social Council had noted in 1968 that the ILO would remain in touch with the Governments of the States concerned, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and OAU with a view to meeting any requests which they might make and would, as circumstances required, make appropriate proposals to the Governing Body. The Director-General had in fact been and would continue to be in touch with those Governments and organizations. The ILO had an agreement with OAU which permitted close co-operation and it stood ready to meet promptly requests for assistance on behalf of the refugees in the territories concerned.

49. Mr. DAVID (International Telecommunication Union) explained that his agency's reply to the Secretary-General's letter of 5 March 1969 was not mentioned in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.109/333) because ITU's Administrative Council had not had the relevant General Assembly resolutions before it until its session in May 1969.

50. The Administrative Council had asked the Secretary-General of ITU to collaborate fully with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in particular by providing expert services and equipment when the Office of the High Commissioner was called upon to establish emergency telecommunication circuits, by enabling refugees holding fellowships from UNDP or other organizations to participate in courses at training centres sponsored by ITU, and

<sup>1</sup> See document A/C.4/714.

by providing for ITU participation in rural development projects involving the establishment or development of a telecommunication network.

51. The Secretary-General of ITU had also been asked to examine with the Secretary-General of the United Nations what other steps could be taken to implement the General Assembly resolutions in question.

52. Mr. CRANE (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that his agency had taken constructive steps to implement the General Assembly's resolutions on decolonization and was prepared to take all appropriate measures in the future.

53. FAO did not invite Portugal to its regional conferences and technical meetings in Africa and did not provide it with technical assistance; it was collaborating with WFP in supplying food aid to refugees from territories under Portuguese administration and with UNHCR in resettlement projects. Since South Africa was not a member of FAO, the problem of withholding assistance did not arise, and FAO had no relations with Southern Rhodesia.

54. He had noted the arrangements concluded between the ILO and OAU and UNHCR and would draw the attention of the Director-General of FAO to the matter.

55. Mr. COLE (Sierra Leone) expressed gratitude to WHO, the ILO and particularly UNESCO for the help they were giving the African liberation movements.

56. IBRD and IMF had a special part to play in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, but IBRD was taking refuge in formalistic juridical arguments to continue its financial assistance to colonialist régimes. It was true that it had participated in refugee projects in Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, but it was questionable whether that was enough to liberate peoples from colonialism; proposals and practical recommendations to that end should be submitted to IBRD's Board of Governors. IBRD and IMF should take more positive action and undertake a reconstruction effort in Africa as extensive as that in Europe immediately after the Second World War.

57. His delegation had noted with satisfaction the agreements with OAU enabling the specialized agencies to furnish assistance through that organization. It also wished to support the suggestion made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania. The Council should put forward practical suggestions in the form of a consensus or a resolution.

58. Mr. POJARSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that while most of the specialized agencies were abiding by the provisions of paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII), the provisions of paragraph 3 of that resolution, concerning co-operation with OAU, had been implemented by only a very small number of agencies, and those of paragraph 5, which were addressed to IBRD, had been implemented only to a slight degree.

59. It emerged from the Bank's explanations that it did not intend to carry out the provisions of that paragraph; the juridical arguments to which it resorted did not justify a policy which conflicted with decisions of the supreme organ of the United Nations. It refused to carry out the recommendations relating to requests for assistance from Portugal and South Africa, and it had confirmed that it did not feel itself bound to refrain from giving aid when it received such a request. Far from withdrawing the loans and credits it had granted to the Governments of Portugal and South Africa, as the General Assembly had asked it to do, it continued to assist those Governments.

60. As to IMF, it had made a loan of \$62 million to South Africa in 1968 notwithstanding the resolutions of the General Assembly. It was surprising that that fact was not mentioned in IMF's reply or in the documents submitted to the Council.

61. In giving assistance to South Africa and Portugal, IBRD and IMF were playing the part of purveyors of racialism. All specialized agencies without exception had a duty to implement General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); steps must be taken to ensure that General Assembly resolutions 2311 (XXII) and 2426 (XXIII) did not remain a dead letter.

62. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) noted the progress made during the past year. From the documents before the Council and the statements of the representatives of some of the specialized agencies during the discussion, there was evidence that the United Nations system was gradually making headway in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 2311 (XXII) and 2426 (XXIII). There remained, however, serious gaps and large areas of stagnation, which it was incumbent upon the Council and the General Assembly to eliminate by appropriate action.

63. On the whole, his delegation welcomed the suggestions made in the report of the President of the Council (E/4712), in particular the suggestion that the specialized agencies and the United Nations system as a whole should take a more flexible attitude in dealing with the obstacles to the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

64. When the matter had been examined by the Council the previous year, his delegation had underlined the fact that there were differences in the circumstances, procedures, constitutional problems and, consequently, in the measures of implementation, as between the various agencies; it had urged the executive heads to adopt a dynamic and positive approach and to submit proposals on the matter to their governing or legislative bodies. It was therefore encouraging to note in the replies of several agencies that their executive heads had shown flexibility and ingenuity in that field. His delegation associated itself with the request of the Tanzanian delegation that the agencies should not hesitate to conclude with OAU special arrangements of the kind already negotiated by UNESCO and others, so as to obviate the difficulties encountered in

giving assistance to peoples without a specific request from the administering Government.

65. The representative of Tanzania had made a comprehensive analysis of the replies received from the various specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system. Since there was no need for him to engage in a similar exercise, he would only refer to the reply of IBRD and express his Government's disagreement with IBRD's interpretation of its legal and constitutional position. As emphasized by the representative of Tanzania, IBRD, following the example of other institutions within the United Nations family, should enter into formal arrangements with OAU so that it could give assistance to the peoples concerned on the African continent. His delegation supported the action envisaged to enable the Council to keep a close watch on the situation and would be very happy if some consensus could be reached within the Council on the suggestions which had been made.

66. Mr. SACKS (World Health Organization) was pleased to be able to bring to the attention of the Council one recent development: the twenty-second World Health Assembly had approved a relationship agreement with OAU which would be of mutual benefit and would reinforce his agency's role on the African continent.

67. The policy of WHO on decolonization was guided by resolutions of the World Health Assembly and in particular resolutions WHA 17.50 (1964), WHA 18.40 (1965), WHA 19.31 (1966) and WHA 20.38 (1967), which were referred to in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.109/333).

68. Under resolution WHA 17.50 (1964), the voting privileges of the Republic of South Africa had been suspended. The constitutional amendment proposed by resolution WHA 18.40 (1965) was now in process of ratification; under that amendment, article 7 (b) would be amended to empower the World Health Assembly to suspend or to exclude from the organization any member who ignored the humanitarian principles and the objectives laid down in the organization's constitution, on the understanding that the rights and privileges, as well as the membership, of that State could be restored if a detailed report proved that the State in question had renounced its policy of discrimination. To date, thirty-nine member States had deposited instruments of acceptance of the amendment, which required a two-thirds majority for ratification.

69. Resolution WHA 19.31 (1966) suspended the right of Portugal to participate in the Regional Committee for Africa and in regional activities until the Government of that country had furnished proof of its willingness to conform to the injunctions of the United Nations set forth in resolutions 180 (1963) of the Security Council and 2107 (XX) of the General Assembly. The same resolution suspended the provision of services to the Portuguese overseas territories. The matter had been referred to the regional committees for further consideration by resolution WHA 20.38 (1967).

70. Lastly, with reference to the implementation of its 1966 resolution, the World Health Assembly in 1968 had adopted resolution WHA 21.34 (1968), under which the Director-General was asked to take into consideration the need not to envisage in WHO programmes any assistance for Portugal until that country had renounced the policy of colonial domination; to provide, if necessary, in co-operation with other appropriate organizations through special programmes, for health assistance to the refugees and nationals of countries under colonial domination, particularly in regard to the control of communicable diseases and the professional training of qualified national personnel; and to ensure, within the limits of his competence, the implementation of the resolution and report periodically to the regional committees concerned and to the World Health Assembly on the measures taken to put it into effect.

71. At the forty-fifth session of the Council, the Director General of WHO had clarified the position of the organization, which had been described in document E/4557,<sup>2</sup> by indicating that the endeavour of WHO was to protect not only the population of the territories concerned but also the population of neighbouring territories, since communicable diseases were not inhibited by political frontiers; he had also reported the discussions then under way with UNHCR for the possible establishment of a WHO programme in areas which had received refugees from Portuguese territories.

72. With regard to Southern Rhodesia, the WHO representative had already had occasion, in 1968, to point out to the Council that Southern Rhodesia had been admitted as an associate member of WHO in 1950 in pursuance of article 8 of its constitution. All relations with Southern Rhodesia had been broken off immediately after the unilateral declaration of independence. Since that date, no WHO assistance had been provided to Southern Rhodesia nor had that territory been represented at any WHO meetings.

73. In accordance with the provisions of resolution WHA 21.34 (1968), WHO had participated fully in the inter-agency consultations convened by UNHCR, under the auspices of ACC. Those consultations, referred to in the report of the President of the Council (E/4712), had yielded positive results. His organization would actively engage in the implementation of the recommendations which it had helped to draft. To that end, WHO was endeavouring to respond rapidly and flexibly to the High Commissioner's requests and had already co-operated in missions and other activities initiated by the High Commissioner with respect to the emergency programme.

74. For longer-term activities, such as rural integration, WHO had adopted flexible procedures to ensure its effective participation in that humanitarian undertaking, thus adopting in advance the approach recommended in paragraph 8 of the report of the President of the Council.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 23.

75. Lastly, the Director-General had brought to the attention of the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly the relevant resolutions, on the basis of which the Assembly had recently adopted resolution WHA 22.59 (1969) endorsing the Director-General's action.

76. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) deplored the fact that such a very important item of the agenda was being dealt with so hastily. The United Nations had a duty to give the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Portuguese Guinea and other colonial territories something more than mere moral consolation. The specialized agencies should have stronger feelings of responsibility towards refugees from occupied territories and should do their utmost to implement the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. With reference to the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.109/333), he joined the Tanzanian representative in considering the replies from the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations system as extremely terse and sometimes arrogant, although the representatives of those bodies had been present at the adoption of the resolutions concerned. He referred in particular to the attitude of IBRD, which considered that it could not, under its rules, comply with General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII). The Council should ask the executive heads of the specialized agencies to draw the attention of their governing or legislative bodies to the United Nations decisions concerning that resolution. He noted with satisfaction UNESCO's positive attitude, which was in contrast with so many failures and semi-failures.

77. It was necessary to find, within the existing institutional framework, ways and means of enabling the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations to implement the resolutions adopted by the United Nations and to strengthen their co-operation. He hoped that efforts to reach special arrangements with OAU for the co-ordination of assistance to refugees would be pursued and subscribed to the views contained in paragraph 8 of the report of the President of the Council. In conclusion, he expressed the wish that all the delegations concerned would engage in consultations on the most appropriate procedure for ensuring the implementation of the resolutions in question.

78. Mr. GAMACCHIO (International Civil Aviation Organization) drew the Council's attention to the most recent decisions of the ICAO Council reaffirming its position on the following three points: ICAO was willing to tender assistance in training refugees from Portuguese territories in Africa, South Africa and Southern Rhodesia; it was willing to co-operate with the Special Committee on the Policies of *Apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa; it had not given and was not giving assistance to Portugal, South Africa or Southern Rhodesia. Furthermore, ICAO had supplied UNHCR with information on schools, courses available and so on, and had also offered to supply information and advice and such other help as might be indicated and within ICAO's capacity whenever the question of aeronautical training arose.

79. Mr. MOPOLO-DADET (Congo, Brazzaville) said that his country had placed great hopes in the United Nations and he was disheartened by the replies of the specialized agencies to the Secretary-General, whether their default was due to lack of co-ordination, financial considerations or legal subtleties. He was particularly astonished that legal niceties should be used to allow human beings to perish, high-handedness to prevail and racialism to triumph. There was on the one hand a failure correctly to assess the real forces and the opponent's strength and on the other the fact of the opponent's presence in the United Nations itself and the support it received from certain Powers. He was interested in the suggestion to set up watchdog committees and to keep the item permanently on the agenda. A kind of world conscience was protesting against what was happening in Africa, but that did not stop some from sending arms, helicopters and the like to the countries concerned, because imperialism drew its life force above all from the raw materials of the developing countries and realized that the struggle of peoples against colonialism imperilled its very existence. It was inconceivable that such problems should still exist while man was embarking on the conquest of other planets. It was time to act and, in the words of an African head of State at the first summit meeting of OAU, "consent to die a little".

80. Mr. ORTIZ RODRÍGUEZ (Observer for Cuba), speaking at the President's invitation, said that the General Assembly's views on the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) had been sufficiently demonstrated and clarified by subsequent resolutions. Namibia, Southern Rhodesia, Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea, along with the black people of South Africa, were enduring colonial oppression, racial segregation and fascist repression on the very eve of the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The good intentions expressed in that declaration and in decisions concerning its practical implementation had proved vain. Cuba, its people and its revolutionary government had always shown solidarity with Africa's aspirations for independence, to which it contributed its modest aid through what it considered the most effective means. The decisions taken by the General Assembly of the struggle against colonialism could only evoke scepticism; hence the reservations repeatedly expressed by Cuban delegations at the United Nations. It was enough to read document A/AC.109/333 to realize that the United States, which was the world's main banker, with all that that implied, continued to exercise its influence over financial institutions and consequently to impose its imperialist policy on any action undertaken by the United Nations, however generous. The implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and of the resolutions relating to the colonial territories of Africa which supplemented that declaration thus confronted many obstacles.

81. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) wished to make a few comments on the attitude towards the Declaration and the relevant resolutions taken by the specialized agencies, some of which had bluntly refused to co-operate with the United

Nations. In particular, he had been very disappointed at the reply of IBRD and considered its arguments not very convincing. As for the legal arguments, the subject was of such importance as to justify a change in its constitution. With reference to loans, whether granted by private banks or by international financial institutions, he pointed out that they were always given for a specific purpose, which was indicated in the loan agreement. The activities of the Bank were actually helping to strengthen the economic and financial power of those who were fighting against the peoples under colonial domination. The Bank, which was an institution associated with the United Nations, would not be in a position to co-operate with the United Nations unless it reconsidered its attitude. He wished to pay a special tribute to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for his efforts to help refugees from colonial territories and hoped that other organizations would follow his example. Lastly, he considered that the suggestions put forward by the representative of Tanzania were valuable and required further study.

82. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said with reference to the report of the President of the Council that his delegation was concerned that the General Assembly resolutions should be implemented. Their implementation was incumbent not only on the executive heads of the agencies concerned but also on the governing and legislative bodies of those

agencies. Two aspects seemed to emerge from the remarks of previous speakers: assistance to refugees, and assistance to nationalist movements through special arrangements or relationship agreements with OAU. With regard to the first aspect, he supported the suggestions made in paragraph 7 of the President's report, but considered that, in addition, the specialized agencies should submit to the Council written reports on the efforts they had undertaken. Moreover, the following two related points should not be overlooked: one had been raised by the representative of WHO when he had pointed out that communicable diseases knew no political barriers and that there was therefore a very real danger in asking the specialized agencies to refrain in some instances from giving technical assistance; again, if the specialized agencies made assistance to refugees their focal point, there would perhaps be an increased flow of refugees from colonial territories into neighbouring countries, to the extent of creating in the latter areas serious social and economic problems. With regard to special arrangements with OAU, he was more concerned with the human than with the legal and institutional aspect of the problem. It was his delegation's wish that General Assembly resolutions should be implemented promptly, but the remedies envisaged through those measures should not obscure other measures which might be just as important.

The meeting rose at 7.40 p.m.





## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Monday, 4 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 6:	
Report of the Industrial Development Board .....	179

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

## AGENDA ITEM 6

## Report of the Industrial Development Board (E/4708)

1. Mr. ABDEL-RAHMAN (Executive Director, United Nations Industrial Development Organization), introducing the report of the Industrial Development Board on its third session (E/4708), said that important developments had taken place since the end of that session of which he considered it necessary to inform the Council.

2. First, on 9 July 1969, he and the Director-General of FAO had signed an agreement setting out guidelines for co-operation between the two organizations in the field of industrial development. That agreement would ensure the successful implementation of the co-operative arrangements between FAO and UNIDO in many fields of common interest.

3. Secondly, on 14 July 1969, he and the Executive Secretary of ECAFE had signed a note relating to the principles and procedures of co-operation between the two bodies which would help to extend the co-operation between UNIDO and the regional economic commissions.

4. At its eighth session, the Governing Council of UNDP had decided to consider favourably a recommendation by the Administrator of UNDP concerning the creation in 1970 of ten new posts of industrial field adviser. It had also acted favourably on another recommendation by the Administrator of UNDP that projects of the Special Industrial Services type should be financed from UNDP's revolving fund. He hoped that final arrangements would shortly be made between UNIDO and UNDP so that UNIDO's programme of Special Industrial Services, whose usefulness was generally recognized, could be adequately continued.

5. With regard to the report itself, he pointed out that the Board had decided to include in an annex a summary of UNIDO's activities in 1968. The third session of the Board had been preceded by the first session of the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination which had examined UNIDO's programme of work, item by item. The Board's recommendations and conclusions on UNIDO's

work programme for 1970, contained in chapter VI of its report, represented a consensus of opinion on field and supporting activities, but members of the Board had failed to reach agreement on the question of financial resources. Accordingly, section C of chapter VI contained three separate statements representing the points of view of different geographical groupings.

6. The question of what proportions of UNIDO's budget should be covered by resources coming from the regular programme of technical assistance and from the Pledging Conference had also given rise to a diversity of views; as to UNIDO's regular budget, the original estimates had been reduced by the Secretary-General and communicated to the Board for information, and had then been further reduced by the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. However, UNIDO's establishment and staffing were still incomplete and additional resources would be needed before stabilization at a normal level; failure to provide the necessary resources would not only curtail UNIDO's activities but might also lead to serious structural deformations from which the organization would suffer for years to come. The budget would be finally approved towards the end of the year and the programme of work adjusted accordingly. In UNIDO, programming and budget formulation were two virtually unrelated processes.

7. Questions relating to the Second United Nations Development Decade had of course figured prominently in the Board's discussions. The pace of industrial development in the developing countries would have to be increased during the Second Development Decade by 30 to 40 per cent, as compared with the first; the developing countries would therefore have to exert additional efforts, devise appropriate policies and plans, and receive greater support from the international community. UNIDO had been able to play only a limited part in the projections of the industrial development of the developing countries during the Second Development Decade, but it intended to concentrate its limited resources on evaluating the progress made in the course of the decade and on giving advice concerning the policies and measures to be taken by the developing countries, individually or collectively, in order to achieve the desired objectives. For that purpose, it intended to establish, in collaboration with the interested developing countries, a programme of periodic consultations on the evolution of their industrialization; the programme would be fitted into any international machinery that might be established for the periodic assessment of progress during the decade.

8. In the next few years, UNIDO would have to re-examine the basic concepts of technical assistance. At

present, the developing countries needed not only information and training services, but also assistance to facilitate the study of alternatives and the implementation of industrial projects. It was hoped that the UNDP Capacity Study and the report of the Commission on International Development established by IBRD would help to clarify UNIDO's role in the Second Development Decade and the basic concepts of its operational activities.

9. UNIDO was predominantly an operational organization. Its programme of action was largely geared to requests received from the developing countries and took into account the main trends of industrialization and technology. A considerable degree of flexibility was required in formulating programmes so as to meet the requirements of changing situations. While endeavouring to follow the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, UNIDO had continuously to evolve new approaches to programme formulation and to review its system of priorities.

10. Some examples of such methods of programme formulation were the Special Industrial Services programme, UNIDO's approach to the promotion of financing and investment of industrial projects, in-plant training programmes, the organization of projects for the repair and maintenance of equipment, and the promotion of exports of manufactures from the developing countries, including the possible combination of investment and marketing agreements.

11. In addition to its own programmes, financed by the regular United Nations budget and voluntary contributions, UNIDO also carried out other activities. For example, the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations family of agencies in the field of industrial development was daily increasing in importance. Ever since it had started functioning in January 1967, UNIDO had endeavoured to conclude bilateral co-operation agreements with the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and other United Nations bodies concerned with industrialization. However, those agreements, which included the ones just concluded with FAO and ECAFE, must be followed by a second phase of co-ordination, aimed at establishing and implementing joint and harmonized programmes of action. In that connexion, the ILO and UNIDO had agreed to develop joint programmes in two important areas: the ILO programme of world employment and manpower planning, on the one hand, and the harmonization of industrial and labour policies, on the other.

12. Co-ordination at the country level had to be further developed during the Second Development Decade—a task that would involve, in particular, the UNIDO/UNDP industrial field advisers. In several countries, UNIDO had started to establish long-term projections of technical assistance requirements, having regard to the industrialization plans and specific priority requirements of each country. There had already been a most successful experience of that kind

in Libya, and the same approach was being applied in Tunisia, Yugoslavia, Somalia, Indonesia and Iran.

13. UNDP played an important role in the co-ordination of industrial activities through its authority to approve the technical assistance projects requested by the developing countries and to finance regional and inter-regional projects. A series of discussions had taken place between UNIDO and UNDP on the subject of their co-ordination functions in industry.

14. UNIDO was also co-operating with the regional economic commissions and UNESOB on the development in each region of a single programme for industry which would be financed and executed partly by UNIDO and partly by the regional economic commissions. A meeting on industrial financing in Africa was to take place in October 1969 under the joint sponsorship of UNIDO, ECA and the African Development Bank. Also, UNIDO hoped to co-operate closely with ECAFE in the second Asian industrialization conference to be held in Tokyo in 1970, if the conference was financed by the United Nations. UNIDO was also establishing close relations with the regional intergovernmental groupings of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. In particular, it had developed relations with the Regional Co-operation for Development countries comprising Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, the Centre for Industrial Development of the Arab Countries, the Afro-Malagasy Organization and OAU. A joint UNIDO/ECLA mission had been sent to the Caribbean, and UNIDO looked forward to strengthening its co-operation with the Asian Industrial Development Council, in collaboration with ECAFE.

15. The International Symposium on Industrial Development held in Athens in 1967 had recommended that all countries members of UNIDO should establish national committees for UNIDO, with the task of advising their respective Governments on all matters related to the activities and programmes of the organization. It was obvious that, for effective participation in UNIDO, Governments would have to establish the necessary channels of communication and consultation between their own departments and industry. Such machinery would be of particular importance in co-ordinating bilateral activities with the multilateral programmes of UNIDO, both in the donor industrialized countries and in the recipient developing countries. UNIDO was currently engaged in harmonization activities with the bilateral programmes of several industrialized countries, especially Austria, the Scandinavian countries and the Federal Republic of Germany.

16. UNIDO's co-ordination work was closely related to its technical assistance programme. That was an important feature of the role of functional co-ordination of industrial development activities of the United Nations family of organizations, which the General Assembly had entrusted to UNIDO by its resolution 2152 (XXI). In that connexion, it was gratifying that UNIDO was participating in meetings of ACC. The Director-General of FAO had recognized the importance of such participation and had alluded

(1605th meeting) to certain formal aspects of that question, which, judging from the discussion that had taken place on the subject in ACC, would undoubtedly be settled satisfactorily.

17. UNIDO's experience was not yet sufficient to justify any general conclusions, but it was obvious that it would constantly need to reconcile political imperatives with practical needs. The secretariat's task was to secure acceptance of programmes by the inter-governmental political bodies, while endeavouring to satisfy the needs of industrial and business circles, who were naturally more concerned with practical results than with abstract concepts. The results obtained by UNIDO in the first two years of its existence were very promising, but much remained to be done.

18. Mr. SHAHEED (International Labour Organisation) said that the need to establish joint programmes of activities and the need to ensure constructive co-ordination were the two considerations which had inspired the endeavours of the Joint ILO/UNIDO Working Party, which had been set up in accordance with the memorandum of guidelines for co-operation between the ILO and UNIDO, dated 3 April 1968.

19. The activities of the Working Party fell into three main categories: action on projects already approved by UNDP; joint development of projects initiated with either ILO or UNIDO assistance; and planning of projects of common interest initiated jointly by the two organizations. So far, the Working Party had examined sixty-three projects, covering forty-one countries. Gradually, the emphasis in the Working Party was shifting from the examination of existing projects to that of projects under preparation.

20. The ILO/UNIDO Working Party had also examined the possibilities of co-operation in three other areas. First, the two organizations had agreed to establish direct contact with a view to determining UNIDO's possible contribution to the World Employment Programme. Secondly, consideration was being given to arrangements for UNIDO's industrial information services to use ILO computer facilities. Thirdly, discussions were proceeding with a view to ensuring co-operation between the two organizations in promoting industrial extension services for small industries. UNIDO and the ILO were also co-operating to avoid any overlapping between ILO activities and the work undertaken by UNIDO under its Equipment Maintenance and Repair Programme, and in industrial training in general.

21. As to the social aspects of industrialization, he recalled that, in connexion with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI), it had been recognized that the social aspects of the training of industrial personnel would continue to be within the ILO's competence, and the International Labour Conference, at its fifty-first session, had taken certain decisions clearly defining the role of the ILO in the industrialization of developing countries. The questions which the International Labour Conference had

felt to be within the ILO's competence included certain aspects of human resources development, conditions of work and life in industry and social institutions development. In paragraph 46 of the Industrial Development Board's report, reference was made to the need to take into consideration the social problems related to industrialization and it was suggested that UNIDO should co-operate closely with the United Nations Social Development Division. However, as had been recommended by the five special rapporteurs appointed by the Secretary-General to review technical co-operation activities in social development, such co-operation should include not only UNIDO and the United Nations Social Development Division but also the ILO.

22. With a view to improving co-ordination at the country level, the ILO/UNIDO Working Party had recommended that consideration should be given to the possibility of exchanging information on technical assistance projects and of arranging for ILO regional advisers and UNIDO industrial field advisers to be briefed on problems of joint concern before taking up their assignments in the field. Two ILO regional advisers had been briefed in Vienna in February 1969 and two UNIDO field advisers were to be briefed at the ILO in August 1969.

23. The results achieved by the Working Party were very satisfactory: seven Special Fund projects, with UNDP allocations totalling \$4.5 million, were now in operation, with the assistance of sixty-two experts from the two organizations—twenty-nine from the ILO and thirty-three from UNIDO. The experience with the Working Party had also led to the holding of inter-secretariat consultations at the very early stages of project planning; UNIDO was thus able to fulfil the role of co-ordinator in the field of industrial development assigned to it by the General Assembly, while utilizing the facilities of the ILO.

24. The ILO looked forward to the further development of co-operative relations with UNIDO in serving the interests and needs of the developing countries in a vital field.

25. Mr. ABE (Japan) noted that, since its establishment, UNIDO had constantly striven to strengthen its activities, consolidate its structure and improve its methods of recruiting experts. It was gratifying to note, in that connexion, that the Industrial Development Board had decided to adopt conclusions and recommendations concerning UNIDO's long-term programme. His delegation fully supported those conclusions, particularly those designed to give greater emphasis to field activities and to elaborate projects adapted to the particular situation of each country. It also welcomed the fact that UNDP had indicated its intention of increasing the number of projects entrusted to UNIDO, reconstituting the resources allocated to the Special Industrial Services programme and increasing the number of UNIDO field advisers.

26. In view of the complexity of industrial development activities, it was important that UNIDO should establish

efficient and rational procedures for co-ordination and co-operation with the other organizations concerned. UNIDO's agreements with FAO and ECAFE should be followed by other similar arrangements. UNIDO should co-operate similarly with the Asian Industrial Development Council, which was making considerable efforts in the field of industrialization, particularly with regard to the iron and steel and petrochemical industries and the manufacture of agricultural machinery. UNIDO could also make an important contribution to the second Asian conference on industrialization, to be held in Japan in 1970.

27. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) congratulated the Executive Director of UNIDO on the results achieved by the organization in spite of its limited resources.

28. His delegation noted with satisfaction the work accomplished in the field of co-ordination with other United Nations organizations, particularly with ECLA, and the negotiations which the Executive Director of UNIDO was conducting with the developed countries, described in detail in the Industrial Development Board's report.

29. As the Executive Director had emphasized, it was important to strengthen co-operation between UNIDO and the various governmental bodies responsible for industrial development in the developing countries. The Mexican Government had established, under its Ministry of Industry, a committee responsible for examining ways of improving co-operation with UNIDO and providing it with the information and means required for the success of its activities.

30. His delegation hoped that the report of the Industrial Development Board would receive the Council's support, so that the General Assembly and the Pledging Conference might provide UNIDO with the resources it needed.

31. Mr. CABRIĆ (Yugoslavia) noted with satisfaction that, at its third session, the Industrial Development Board had concentrated its attention on its contribution to the preparations for the Second Development Decade. Its resolution 24 (III) on that subject was important, as was UNIDO's long-term programme, which was to be an integral part of the activities of the Second Development Decade.

32. UNIDO's operational activities, which were another important aspect of its work, should be further strengthened and developed. That was a problem which required the special attention of the Council, since those activities depended on the amount of the direct contributions to UNIDO. The results of the first UNIDO Pledging Conference had not come up to expectations and his delegation hoped that a far larger number of countries would respond to the request made by the Industrial Development Board in its resolution 20 (III). While welcoming the support which the industrially developed countries continued to give to the Special Industrial Services, it was to be hoped that they would also give adequate attention to UNIDO's direct needs in the field of operational activities.

33. His country had established a governmental body for UNIDO and intended further to strengthen its co-operation with that organization. On the occasion of the Executive Director's recent visit to Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav Government had confirmed its readiness to support the work of UNIDO, to explore other means of improving co-operation and to increase the amount of its contribution at the forthcoming Pledging Conference.

34. Mr. GRUNEWALD (France) said that there was now a better understanding of the specific role of industrialization as an essential aspect of economic growth and development. His delegation therefore wished to re-emphasize the importance it attached to the role of UNIDO and to the work of the Industrial Development Board. At its third session, that body had taken an auspicious step in entrusting the consideration of UNIDO's programme to a working group on programme and co-ordination. That step would prove even more fruitful if member States agreed to send as representatives to that group persons who were particularly well informed concerning industrial development problems.

35. The field of UNIDO's activities had already been considerably extended and there was a steady rise in the funds allocated by UNDP for industrial development. Consequently care should be taken to ensure that headquarters support activities were more and more closely co-ordinated with field activities, while enabling UNIDO to play, in addition, a new role in promoting investment in the countries requesting its services. It was, however, essential that UNIDO should have appropriate means of action at its disposal. In recent months, those means had been improved in at least two very important fields: the agreement between the secretariat and the UNDP administration regarding an increase in the number of industrial advisers would enable UNIDO to bring its operational activities more and more into line with over-all development policy; equally welcome was the way in which UNIDO and UNDP had resolved the problem raised by the exhaustion of the funds of the Special Industrial Services, whose usefulness was no longer questioned.

36. His delegation hoped that UNIDO would also benefit from the atmosphere of co-operation in its relations with the specialized agencies, and it welcomed the announcement of the results of negotiations with FAO.

37. So far as the determination of UNIDO's long-term approach was concerned, the time was ripe for the broad lines of its activity to be defined and accepted by all. The ten-point proposals made by the Executive Director at the third session of the Industrial Development Board were realistic and could serve as a basis for a dialogue which should be undertaken by member States without delay. His delegation considered it a duty to express its views on all the questions before it regarding the structure and development of UNIDO. Nor had the Industrial Development Board shirked its responsibilities in that respect, since in its conclusions and recommendations it had endorsed the

priorities established by the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination.

38. UNIDO was now in a position to draw up a real medium-term programme, on the basis of the methods recommended by the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. His delegation believed that programmes and their time-schedules should be prepared by the services called upon to supervise their implementation, subject to submission to and objective discussion with the legislative bodies concerned. Any consultative group appointed exclusively for purposes of consultation, but which had nothing to do with the actual implementation of programmes, might well reach conclusions that were over-theoretical and ill-suited to UNIDO's limited resources. That the Executive Director shared that concern was clear from his statement at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade on UNIDO's proposed contribution to the preparations for that decade.

39. His delegation was increasingly convinced that UNIDO could take a more active part in the preparations for the Second Development Decade. It therefore hoped that, in the period preceding the Industrial Development Board's fourth session, UNIDO would concentrate its efforts on the foreseeable developments of the next ten years and would not wait too long for the emergence of elements of an illusory industrial strategy on which, it was sometimes believed, widespread agreement might be reached in the United Nations. It was UNIDO's special responsibility to put forward a number of sectoral targets linked to such broad underlying hypotheses as an average growth rate of 6 per cent, and to specify the principal measures which would seem necessary to ensure that greater industrial production would lead, without creating bottlenecks, to the balanced development of the world economy.

40. Mr. YEGEN (Turkey) noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination as a subsidiary body of the Industrial Development Board and emphasized the importance of the Board's resolution 24 (III) concerning UNIDO's contribution to the Second United Nations Development Decade. Because of its central role in co-ordinating the industrial development activities of United Nations bodies, UNIDO could be expected to make a very important contribution to the success of the Second Development Decade. In that connexion, effective co-ordination with the other United Nations bodies was essential. Resolution 17 (III), regarding the promotion of export-oriented industries, was also very important because the developing countries must be better prepared to assume a larger share of industrial trade, and UNIDO could help them improve the market acceptance and competitiveness of their industrial products.

41. UNIDO had already given considerable assistance to Turkey, especially in the area of industrial training. Efforts were being made in Turkey to establish a national com-

mittee for UNIDO. Such committees were important as a means of communication between UNIDO and the public and private institutions of the countries concerned. As a token of its support of UNIDO activities, his country would make a voluntary contribution of 50,000 Turkish pounds during the 1970 financial year.

42. Mr. DARON (Belgium) said that the establishment of the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination following the second session of the Industrial Development Board had been a constructive experiment; however, for the Working Group to be fully effective, certain improvements were needed. Documentation would have to be still further condensed so that projects might be presented in more consolidated form, and the statistics provided must make possible better comparisons from one year to the next so as to furnish the material for a comprehensive table which would indicate more clearly UNIDO's general trends and past development. That would result in a better dialogue between the Working Group and the secretariat. The Working Group should also arrive at conclusions and recommendations for the Board's consideration, but the achievement of that objective depended primarily on the delegations.

43. The institutionalization of the Working Group would enable the Industrial Development Board to give more attention to the over-all policy of UNIDO. While in general the efforts made to that end at the third session were in the right direction, the fact remained that the Board had adopted some resolutions which provided for measures whose effectiveness appeared doubtful. With regard to resolution 22 (II) on the organization of a special meeting of the UNIDO membership to examine, within the framework of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the contribution that UNIDO could make to the industrial development of the developing countries and to the achievement of the objectives of the Second Development Decade, his delegation thought that by its very nature the examination of such a question came within the terms of reference of the Industrial Development Board. If the Board was not able to handle the matter, there was no reason to believe that a special meeting would be any more successful. In addition, the proposed meeting would be taking place too early. It should base itself not on the work of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade, as provided in resolution 22 (III) of the Industrial Development Board, but solely on the final decisions of the General Assembly concerning that decade, which would most probably be adopted towards the end of the twenty-fifth session. In any event, if the proposal was accepted, care would have to be taken to ensure that the business of the General Assembly was not adversely affected and that extra expenses disproportionate to the possible benefits of such a meeting were not incurred.

44. With respect to measures that would permit UNIDO to promote the industrialization of the developing countries in the most effective way possible, it was well to remember the rule that any action should follow a governmental

request. At the same time, situations must be avoided which would compel UNIDO to give consideration to so many projects that it would be impossible to subject them to selection criteria. UNIDO should keep its staff and experts and its financial resources for essential work. Unless its projects were carefully screened, UNIDO would inevitably disperse its resources, and its activities would have only limited effect. Industrial advisers would have an important role to play in that connexion: in co-operation with the Governments they could certainly direct the choice of projects to be submitted towards the priority areas of the countries concerned in accordance with UNIDO guidelines.

45. The adoption of guidelines and of a clearly defined policy was essential; UNIDO's action should consist in making the most of the industrial potential already available in the developing country concerned, laying the groundwork which would enable it subsequently to accelerate and expand its industrial development, and selecting and carrying out projects which would really influence its industrialization and development.

46. UNIDO's work, both at headquarters and in the field, should constitute a coherent whole; although it must, of course, take various forms in keeping with the special conditions of each country and the level of development, resources and needs of that country. The usefulness of supporting activities (seminars, study groups, meetings of experts and so on) would depend on the extent to which they were related to specific needs, since their purpose was not to promote new projects but to support activities already under way.

47. There would probably be circumstances in which UNIDO would have to implement projects itself. However, it should seek rather to act as an agent-adviser, bringing together the assistance needs of the developing countries and the resources in expertise and capital of the rest of the world. Promotional activities were thus of great importance, but the concept of promotion should be more precisely defined, and the limits determined within which promotion could be carried out. Some very interesting suggestions on the matter had been made in the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination.

48. His delegation wished to pay a tribute to the secretariat of UNIDO and especially to its Executive Director, who on his visit to Brussels had consulted representatives of the public sector and of industry and finance. On that occasion, and also at the time of the seminars recently held in Belgium, notable interest had been shown in the activities of UNIDO by those circles, which wished to see the organization fully realize the hopes that had been placed in it.

49. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that his delegation had on many occasions emphasized the importance of action in the field of industrial development and the necessity of contributing to the industrialization of the developing countries and of helping

them overcome the poverty they had inherited from colonialism. Industrialization was a more complex process than first imagined and experience had shown that the difficulties could not be surmounted unless social structures were modified, domestic resources mobilized, and answers found to problems in such areas as food supply, agriculture and the transfer of technology. Action to that end must take account of the special conditions of each country and its national development plan. In addition, the effectiveness of multilateral aid must be increased. That was one of UNIDO's essential tasks; the organization should be the central co-ordinating body for the activities of United Nations institutions in the field of industrial development.

50. His country, which had been host to several symposia and seminars on industrialization and had made a voluntary contribution of 500,000 roubles in 1969, supported the activities of UNIDO and participated in its work. It had created a national committee for UNIDO, which functioned under the USSR Committee on Science and Technology. Heads of large production plants and Soviet scientists were taking part in the work of the national committee, which, it was hoped, would contribute to the closer co-operation of the USSR with UNIDO.

51. His delegation considered, however, that the past year had not yielded all the expected results, and it was not satisfied with the slow pace at which the work of UNIDO was developing despite its large secretariat.

52. UNIDO's basic task was to assist in drawing up valid plans and industrialization programmes, and to help the developing countries determine their key sectors in the light of scientific and technological progress and achievements. Yet no such project was to be found in the work programme for 1969-1970.

53. At the third session of the Industrial Development Board, the Executive Director had asked whether UNIDO should base its programme on the requests received from member States or on its own judgement of the real needs of countries. The Board had not given any guidance in the matter. His delegation was of the opinion that assistance should be based not only on the requests received from countries but also on the judgement of UNIDO supported by studies made by the appropriate experts. The Board should consider that question at its fourth session along with the need to change the existing procedure for examining requests for assistance which was not based on a close analysis of their economic merit. UNIDO should be able to furnish advice to countries in deciding which projects were the most justified. It was true that it had tried to do that, but its efforts had been hesitant. His delegation subscribed to the observations in paragraph 281 of the Board's report, but it regretted that there was no mention of the relationship between UNIDO's three instruments of action, namely, research and studies, technical assistance and promotional activities. That was a matter of importance if maximum effectiveness was to be attained. The Board should consider it and issue directives in the matter.

As to the main fields of work referred to in paragraph 282 of the report, his delegation thought that very high priority should be given to areas where additional efforts were required—the strengthening of administrative machinery in the public sector, the transfer of technology and the evolving of a general strategy of industrial development. It hoped that the Board would be able to make recommendations on that subject at its fourth session.

54. The Industrial Development Board had not taken any decision on the consolidated reports on the activities of United Nations organs in the area of industrial development, the latest of which was far too voluminous. He noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Working Party on Programme and Co-ordination; he thought that it should not meet for longer than four weeks.

55. There was no reason for holding the special meeting of member States of UNIDO proposed in resolution 22 (III) of the Industrial Development Board, since the matters to be dealt with at that meeting could be studied under better conditions at the General Assembly, where all the Member States would be represented.

56. UNIDO's work was related to the activities of other United Nations bodies, especially UNDP, but the latter was not giving it sufficient attention. Of the projects approved by the UNDP Governing Council at its eighth session, those to be executed by UNIDO represented only \$4,200,000. That type of assistance, to be channelled through UNIDO, should be increased. The Economic and Social Council should look further into the matter.

57. With reference to the contribution of private capital to the industrialization of developing countries, he emphasized that that was not UNIDO's main task. UNIDO should concentrate its activities on defending the interests of those countries. Capital contributions should include favourable terms and should be subject to control by the Governments of the receiving countries. They must not become a means of exploitation.

58. As to the question of the transfer of technology, it had already been discussed several times, *inter alia*, during the current session of the Council. It was a problem which ought to be clarified and settled without delay. In particular, UNIDO should clearly specify the aspects of that problem which came within its terms of reference, and should do so as quickly as possible. Among other things, UNIDO would have to concern itself with the installation of a suitable infrastructure in the developing country, which should be helped by UNIDO in adapting scientific and technical progress to its own special conditions. UNIDO should prepare an effective, long-term programme for the transfer of technical know-how, which would be one of the components of a general programme for the application of science and technology to development.

59. If UNIDO and the other United Nations bodies concerned had a programme of that kind, the long, pointless discussion in the Co-ordination Committee on

agenda item 19, on future institutional arrangements on science and technology, would have been avoided.

60. Finally, his delegation wished to congratulate UNIDO on the positive achievements it had to its credit since its inception. It hoped that the observations it had just made would help UNIDO further to improve its work.

61. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) thought that the activities undertaken by UNIDO in the field of industrial development had been effective and that significant results for the developing countries had already been achieved. Those activities, however, would have to be further developed if UNIDO was to contribute to the attainment of objectives established for those countries.

62. He welcomed the co-operation agreements concluded by UNIDO at national and regional levels. Such activity should be further strengthened.

63. With regard to UNIDO's resources, he felt that UNDP should increase and broaden its contributions so as to enable UNIDO to play the important role it must have.

64. His delegation noted with interest what had been said about the need to choose among priorities so as not to dissipate efforts. It was unable at that stage to take a final position regarding the special meeting of member States of UNIDO which had been suggested; the secretariat should ascertain the views of Governments before a decision was adopted.

65. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) noted with satisfaction the report of the Industrial Development Board and approved of the manner in which the Executive Director of UNIDO had directed the affairs of the organization in spite of the limited financial resources at his disposal.

66. His delegation had always been in favour of decentralizing UNIDO's operational activities through the establishment of regional and sub-regional offices or centres, thus enabling headquarters to have an on-the-spot view of problems and to provide appropriate solutions to them. Decentralization was conducive to closer regional co-operation. The establishment of UNIDO regional and sub-regional offices in the Middle East would supplement and stimulate the activities of UNESOB, pending the creation of the economic commission which unhappily that region was still denied.

67. The representative of Japan had underlined the necessity of expanding the agreements with the specialized agencies. The matter had also been mentioned by UNIDO's Executive Director in his statement, and the Kuwaiti delegation unreservedly supported the policy which he was following in that field. It also associated itself with the delegations which had urged that the programme of field advisers created the previous year should be expanded on a wide geographical basis. It welcomed the references to such activities both in the report of the Industrial Development Board and in the Executive Director's statement.

68. His delegation supported the suggestion of the Japanese representative that UNIDO should be selected as the executing agent for as many industrial projects as possible and on the widest possible basis, whether national or regional. It also welcomed the idea of making UNIDO a clearing house for industrial information likely to accelerate industrial development in the developing countries.

69. It was sad to have to note once again that UNIDO was still handicapped by the limited resources available for financing the task it had been given. The number of industrial projects to be undertaken in the future would have to be increased and it was a matter of satisfaction that UNIDO and UNDP were co-operating. In that connexion his delegation regretted that UNIDO's budget had been curtailed.

70. UNIDO also had a major role to play in the transfer of technology to developing countries, especially by providing a research framework for adapting modern science and technology to the special needs of developing countries. The transfer of technology required an extensive research programme. It was therefore heartening to note that the Executive Director had already disclosed some of the practical measures UNIDO was contemplating in that field. His Government was looking forward to co-operating with UNIDO in the building of a liquid ammonia plant and a methanol plant by 1972: both projects were of major importance not only for the economy of his country, but also for that of the whole region.

71. UNIDO also confronted a difficult problem in the field of export-oriented industries. Every effort should be made at both the national and the regional levels to resolve that vital problem, and UNIDO would have to teach developing countries how to improve the quality of their manufactures so as to compete successfully with the products of advanced countries.

72. With regard to the Second Development Decade, his delegation hoped that UNIDO would help developing countries to formulate realistic targets and that it would be given all the aid it needed for that purpose. In that respect, it could rely on his Government's continued support.

73. The Executive Director's remarks on regional co-operation had been a source of great satisfaction to his delegation. His approach to the problem took account of regional needs without losing sight of the necessity of studying in depth the particular problems created by the industrialization of each developing country.

74. Lastly, his delegation supported the Secretary-General's decision to invite UNIDO's Executive Director and the executive heads of some other organizations of the United Nations family to participate in the work of ACC.

75. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) commended the efforts made by UNIDO since its inception to deal with problems of internal organization while trying to establish working arrangements with agencies such as the ILO and UNESCO

with a view to promoting co-operative action and utilizing the limited resources available as efficiently as possible.

76. The Executive Director had said that similar arrangements had been made with ECAFE and FAO; it was to be hoped that those arrangements would further assist the Industrial Development Board in its work.

77. From its own experience, his delegation would like to mention, amongst other activities of UNIDO, the in-factory training programme and the Special Industrial Services which helped to attract investment capital for industrial projects.

78. UNIDO would have an important part to play in the Second Development Decade; while developing countries must try to help themselves, they could not do without international aid, and UNIDO would certainly participate in any aid arrangements.

79. The Executive Director had stated that UNIDO had established direct and close relations with regional inter-governmental groupings. His delegation welcomed the establishment of relations between UNIDO and the Regional Co-operation for Development countries, comprising Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, in connexion with criteria for harmonizing industrial plans. He hoped that that co-operation would develop further. However, UNIDO would need greater financial resources to expand its activities, and his delegation hoped that they would be provided through the co-operation of the developed countries.

80. Mr. DUBEY (India) considered that UNIDO's programme as outlined by its Executive Director was sufficient to justify the hopes placed in that organization. The doubts felt by some countries when UNIDO had been established seemed to have been dispelled and the most recent pledging conference had disclosed a general desire to see the organization succeed and to strengthen it. His country gave it its fullest co-operation and, in pursuance of the decision taken at the International Symposium on Industrial Development, had established a national committee to co-operate with UNIDO and to support it.

81. Since the last pledging conference, UNIDO had an independent source of financing, but the amount available was not at all commensurate with the needs of the developing countries. As a result, UNIDO was impeded in the execution of its twin tasks of strengthening its internal organization and developing its operational activities.

82. The Industrial Development Board had decided at its third session to put the Special Industrial Services programme on a permanent footing and the Governing Council of UNDP had decided to allocate a part of its revolving fund to replenishing the resources which supported those services. His delegation had always had reservations about that method of financing and had accepted it only as a temporary measure because there was no other means of financing UNIDO's work in industrial development. A way



must, however, be found to provide UNIDO with the resources necessary to carry out the activities which the international community had considered important for the progress of the developing countries.

83. With regard to the reorganization of the secretariat, his delegation considered it a very important problem to which no solution could be imposed from the outside. In fact, the matter should lie within the exclusive competence of the Executive Director, and he was happy to note the latter's statement that action was already being taken in the matter.

84. Referring to UNIDO's vital role in the industrialization of developing countries, he noted with satisfaction that arrangements had been made with some specialized agencies, including FAO; he also noted the Industrial Development Board's decision (resolution 24 (III)) concerning UNIDO's contribution to the elaboration of an international development strategy. UNIDO's participation was envisaged mainly in the form of helping Governments to plan their industrial development programmes and evaluate the efforts to be made during the Second Development Decade. UNIDO should, however, also take part in the elaboration of development strategy before the Development Decade was launched. As the French representative had said, the Preparatory Committee and other United Nations bodies had hoped that UNIDO would establish sectoral growth rates within the envisaged over-all growth rate.

85. Before the start of the Second Development Decade, one of the very important contributions to be made by UNIDO would be to promote agreement on what should be done in the field of industrialization. Consultations at the intergovernmental level should be held through the medium of UNIDO to secure agreement by Governments on what was to be expected both from developed and developing countries during the decade about to begin.

86. Mr. McDONALD (United States of America) thanked the Executive Director of UNIDO for his thorough and encouraging report earlier in the meeting.

87. His delegation welcomed in particular the agreements concluded by UNIDO with FAO and ECAFE, which were a major milestone in relations between international agencies; it was hoped that similar agreements could be reached with other international bodies.

88. The recommendation to increase the number of UNIDO's field advisers by ten in 1970 was an encouraging move. He hoped that the number and effectiveness of those advisers would be still further increased and that other specialized agencies would consider similar arrangements.

89. His delegation supported the recommendation that Special Industrial Services projects should be financed from the UNDP revolving fund, and noted with satisfaction that resources at the latter's disposal were constantly increasing.

90. While appreciating the difficulties which the reorganization of UNIDO's administration might be causing, he hoped that UNIDO would not limit its investigations to the management and budgetary aspects but would also take the opportunity, with the help of experts, to look at the long-range possibilities facing it.

91. With regard to the Industrial Development Board's report, his delegation supported the decision to form the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination as a most useful innovation. It hoped that the Working Group would continue to meet. It agreed with the representative of Belgium, however, that the national delegations in the Working Group should be strengthened in their representation level and that their competence should be increased. He also agreed with the representatives of Belgium and the Soviet Union that documentation was far too voluminous and needed to be streamlined.

92. The four-week limit on the 1970 sessions of the Working Group and the Board itself was useful and he hoped that it would be maintained.

93. Long-term programming and projection had been discussed at some length by the Board itself and certain questions had been postponed until the next session. His delegation was concerned that realistic long-term priorities should be established.

94. With regard to the question of voluntary contributions of UNIDO, he certainly felt that those Governments which were able to make contributions should continue to do so, but he would encourage them to make their contributions in convertible currencies as far as possible, thereby giving the Executive Director and his staff greater flexibility to manage their programmes and projects effectively and efficiently.

95. With regard to foreign investments, UNIDO had helped to increase the flow of private capital to the developing countries. The results were very encouraging and he hoped that UNIDO would continue along those lines.

96. His Government fully supported the report of the Industrial Development Board and the work of the Executive Director and of UNIDO itself. He hoped that they would pursue their efforts in the field of industrial development; his Government would do all it could to assist UNIDO in achieving its goals.

97. Mr. ABDEL-RAHMAN (Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization) thanked all the speakers for their expressions of support and interest.

98. With regard to documentation, mentioned by the representatives of Belgium, the Soviet Union and the United States, the secretariat of UNIDO, on the recommendation of the Industrial Development Board, intended to revise the system and he hoped that the changes made would meet many of the points raised. If the documen-

tation was well arranged, the Board's work would be expedited; the question was thus linked with that of the four-week limit for the sessions of the Board and the Working Group in 1970.

99. UNIDO's long-term programme of action would inevitably come up again at the next session, since the Second Development Decade was itself a long-term programme of action for the whole of the United Nations. UNIDO's role in that field had been limited so far by the fact that it was not yet fully equipped and that all its efforts had been mainly directed towards operational activities. Nevertheless, considerable work relating to the Second Development Decade was being done through those operational activities.

100. For the information of the representative of the Soviet Union, he wished to explain that a great many reports of a technical nature, representing actual programmes of industrialization, had been prepared at the country level. Those documents, however, formed part of the technical assistance to Governments and could not be published without their consent.

101. UNIDO had also intentionally declined to go into general model-building and had limited itself to amplifying the industrial sector of the general models to be built at United Nations Headquarters. As to strategy, it should evolve through joint discussions rather than be imposed from above.

102. UNIDO had always tried to elaborate its programme in very close consultation with the developing countries, which the organization had been established to serve. At its next session, the Board would develop further the question of long-term and Development Decade activities, but the UNIDO secretariat felt that decisions had to arise out of the actual experience of the countries concerned.

103. The PRESIDENT, noting that no draft resolution had been submitted on the report under consideration, suggested that the Council should adopt the following draft resolution:

*“The Economic and Social Council,*

*“Takes note of the report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its third session (E/4708) and transmits it to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session.”*

*It was so decided.*

104. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thanked the Executive Director of UNIDO for his information and wished if possible to have further details on the country-level technical reports to which the latter had referred.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Monday, 4 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3.5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 10:	
Problems of the human environment .....	189

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

## AGENDA ITEM 10

**Problems of the human environment  
(E/4667, E/4710, E/L.1275 and Add.1)**

1. Mr. CAPPELEN (Norway), introducing draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, said that growing awareness of the serious character of environmental problems had been apparent from the increased attention paid to them by mass media and public opinion. The negative side effects of technological advances were frightening, but on the positive side modern science and technology could be used to improve the human environment through deliberate action.
2. On the initiative of the Swedish delegation, the Council at its forty-fifth session had adopted unanimously a resolution (1346 (XLV)) recommending the General Assembly to consider the desirability of convening a United Nations conference on the human environment. That had led to the unanimous adoption of General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII) of 3 December 1968, providing for the convening of such a conference in 1972. The Assembly had envisaged two stages in the preparations for the conference. For the first stage, the Secretary-General had been requested, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, to submit to the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly, through the Council, a report on various aspects of the conference. That report had been submitted as document E/4667.
3. In the view of the sponsors of the draft resolution for adoption by the Assembly (E/L.1275 and Add.1), the Council at its present session should prepare for appropriate action by the General Assembly for the second stage of preparation. Operative paragraph 1 of the draft endorsed in general the proposals contained in the report regarding the purposes and objectives of the conference, but not the proposals relating to its structure and the content, which were only tentative. Such practical questions should be discussed at a later stage.
4. Paragraphs 3 and 4 dealt with institutional arrangements. The composition of the preparatory committee referred to in paragraph 4 should be left for the General Assembly to decide, but to ensure its efficiency the committee should be kept reasonably small, with a membership of about fifteen Governments which could be decided on after consultation in the General Assembly. The committee should be composed of highly qualified representatives, not necessarily the same for each country all the time; and the possibility of appointing representatives able to reflect regional or sub-regional views should also be explored. The committee's main tasks would be, in general terms, to advise the Secretary-General on a draft agenda for the conference, to make recommendations regarding the structure of the conference, and to gather and organize background documentation. In order to strengthen the influence of Governments in the preparations for the conference, paragraph 3 stated that the views expressed during the present debate and at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly should be borne in mind by the Secretary-General.
5. The preparatory work for the conference was at least as important as the conference itself, and paragraph 6 therefore requested the Secretary-General to consult with Governments, with other organizations in the United Nations system and with appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. It was to be hoped that the provisions of the paragraph, together with those of paragraphs 7 and 16, would ensure the active involvement of Governments not members of the preparatory committee.
6. An important part of the preparatory work, recognized in paragraph 10, should be to focus public opinion on the importance and urgency of the problem of the human environment, which was one of the purposes of the conference according to General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII). Paragraph 11 provided for invitations to participate, using a formula which had many precedents in United Nations history. The Secretary-General's concern that all Member States should be adequately represented (E/4667, para. 105) was reflected in paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, which also requested the Secretary-General to consider what steps could be taken to facilitate participation. Without anticipating any decision to be taken by the General Assembly, the co-sponsors hoped that consideration would be given to the possibility of direct financial support for that purpose.
7. Paragraph 13 concerned the cost of the conference. The co-sponsors would like to suggest in that connexion that the Secretary-General should use all possibilities of drawing upon staff within the present establishment of the United Nations system, thus reducing the need for additional recruitment. The cost of experts and consultants should be kept as low as possible by using expertise within

the United Nations system and by drawing upon national contributions, especially for the background documentation. Although the conference should be carefully prepared and provided with adequate documentation, the possibility of reducing printing costs should be carefully considered, and, in view of the action-oriented nature of the conference, the volume of documentation must be kept to an absolute minimum. Further savings might be made by simplifying the organizational structure of the conference.

8. The duration of the conference should be about two weeks. A short pre-conference meeting could also be held, but that matter should be dealt with during the preparatory work. Paragraph 15 proposed that the General Assembly should accept the invitation of the Swedish Government to hold the conference in Sweden in June 1972, while paragraph 16 requested the submission of a brief progress report which would enable the Council and the General Assembly to follow the preparatory work in detail.

9. In the view of the co-sponsors, adoption of the draft resolution would mark an important step forward in preparations for the conference, and would ensure their efficiency.

10. Mr. GROS (France) said that the Secretary-General's report presented an admirable classification of the many and complex problems involved. Both it and the draft resolution, however, contained a number of errors of translation which made the task of French-speaking delegations extremely difficult. The report omitted to mention specifically the contributions made by Governments to its preparation; and his delegation wished to request that a list of those Governments and international organizations which had contributed should be made available.

11. The main drawback of the report was its perhaps deliberately pessimistic tone. There was obviously a need to stress the harmful effects of human progress on the environment, but it should not be forgotten that mankind had reached its present stage of development largely through overcoming the natural obstacles in its way, or that man's action on nature was frequently beneficial.

12. In defining the purposes of the conference, too much stress was placed on arousing public opinion; in fact, the conference would be successful if it did nothing more than achieve the objectives set out in paragraph 90 of the report. He hoped that it would lead to increased consultation on the international conventions by which action concerning the human environment was, or should be, governed. The United Nations and the specialized agencies would have a part to play in the negotiations that might be initiated for that purpose.

13. The references to the conference's agenda were deliberately vague, since it was not possible at the present stage to state them more precisely. His delegation welcomed the emphasis that would be placed on the consequences of human action on the environment, with socio-cultural environmental problems being considered

only in so far as they could be directly related to physico-biological changes of the environment (E/4667, para. 95). The classification of the main problems, however, was perhaps somewhat artificial, especially in regard to "territorial problems" (chapter IB). The problems to be considered by the conference were either local or worldwide, but between the two extremes were problems of regional concern which could be examined in the first instance by the regional economic commissions. It would be useful if the Secretariat could provide some idea of the cost of the solutions proposed for such problems.

14. The structure of the conference, as proposed in the report, was somewhat complicated, involving a general debate followed by the sessions of eight separate commissions divided into two groups of four, each of which would present its conclusions to a plenary session. Such a system raised considerable dangers of duplication, and every effort should be made to simplify it.

15. The proposals relating to participation had the disadvantage that they might systematically exclude scientific experts.

16. The documentation envisaged was complex and excessively voluminous. While perhaps ideal for the experts, the five categories proposed would be disconcerting to the general public whose interest was to be aroused. Every effort should be made to reduce the volume of documentation, and consequently the cost of the conference.

17. The machinery for the preparation of the conference described in paragraphs 132 and 133 of the report was somewhat cumbersome. The recruitment of additional staff seemed unnecessary when the four principal organizations concerned—the United Nations, UNESCO, WHO and FAO—had adequate manpower at their disposal. A large part of the report was devoted to describing what was already being done by those organizations, and it therefore seemed reasonable to expect that their experience would be drawn upon to a greater extent. The financial implications described in chapter III, H of the report should be reviewed as strictly as possible, especially those mentioned in paragraph 141, sub-paragraphs (a), (d) and (e).

18. His delegation would support draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, provided some positively worded paragraphs were added to the preamble to make it clear that the Council had discussed the item in depth before taking a decision on it.

19. Miss MUTER (Indonesia) said that, as the Secretary-General's report stated (E/4667, para. 2), the world's population had increased sevenfold in a few centuries, and what had once been local problems were now global in extent, calling for concerted effort by all nations. The population growth had been accompanied by the spread of urbanization, leading to problems of air, water and land pollution and, through noise and congestion, to physical and mental distress. Her delegation agreed that the deterioration of the human environment could be related to three

basic causes—accelerated population growth, increased urbanization and expanded technology.

20. She wished to pay a tribute to the Government of Sweden for its initiative in drawing attention to the problem and for its invitation to hold the conference in Sweden in June 1972, a time which was acceptable to her delegation.

21. The basic purposes of the conference were set out in general terms in General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII), particularly where it stressed the desirability of focusing the attention of Governments and public opinion on the importance and urgency of the problem and of identifying those aspects of it that could only or best be resolved through international co-operation.

22. Early preparation was essential to the success of the conference, and a preparatory committee of some fifteen to eighteen members, consisting of government representatives possessing high qualifications and preferably occupying decision-making positions, should be established as soon as possible. Co-operation should also be sought from the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations concerned.

23. Since the proposed duration of the conference was only two weeks, the programme should not be general, but should contain practical proposals to be used as guidelines for action by Governments and public authorities at the local, national, regional and international levels.

24. Her delegation agreed that every effort should be made to bring down the cost of the conference, in particular by reducing the volume of documentation.

25. As a co-sponsor of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, her delegation hoped that it would be unanimously adopted.

26. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said his delegation would leave detailed comment on the Secretary-General's report to the preparatory committee envisaged by draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1. In general, however, the machinery proposed by the report was complex and probably expensive; for example, paragraph 111 envisaged a study in two stages, each involving four commissions, a system which seemed unnecessarily complicated. Of the four commissions mentioned in paragraph 111 (*e*), that dealing with regional and international co-operation would be by far the most important.

27. As a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, his delegation wished to acknowledge the important contribution made to it by the delegation of observers from Sweden. As the representative of Norway had said, operative paragraph 1 endorsed the report's proposals regarding the purposes and objectives of the conference, but not the more detailed recommendations such as those concerning machinery, which should be left for more careful study.

28. Paragraph 2 was of vital importance, in defining the purposes of the conference and stressing the need for practical means to encourage action and provide a common direction for it. Emphasis was also placed on aspects of the environment requiring international co-operation; while national and local problems were important, they should be dealt with primarily by Governments and local authorities.

29. His delegation agreed that membership of the preparatory committee referred to in operative paragraph 4 should be decided upon by the General Assembly; the countries chosen must be able to provide the highly qualified representatives required. What was needed was representatives who could bring to bear the combined knowledge and expertise of the experts in their own countries and who could, if necessary, call upon individual experts for advice.

30. It was generally agreed that the conference should be short and to the point, and should not waste money. Many paragraphs of the draft resolution, however, described elaborate arrangements for the preparatory work which might lead to an undesirable and expensive increase in the volume of documentation. Full consultation with Governments and international organizations was admittedly essential, but the Secretariat must condense and simplify the documentation which it received. For example, the national reports called for in paragraph 123 of the report might not always be necessary, whereas the reports from international organizations called for in paragraph 125 were of vital importance.

31. As to the scope of the conference, his delegation fully agreed with the view expressed in paragraph 95 of the report, that socio-cultural environmental problems should be considered only in so far as they could be directly related to physico-biological changes of the environment.

32. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that man was an unruly child of nature, bent on living in a wider symbolic world, but he could never get away permanently from his anchor in nature, from its processes, powers, laws and limits. His problem, almost from the dawn of civilization, had been to hold those two worlds together—the natural world of power and the symbolic world of meaning. The creative ages in the many civilizations which had risen and fallen had been those times when a balance had been achieved, when there had been harmony between man's mastery of nature and the ordering of his life. The problem of the present was that mastery of nature and its powers came at a time when mastery of human nature continued to elude man's grasp. The power of the mathematical symbol, which imposed such order and control over nature in modern science and technology, had no comparable moral model for ordering human nature by giving meaning and direction to the whole.

33. Man had become increasingly the slave—not the master—of his own creations. Not only were the ravages of the natural environment—eroded, penetrated and polluted—to be considered: far worse was the almost total transformation of man's personal environment, in which the

cybernetic revolution had almost run away with the control of life, narrowing the range of personal freedom. The conference must somehow address itself to the deeper malaise of the times.

34. His delegation welcomed the Swedish Government's initiative, General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII) and the comprehensive study of environmental problems prepared by the Secretary-General. The conference should be concerned with the identification of those aspects of the human environment where action could be taken at the international level, and it should bring together all types of governmental, private and public expertise. He believed, however, that the conference should not be concerned only with problems to be overcome, but that it should also deal with the question of the qualitative enhancement of the human environment through more rational and imaginative planning.

35. The scope of the conference should not be narrowed artificially to include a manageable range of problems of the natural environment, but should be restricted to a few comprehensive problems cutting across man's total environment. Attention should be paid to the problems raised by the impact of modern technology on man's personal environment—by the advent of cybernetics, the mass media, instantaneous information and the programmed machine.

36. The Secretary-General had suggested, in paragraphs 106-121 of his report, the establishment of four substantive and four strategic commissions. Such a division of labour was not, he felt, the wisest form for the conference to take. The commissions, of which he thought there should not be more than three, should consist of representatives of all participating bodies, and they should move, in their treatment of the material, from diagnosis to prognosis, and thence from prescribing the requirements to stating what action should be taken. The first commission would be concerned with the rational use and development of natural resources, the second with the problems of pollution, protection and enhancement of the environment, and the third with humanizing science and technology in the qualitative transformation of man's personal environment.

37. The conference could provide a central focus for identifying major issues relating to the Second United Nations Development Decade. He believed that more adequate measurements of economic and social progress could be found than gross national product or annual *per capita* income. The integration of economic and social factors was required, and a more dynamic view of the human environment and its qualitative improvement could be found. Pollution of the air, water, wild life and plant life might be small compared with the pollution of the personal environment of man through the fear, envy and distrust produced by irresponsible manipulation of the mass media, and by men or nations bent on the control and not the liberation of man's energies.

38. The human environment could be enhanced by mobilizing the moral idealism of youth, transforming and

multiplying the educational process through technology, developing regional environmental research institutes and establishing, under the United Nations, a council of fellows seconded by Governments to work on environment problems.

39. The Secretary-General should be given full responsibility for organizing and preparing the conference and should draw upon the specialized agencies and international scientific and professional organizations for help.

40. He supported the proposal that national reports should not be considered as conference documents (E/4667, para. 123), and that Member States should be encouraged to provide the Secretariat with adequate copies in one or more of the official languages for distribution prior to the conference.

41. The estimate of \$1.9 million (*ibid.* para. 141) to finance the conference was very high. With decreased documentation, a reduction in the number of commissions, and a more organically integrated conference, the cost could be brought down to \$1 million.

42. As to follow-up action, certain international conventions might arise from the conference concerning worldwide pollution, the social responsibility of science, and the positive use of technology. Certain mechanisms might be developed for continuing collaboration and action within the United Nations system. United Nations multinational teams of experts might be established and sent to various countries to advise on government and international action in matters relating to the environment. New forms of international co-operation might be suggested, combining governmental and private elements, and new ways of developing a revitalized interest in the United Nations and its organizations might be generated around specific problems of environment.

43. Man was maladjusted to his environment and determined to change and enhance it. He hoped that the inner balance might be found between nature and meaning, order and freedom, thus fulfilling man's greatest need. The conference might play a great part in freeing man from the tyranny of his technology.

44. Mr. ALI (International Labour Organisation) said that the proposed conference offered an opportunity for collective action to arrest the deterioration of man's birthright. The ILO was particularly glad to note that the conference would devote attention to the problems raised by industrial production and processes. He welcomed the suggestion in paragraph 113 of the Secretary-General's report that the commission on problems of human settlements and industrial development should discuss the subject of working conditions in industry. Most of the adult population of the world spent at least half their waking hours at work, and the question of the working environment was therefore of cardinal importance. It would be of little use to deal with questions of the human environment whilst ignoring the working places in which a large part of people's lives were

spent. Moreover, it was from working places that so many of the elements which polluted the human environment originated. The smoke and dust pouring from factory chimneys, the noise created by industrial processes, the industrial waste and toxic substances that were allowed to flow into rivers and lakes—those were principal elements in the deterioration of man's environment. Increasing attention must therefore be given to them if the deterioration of man's total environment was to be arrested.

45. The ILO therefore welcomed the proposals contained in draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1.

46. Mr. AKSIN (Turkey) observed that to the older generation the problem of the deteriorating environment was something they remembered as afflicting particular areas. Local problems had grown in intensity, however, and had spread to such a degree that they had become alarming problems threatening the well-being of all mankind.

47. The Swedish Government's proposal at the Council's forty-fifth session which had culminated in General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII), had been a welcome initiative, and the Secretary-General's report prepared in compliance with that resolution emphasized the problem's complexity and urgency. But before action could be taken to deal with the matter, Governments, international organizations, and the public must be made aware of the magnitude of the task, and they must decide what international action could be taken.

48. His delegation was in general agreement with the Secretary-General's proposals in paragraphs 82 to 101 of his report concerning the purposes, objectives and scope of the conference. Those purposes and objectives should be kept in mind in preparing the provisional agenda, and any temptation to expand the scope of the conference in a manner that would defeat its primary purpose should be resisted.

49. Since the matters to be discussed at the conference were of concern to both developed and developing countries, he hoped there would be the widest possible participation by the Governments of Member States. It was also desirable that the participation should be at a level which would ensure the maximum impact on future government policies and action.

50. Efforts must be made to distribute the documentation well ahead of the conference, so that Governments would have ample time for preparation. He supported the suggestion in paragraph 135 of the report regarding the establishment of *ad hoc* national committees to facilitate preparations. It would also be useful to organize preparatory regional seminars on questions of the human environment, and UNDP technical assistance funds could be used for helping developing countries to participate in them.

51. Provision for follow-up action after the conference was also important. Whilst agreeing that costs should be kept as low as possible, he pointed out that an excessive

preoccupation with economy might jeopardize the conference's effectiveness.

52. In conclusion, he stressed the importance which his Government attached to the question of the human environment. As a developing country, Turkey shared the problems of most developing countries stemming from rapid urbanization and developing industrialization. He hoped that draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1 would be unanimously adopted by the Council.

53. Mr. LELEU (Observer for the Council of Europe), speaking at the invitation of the President, recalled that at the Council's forty-fifth session<sup>1</sup> the observer for the Council of Europe had described his organization's activities in the sphere of the conservation of nature and of natural resources and had indicated the importance it attached to the proposed conference on the human environment. The programmes of member States of the Council of Europe for the European Nature Conservation Year, in 1970 were at an advanced stage, and there had been a very positive response from Governments to the Council's initiative. Preparations for the European conference on the conservation of nature, which was to take place in February 1970, were also well advanced, with the full support of member Governments. Invitations to that conference had been issued to a large number of European countries which were not members of the Council as well as to other non-European countries whose experience would be invaluable. In addition, the main organizations in the United Nations system and a certain number of other governmental and non-governmental organizations had been invited to send observers. He wished to thank the United Nations bodies which were contributing to the success of the European conference by submitting reports dealing with one or other of the four themes of the conference: the influence on the natural environment of urbanization, industry, agriculture and silviculture, and leisure.

54. His organization was glad to give its modest but full support to the proposed United Nations conference on the human environment. In April 1969, it had provided an account of all its activities concerned with the matters to be discussed at the conference in 1972; in addition, the Council of Europe secretariat would be glad to take part in the ECE meeting of governmental experts on problems relating to environment, to be held in Prague in 1971.

55. It was significant that the United Nations, ECE and the Council of Europe had all decided to make an effort in the coming three years to bring to the notice of the public and responsible organizations the serious threat to the human environment posed by the inconsiderate development of technology and the new forms of organization of modern society. He hoped that the European Nature Conservation Year initiated by the Council of Europe, would be helpful to the United Nations in its preparations for the 1972 conference.

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, 1553rd meeting.*

56. Mr. SACKS (World Health Organization) said that in past years WHO had again given particular attention to the question of the human environment, and had recently extended its programme of work over a wide range of activities directly relevant to the proposed conference.

57. The role and responsibilities of WHO with regard to the human environment were described in the Secretary-General's report (E/4667, annex E). The Director-General of WHO had called attention recently to the complex interrelated phenomena of migration, urbanization and industrialization affecting every aspect of man's physical, mental and social health. The effects of pollution of air, soil and water, and of food additives, pesticides and the ineffective disposal of radioactive wastes and other contaminants, were resulting, or would result, in serious adverse changes in human ecology, modifications in the pattern of disease, and deterioration in the mental health and welfare of individuals and of society as a whole.

58. The twenty-second World Health Assembly had considered in July 1969 a report by the Director-General on the General Assembly's decision to convene a conference on the human environment in 1972, and the Director-General had informed the WHO membership of the steps he had taken to collaborate with the United Nations Secretary-General in the preparation of the documentation concerning the conference. The World Health Assembly had noted with appreciation the General Assembly's decision to convene a conference and had expressed the hope that the Director-General would utilize the results of that conference in further developing the WHO environmental health programme in close co-operation with other organizations of the United Nations system and with national administrations.

59. With reference to operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, he drew attention to the conference on water pollution, to be convened in 1971 by WHO through its regional office for Europe. So far as concerned paragraphs 3 and 8, WHO was ready to give every possible assistance to the Secretary-General in the preparation of the United Nations conference on the human environment as well as to collaborate in any preparatory committee which might be established.

60. Mr. BATISSE (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) referred to UNESCO's interest in the problem before the Council. The Intergovernmental Conference on the Scientific Basis for Rational Use and Conservation of the Resources of the Biosphere, held in Paris in September 1968, had been an important contribution by UNESCO in that sphere. In accordance with the recommendations of the Biosphere Conference and a resolution of the fifteenth session of its General Conference, UNESCO was actively preparing an intergovernmental long-term programme concerned with the scientific and educational aspects of problems of the environment. The fifteenth session of the General Conference had requested the UNESCO secretariat to establish "man and his environment" as a main subject in the future programmes of the

organization, not only in the scientific sector but also in the social sciences, education and information sectors.

61. With regard to preparations for the United Nations conference on the human environment, the General Conference, at its fifteenth session, had invited the Director-General to take all appropriate steps to ensure an effective contribution by UNESCO in any action which the General Assembly might decide upon in that sphere.

62. His organization was particularly pleased that the conference was to concentrate on problems of action by public authorities, and that properly prepared but limited documentation was to be distributed in advance. It fully supported the proposals relating to the preparation and organization of the conference.

63. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that the problem of the human environment had been recognized nationally and internationally as one of world-wide proportions involving both developed and developing countries. Although the problem was far more critical in the industrially developed part of the world, the developing countries must be careful, at the beginning of their economic and social transformation, to avoid repeating the mistakes of the developed countries. The problem had already assumed such proportions that no Government, local or national, could afford not to pay adequate attention to such matters as air and water pollution, sanitation, landscapes and parks. Appropriate measures must be taken in many countries to ensure that future generations would not suffer from the negative consequences of modern civilization.

64. His delegation expressed its deep appreciation of the initiative taken by the Swedish Government in proposing the inclusion of the question on the agenda and suggesting the convening of an international conference on the problem.

65. Before commenting on the part of the Secretary-General's report which directly concerned the conference, he wished to refer briefly to some measures that were being taken in his own country.

66. The rapid industrialization and social transformation experienced during the past twenty years had brought into the open the manifold aspects of the environment which had been partly neglected. The problem had become acute especially in the cities, which had not been prepared to meet all the requirements of a modern society. The federal and local authorities had become aware of the problem and had recognized that the economy could not pawn the welfare of future generations. An appropriate priority would therefore be accorded to the environmental aspect in all economic policy decisions. Since that required a multidisciplinary approach, efforts were being made to bring together urban planners, engineers and public health experts. Leading experts, in co-operation with the various government bodies, had prepared for that purpose a document based on his country's own experience as well as



that of other countries. That document had been carefully discussed by the Federal Assembly.

67. Parallel with that action, appropriate measures and regulations were being prepared at all levels of government to establish an appropriate long-term plan for the sustained development of resources.

68. In discussing the problem, members should bear in mind that many environmental problems were truly international. In that respect, his delegation attached particular importance to the General Assembly's decision (resolution 2398 (XXIII)) to convene a world-wide conference. His delegation considered it essential that maximum efforts should be made by national Governments, the international organizations concerned and the United Nations, so that the results of the conference would be beneficial to all countries and to the international community at large. He agreed that the scope and content of the conference should be such as to avoid narrow technical discussions and that attention should be concentrated on broad topics of general human concern. The conference should, in his delegation's view, also identify those aspects of environmental problems which could best be resolved through international or regional co-operation.

69. His Government would do its utmost to ensure that the preparations for the conference were effective.

70. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that the urgency of environmental problems was felt most keenly in his own country. Indeed, as a result of the very rapid pace of Japan's industrial development, the problems of the human environment such as air and water pollution, the adverse effects of noise and the deleterious alteration of the natural environment had assumed disquieting proportions. It was feared that such phenomena would have an immeasurable effect on the living conditions of the inhabitants themselves, who had made such efforts to improve their standards of living through industrialization. His Government was, of course, taking various remedial or preventive measures, through legislation or administrative steps, against the expected hazards and was engaged in technical surveys and research.

71. It was now essential for the industrialized countries to take necessary action, particularly in the international field, before the situation became worse. His delegation therefore appreciated the initiative taken by the Swedish Government and hoped that the Council would unanimously accept that Government's offer to act as host country to the conference that was to be held in 1972.

72. As to the Secretary-General's report on problems of the human environment, his delegation believed that in order to make the most effective use of the rather limited time available, the topics to be discussed should be limited as far as possible to subjects of highest priority. Furthermore, priority should be given to such subjects as were amenable to international action. The conference should lead to periodic and systematic exchanges of information,

joint surveys, and the training of personnel—results which might seem modest but which his delegation believed would be essential starting points for the gigantic undertaking envisaged. As to the sessional commissions suggested by the Secretary-General, he thought they should be as few as possible.

73. His delegation was a sponsor of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, and hoped it would be adopted unanimously. It was prepared to co-operate to the full in preparations for the conference.

74. Mr. CRANE (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that FAO's contribution to the Secretary-General's report showed that its concern with the problems of the human environment covered virtually the entire range of FAO activities. FAO was therefore directly interested in the proposed conference on the human environment and fully supported the initiative of the Swedish Government. It was prepared to co-operate in the effective implementation of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, and it would be glad to work closely with the United Nations and the agencies concerned, and in particular with the proposed preparatory committee.

75. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that in recent years much useful work had been done at the international level on the various aspects of the problem of the human environment. A considerable part of such work had been carried out by international scientific organizations, which had issued useful scientific papers, and held international meetings, symposia and conferences.

76. Various activities in the field of the human environment were also carried out by such intergovernmental organizations as FAO, UNESCO, WHO and WMO. In that connexion, he referred to the results of the Intergovernmental Conference of Experts on the Scientific Basis for Rational Use and Conservation of the Resources of the Biosphere, which had met in Paris, under the auspices of UNESCO, from 4 to 13 September 1968, and to which Soviet scientists had made a contribution.

77. Despite the international action taken in that field, however, the situation so far as concerned the conservation of the resources of the biosphere was far from favourable. Even during the time since the Biosphere Conference had met, there had been cases of pollution of the sea by oil, lost atomic bombs and the holding of nuclear tests. In many countries, even now, there were no scientific and governmental bodies responsible for the study of natural conditions and the implementation of measures to conserve the resources of the biosphere.

78. While the problems of the human environment were studied more or less intensively at the international level, it must be recognized that at the regional level, and particularly at the national level, those problems were being resolved rather slowly.

79. As to the proposed conference on the human environment, all interested States should be invited to participate

in it. That was particularly important, not only because environmental pollution extended beyond national borders but also because the decisions to be adopted at that conference could be fully effective only if they were supported by all States. That would be possible only if all States took part in the discussion of the questions involved. For his delegation, the question of the universality of the conference was one of principle. The exclusion of any country from such an important scientific and technical conference would cause great damage to all States. The principle of universality was violated in operative paragraphs 6, 7 and 11 of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1. His delegation therefore proposed the deletion, in paragraph 11, of the words "Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies and IAEA".

80. The conference's programme should include the proposals made at the Biosphere Conference, and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development should also be taken into account. As to preparations for the proposed conference, his delegation had considerable doubts about the proposal to establish a preparatory committee. That work could be done by the United Nations Secretariat, assisted by a group of experts. A conference secretariat should perhaps be established as early as possible in order to begin the immediate preparations. The Secretary-General should seek all possible ways of reducing the cost of holding the proposed conference to the minimum.

81. In conclusion, his delegation wished to draw the Secretary-General's attention to the need for giving wide publicity to the conference and to its objectives, so as to attract the interest of all States as well as of prominent scientists and specialists.

82. Miss JEFFREYS (International Atomic Energy Agency) said that her organization was in general agreement with the views expressed in the Secretary-General's report on problems of the human environment and, in particular, with the suggestion in paragraph 102 that the conference should be attended by governmental delegations at a policy-making level, assisted by technical advisers and opinion-formers. In reading the report, her delegation had been struck by man's ability to pollute his own environment. The report showed, however, that the picture was not altogether negative, and that much had been done to improve the situation.

83. The application of atomic energy in industry and research was perhaps unique in the development of new techniques in that from the early days the potential hazards of the indiscriminate release of radioactive waste to the environment had been recognized, and that the practice had been from the outset to contain the wastes until safe methods of waste management or disposal could be developed. Paragraph 47 of the report referred to the serious measures that had been taken and were being taken by the nuclear industry to prevent any possible radioactive pollution of the environment. As a result, waste manage-

ment and the monitoring of radioactive waste were now effective. Further, owing to new developments in waste-management techniques, the better understanding of the behaviour of radioactive materials in the environment and the availability of appropriate standards, regulations and codes of practice, the control of waste releases was expected to be even more effective in future. For example, methods were now being developed to contain krypton 85 before it became a significant environmental hazard. As a result of such responsible approach, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation had been able to state in its 1966 report,<sup>2</sup> that low-activity wastes released from facilities using nuclear material for industrial, medical and research purposes, contributed a negligible fraction of the doses received by human populations from artificial sources such as fall-out and X-rays. IAEA would therefore venture to suggest that the Secretary-General's report would have been in better balance had it not devoted a special paragraph to radioactivity, while pollutants of comparable, if not greater, danger were merely grouped together in a list.

84. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) was in general agreement with the suggestions made in the Secretary-General's report on problems of the human environment. His position was based on three essential points. First, so far as concerned the objectives of the proposed conference, he considered that no useful purpose would be served by confining it to the identification of issues. The essential aim should be to delve further and to suggest for the international community a specific programme of action, to be implemented at both the national and the international level, bearing in mind the need to assist developing countries to combat and forestall damage to environment and to protect it.

85. Secondly, the results of the conference should be such as to benefit all countries. It was therefore essential that as many developing countries as possible should participate. The conference's agenda should be of interest to the developing countries; otherwise it would be difficult to secure their participation.

86. Thirdly, the conference must be kept within manageable limits, from the standpoint not only of the United Nations system but also of the developing countries. For example, if the conference set up too many commissions which met at the same time, it would be difficult for small countries to send large enough delegations to attend all the meetings. In addition, the agenda must be selective. He recalled in that connexion, that during the discussion at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, his delegation had suggested three broad categories within which the work of the conference could be conducted: (1) environmental considerations, i.e. mainly technical questions; (2) dehumanization of the world as an environmental problem, i.e. consideration of the question from the sociological standpoint; and (3) planning of the environ-

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 14.*

ment for its utilization, i.e. consideration of the problem from the economic standpoint.

87. Draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, of which his delegation was a sponsor, reflected the basic points he had just mentioned, especially in its paragraphs 2 and 12.

88. His delegation supported the proposal for the establishment of a preparatory committee, and considered that the first questions to be decided by that committee should be the agenda and the structure of the proposed conference. The composition of the committee should of course, be established with due regard for an equitable geographical distribution and a careful balance between developed and developing countries.

89. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) said that the problems of the human environment were so complex and numerous that their solution called for concerted action not only at the national, but also at the international level. He was in general agreement with the views set out in the Secretary-General's report.

90. As to the purpose of the proposed conference, he endorsed the statement in paragraph 85 of the report that the conference should be conceived as an important means of stimulating and providing guidelines for action by national Governments and international organizations. He also believed that the conference should not be involved in narrow technical discussions, but should address itself to broad topics of general human concern (*ibid.* para. 96). The importance and urgency of the problem should be brought to the attention of the public before, during and after the conference.

91. In conclusion, he commended draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1 to the Council and hoped it would be unanimously adopted.

92. Mr. FORTHOMME (Belgium) said that, although resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1 had been drafted with great care, some points were not clear, such as the reference in paragraph 4 to "highly qualified representatives" and the general endorsement given in paragraph 1. Furthermore, the co-operation requested in paragraphs 6, 7 and 9 would undoubtedly lead to the submission of a large number of documents, and he believed that the Secretary-General should be authorized to reduce the size of that documentation. Otherwise, there might be complaints that a particular contribution had not been taken into account. He therefore asked the sponsors of the draft resolution whether, on the basis of the statement by the representative of Norway, it would be possible to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly, a document which would accompany the draft and clarify certain points.

93. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) said that his delegation appreciated the initiative taken by the Swedish Government in placing the problem of the human environment before the General Assembly and the Council. The topic was a vast one and although it applied to all countries, some of the

problems related to it had become especially acute in the developing countries. Tropical and sub-tropical climates, for instance, favoured the existence and spread of infectious diseases. Poverty was aggravated by the detrimental effects of climatic conditions and consequently the whole process of economic and social development was therefore seriously handicapped. The problem shared by all was that of human settlement. The situation was aggravated by rapid urban growth, which had led to overcrowded dwellings, slum conditions and poor sanitation. A campaign against many of those problems could only be successful only if the masses became aware of the seriousness of the matter and were taught to take a personal interest in resolving the problems. Education and information media could help to achieve those objectives, but there were certain problems such as air and water pollution, which were caused by modern industry and in which mass consciousness played a small part. Those problems should be resolved through the close co-operation of Governments and the private sector. Other problems were within the exclusive domain of Governments and their solution would be a matter of State policy. They related to the conservation of forests, nature and animal reserves.

94. The Secretary-General's report had succeeded in simplifying the subject and in making it more manageable by giving a precise and pragmatic definition of the term "human environment". The proposed conference should concentrate on specific problems and avoid becoming involved in academic discussions. The most important task would be to determine the scope of the problems and to concentrate efforts on the means of resolving them.

95. His delegation supported the view that the conference should be held in Sweden because it was a prototype of a modern country having experienced most of the problems of the human environment and succeeded in resolving many of them.

96. His delegation agreed that the documentation of the conference should be limited and be divided into two parts. The information documents could be voluminous and should be circulated long in advance to help delegations in their preparations. However, care must be taken in determining the kind of documentation to be circulated. The action documents should be brief and related to specific issues. That was particularly important for the developing countries, if they were to benefit from those documents of a highly technical nature. His delegation had sponsored General Assembly resolution 2398 (XXIII) on the problem and supported the suggestion for the establishment of a preparatory committee.

97. Governments should be invited long in advance to prepare background papers on specific problems of particular concern to them. In addition, developing countries should be invited to describe problems of the human environment which pre-dated industrialization and which might be unknown to the advanced countries. Such problems might be neglected unless they were included under a separate item. His Government had a special

interest in the conference because the country's arid climate, the abundance of oil and natural gas, the absence of thick forests and the frequency of sandstorms had all combined to create problems of the human environment which required long-range solutions.

98. Mrs. ZAEFFERER de GOYENECHE (Argentina) said that the conference on the human environment would provide proof to the public of the effectiveness of United Nations action. The subject of the proposed conference was the human being himself and the dangers with which he was threatened as a result of the achievements of science and technology. Her Government believed that all necessary steps should be taken to ensure the success of the conference. It considered that priorities should be established and hoped that the conference would give rise to helpful co-operation among the developing countries, in particular with a view to avoiding the dangers that threatened their natural resources and the potential evils of urbanization and industrialization. Her delegation therefore thought that regional conferences should be held in advance of the world conference.

99. While her delegation believed that every effort should be made to reduce the costs of the conference to a minimum, it considered that the usefulness of the undertaking should not be jeopardized by a decision to withhold the necessary funds.

100. Her delegation thanked the Government of Sweden for its invitation to hold the conference in that country. In conclusion, she hoped that draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, of which her delegation was a co-sponsor, would be unanimously adopted by the Council.

101. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said that the problems facing mankind as a result of deterioration in the environment had been recognized for some time. Three years before the conference to be held in 1972, two major types of problem had been identified: those arising from changes in the environment resulting from increasing population and the inadequately controlled use of technological advances, and those caused by the impact of such changes on human

beings in terms of health and working and living conditions frequently as a result of increasing urbanization.

102. The United Nations conference on the human environment was intended to provide the basis for action by public authorities at the local, national, regional and international levels to deal with the problems of planning, management and control of the human environment for economic and social development (E/4667, para. 86). Among the considerations to which due attention must be paid in preparing for the conference were the following: that it should focus on international action to supplement national and regional efforts, and that it should aim not merely at listing problems but at combining the substance and the strategy for practical action at the earliest possible juncture. It would be extremely desirable to hold a short meeting immediately before the conference itself, so that representatives at the actual conference would be free to concentrate on decisions which had to be taken, rather than on general discussions. In addition, the participation of developing countries should be ensured, both in the work of the preparatory committee and in the conference itself. One of the main purposes of the conference was to enable developing countries to forestall the occurrence of environmental problems, and it was therefore important that they should play a part in formulating its policies.

103. It was extremely important that the recommendations emerging from the conference should lead to meaningful action. The period after the conference would be one of national self-restraint on the part of the industrialized countries, to prevent further pollution of the sea and the biosphere, and of imaginative use of its recommendations in planning and action by the developing countries.

104. His delegation was a co-sponsor of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, and wished to commend the continued initiative of the Swedish Government, particularly in offering a venue for the conference.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.



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.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 5 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 13: Programmes of international action relating to youth (continued) .....	209
Agenda item 3: Second United Nations Development Decade: report of the Economic Committee .....	217

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 13

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

1. Miss ILIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that reference was often made to the "crisis of youth", but it would be more appropriate to think in terms of the crisis of society. Contemporary society apparently did not conform to the concepts of the new generation, brought up in a completely different world where a predominant role was played by science and technology. Mass media of communication had acquainted young people throughout the world on an unprecedented scale with the aspirations of all mankind. It was therefore not unreasonable that they should criticize the behaviour of the older generations and question the validity of existing norms. Consequently, a unique international solidarity among youth was emerging based on a common desire to promote peace and establish a more meaningful and just society. The revolt of youth in many countries, which often assumed undesirable proportions, had its roots essentially in social relations: it reflected dissatisfaction with outmoded educational programmes and outdated institutions and was directed against what was often referred to as the "Establishment". Today, more than ever, young people aspired to a truly human society in which man's integrity would be fully respected.

2. The present youth movement manifested itself in different forms and made its impact on all countries. It had stimulated the thinking of older generations about the fundamental premises of the power structure established long ago at local or national levels. Modern youth was eager to participate actively in resolving a number of questions relating to the development of society. By expressing their willingness to assume their share of responsibility, young people had become a powerful political and social factor in all fields of contemporary life; that was a trend which might be regarded as a prerequisite for the dynamic development of society.

3. While the activities of the United Nations system were no doubt highly beneficial, her delegation had gained the impression from the note by the Secretary-General on programmes of international action relating to youth (E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1) that they suffered from what might be called a kind of paternalism. Her remarks should not be construed as criticism, but other forms of activity should also be considered. Attention should be paid to the spiritual needs of the young. Certain activities such as seminars were very useful and Yugoslavia expected much from the proposed conference to be held in 1971 on the participation of youth in the Second United Nations Development Decade. She welcomed the United Nations decision (General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII)) to study the feasibility of forming an international corps of volunteers, including youth, for development purposes. The United Nations system should, however, direct its work in respect of youth programmes along the same lines as was being done at the national level in a number of countries. Representatives of youth movements must be given the opportunity to express freely their views on all problems and on the role of international organizations in resolving them. It would be interesting to know how the present dialogue with youth at the national level would be reflected at the international level. Hence it might be advisable to hold a seminar—either regional or world-wide—under the auspices of the programme of the advisory services for human rights, with the exclusive participation of young people, in which they would have a chance to discuss openly all aspects of some of the main contemporary issues, such as the promotion of peace, bridging the gap between the developed and developing countries, respect for human rights, and racial problems. The results of such a seminar might be very useful for Governments and international organizations.

4. Mr. PANGGABEAN (Indonesia) said that the importance which Governments and the international community were attaching to the emergence of youth as a fundamental factor in man's desire for economic and social progress was gaining wider recognition. The world was witnessing youth's dissatisfaction with existing institutions and outmoded political, economic and social structures.

5. While the emergence of youth as a fundamental factor in the political arena was a new phenomenon in the developed countries, youth movements in most of the newly independent countries had played an important role since the beginning, introducing new ideas and initiating activities subsequently taken up by the broader masses of the population. Owing to the continuing discrepancy between the rapidity of social and cultural change and the slowness with which existing institutions in those transitional societies responded to it, the youth movement had become a major catalyst in developing countries.

6. Conscious of the important role which youth movements could play in economic and social development and of the fact that more than 50 per cent of the population of the developing countries was under twenty years of age, Governments and international organizations had been giving increased attention to the problems of youth in their programmes. Various youth programmes had been initiated, such as the pioneer movements, to provide special technical and vocational training and alleviate unemployment among young people.

7. In resolution 1354 (XLV), the Economic and Social Council had, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to submit a report at its forty-seventh session on the measures taken to strengthen and co-ordinate existing programmes. ACC had reviewed the work programmes of the United Nations system in which there was a large youth component, but its report (E/4668) did not contain sufficient information on the arrangements to ensure inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination. His delegation was glad to note that, since the adoption of the above-mentioned resolution, some progress had been made in co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations and the various agencies and in strengthening practical field operations. In that connexion, he referred to Council resolution 1407 (XLVI), which again pointed to the need for co-ordinating the activities of the various United Nations bodies in their programmes relating to youth and showed that there was still scope for further efficiency and streamlining. That resolution also requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the various United Nations specialized agencies, to undertake an analytical study in depth on the needs and aspirations of youth.

8. The problem of youth was not confined to some countries alone, but had become universal. The solution should therefore be tackled on an international scale and through appropriate international action, thus supplementing national programmes. The problem had already assumed gigantic proportions and failure to take speedy action might lead to disruption in the economic and social development of many countries. It was therefore the duty of all to seek a solution in order to avoid disaster.

9. Mr. STEPHENS (United States of America) said that the impact of youth upon the current session of the Council, although unseen and unheard, was most unusual. The increasing awareness of the need to understand youth and for its real participation in all that the Council was seeking to achieve grew out of the awareness of the alarming dimensions of national and world crises which the young of today would inherit.

10. It was not only the unanswered questions and unresolved problems which had been received from the past that made the position of youth so difficult. There were also the unforeseen consequences of what the older generation had thought were solutions to problems. Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of all that was being bequeathed to youth was the totally new situations, seemingly insoluble, which had developed in the past two decades and

which called for leadership and the commitment by nations to constructive procedures and mutual responsibilities beyond the capacity of the older generation.

11. Anxiety and uncertainty had acquired new dimensions owing to the shocking fact that starvation awaited increasing millions of helpless people because it had not been possible to check population growth in time or to increase the output of food sufficiently to save them. The plight of those confronted by such circumstances was compounded by their hunger for opportunity, employment and leadership and by the indifference, hypocrisy and moral ambivalence displayed by some in the affluent countries. The present generation could not speak of what youth ought to do without understanding where youth stood.

12. Each major period of a nation's history, or of a civilization, was marked by certain underlying assumptions which gave form and meaning to the social, economic and political activities in which the people were engaged. The present age was characterized by the revolutionary economic and social changes caused largely by the discovery of and uses made of the "Law of the possible". Three simple questions provided the clue to the vast potentials and far-reaching implications of that basic assumption: what was it possible for man to know?; what was it possible for man to do?; and what was it possible for man to become?

13. To the first question, science replied that there was no limit to what man could know. The knowledge which industry had expanded so rapidly and industry's volume of output were so great that computers and centres of electronic control had to be provided for the storage, organization and dissemination of the mass of available information.

14. The answer to the second question was technology, engineering and precision control: it was possible for man to do anything that he wished to do within the limits of his knowledge. Science said that there was sufficient knowledge to enable man to split the atom and technology followed through. Science had made a tradition-shattering prediction: enough was known to free mankind from the paralyzing oppression of scarcity with its attendant social evils of poverty and charity; a new dimension in productivity awaited purposeful policies of action designed to provide food, shelter, centres of learning and medical services for all the people in the world. Small wonder that one of the Council's priorities was the transfer of science and technology and their use in accelerating development.

15. Enough had been seen to realize that something more must be done to save man from himself. Modern nations knew how to produce wealth and power but they knew little about the most effective way of using either of them to bring quantitative achievements into balance with qualitative enrichment. Nor were they able to cope with the social evils and crises which wealth and power had created.

16. A major breakthrough in production had been achieved in the post-war years. In addition to assembly-line

techniques, there were the productive capabilities of hundreds of corporate entities which had been co-ordinated, with the result that production was on a scale surpassing man's expectations. One example of that vast process was Apollo 11. The emphasis should be placed on the process and not on any particular nation's achievement: all parts of the world had provided metals, raw materials, precision instruments and skills and millions of workers had contributed to the creation of that new symbol of what man had learned and what he could do.

17. The more advanced a society became in mastering science and technology, the more difficult it was for the individual to retain his individuality and integrity. The process of creating abundance also caused serious social dislocations and made man the automatic servant of mechanized operations. The dehumanizing of life through monotonous mechanization was not confined to any particular country or to any economic system.

18. The second series of factors contributing to the environment to which youth reacted negatively related to the stages of man's progress. First, pure science had encompassed new realms of abstract symbolic concepts and mathematical equations. Secondly, technology had translated symbols and equations into practical tools and machines. Thirdly, production schedules had followed the design of the machines needed to manufacture given items in volume. Fourthly, the marketing of products had provided society with new instruments and facilities for undertaking new assignments. Fifthly, the numerous uses made of finished goods contributed to the development of new patterns of public behaviour, leading to radical social changes and the decay of traditional institutions. It was at the sixth stage that Governments were called upon to intervene to create training opportunities, support development programmes and provide relief services.

19. Young people in the developed countries were faced with the vast and complex combination of so many forces and trends that it was natural for them to ask the third question: what was it possible to become in the oppressive environment of a mass society requiring mass production made possible by a dehumanizing process? Youth demanded something more than the surrender of its identity to the system: it was demanding new goals regardless of the means employed to reach them. It was not easy to tell youth that what they could become depended largely on what they could do to strike a balance between mass production and the humanizing of man's work. They would have to bring new decision-making and problem-solving techniques to bear upon the human and social disorders of their time. That involved foresight and the ability to anticipate the consequences of decisions made—a new dimension in accounting that took into consideration the social cost of human dislocation and the need for training in new skills to prepare for placement before idleness was forced upon the labour force.

20. As was apparent from the statement submitted by the International Student Movement for the United Nations (E/C.2/687), young people knew that such an undertaking was possible only with their genuine participation; they expressed their fears of unemployment; and they reminded their leaders that their needs must be treated as part of the general needs of any society.

21. The fact that the voice of the young was echoed by the suffering, silent masses emphasized the urgent need for the social improvements implicit in all the regional economic commissions' reports. The developed nations could not dismiss or evade the urgent demand for answers to the most fundamental question of the time: what was it possible for men to become as human beings? However, the issues to which he had referred were not at present the primary concern of youth in the developing countries. It demanded opportunities to know, to be trained and to do rewarding work that would provide a decent living. There was a tendency in the developed countries to look upon the newly developing nations as the source of the world's most critical human problems. With the ability to know and to do, which the advanced industrial countries had supplied, it should be less difficult for the developing peoples to achieve reasonable economic growth than it was for the prosperous nations to regain a sense of individual worth and personal fulfilment.

22. It ill-behoved the leaders on either side of the dividing line between plenty and scarcity to pose as paragons of wisdom when the total result of their limited insight and conflicts could add up to collective disaster. There were no easy answers to the questions asked by youth. What youth did in the next decade or so could well determine the course of mankind for generations to come. Perhaps more depended on the attitudes and approach of the older generation to youth than was generally realized.

23. It was not years that separated the generations of the present time but ideals, values and hope. At times it seemed that the abusive language and rebelliousness of young people shook the composure of the older generation not because they violated accepted standards of good behaviour but because their frankness and penetrating inquiries made the older generation feel that it could be wrong. He was not condoning the short-sighted and explosive reaction of youth; his concern was for the older generation which must be fair before action was taken to be firm. Fairness would lessen the need for firmness, but firmness without fairness would set the stage for violence.

24. There was a tendency, when speaking of youth, to lay the emphasis on young men, but young women must be given equal consideration and the assurance of opportunities for advancement. To do otherwise would weaken society and endanger the unity of the family and the stability of the home.

25. The downgrading of youth and public pronouncements intended to "put them in their place" could serve no



useful purpose. Life itself would teach young people the truths which the older generation need not presume to teach them. They would learn that the clear definition of a deserving cause was more important than tumultuous rebellion; that to open a path through the maze of contemporary social maladjustments was far more difficult than to seize a university building; and that negative acts were not enough to reverse unfavourable trends.

26. There was no single standard, plan or programme applicable to all the situations involving youth. For any proposal for economic and social development to be effective, the knowledge and tools selected must be applicable to the situation in question. Useful technical training by specialized agencies and vocational guidance for young people isolated from centres of opportunity became increasingly important.

27. The establishment of priorities, the allocation of resources, both human and material, and sustained incentives to self-improvement were guidelines of vital importance and constituted a practical foundation upon which to build the more advanced economic and social programmes.

28. It was essential to create opportunities that would make youth join in the fellowship of common purposes. In that connexion, he referred to a statement in the report to the Council of the Commission on Human Rights on its twenty-fifth session to the effect that "young people refused to be satisfied with theoretical and verbal solutions and demanded concrete action" (see E/4621, para. 506).

29. The expression "generation gap" had become a convenient phrase to describe the separation of youth from their elders, but one of the serious handicaps of the present time was the inability to define or to bridge a really critical gap—the moral gap. Until the reality and implications of the moral gap were faced, it would not be possible to close other gaps such as those existing between the developed and the developing nations, between the countries of the north and those of the south, and between rich and poor peoples.

30. While his delegation was gratified by the Secretary-General's reports on the activities being undertaken, it recommended consideration of the following action: that Member States should be encouraged to include at least one young person in their delegations to the General Assembly; that the Secretary-General should be encouraged to recruit promising young people for the work of the United Nations and specialized agencies; that a prominent place should be given in the planning of the Second Development Decade to the important role of youth; and that the Council should be encouraged to monitor implementation of the comprehensive preliminary report of the Commission for Social Development on long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development.<sup>1</sup>

31. Mr. ARVESEN (Norway) observed that the initiative taken by the Swedish delegation at the forty-fifth session of

the Council<sup>2</sup> to focus more attention on youth and on the great potential contribution it could make to constructive international activities had led to the adoption of two resolutions by the Council (resolutions 1353 (XLV) and 1354 (XLV)). The Secretary-General's note on programmes of international action relating to youth was truly a progress report, since it showed that the activities in that important field had gained momentum over the past year.

32. Referring to the Secretary-General's remarks concerning the possibility of forming an international corps of volunteers for development, he recalled that the Council had already dealt with the matter under item 8 (c). His delegation had been pleased to co-sponsor draft resolution E/1269/Rev.1 adopted by the Council at its 1625th meeting. It also agreed with the Secretary-General's statement in paragraph 4 of his note that, while the utilization of volunteers was not exclusively a youth matter, it was one which related very closely to the participation of young people in international technical co-operation and in particular in the programmes to be included in the Second United Nations Development Decade.

33. He recalled that, in resolution 1407 (XLVI) the Council requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the specialized agencies, to prepare as soon as possible an analytical study in depth of the world social situation of youth, describing the needs and aspirations of youth and the most effective methods of meeting them. With regard to the study, what was most required at present was to give due attention to the various legitimate needs of young people in the different parts of the world and to their fundamental human rights. The time had come for the international community to regard youth less in terms of actual and potential problems which had to be resolved and more in terms of valuable human resources which must be allowed to play their full part in the advancement of mankind. His delegation hoped that the study would not be too voluminous and considered that no further action by the Council in the form of resolutions was required.

34. Finally, his delegation welcomed the Secretary-General's remarks in paragraph 19 of his note concerning the progress made during the past year both in relation to the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations and the agencies and with regard to the strengthening of practical field operations.

35. Mr. ABE (Japan) also welcomed the statement in paragraph 19 of the note by the Secretary-General, but he was not convinced that the present degree of co-ordination was adequate. For example, the International Labour Conference had decided, at its fifty-third session, to undertake research programmes on youth employment and the participation of youth in national development and in training schemes for development purposes. Again, in response to the same problems, UNESCO had recently decided to prepare a long-term expanded youth programme

<sup>1</sup> E/CN.5/434 and Corr.1.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, 1539th meeting.*

aimed at undertaking a series of studies and projects which would help young people to resolve their own problems and would associate them with national development. There was clearly a close relationship, and possibly some overlap, between those two sets of activities and careful co-ordination would be required. FAO was undertaking a programme, as part of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, aimed at associating youth directly with international development through information and education programmes, action projects and civic involvement. Moreover, if maximum effectiveness in resolving the problems of youth was to be achieved, increased attention must be paid to co-ordination, which should aim not merely at obtaining maximum benefits at minimum cost but also at improving quality. Each of the agencies concerned, in conjunction with the others and bearing in mind their ultimate common objective of solving the youth problem, should concentrate on meaningful improvements in their own activities. He would welcome any information on co-ordination among the specific areas of activity to which he had referred.

36. There was also a need for some modification of the basic approach to youth problems. The field programmes and technical assistance of the various agencies concerned were no doubt valuable and should be strengthened but, unless an effort was made to identify the real causes of the problems, all such activities might prove sterile. In spite of the knowledge and experience accumulated, there might still exist some causes which had not been investigated. He therefore attached great importance to the recommendation of the International Conference on Human Rights, held in Teheran in 1968, emphasizing the need for detailed examination and study of the question of the education of youth all over the world for the development of its personality and strengthening of its respect for the rights of man and fundamental freedoms.<sup>3</sup>

37. Valuable work was also being done by the Commission for Social Development, as reported in its preliminary report on long-term policies and programmes, and by UNESCO, as described in its "Report on Youth".<sup>4</sup> He stressed the importance of the analytical study of the world social situation with regard to youth, of the needs and aspirations of youth and of the most effective methods of meeting them, to be undertaken as part of the new five-year work programme of the Commission for Social Development. In view of the serious nature of the problems relating to youth, the United Nations organs concerned should be mobilized to analyse the basic causes and to find appropriate remedies, for which purpose there must be full collaboration and co-ordination between all organs of the United Nations system and other international organizations concerned. His delegation hoped that the Secretary-General would continue to review the situation periodically and to report to the Council.

38. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) said that the Secretary-General's note was a good survey of the way in which the

United Nations family had been increasingly directing its activities towards meeting the needs of the world's youth. Young people were a dynamic force for social and economic change because of their idealism, enthusiasm, energy and deep involvement in vital current issues. It was important to take especial account, in plans for economic and social development, of the needs and aspirations of youth and the valuable contribution they could make.

39. He was glad to learn from paragraphs 16 to 19 of the Secretary-General's note that progress had been made in the further co-ordination of United Nations activities and in strengthening practical field operations. He drew attention, however, to the remarks made at the second part of the third session of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to the effect that more information was needed on ACC's arrangements for inter-agency co-operation. He felt that the Secretary-General's note should be regarded as an interim document in view of the further examination which the whole matter was shortly to be given, in particular the report by UNESCO requested by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 20 (XXV), and the study of the world social situation of youth which the Council at its forty-sixth session had requested the Secretary-General to prepare (resolution 1407 (XLVI)).

40. He thanked the Director of the United Nations Division of Social Affairs for her valuable statement (1630th meeting) which, together with the Council's discussion, would provide useful guidelines for future action.

41. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that in recent years increasing attention had been paid within the United Nations system to the participation of youth in economic and social development, exemplified by the 1965 Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples (General Assembly resolution 2037 (XX)), stressing the importance of educating young people in a spirit of peace, justice, liberty and mutual respect and understanding. The Declaration also proclaimed the importance of making youth aware of its future responsibilities, noted the need for education and attached special importance to youth organizations.

42. The Soviet Union, which had always recognized the importance of the problems of youth and ensured the active participation of the younger generation in social and economic development, co-operated actively with many countries, both bilaterally and multilaterally. It had supported all action taken in the United Nations in connexion with youth problems and, at the Council's thirty-ninth session, had sponsored resolution 1086 J (XXXIX) dealing with youth and national development. It had also supported all other General Assembly and Council resolutions dealing with youth and noted with satisfaction that the new work programme for the Commission for Social Development had a special section dealing with the participation of youth in national development.

43. The preliminary report of the Commission for Social Development on long-term policies and programmes for

<sup>3</sup> See *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2), resolution XX.

<sup>4</sup> UNESCO document 15C/65 rev.

youth in national development suffered from a number of shortcomings. It paid too much attention to the situation of youth in the developing countries; the argument that the need there was more pronounced and that more young people lived in such areas (E/CN.5/434 and Corr.1, para. 9) was unconvincing. The problems of youth in the developed capitalist countries were very acute and must not be ignored, and it was precisely those problems which the report either omitted or distorted. For example, the responsibility for unemployment among the young people of those countries was attributed to the young people themselves, and no mention was made of class barriers in the education system. The report also omitted to mention the serious shortcomings in the nutrition and health care of young people and distorted the real reasons for the disturbances among young people in a number of capitalist countries by referring to their unadaptability.

44. The report also failed to recommend ways and means of resolving the problems of youth. The authors emphasized that the youth sector need not be given the same importance as wider social objectives, which would distort the total plan (*ibid.*, para. 94). But some international organizations were already dealing with problems related to the employment of young people. The ILO had adopted ten conventions and four recommendations dealing with the minimum age for various types of employment, many of which required revision and which had been ratified by only a minority of the ILO membership.

45. One of the social problems directly affecting young people was education, which was dealt with by UNESCO at the international level. The Soviet Union was very active in UNESCO and had initiated the discussion of such matters as the democratization of education and the problem of equal access by young people to education at all levels. Of particular importance in that connexion was the Convention against Discrimination in Education, adopted by UNESCO in 1960 on the initiative of the Soviet Union. By 1968 that Convention had been ratified by only forty States, including all the socialist countries.

46. The debate in the Council had stressed the complexity and urgency of the problems of youth, and her delegation believed that the time was ripe for the adoption of a declaration proclaiming the rights of youth to full participation in political, economic, social and other activities at both the national and international level. The Secretary-General could invite the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Human Rights and the agencies concerned to collaborate in drafting such a declaration, which could be adopted at a regular session of the General Assembly.

47. Mr. ALI (International Labour Organisation), referring to the discussion on special youth employment and training schemes for development purposes at the fifty-third session of the International Labour Conference in June 1969, said that the conclusions reached would be submitted for further examination by the fifty-fourth session of the Conference in 1970 with a view to the

adoption of an international labour recommendation on the subject.

48. The standards being formulated were intended to cover special schemes which would enable young persons to take part in activities for the economic and social development of their countries and to acquire education, skills and experience which would facilitate their subsequent economic development on a lasting basis and promote their participation in society. Special schemes were planned to meet requirements in respect of youth employment and training not yet covered by existing national educational or vocational training programmes or by normal opportunities on the labour market. The ILO's other activities in that general field included cost/benefit analyses of special youth schemes, further research, and a meeting of consultants on the management aspect of the schemes, to be operated in 1971, for examining management aspects of special youth employment and training programmes. At its 177th session the ILO Governing Body would consider including, in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the International Labour Conference, an item dealing with the employment of youth.

49. While vocational training continued to be a dominant feature of the ILO's technical co-operation activities, a recent important development had been action relating to pre-vocational training activities for early school-leavers. Two meetings had been held, one in Tunisia to review African and Asian experience in pre-vocational training, the second in Geneva to discuss the programming, content and organization of pre-vocational training activities. Pre-vocational training, realistically planned in terms of local needs and employment outlets, could provide the basic elements of initiation in the simple knowledge and skills which would give young people some basis for their future working lives. In some cases it could be a means of keeping the doors open for early school-leavers to proceed to other forms of educational training.

50. The ILO had participated in the fifth Inter-agency Meeting on Youth, held in Rome in July 1969; the agreements reached at that meeting would have an important effect not only on the further development of technical co-operation activities relating to youth but also in the promotion of inter-agency action. The Director-General of the International Labour Office had recently spoken to the Council (1613th meeting) of the world employment programme which would form the ILO's major contribution to the Second Development Decade. It was noteworthy that, given the age composition of the population of the developing countries, the world employment programme was essentially a programme for youth.

51. Mrs. HENRION-ERNST (Belgium) said that programmes for international action concerning youth had two objectives which were interrelated: the physical, intellectual, moral and material well-being of young people throughout the world, and the participation of youth in the spiritual and material progress of mankind. The organiz-

ations within the United Nations system had contributed extensively to the great progress achieved in health, education and the vocational training of children and adolescents.

52. The preliminary report on long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development of the Commission for Social Development used the term "youth" to refer to young people between the ages of 12 and 25; the definition was a satisfactory one, and it was to that age group that her remarks would apply.

53. The problems of youth could not be defined simply in terms of age; they varied depending on whether those concerned lived in the town or the country, on their degree of education and social status and on their nation's level of development. Youth nevertheless constituted a social group which distinguished itself from adults by its different reaction to the changes taking place in the world.

54. The change in family structure, the progressive breakdown of traditional communities, scientific and technological development, urbanization and improving communications all gave rise to conflicts. The generation gap had consequently become more acutely felt.

55. The impatience of young people, their rejection of traditional values and their desire for responsible participation were partly explained by the rapid evolution of society. However, the basic cause for the conflict between generations was the need of the young to be heeded by the older generation and to be recognized as individuals, which expressed itself in a desire for participation. The conflict between generations could therefore be beneficial to the development of society as a whole.

56. The young people of modern times had grown up in a world without cultural frontiers and had thereby gained deeper international understanding than the older generation, with the result that a policy of real international solidarity was now conceivable. Young people, who constituted more than half the population of the developing countries, were demanding peace and social justice with greater emphasis than ever before. It should not be forgotten that many of them would shortly be in a position to work for the success, or bear the responsibility for the failure, of the Second Development Decade. One consequence of the international culture of young people was their rejection of racial segregation and other forms of discrimination. The new spirit which they manifested should be encouraged by international organizations; in organizing their studies, developing their programmes and projects and conducting their activities, the United Nations and the specialized agencies should take the aspirations of youth into account by encouraging international understanding among young people, educating them to respect human rights and ensuring that they were associated with adults in all fields and at all levels of national and international life.

57. International understanding for human rights and respect for fundamental freedoms could be brought home

to children at a very early age, and that spirit should prevail throughout their upbringing. UNESCO had always been conscious of that aspect of its activities. International understanding was the best introduction to co-operation for development, and in particular to technical assistance. Some 800 young Belgians were assisting experts in a number of developing countries, but it should not be forgotten that such activity could be of real value only if they possessed understanding of those whom it was their responsibility to educate or train.

58. Two recent General Assembly resolutions (resolutions 2445 (XXIII) and 2447 (XXIII)) stressed the need for educating young people in respect for human rights, and resolution 2445 (XXIII) requested Member States to provide school courses dealing with the purposes and activities of the United Nations and with human rights. Her delegation believed that such programmes should be stepped up, taking into account the desire of young people to take part in the organization of a society in which they could fulfil themselves. Measures which could be recommended to Member States in that connexion included lowering the age for voting and of eligibility for public office. As a first stage in that process, Belgium had fixed the age for voters in commune council elections at eighteen. In industry, young people should be included in boards of management, trade union delegations and labour and health inspection commissions. In schools, pupils' committees with real responsibility should be established, while students should be allowed to participate in the preparation of curricula and in devising methods of instruction, and should participate in university administration. Finally, young people of developing countries with the required training should be directly associated with the formulation and implementation of national and international development plans. As stated in paragraph 233 of document E/CN.5/434 and Corr.1, what was being done or not being done for youth, with youth and by youth was perhaps the most important criterion of the effectiveness of sectoral and cross-sectoral planning and programming.

59. The Secretary-General's note showed that in the past year considerable progress had been made and that better co-ordination of activities within the United Nations system had been obtained. General Assembly resolution 2447 (XXIII) requested the Secretary-General to organize seminars with the participation of persons specially qualified in subjects of particular concern to youth, including youth leaders. Her delegation hoped that they would be held as soon as possible and that as many youth organizations as possible would be invited. The results would aid the Council in its future activities relating to youth, with the result that the United Nations might indeed become, for the young people of the world, a revolutionary instrument in the search for world-wide co-operation.

60. Mr. DELEON (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that the General Conference of UNESCO at its fifteenth session had approved a new youth programme. It was difficult in an organization concerned with education to distinguish what represented a

programme for youth and what did not; the majority of UNESCO's educational programmes were in fact focused on youth. The new programme was designed to be a programme for and incorporating youth, the principles of which had been developed in 1968 by the Director-General in a report already quoted. The new programme included the more active participation of young people in resolving the economic and social problems of society and in the management of educational policy and would be developed in 1970 within the context of International Education Year.

61. Studies under the new youth programme would be carried out to ascertain whether there were certain common denominators in international youth phenomena or whether there were national divergencies. First of all, the problems would be identified and a large number of young people would be engaged in studies at the local level in various countries. Secondly, there would be studies on the participation of youth in the administration of educational institutions at the secondary and university level. Thirdly, the participation of young people in development would be examined. Fourthly, out-of-school activities would be discussed; in that connexion he drew attention to the programme on that subject, initiated by UNESCO, which was to be carried out in six countries. Fifthly, meetings for the exchange of ideas between young people and between them and adults would be organized; two such meetings on problems of university reform and student participation in university government had been held in the past year. Lastly, emphasis would be placed on associating young people with UNESCO. As examples, it was noteworthy that the delegations to the fifteenth session of the General Conference had included many young people, and in the summer of 1969 a number of students had been offered the opportunity of working for UNESCO for a short period with modest remuneration.

62. Mr. JACQUET (United Towns Organization), speaking at the invitation of the President, drew attention to the valuable work of his organization in connexion with youth and development. In a world divided by race, languages, different interests, and ideologies, town twinning was one of the best ways of establishing direct relations between peoples; it appealed to youth because it was a practical activity, giving them new reasons for life and hope, and the opportunity to work for others in a spirit of fraternity. When twinning took place between two or three towns in industrialized countries with a town in a developing country, a twinning committee including young people and representing the entire population was established. When regular exchanges began following a twinning, young people were particularly concerned in school exchanges, vocational training, training periods, and visits.

63. The phase of pilot twinings was now completed and his organization was proceeding to a first series of 100 twinings as part of the programme for the Second Development Decade. Each twinning would be financed through voluntary contributions from the populations concerned, the support of local authorities, government

subsidies and UNDP. His organization needed external aid, and he requested the United Nations to help by financially supporting the recently established Cities United for Peace and Development Fund, by assigning two experts to the organization for a period to be determined, and by facilitating the organization's future efforts.

64. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) drew attention to certain theories which had circulated in recent years according to which the revolt of young people against war, social injustice and reactionary forces could be explained by the eternal conflict of the generations. Such theories were very convenient for those who wished to camouflage the real reason which was that youth did not desire to take part in wars of aggression for the benefit of armaments manufacturers. Youth wanted peace and a better life and it was the duty of the United Nations to help.

65. In Bulgaria, youth had always played an important role. Young people had been in the forefront of the fight against fascism. They had also been in the front ranks in the fight against under-development during Bulgaria's twenty-five years of socialist construction: in 1947, more than 200,000 young people had worked for over one month to build roads, railways and factories. Many educational opportunities were open to youth in Bulgaria: education was free at all levels and more than one-third of university students received State grants. Young people were drawn in large numbers towards technical studies and Bulgaria had therefore established larger numbers of technical schools.

66. One important aspect of the youth problem was unemployment; there was a tendency in some countries to regard youth as a menace to society and not to look for the real reasons for delinquency.

67. The Bulgarian Constitution gave full political rights to all persons from eighteen years of age, and young people actively participated in the legislative institutions. An important part was played in education by youth organizations and he felt that the views of international youth organizations should be heard when discussing problems concerning young people. He urged the Council to grant consultative status to the World Federation of Democratic Youth and to the International Union of Students, which together represented a very large number of youth organizations throughout the world.

68. Bulgaria had ratified all international conventions dealing with youth, including the conventions prepared by the United Nations specialized agencies, and the basic principles of those conventions had been incorporated into its legislation. He felt, however, that a large number of those conventions, particularly those within the purview of the ILO, should be reviewed; it was difficult to believe that a convention dating back to 1921 could meet the needs and requirements of modern life. The United Nations should prepare a document dealing with all aspects of youth problems for adoption by the General Assembly. He

supported the USSR representative's proposal which could further the work of the United Nations in that area.

69. Mr. BOYCE (United Kingdom), speaking as a member of the younger generation since he was under twenty-five, said that it was dangerous to think of youth as an abstraction. Furthermore, young people in the United Kingdom and in the developing country where he had worked as a volunteer had little desire to be "programmed". He agreed with the Jamaican representative's views in that connexion (1630th meeting) and welcomed paragraph 8 of the Secretary-General's note referring to UNESCO's stress on projects to help young people to resolve their problems.

70. He suggested that the Council should take note of the Secretary-General's note and reminded members that an important resolution had already been adopted concerning volunteers (resolution 1444 (XLVII)).

71. Mr. McDONALD (United States of America) proposed that the discussion on the item should be left open as several delegations were considering the preparation of a draft resolution.

*It was so decided.*

### AGENDA ITEM 3

#### Second United Nations Development Decade

##### REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/4736)

72. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on agenda item 3 (E/4736) and to vote on the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of the report.

73. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had abstained from voting on the draft resolution in the Economic Committee and would do likewise in the Council. If a separate vote had been taken on each paragraph, his delegation would have voted against the first and third preambular paragraphs and operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 6.

74. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of the report of the Economic Committee (E/4736).

*The draft resolution was adopted by 19 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Wednesday, 6 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 10:	
Problems of the human environment ( <i>resumed from the 1630th meeting and concluded</i> )	219
Agenda item 17:	
Development of tourism:	
(a) International Tourist Year	
(b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism	
(c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism	220

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 10

**Problems of the human environment (E/4667, E/4710; E/L.1275/Rev.1) (*resumed from the 1630th meeting and concluded*)**

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the revised draft resolution on problems of the human environment (E/L.1275/Rev.1). He pointed out that the text included, following the preamble, a draft resolution for submission to the General Assembly.
2. Mr. VIAUD (France) proposed the addition of the following words at the end of paragraph 13 of the draft resolution: "in particular by preparing a selective agenda, by simplifying the organizational structure and by limiting documentation to a reasonable volume".
3. Mr. CAPPELEN (Norway) was surprised at the French representative's concern that certain elements in the preamble of the draft resolution were not reflected in the operative part; he saw no reason why there should be complete correspondence between the two parts of the draft resolution.
4. Mr. McDONALD (United States of America) supported the revised draft resolution. He was in full agreement with the idea of reducing costs and limiting documentation, but did not think it necessary to amend the text.
5. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that his delegation had proposed (1629th meeting) an amendment to operative paragraph 11 and requested a separate vote on that paragraph.
6. Mr. VIAUD (France) maintained his amendment to operative paragraph 13. If the draft resolution was adopted, the preambular paragraphs would not appear in the text submitted to the General Assembly and the considerations regarding costs and documentation would therefore not be brought to its notice. He asked the Secretariat whether the revised draft resolution would alter the financial implications of the proposed conference.
7. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) replied that the initial financial estimates for the conference would need to be revised, particularly since documentation and printing accounted for a considerable proportion of the expenditure. He wished to pay a tribute to the valuable assistance of UNESCO in the preparation of the Secretary-General's report on the problems of the human environment (E/4667).
8. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) requested separate votes on operative paragraphs 6 and 7.
9. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the USSR proposal to delete the words "Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies and IAEA" in operative paragraph 11 of draft resolution E/L.1275/Rev.1.  
*The USSR amendment was rejected by 14 votes to 5, with 6 abstentions.*
10. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested a separate vote on operative paragraph 11.  
*The paragraph was adopted by 21 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.*
11. The PRESIDENT put operative paragraph 6 to the vote.  
*The paragraph was adopted by 18 votes to 2, with 5 abstentions.*
12. The PRESIDENT put operative paragraph 7 to the vote.  
*The paragraph was adopted by 19 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.*
13. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the French amendment to operative paragraph 13.  
*The amendment was rejected by 14 votes to 7, with 3 abstentions.*

14. Mr. LÓPEZ HERRARTE (Guatemala), explaining his vote, said that he had voted in favour of the French amendment because he felt that the General Assembly should be made aware of the Council's views on costs and documentation.

15. Mr. QUEDRAOGO (Upper Volta) said that he had abstained in the vote because he felt that the substance of the French amendment was covered in operative paragraph 3.

16. The PRESIDENT put draft resolution E/L.1275/Rev.1 to the vote as a whole.

*The draft resolution was adopted by 23 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.*

17. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), explaining his delegation's vote, said that the resolution adopted was contrary to the important principle of universality. The conference referred to could not exclude certain countries from any decisions which might be reached. The absence of such countries would reduce the effectiveness of the conference.

18. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) regretted that he had been unable to vote for the resolution, despite his full agreement with the convening of the conference, because of his delegation's views on universality.

19. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) explained that he had not voted in favour of the resolution because it was important for all countries to be invited to the conference.

20. Mr. JERBI (Libya) said that he had voted for the resolution as a whole but had abstained from voting on operative paragraphs 6, 7 and 11 because they had political connotations.

21. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that he had voted in favour of the USSR amendment because he considered the principle of universality extremely important.

22. Mr. HEYMAN (Observer for Sweden), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, expressed his Government's pleasure at the Council's decision to recommend to the General Assembly that the conference on the human environment should be held in Sweden in June 1972.

#### AGENDA ITEM 17

Development of tourism (E/4615 and Corr.1, E/4627, E/4629, E/4653 and Add.1 to 4, E/4716; E/L.1277):

(a) International Tourist Year

(b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism

#### (c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism

23. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) introducing draft resolution E/L.1277 on the development of tourism, recalled that an Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism had been held in Sofia in May 1969 to work out effective institutional arrangements for the development of tourism. The Conference had adopted a resolution, reproduced in its report (E/4653/Add.1), containing guidelines for the creation of an intergovernmental tourism organization. The significance of tourism for the economic development of developing countries was widely recognized, and it was on that basis that the various United Nations bodies concerned had for the past few years been searching for effective ways to promote it.

24. In operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution E/L.1277, the sponsors proposed that consideration of the item should be referred to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session. He recalled that, at the 1603rd meeting, it had been agreed that there should first be a general debate on item 17, on tourism, in plenary meeting and that the matter should then be referred to the Co-ordination Committee for more detailed examination. Various delegations had held informal consultations at the current session with a view to determining the best way in which the Council could act on the decision taken at the Sofia Conference. The results of those consultations were not yet entirely satisfactory. It had been hoped to start the debate on the item early in the session so as to ensure a wide exchange of views, but the discussion had been postponed. Given the differences of opinion of the subject, the sponsors considered that it would be very difficult to have a useful exchange of views in the little time remaining before the end of the session. They therefore thought that it would be wiser not to attempt to reach a decision at the present and to refer the matter to the General Assembly. In that way, there would be sufficient time for delegations to hold consultations and to discuss the question in the various competent bodies of individual Governments.

25. The sponsors believed that the report requested in operative paragraph 2 would help the General Assembly to understand all aspects of the problem and to decide how the resolution of the Sofia Conference could be implemented by the United Nations. In conclusion, he stressed that the draft resolution was of a procedural nature.

26. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that his delegation, which had played an active part in the Sofia Conference, considered it desirable to hold a debate on tourism at the current session of the Council. Tourism was clearly becoming more and more important and had political and other implications. He read out the text of a draft resolution which his delegation intended to submit formally to the Council.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Subsequently issued as document E/L.1278.



27. The developing countries expected the United Nations to help them in their economic development activities; they also expected to obtain assistance from appropriate international bodies in developing tourism. His delegation felt that its draft resolution would make it possible to use an existing body which had already proved its usefulness and of which most of the countries represented on the Council were members. If the solution recommended in the draft resolution was not acceptable, that would not prevent his or any other delegation from stressing, in the General Assembly, that there was need for a body within the United Nations system to deal with tourism.

28. Mr. GAMACCHIO (International Civil Aviation Organization) said that his comments on draft resolution E/L.1277 might also be applied to the Mexican draft resolution. In presenting the report of ICAO (E/4656 and Add.1) to the Council at its current session (1606th meeting), the President of the ICAO Council had indicated that he was unable to comment on the resolution of the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism since its terms were rather general and it was not clear how such a new body would fit into the existing pattern of co-ordinated activities under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council. It was essential to avoid duplication of work done by existing agencies. He had pointed out that the present definition of the term "tourist" covered persons travelling not only for recreation but also for business purposes. Therefore surveys and studies relating to tourists might well duplicate the activities of other bodies.

29. He therefore suggested that draft resolution E/L.1277 should include a provision to the effect that, in preparing the report to be submitted to the General Assembly, the Secretary-General should also take into consideration the problems of co-ordination, in consultation with ACC.

30. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) said that considerable differences of views had emerged at the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism between countries that received tourists and those from which they came. His delegation did not agree that a new body should be established, since the existing organization was already rendering satisfactory service. Nor did it believe that the matter should be referred to the General Assembly. The Council should proceed with caution in dealing with the matter.

31. He therefore proposed the replacement, in operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution E/L.1277, of the words "to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session" by the words "to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-ninth session".

32. In conclusion, he said that his delegation could not accept a draft resolution that did not include the "Vienna formula", which had been applied in other organizations and had served well.

33. Mr. ABE (Japan) thanked IUOTO for its informative report on International Tourist Year (E/4627) and for the initiative it had taken to promote tourism.

34. Intensive mobilization of public interest in tourism had been one of the most important achievements of International Tourist Year, in which Japan had played a very active part. It hoped that the year would open up a new phase of further development and intensification of tourist activities at the national and at the international level.

35. With regard to the implementation of United Nations recommendations on international travel and tourism, Council resolution 1109 (XL) invited United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to give favourable consideration to requests for providing increased technical and financial assistance to the developing countries in order to speed the development of their tourist resources. His delegation was glad to note the progress made in that respect and hoped that further efforts would be made along those lines by the organizations concerned.

36. Another example of international co-operation had been the Interregional Seminar on Tourism Development, held in Berne in October and November 1968. As could be seen from the Secretary-General's report (E/4615 and Corr.1), the seminar had succeeded in increasing awareness of the importance of tourism, particularly for the economic development of developing countries.

37. For the past several years, Japan had annually received some thirty trainees, mainly from Asia, under the Colombo Plan, United Nations technical assistance programmes and other bilateral arrangements. The programmes ranged from vocational training and the organization of tourist agencies to the administration of the tourist industry. Japan also sent experts on tourism to the developing countries in Asia to provide advice on tourist development programmes.

38. As to the review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism, it was essential to strengthen the programmes and activities relating to tourism both inside and outside the United Nations system. There were two aspects: the operational and the institutional. With regard to the operational aspect, there was room for strengthening the programmes and activities of IUOTO, and his delegation would support any practical steps aimed at assigning that organization more operational functions and activities. Among the various operational areas in which IUOTO would be able to contribute to the development of tourism was the development of natural resources for tourism and co-ordination of activities at the international level. The first—development of natural resources—was a prerequisite for promoting the tourist industry. Adequate facilities would also be necessary to attract tourists. To strengthen IUOTO by enabling it to join in the activities of the UNDP would undoubtedly greatly promote the development of natural resources for the tourist industry. He wondered to what extent IUOTO could participate under its existing status in UNDP activities.

39. As to the other area—co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations and other organizations relating to tourism—it would be most useful to strengthen IUOTO's role and functions in assisting the Council in such co-ordination in view of IUOTO's competence.
40. He wondered whether it would not be possible to strengthen the operational activities of IUOTO without changing its institutional status. The Council should weigh carefully any proposal to establish a new intergovernmental body: efforts should rather be made to strengthen existing machinery, particularly at a time when the question of the proliferation of new intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations family was under serious study. Furthermore, the proposed change in the nature of IUOTO might destroy one of the bases on which it operated, namely, the active participation of the private sector. Such a change would also reduce the autonomy and flexibility which it had enjoyed so far and which had been one of the reasons for its remarkable achievements.
41. His Government was strongly opposed to the establishment of a new intergovernmental body.
42. He supported the Argentine proposal that the Council should defer the matter to a later session, preferably the next summer session.
43. With regard to the Mexican draft resolution, he agreed that the Council should continue to deal with the matter and not refer it to the General Assembly for consideration.
44. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) believed that the Council should study the question in greater detail than hitherto, since his Government attached great importance to the development of tourism, especially in the developing countries. Paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report on the activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism (E/4653) contained a number of relevant comments in that respect. His delegation had been very active in the discussions at the Sofia Conference and also in the informal discussions held during the current session of the Council. Among other things, it had proposed Istanbul as the seat of the proposed new intergovernmental agency.
45. He agreed with the representatives of Mexico and Argentina that the Council should attempt to discharge its functions in connexion with tourism, rather than simply transfer the matter to the General Assembly, but would prefer the discussion to be resumed at the current session rather than at a future session of the Council.
46. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation fully understood and shared the developing countries' concern to develop tourism. When in 1967 the idea of converting IUOTO into an intergovernmental organization had first been raised, the Soviet Union had supported it; then, at the Sofia Conference, his delegation had been requested to support the proposal for the establishment of a new intergovernmental agency and, because of its sympathy for the developing countries' views, it had agreed to do so. His delegation had therefore come to the Council with instructions from its Government relating to the establishment of an intergovernmental tourism organization, as proposed in the resolution adopted at Sofia. It now found itself confronted, in the Mexican proposal, with what was in effect a return to the former approach. He would therefore need time to consult his Government, which in turn would need to consult Soviet tourist organizations.
47. His delegation was accordingly not in a position to support the Mexican draft resolution. In any case, the legal aspects were not clear; he would welcome information from the Secretariat as to whether the Council was in fact entitled to recommend changes in the structure of an independent organization.
48. The best way out of the Council's dilemma would be to adopt draft resolution E/L.1277. He could, if necessary, make an extensive statement on tourism, touching on such aspects as the need for universality of representation in any organization which was to be set up, but for purely practical reasons he preferred to support that draft resolution. The procedure he suggested would allow time for delegations to consult their Governments and for detailed discussion by the General Assembly leading to a realistic solution, beneficial to tourism, reached on a basis of agreement.
49. Mr. WILLIAMS (International Monetary Fund) had comments to make in connexion with the list of international agencies concerned with tourism (E/4653/Add.2). IMF was concerned with tourism in so far as it affected the balance of payments of member Governments, which necessitated keeping statistical data on tourism constantly under review. In addition, restrictions on tourism arising from travel allowances and exchange controls were discussed annually and, in the case of countries with a convertible currency, any such proposed allowances and controls must be approved by IMF. Proposed changes in rates of exchange were also brought to IMF's notice and sometimes required its approval.
50. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that everything possible should be done to promote the development of tourism, especially for the benefit of the developing countries. The United States was deeply interested in tourism and its potential contribution was very substantial. In 1966, almost 3 million United States tourists had gone abroad and the figure had subsequently risen to almost 4 million, not including those visiting Canada and Mexico, who amounted to between 14 million and 15 million each year. In monetary terms, expenditures of United States travellers, excluding payments to United States carriers, had totalled to almost \$4,000 million in 1968. Tourism was therefore big business and the United States wished that business to operate to the greater benefit of the developing countries.

51. His delegation had hoped that agreement would be reached during the current session which would ensure that everything possible was done to develop activities relating to tourism within the United Nations system, and to strengthen IUOTO. Informal discussions had eliminated many points of conflict, but, if the procedure laid down in draft resolution E/L.1277 was followed, all the effort which had gone into those discussions would be wasted. The General Assembly would be required to start again from the beginning and would stand little chance of reaching satisfactory agreement.

52. While he agreed with the remarks of the representatives of Argentina and Japan, he felt it had not yet been stated with sufficient clarity that to refer consideration of the item to the General Assembly would mean that no guidance would be given to IUOTO, at its forthcoming session in October 1969, on means of achieving the more direct and productive relationship to the United Nations system which was generally felt desirable.

53. The Mexican draft resolution, on the other hand, offered some prospect of providing such guidance; it contained a number of constructive ideas derived from the informal discussions which had taken place. His delegation would therefore welcome the opportunity to discuss it, although it did not agree with every aspect of the text. He did not agree, as the representative of the Soviet Union appeared to believe, that discussion should centre upon the resolution adopted at the Sofia Conference and his view was supported by the title of agenda item 17 (c). It was clear that the concept of universality of membership, which the United States opposed, had introduced a political issue into the discussion on tourism which was making a satisfactory solution of the problem more difficult and thus obstructing efforts to promote tourism to the developing countries to the fullest extent possible.

54. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) described as somewhat incongruous a situation in which, even before the debate on the item began, several members submitted a draft resolution requesting referral of the item to the General Assembly and gained the support of the delegation of one of the major Powers on the grounds that the instructions it had received from its Government were not sufficiently broad. Nevertheless, constructive contributions to the debate had been made by a number of representatives.

55. He agreed with the representatives of Argentina and the United States that the Council should try to reach some decision on the item. The Mexican draft resolution appeared constructive and he looked forward to the opportunity to study it, but until then he would support the Argentine amendment to draft resolution E/L.1277. As far as the "Vienna formula" was concerned, he agreed with the representative of Argentina.

56. His delegation could not accept the argument that draft resolution E/L.1277 was merely procedural. Even a decision to refer the item to the General Assembly went

beyond procedure, while the request to the Secretary-General, in operative paragraph 2, to submit a report to the General Assembly, was clearly substantive. In any case, his delegation did not believe that the report should be confined to the various implications of establishing an intergovernmental tourism organization, since that would be prejudging the General Assembly's discussions on the subject. Furthermore, it had been suggested that only sub-item 17 (c) should be referred to the General Assembly, but the text of the resolution referred to the whole item; his delegation believed that sub-items 17 (a) and (b) could be dealt with adequately by the Council at its current session.

57. Mr. PÉREZ HERNÁNDEZ (Observer for Spain), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, welcomed IUOTO's evaluation of the results of International Tourism Year (E/4627), which showed the contribution made by tourism to the promotion of education, cultural enrichment and personal satisfaction. Tourism helped to further balanced economic development, international understanding and co-operation and peace.

58. Spain had celebrated International Tourism Year through its information media, by introducing special school and university courses and by publishing literature aimed at encouraging friendship and understanding among peoples. Tourism had been encouraged by keeping prices low, by simplifying formalities, by increasing hotel capacity and by considerable investment in infrastructure and superstructure.

59. The Secretary-General's reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism and the United Nations Interregional Seminar on Tourism Development (E/4629 and E/4615 and Corr.1) made it clear that tourism was an industry in which great care should be exercised. The introduction of a tourist industry during the first stage of a country's economic development might result in a loss of resources and currency, with corresponding adverse effects on economic development. But that did not mean that international tourism could not contribute to national income; it generated employment and might stimulate economic growth in areas where available resources did not allow any other type of activity.

60. That the United Nations clearly understood the importance of tourism was shown by its technical and financial assistance to the developing countries. The Secretary-General's report on the activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism (E/4653) set forth the conditions in which a tourist industry could be established. For such aid to be effective, sound co-ordination and co-operation in a dynamic and integrated programme were essential.

61. At the twentieth session of its General Assembly, IUOTO had approved in principle its conversion into an intergovernmental organization on the grounds that, as constituted, it was not equal to the demands made on it,

and the recent Sofia Conference had adopted a resolution inviting the Economic and Social Council to approve guidelines for the creation of an intergovernmental tourism organization and to recommend its creation to the General Assembly.

62. Few countries had succeeded as well as Spain in developing a satisfactory tourist industry within a short space of time, and his delegation therefore felt that it was in an especially favourable position to assess the timeliness of such a proposal. It therefore reiterated the position it had taken in Sofia and stressed its conviction that such an agency could play a major role in the promotion of economic development and mutual understanding and in the establishment of lasting peace. Co-ordination and co-operation among the many organs and agencies within the United Nations system more or less directly concerned with tourism would be greatly increased and inefficiency and duplication avoided.

63. Mr. DUMONTET (United Nations Development Programme), replying to the Japanese representative's question, said that, under General Assembly resolution 1240 (XIII) part B, paragraph 39, UNDP projects should be executed whenever possible by the United Nations, by the specialized agencies concerned, or by IAEA, but the resolution also provided that the services of other agencies, private firms or individual experts could be called upon. The Administrator was at liberty to recommend to the Governing Council of UNDP that the services of an organization outside the United Nations system should be contracted for, if he felt that cases such as those mentioned in paragraph 34 of resolution 1240 (XIII) had arisen and that it was therefore necessary to call on such an organization to implement a particular project. For example, the services of IDB had co-operated with ITU in the UNDP-assisted project entitled "Pre-investment Study

for the Inter-American Telecommunication Network" in South America.

64. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) thought that the preamble to draft resolution E/L.1277 should include some reference to the views of the delegations attending the Sofia Conference which had not supported the resolution adopted. In addition, the request in operative paragraph 2 that the Secretary-General should study the guidelines set out in the resolution of the Sofia Conference and submit a report was clearly not procedural. The point made by the United States representative that some guidance should be given to IUOTO at the forthcoming General Assembly was extremely relevant, and his delegation also agreed with the view of the representative of Japan that what was really needed was some link between IUOTO and the United Nations system so that the former could benefit from the funds available to UNDP. If the Secretary-General was to be requested to report on the implications of establishing an intergovernmental tourism organization, he should also be requested to bear IUOTO in mind in that connexion.

65. The primary need of the developing countries, so far as tourism was concerned, was for financial aid to enable them to develop their natural resources. The essential point was that that need should be met and not what type of organization—whether a new agency or a remodelled expansion of IUOTO—should be responsible. He agreed with the representative of Japan that the establishment of a new agency would give rise to dangers of proliferation and excessive bureaucracy and hoped that the discussion of the item as a whole could be deferred to a later session of the Council, in order to allow time for consultation between delegations and their Governments, and among Governments themselves.

The meeting rose at 6.45 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Thursday, 7 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 10 a.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 17:	
Development of tourism:	
(a) International Tourist Year	
(b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism	
(c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism ( <i>continued</i> ) . . . . .	225

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVÈN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 17

**Development of tourism (E/4615 and Corr.1, E/4627, E/4629, E/4653 and Add.1 to 4, E/4716; E/L.1277, E/L.1278, E/L.1279, E/L.1280):**

- (a) International Tourist Year
- (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism
- (c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism (*continued*)

1. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico), introducing draft resolution E/L.1278 on the development of tourism, pointed out that the preamble set forth a number of considerations that had been expressed in the report of the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism held in Sofia in May 1969 (E/4653/Add.1).

2. The eighth paragraph of the preamble laid particular stress on the essential role hitherto played by IUOTO and on the considerable technical competence it had acquired; IUOTO was in fact making constant efforts to achieve its purposes despite very scanty resources, which did not exceed \$300,000 per annum. Since, however, the relations of IUOTO with the United Nations system were restricted by IUOTO's status as a body corporate under the Swiss Civil Code, the indications were that that non-governmental body should be made into an intergovernmental organization. As was stated in the last paragraph of the preamble to the resolution adopted by the Sofia Conference (E/4653/Add.1, annex), the establishment of an intergovernmental organization was the most effective way of strengthening national and international efforts to promote tourism.

3. As to the method of effecting that change of status, several countries, including the USSR and Mexico, had first

thought that it would be best to prepare an international convention that would be open for signature at the Sofia Conference. Since, however, up to one month before the date fixed for the opening of that conference only seventeen countries had expressed their intention of participating, the Executive Committee of IUOTO had drafted a formula which, it had hoped, would be acceptable to all, and which had formed the basis of the resolution adopted in Sofia. That resolution had been adopted by a majority of almost two-thirds, but several States had categorically opposed it. Fresh efforts, it had thus been found, would have to be made to arrive at the establishment of an intergovernmental organization, and such was the object of draft resolution E/L.1278, which differed from the Sofia resolution only as to the method to be followed; in Sofia, it had been thought that the intergovernmental organization could be set up by a resolution of the General Assembly, whereas in draft resolution E/L.1278 provision was made for the organization to be created by agreement among Governments.

4. As a first stage, IUOTO, at its annual session to be held in Dublin in October 1969, would undertake a modification of its statutes to meet the requirements of an intergovernmental organization. As a private law organization, however, IUOTO was not legally qualified to change its own statutes in that sense, and Governments would have to approve their amendment; that was the purpose of operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution. Such an agreement among Governments, which would not be expressed in the usual form of an international conference, was termed in international law an agreement in simplified form. The draft resolution in no way derogated from the principles enunciated at the Sofia Conference, and he saw no reason why those delegations which had shown interest in the establishment of an intergovernmental organization should not support it.

5. In conclusion, he announced that paragraphs 1 and 2 should start with the words: "*Recommends* to States whose national tourist organizations are members of IUOTO ...", the rest of the text remaining unchanged.

6. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs), replying to a point raised by the USSR representative at the preceding meeting, said that the question whether the Council was empowered to take the action proposed in draft resolution E/L.1278 had perhaps been obscured, for some representatives had thought the Council was being asked to establish an intergovernmental organization, whereas it could only set up a subsidiary organ or convene an international conference to establish such an intergovernmental organization. By the draft resolution under consideration, the Council merely re-

commended that Governments should take action for the purpose of changing a non-governmental organization into an intergovernmental organization; Governments were of course free to accept or reject the recommendation.

7. Furthermore, attention should be drawn to two documents. First, in its resolution 1363 (XLV), the Council had recommended a consideration in depth of the role and promotion of tourism and the co-ordination of the existing programmes on the subject. Since the Sofia Conference, however, attention seemed to have been concentrated on the future nature and role of IUOTO. Secondly, it was clear from a note by IUOTO (E/4653/Add.4) that the future organization would discharge an essentially technical, administrative and promotional function, and that the development of tourist facilities, investments and infrastructure would continue to fall within the purview of the international organizations that were already dealing with them. Once the question of IUOTO's status as an intergovernmental organization had been settled, therefore, the whole question of the responsibilities of the international organizations in matters of tourism would have to be dealt with. The fact that a large number of international organizations were interested in the subject, and the magnitude of the investments necessary to promote tourism, made that an extremely delicate task.

8. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the statement made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs meant that the Council was competent to address recommendations to international organizations requesting them to modify their statutes. Such an interpretation of the Council's powers might prove to be extremely important in the future.

9. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that that was not exactly the meaning of his statement: the Council could only recommend that States Members of the United Nations should take certain action for the purpose of changing an organization to which some of them already belonged into an intergovernmental organization.

10. Mr. PAPIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that international tourism should be considered not only as an important source of foreign currency but also as a means of strengthening the economic, cultural and other links between countries.

11. From 1958 to 1967, tourist activities had increased by 150 per cent, reaching the figure of \$14,100 million (excluding transport). Tourism was mainly concentrated, however, in the countries of Europe and North America: the countries members of the OECD had alone absorbed \$10,800 million, while the rest of the world shared only \$3,300 million. Such a situation was obviously unsatisfactory for the developing countries, which would have to make considerable efforts to improve their tourist infrastructure, but necessarily with the help of the international community. It was gratifying to note that a large number of

organizations in the United Nations system had intensified their action in that sphere, particularly UNDP, which had increased the number of pre-investment studies for projects of tourist interest in the southern Adriatic areas.

12. Yugoslavia had fully supported International Tourist Year and the activities undertaken with a view to developing tourism. His Government had decided in 1966 to abolish tourist visas on a reciprocal basis; the nationals of European countries were no longer required to obtain such visas. For the nationals of more than twenty countries, moreover, visa fees had been abolished. His country had made heavy investments in infrastructure and in hotel services. In 1968, the number of tourists had increased by over 7 per cent, and the foreign currency returns by over 25 per cent. During the same year, Yugoslavia had received 26 million visitors; and 7 million Yugoslavs, representing over one-third of the population, had gone abroad.

13. There was at present only one international organization dealing with the promotion of tourism, namely, IUOTO, and its non-governmental status did not meet the requirements of the situation. His delegation was in favour of establishing an intergovernmental organization, and had voted for the resolution adopted at the Sofia Conference. Since the matter had come up for discussion at such a very late date in the Council's session, however, it seemed unlikely that the ideas expressed in the draft resolution submitted by Mexico (E/L.1278) could be sufficiently thoroughly discussed. He would therefore prefer to support draft resolution E/L.1277, under which the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implications of establishing an intergovernmental tourism organization.

14. The PRESIDENT announced that the United States and United Kingdom delegations had proposed a number of amendments to draft resolution E/L.1277. It would perhaps be advisable, in the circumstances, to suspend the discussion on agenda item 17 until those amendments had been distributed to delegations in all the working languages, and to proceed meanwhile with the consideration of agenda item 20.

15. After a procedural discussion in which Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. VIDAL (Uruguay), Mr. KRISHNAN (India), Mr. POPOV (Bulgaria), Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) and Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) took part, the PRESIDENT concluded that it was the sense of the Council not to suspend the discussion on agenda item 17.

*It was decided to continue the discussion of agenda item 17.*

16. Mr. POPOV (Bulgaria) said that his Government had already indicated its attitude to the establishment of an intergovernmental tourism organization at the Sofia Conference: it supported the idea of setting up an international

organization of that kind based on the principles laid down in the resolution adopted at that conference.

17. Insufficient time seemed to have elapsed, however, since the Sofia Conference, for a thorough study of the legal and other problems raised by the establishment of such an organization. He therefore supported draft resolution E/L.1277, which would refer the question of the development of tourism to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session. That draft resolution did not deal with problems of substance connected with the procedure to be followed in establishing such an organization, or with the way in which the organization could be associated with the United Nations system. Moreover, the consideration of that matter in the Council could give rise to considerable difficulties.

18. Some delegations had expressed the opinion that the Council should give IUOTO guidelines for its next annual session, but it should be pointed out that that organization had already received all the guidelines it needed from the member States represented at the Sofia Conference.

19. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) announced that Congo (Brazzaville) and Indonesia should be added to the list of sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1277.

20. That draft did not deal with the substance of the question and did not propose any action on the resolution adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism (E/4653/Add.1, annex). The adoption of the draft resolution would not commit the Council in any way with respect to the guidelines contained in the resolution in question: the Secretary-General would merely be requested to study them in order to facilitate consideration of the question and enable the General Assembly to take an enlightened decision.

21. The sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1277 were unable to accept the Argentine amendments (E/L.1279), for it was very probable that the Council would be unable to complete its consideration of the matter in the short time provided for its resumed forty-seventh session.

22. There was a great deal in the Mexican draft resolution (E/L.1278) whose implications were not apparent; consequently, being unable to take a definite stand, he considered it preferable to postpone a final decision until the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly. The problem could thus be studied more thoroughly, particularly at the government level. That was why his delegation had joined others in submitting draft resolution E/L.1277, which did not exclude any of the possible choices; and he appealed to the representative of Mexico not to press his draft resolution.

23. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) said that the only purpose of the amendment submitted by his delegation (E/L.1279) was to keep the question on the Council's agenda, and to give the Council a chance to settle a problem whose reference to the General Assembly would only complicate matters. Besides, it would be unfortunate if the

Council gave the impression of wishing to evade its responsibilities.

24. He did not think the Council would be able to take a decision on draft resolution E/L.1278 at the present session; it would therefore be preferable either to withdraw the draft or refer it to the resumed forty-seventh session.

25. Mr. KENNAN (Ireland) said that his delegation was in favour of strengthening IUOTO and against the establishment of an intergovernmental tourism organization. It was the Council's duty to consider the problem and find a solution to it. The discussions and informal consultations that had taken place during the present session had been very useful, and there was no reason why the Council should not be able to reach an agreement eventually. He therefore supported the Argentine amendment, which was designed to ensure that the consideration of the question would be resumed at a later date.

26. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that although he had doubts concerning the working of some of the provisions of draft resolution E/L.1278, he subscribed to its aims, which were to strengthen IUOTO by modifying the statutes of that body with a view to giving it an intergovernmental character; and he welcomed the possibility of establishing relations between that body and the United Nations system. But the Council was clearly not in a position to take a final decision at the present session, and it was preferable to refer the question, not to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session, but to the resumed forty-seventh session of the Council, as the Argentine amendment suggested.

27. However, together with the delegations of Japan and the United Kingdom, his delegation was submitting a number of amendments (E/L.1280) to draft resolution E/L.1277 which went a little further than the Argentine amendment. In particular, the insertion of a new paragraph in the preamble was suggested, in which it would be noted that the Council did not find it possible to complete its discussion of item 17 (a), (b) and (c). In addition, the sponsors of the amendments felt that the Secretary-General might usefully take into account, in his study, the discussions in the Council, and that the scope of the report he would be called upon to submit to the Council should be widened to include not only the implications of the possible creation of an intergovernmental tourism organization but also any other proposals designed to provide more effective machinery for the development of tourism.

28. Mr. PANGGABEAN (Indonesia) said that the tourist industry was taking an increasingly important place in the development programmes of the developing countries. Apart from the substantial contribution it could make to a country's economic growth, tourism promoted good relations among nations. His Government had taken steps to organize and develop the tourist industry, and the five-year development plan included definite targets in that area. In addition, however, to the substantial investment it required, the development of the industry called for skills and

experience which developing countries often lacked. Hence it was essential to mobilize the resources of the international community. He therefore supported the steps taken by the United Nations and the organizations within the United Nations system to help the developing countries to widen their knowledge of the problems raised by the organization of the tourist industry, and the steps taken to increase technical assistance for that purpose. Besides the United Nations, many regional and sub-regional, private and semi-private bodies were concerned with the promotion of tourism, and it was undeniable that the present institutional machinery was very dispersed and heterogeneous, and that duplication and overlapping were not avoided, even within the United Nations system itself. In view, particularly, of the international strategy for the Second Development Decade, he considered that the time had come to establish an international tourism organization within the United Nations system.

29. As one of the sponsors of the resolution adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism held in Sofia in May 1969, Indonesia was convinced that the creation of an intergovernmental organization was the most appropriate and effective way of rationalizing and strengthening the efforts made at the national and international levels to promote tourism. While IUOTO had done much to encourage tourism in the past, its non-governmental character meant that its activities were bound to remain outside the programmes of the organizations in the United Nations system. What was needed at present was an international organization able to co-ordinate and harmonize the multifarious and often overlapping activities that were undertaken to promote tourism. Being within the United Nations system, the new organization whose establishment was envisaged would have more authority and be able to take full advantage of the technical resources and knowledge available to the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

30. It should not be forgotten that in most developing countries the tourist industry was in the hands of the State and not of private organizations. That was an additional reason why in Sofia the developing countries had called for the establishment of a new intergovernmental organization. It was regrettable in that connexion that the resolution adopted by the Sofia Conference had not been supported by some countries, which had preferred the solution of strengthening IUOTO.

31. The positions taken in Sofia were still difficult to reconcile, and his delegation felt that time was required to reflect on the problem and to study it more thoroughly. That was why it had co-sponsored draft resolution E/L.1277. To refer the matter to the General Assembly would avoid further delay while enabling a larger number of interested countries to consider it.

32. The Mexican proposal had constructive aspects, but more time would be needed to study it thoroughly. That was why postponement of the discussion, as proposed in draft resolution E/L.1277, was probably the best solution for the time being.

33. He hoped, however, that some means would be found of arriving at a consensus.

34. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) said that his delegation supported the arguments advanced by the Jamaican representative at the preceding meeting concerning, in particular, assistance to developing countries for the development of their tourist resources and the desirability of establishing a closer relationship between IUOTO and the United Nations system.

35. Moreover, as his delegation had stated during the Council's consideration of the UNDP programme (1619th meeting), it would be important to the developing countries to have access to United Nations technical assistance in training tourist-industry personnel, both for management and administrative posts and for subordinate employment. For the same reason, it would be useful to strengthen IUOTO.

36. At the preceding meeting, the Japanese representative had affirmed that in the final analysis the individual himself decided where to spend his holidays. That was true, but Governments could nevertheless play an effective part in providing information. He referred in that connexion to the important role played by the French radio and television organization, under the bilateral agreement between Turkey and France, in promoting tourism in Turkey; the number of French tourists going to Turkey was increasing from year to year.

37. Draft resolution E/L.1278 put forward ideas which accorded at many points with those of his delegation, but they should be given much more careful study. In particular, his delegation approved in principle the last operative paragraph, which differed from the proposal made in draft resolution E/L.1277. The task envisaged in that paragraph should, however, be assigned to the Economic and Social Council.

38. The idea advanced in the last operative paragraph of draft resolution E/L.1278—and repeated, incidentally, in the Argentine amendment—should be adopted, for then there would be submitted to the Council at its resumed session a report which would make it possible for the question under discussion to be studied in greater detail. In those circumstances it might be desirable to replace the last operative paragraph of draft resolution E/L.1277 by the last operative paragraph of draft resolution E/L.1278. Draft resolution E/L.1277 had the advantage of being short and precise, and, subject to certain amendments, would probably be acceptable to all members of the Council.

39. With reference to paragraph 18 of the report of the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism (E/4653/Add.1, section B), he said that his delegation, too, considered that an international tourism organization should be based on the principle of universality, implying no political connotations and intended only to reflect the universal nature of tourism. In that connexion, his delegation's position was identical with that adopted by the Argentine and United Kingdom delegations at the preceding meeting.



40. He warmly welcomed the amendments in document E/L.1280.

41. His delegation, which had itself intended to submit a draft resolution, considered that it would be desirable, in order to save time in the event of IUOTO's becoming an intergovernmental organization, to study the following questions: whether an agreement between the United Nations and IUOTO could be concluded for the purpose of establishing close co-operation and relations and of defining the modalities of such co-operation and relations; whether IUOTO could be enabled to participate in the activities of UNDP by assisting in the preparation and implementation of pre-investment, technical assistance and other tourism projects; how IUOTO could play a useful part by helping the Council to co-ordinate activities relating to tourism entrusted to or falling within the purview of the United Nations system; and what kind of procedures could be elaborated to enable IUOTO to submit for the Council's consideration recommendations and proposals relating to international agreements to be drawn up in the tourism sector.

42. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his country had long been applying a policy of encouragement to tourism, which it looked upon as a means of promoting peace through the establishment of relations between peoples. The Soviet Union had always been in favour of IUOTO initiatives, and the observations he was about to make concerning the draft resolutions, before the Council should in no way be taken to indicate a change of attitude concerning that organization. He recalled in that connexion the statement made by Mr. Kosygin, Prime Minister of the USSR, on the occasion of the twentieth conference of IUOTO, which had coincided with the fiftieth anniversary of the Soviet State. The proclamation of an International Tourist Year, too, had been widely acclaimed in the Soviet Union.

43. The IUOTO report (E/4627) presented a fairly complete picture of that organization's activities, and his delegation shared its conclusions. Tourism was not simply a question of travel, but should be considered at the national level, and in its social, economic and cultural aspects. In the Soviet Union it was, of course, dependent on the State, and some twenty ministries had consequently been involved in activities connected with International Tourist Year.

44. It would be realized that in those circumstances his delegation needed time for consultations and for seeking the advice of the competent national bodies on the subject of the new proposals for the establishment of an international organization for tourism.

45. The Soviet Union's interest in tourism was also demonstrated by the steps that had been taken to arouse greater interest in International Tourist Year, particularly among the young, by the organization of exhibitions, tours, meetings, seminars and festivals. Moreover, a law had recently been enacted concerning the organization of tours and tourist activities under trade-union auspices.

46. The International Conference on Tourism held in Sofia had produced positive results, although they were not exactly what the Soviet Union had hoped for, and the USSR had agreed to make a number of concessions to ensure the Conference's success. Nevertheless, constructive conclusions had been reached. In particular, the Conference had accepted the principle of universality, and the envisaged organization was to be open to all countries interested in the development of tourism without exception; and the methods of financing the organization had been defined.

47. The Mexican draft resolution was unsatisfactory to his delegation precisely because, to some extent, it went back on the decisions of the Sofia Conference. In fact, by the first paragraph of the preamble, the Council would merely say that it had taken cognizance of the report of the Intergovernmental Conference of Tourism, thereby displaying a somewhat negative attitude. That would amount to calling in question the principle of universality as well as the methods of financing the envisaged organization. The adoption of the Mexican text would thus bring political factors into play, and the result would be to widen the differences among countries instead of seeking a generally satisfactory compromise.

48. There was also some reason to ask whether the Council was justified in going back on the decisions of a Conference the number of whose participants had exceeded that of its own members. Finally, there was the question whether the Council was empowered to make recommendations to a non-governmental organization. Operative paragraph 1 would actually have the effect of requesting IUOTO to modify its statutes. The latter might in fact agree to do so, perhaps even at the conference it was to hold shortly; but over-hasty decisions should be avoided. He therefore considered that the best course at present would be to adopt draft resolution E/L.1277.

49. He noted, moreover, that the United States representative had announced his delegation's intention of thinking the matter over and not making hurried decisions. That was a hopeful sign which should induce the Council to continue consultations with a view to finding a satisfactory solution to what, to many countries, was a difficult and important problem. His delegation was anxious to avoid delay, but it also wished a decision to be taken which would make it possible for all countries to take part in a truly international organization capable of contributing to the development of tourism. Only prudence and goodwill would make it possible to avoid a deadlock and find a quick solution.

50. Mr. ESTABLIE (France) recalled that at the Sofia Conference his delegation had been one of those most open to the various possibilities as well as to the wishes of the developing countries. Its attitude had not changed, and it therefore welcomed the efforts of the Mexican delegation, whose draft resolution it was prepared to support. Unfortunately, there would be no time to discuss the draft in its entirety.

51. Some delegations were in favour of referring the matter directly to the General Assembly. He for his part doubted whether that would be the best solution. In fact, the outcome of the Sofia Conference showed that the adoption of a resolution by a majority was not a satisfactory solution, particularly if the minority was appreciable.

52. He was therefore in favour of the Argentine proposal (E/L.1279) that the matter be referred to the Council at its resumed session, thus giving delegations the time for thought for which the Indonesian delegation in particular had appealed. In the event of a further setback, the Council could then seek another solution.

53. The amendments in document E/L.1280 came very close to those of Argentina, and the two series of proposals should be combined.

54. Lastly, unlike the Indian representative, he considered it necessary to maintain the amendment to draft resolution E/L.1277, which would consist in replacing the word "establishing" in operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution E/L.1277 by the words "the possible establishment of".

55. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said that, in view of the part played by tourism in its economy, Jamaica attached great importance to the adoption of an international policy of co-operation in activities relating to tourism. He wished in that connexion to emphasize the need for giving the developing countries financial and technical assistance in developing the infrastructure of their tourist industry (hotel construction, site development, training of personnel, transport and communications).

56. The national policy of the tourist "exporting" countries was also of interest to the developing countries, and Jamaica hoped that no new measures would be taken to limit the amount of currency that tourists could spend abroad. It was also desirable to ensure that sea and air fares were not prohibitive and that restrictions on the amount of goods which tourists could take back to their countries were made more liberal.

57. Moreover, a plan for supplementary financing in which tourism would be considered as an export should also be drawn up. Under such a plan, the countries which had made substantial investments in the tourist infrastructure would be compensated in case of unexpected shortfalls in their receipts from tourist activities.

58. The consideration of item 17 and its three subdivisions should really, had the Council had enough time, have resulted in two resolutions, one on the main issue and the other on organizational questions. In the present circumstances, he considered that it would be advisable to take as a basis draft resolution E/L.1277, in which, however, the order of the operative paragraphs should be reversed, as suggested in amendment E/L.1280.

59. In paragraph 3 of the same amendment, he would like to see the words "effective machinery" replaced by "effective measures", which would give the Secretary-General more scope.

60. The Council should also recognize in its resolution the need for considering the question anew; it could decide during that fresh consideration when to refer the matter to the General Assembly, should that course be adopted.

61. His delegation would also like the Council's report to reflect as fully as possible the views expressed during the discussion; and in particular some reference should be made to the subjects which the Turkish representative had proposed for consideration. As thus supplemented, the report would assist the Secretary-General in drawing up the document requested of him.

62. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) suggested that the various interested parties should be invited to hold informal consultations for the purpose of drawing up a compromise text.

63. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) withdrew the amendments he had proposed (E/L.1279).

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Thursday, 7 August 1969

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

at 3.10 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 17:	
Development of tourism:	
(a) International Tourist Year	
(b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism	
(c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism ( <i>concluded</i> ) . . . . .	231

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 17

**Development of Tourism (E/4615 and Corr.1, E/4627, E/4629, E/4653 and Add.1 to 4, E/4716; E/L.1277, E/L.1278, E/L.1279 and E/L.1280):**

- (a) International Tourist Year
- (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on International Travel and Tourism
- (c) Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism (*concluded*)

1. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that in view of the interest expressed in the draft resolution submitted by his delegation (E/L.1278) and of the need for a more thorough study of the legal and other implications, he would maintain it for discussion by whatever United Nations organ resumed the debate on item 17, but would not insist on its being put to the vote at the present session of the Council.

2. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that the Council had obviously not completed its discussion of item 17, since very little mention had been made of sub-items (a) and (b). There was no reason, however, why the Council should not discharge its responsibility in connexion with those items, and he believed that the Secretary-General should base the proposed report on a study not merely of the resolution adopted at the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism held in Sofia in May 1969, but of the whole question of the review of United Nations activities for the development of tourism, of the discussion at the current session of the Council and of any other relevant material. He hoped that the Council would at a future session be able to find an intelligent and constructive solution to the problems confronting it. His delegation was not irrevocably opposed to the creation of a new intergovernmental agency, but for the time being it attached greater importance to operational

activities for the development of tourism than to institutional arrangements. He therefore believed that the Council should not take the imprudent step of referring the item to the General Assembly, and supported the amendments contained in document E/L.1280 to joint draft resolution E/L.1277. His delegation would also continue to give careful consideration to draft resolution E/L.1278.

3. Mr. LÓPEZ HERRARTE (Guatemala) said his delegation believed that draft resolution E/L.1278 was an excellent attempt to ensure an expansion of activities within the United Nations system for the development of tourism. In the view of his Government, such an expansion was desirable. He would therefore vote for that draft if the opportunity arose; failing that, he would support the amendments (E/L.1280) to joint draft resolution E/L.1277.

4. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay) said that his Government attached great importance to the development of tourism, since the tourist industry made a major contribution to Uruguay's balance of payments. When the constitution had last been reformed in 1966, a special Ministry of Tourism had been established.

5. His delegation was therefore extremely concerned about the many obstacles to the free development of tourism. A number of highly developed industrialized countries were making it difficult for their citizens to travel abroad by means such as the application of currency restrictions. While the income of countries visited by tourists was being reduced by restrictions on imports, both qualitative and quantitative, the volume of tourism was itself being cut down by the high cost of sea and air transport.

6. Uruguay had supported the main lines of the resolution adopted at the Sofia Conference, and it attached particular importance to the establishment of an intergovernmental body for tourism. The Council had been unable, at its present session, to give the Sofia proposal adequate consideration, but he agreed that it could not transfer its responsibilities in the matter to other United Nations organs. His delegation appreciated draft resolution E/L.1278 submitted by the representative of Mexico, and would support any measures for the early establishment of an intergovernmental organization to deal with tourism and for the formulation of a coherent tourism programme for the United Nations system.

7. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) announced that the sponsors of the amendments contained in document E/L.1280 had decided not to press the amendments to the first pre-ambular paragraph of joint draft resolution E/L.1277. To make it clear precisely what the joint draft resolution

referred to, "agenda item 17 (c)" would be included in the heading, and a reference to the same sub-item would be incorporated in operative paragraph 1. The sponsors of the joint draft resolution had agreed to the insertion in operative paragraph 2 of the words "in the light of the discussions of the subject at the present session of the Council and his 'Review of the Activities and Programmes of the United Nations System of Organizations for the Development of Tourism' (E/4653 and Add.1-4)", with the addition immediately thereafter of the words "including the report of the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism, held in Sofia, and the text of the resolution adopted by it". The sponsors of the amendments had agreed to the omission of the word "possible" from their amended operative paragraph 2.

8. The sponsors of joint draft resolution E/L.1277 were unable to accept the references to the resumed forty-seventh session of the Council, rather than to the General Assembly, the phrase in operative paragraph 2 beginning "or any other proposals..." (E/L.1280, para. 3), or the amendment to operative paragraph 1 (*ibid.*, para. 4). It had been agreed that the original order of the operative paragraphs would be maintained.

9. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) said that the item under discussion was concerned with the development of tourism in the interests of the developing countries. It was generally agreed that those countries needed assistance, but it seemed difficult to reach agreement on any action for that purpose. The sponsors of the joint draft resolution therefore felt that the best solution would be to refer the discussion to the General Assembly, since there was no guarantee that any agreement would be reached even at the Council's resumed forty-seventh session, and there was thus a danger that an important debate might be postponed for another year. In addition, since the proposed action was for the benefit of the developing countries, it was felt that more of those countries should be enabled to participate in the debates leading to a decision.

10. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) said that his delegation could not accept any draft which would mean that the Council would refer back to the General Assembly obligations which had first been entrusted to it by the Assembly. The essential point of his amendments (E/L.1279), which he had withdrawn in favour of those appearing in document E/L.1280, must be retained. He also wished the reference to the "possible" establishment of an intergovernmental agency to be retained. In his study, the Secretary-General should be requested also to take into account draft resolution E/L.1278, which contained a number of useful points.

11. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said his delegation's support for the idea of continuing the discussion in the Council rather than in the General Assembly did not mean that it believed the Assembly was not competent to deal with it. Essentially, what his delegation objected to was the way in which the reference of the item to the General Assembly was

timed. According to the report of the Co-ordination Committee on future institutional arrangements for science and technology (E/4739 and Corr.1), precisely such new institutional arrangements as those now being contemplated for tourism were to be considered by the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, and the Co-ordination Committee would consider them only after ascertaining the views of the Governments of Member States and organizations concerned (see draft resolution in document E/4739 and Corr.1, paragraph 6, operative paragraphs 2 and 4). Furthermore, according to paragraph 47 of its report on the second part of its third session (E/4716), the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had recommended that the Council should request ACC to consider what action might best be taken to ensure a full and effective response by the United Nations system to the needs and opportunities in the field of tourism. The adoption of joint draft resolution E/L.1277 would mean by-passing both those stages.

12. He was not clear as to the implications of the phrase "...any other proposals..." in the amended operative paragraph 2 (E/L.1280, para. 3). It might mean that the Secretary-General would have to hold additional consultations with the specialized agencies; if that were the case, time should be allowed for him to obtain and digest their views and those of Governments, and consequently the Council might not find it desirable to resume discussion of the item before its forty-ninth session.

13. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) said his delegation strongly supported joint draft resolution E/L.1277 with the amendments announced by the representative of India. In its view, the General Assembly was fully competent to discuss the matter. The resumed forty-seventh session of the Council would be very short, and its agenda was already overburdened. The General Assembly was a more representative body and could give more attention to a complex subject which had political overtones.

14. His delegation was strongly in favour of transforming IUOTO, 80 per cent of whose membership already consisted of governmental bodies, into an intergovernmental organization with universal membership, within the United Nations system. Excellent reasons for such a change were adduced in the note submitted by the Secretary-General of IUOTO (E/4653/Add.4), including the difficulties created for members by the organization's legal status, which prevented it from co-operating adequately with United Nations bodies (para. 11).

15. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) hoped that the Council's report would say that item 17 (a) and (b) would be discussed at a future session of the Council. He was willing to accept a reference in the new operative paragraph 2 of joint draft resolution E/L.1277 to the report of the Sofia Conference and the resolution adopted by it, but suggested that the words "as well as the report" should be used instead of "including the report". Reference of the item to the Council's resumed forty-seventh session did not mean that it would not go to the General Assembly. He did

not share the Jamaican representative's fear that the inclusion of the phrase "any other proposals designed to provide more effective machinery for the development of tourism" would require the Secretary-General to obtain information from the United Nations system of organizations, since such information had already been supplied in the Secretary-General's report (E/4653 and Add.1 to 4).

16. Mr. LÓPEZ HERRARTE (Guatemala) asked the sponsors of the joint draft resolution whether they would be prepared to accept the inclusion of the phrase "the Secretary-General should also take account of the Mexican proposals" in the new operative paragraph 2.

17. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) said that the sponsors would be willing to replace the words "or any other proposals designed to provide more effective machinery" in the new operative paragraph 2 by the words "and on any other effective measures". It seemed unnecessary to mention specific proposals, such as those contained in draft resolution E/L.1278, in view of the phrase, already to be found in the new paragraph 2, "in the light of the discussions of the subject at the present session of the Council".

18. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) was prepared to accept the words "and on any other effective measures", provided that the words "such as those contained in the draft resolution submitted by Mexico (E/L.1278)" were added.

19. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed with the Indian representative's views. If a reference to the Mexican proposals was made, other proposals might also have to be included.

20. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) regretted that he was unable to accept the proposal by the United States representative to add the words "such as those contained in the draft resolution submitted by Mexico (E/L.1278)", for the inference would be that the Council had considered the Mexican proposals and was asking the Secretary-General to take them into account. The phrase "in the light of the discussions of the subject at the present session of the Council" in the new operative paragraph 2 implicitly included draft resolution E/L.1278. He would be prepared to accept the insertion of the words "and the proposals" between the word "subject" and the word "at" at the beginning of the new operative paragraph 2.

*The meeting was suspended at 5.5 p.m. and resumed at 5.45 p.m.*

21. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) said that as a result of consultations held during the recess, agreement had been reached on the following wording for the two operative paragraphs. In operative paragraph 1, the words "General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session" would be replaced by the words "resumed forty-seventh session of the Council with a request to submit its conclusions to the twenty-

fourth session of the General Assembly". In operative paragraph 2, the words "through the resumed forty-seventh session of the Council" would be inserted before the words "and submit".

22. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to operative paragraph 1, said that the text read out by the Indian representative was slightly different from that to which his delegation had agreed in the informal consultations. That was no doubt due to a misunderstanding and he suggested a brief suspension of the meeting in order to clarify the matter.

23. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that his delegation could support the text proposed by the Indian representative.

*The meeting was suspended at 5.50 p.m. and resumed at 6.15 p.m.*

24. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation was prepared to accept the compromise formula proposed. In its view, however, the interests of the developing countries would be better served if an intergovernmental tourism organization were established as soon as possible.

25. The PRESIDENT invited delegations to vote on joint draft resolution E/L.1277, as amended.

*The joint draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by 25 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

26. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) said his delegation had abstained from voting because it believed that to postpone positive action on the matter until the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly would be prejudicial to the studies requested. Furthermore, his delegation considered that there would not be sufficient time between the resumed forty-seventh session of the Council and the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly to provide countries with an opportunity to comment on and take decisions regarding the measures adopted at the resumed session.

27. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) associated his delegation with the remarks made by the Argentine representative, and said that his delegation regarded the word "measures" in operative paragraph 2 of the resolution as including all possible alternative machinery.

28. Mr. KRISHNAN (India), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of joint draft resolution E/L.1277, expressed appreciation for the constructive and co-operative spirit shown by all delegations in the informal consultations. He regretted, however, that the Council had been unable to adopt the resolution unanimously.

29. Mrs. GUTMAN de CASTAÑEDA (Mexico) requested that the Council's report should contain a reference to draft

resolution E/L.1278 submitted by her delegation and that the text of that resolution should be included in the recommendations of the resumed forty-seventh session.

30. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) expressed his delegation's gratitude to the sponsors of the joint draft resolution for the flexibility they had shown, which had made it possible to reach almost unanimous agreement. His delegation had accepted the compromise text in order to have time in which to seek a constructive solution, and it would present practical proposals to the Council at its resumed forty-seventh session with a view to making it possible for the Council to refer the matter to the General Assembly. He stressed the importance of the Council's adhering to the spirit of the Sofia Conference.

31. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that his delegation had been encouraged by the spirit of mutual understanding which had characterized the Council's discussions and led to the adoption of a resolution which no delegation had opposed. He realized that there were still difficulties on questions of substance. His delegation did not agree with the formula supported by the USSR representative but believed that the spirit shown during the debate indicated that it would be possible to reach agreement at the resumed forty-seventh session. Positive action could then be taken on the matter at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 6.30 p.m.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Thursday, 7 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 9.10 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 20:	
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations ( <i>resumed from the 1627th meeting</i> ) .....	235

President: Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 20

**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (4668 and Add.1, E/4712; E/L.1276) (*resumed from the 1627th meeting*)**

1. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the sponsors, introduced draft resolution E/L.1276. The draft resolution expressed the Council's gratitude to those specialized agencies and international institutions which had tried to comply with the recommendations of the relevant General Assembly resolutions on the subject of decolonization, and its regret that some agencies and institutions had not extended their full co-operation to the United Nations in that respect. It also endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the President of the Council (E/4712) and made a number of practical suggestions regarding ways in which the specialized agencies and the international institutions might increase their efforts to assist the General Assembly in the implementation of the Declaration. Operative paragraph 7, in particular, suggested means whereby the Governments members of the governing bodies or deliberative organs of the specialized agencies and international institutions might assist the General Assembly and the Council in fulfilling their mandate.

2. The key provision of the draft resolution was operative paragraph 4, which contained the essence of the President's recommendations in his report to the Council, and which closely followed operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII). Since a number of the larger specialized agencies, in addition to UNESCO, had also established relationship agreements with OAU, the question might well be asked, why the sponsors had singled out UNESCO as an example to be followed. The answer was that UNESCO was the only specialized agency which had taken legislative action to give explicit directives concerning assistance to liberation movements.

3. There were, however, a number of elements which were as yet unclear. In that connexion, speaking on behalf of his delegation only, he wished to put certain questions to the representative of UNESCO. He would like to know how much money had been allocated by UNESCO for direct assistance to liberation movements for the two-year period 1971-1972. He would also like to know what UNESCO had done, in addition to publishing a booklet entitled *Apartheid*<sup>1</sup> in 1966, to publicize the question of *apartheid*, neo-colonialism and systems of racist regimes in southern Africa, both on its own initiative and in implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO and of operative paragraph 14 of resolution III adopted at the International Conference on Human Rights in Teheran in 1968.<sup>2</sup> In the autumn of 1968, UNESCO had offered to sell copies of the booklet entitled *Apartheid* at a reduced rate, and his country had bought a large number of copies to use in its school programmes. Since a number of other countries were anxious to take advantage of UNESCO's offer, he would like to know whether copies were still available and whether UNESCO had made any arrangements for republication. The UNESCO race programme, to which his delegation attached great importance, had recently been under attack, and he would appreciate further information on the activities being undertaken by UNESCO in respect of that programme. Lastly, it would be useful if the Council could have some amplification from the representative of UNDP of the reply from the Administrator of UNDP reproduced in the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/AC.109/333).

4. Draft resolution E/L.1276 fully reflected the views expressed by those members of the Council who had actually spoken in the debate on the item, and he urged its adoption by the Council. The resolution should certainly not be construed as an attack on the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations. On the contrary, the sponsors felt that by and large most agencies were doing their best to fulfil the relevant General Assembly recommendations, and the purpose of the draft resolution was to collaborate with the specialized agencies as far as possible in intensifying their activities in that field.

5. Mr. COLE (Sierra Leone) said that his delegation, as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, urged its adoption. With

<sup>1</sup> UNESCO document SHC-SS/67/D.30 A.

<sup>2</sup> See *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2), p. 6.

reference to operative paragraph 4, he said that the establishment of relationship agreements with OAU was intended as a means of providing practical assistance to liberation movements, and not as an end in itself. There was a great deal more that could be done. The draft resolution wished to place on record, however, that other agencies, particularly, IBRD and IMF, could follow UNESCO's lead in taking that first step.

6. Now that UNESCO had signed an agreement with OAU on 10 July 1968, his delegation would like to know how much money had been allocated by UNESCO for refugee relief, how many scholarships the funds could support and how the allocation compared with those of other UNESCO non-educational programmes. It would also like to know how many scholarships had already been awarded under the OAU programme, and what UNESCO had done on its own initiative in the African territories still under colonial domination. The IBRD/IDA report for 1968 referred to schemes which had been organized in Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania,<sup>3</sup> and his delegation would appreciate information on the actual amounts allocated to those schemes for the coming year.

7. He wished to emphasize that, where draft resolution E/L.1276 referred to assistance to refugees from colonial territories, it should in all cases be interpreted as including assistance to the Governments acting as hosts to those refugees. He associated himself with the Tanzanian representative's statement that the draft resolution should not be construed as an attack on the specialized agencies.

8. Mr. KARASSIMEONOV (Bulgaria), speaking as a sponsor of draft resolution E/L.1276, said that the draft warranted the Council's serious attention for several reasons. First, it was based on the historic General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, and on other resolutions on the role of the specialized agencies in decolonization. Secondly, it faithfully reflected the discussions in the Council during its current session, and the operative part in particular embodied suggestions made by various speakers. Lastly, the draft resolution was a praiseworthy attempt to induce the Council to stimulate, encourage and co-ordinate the efforts of the specialized agencies in the matter of decolonization, and contained several practical suggestions in response to the questions raised by those specialized agencies that were resolved to apply the General Assembly's resolutions on decolonization.

9. Stressing the importance of the penultimate paragraph of the preamble, which pointed to the urgent need of the peoples of several colonial territories for assistance, particularly in education and training, health and nutrition, he said the paragraph reflected the unhappy state of affairs prevailing in that part of Africa still dominated by colonialism. The dependent peoples in those territories

were in revolt because the Governments of two countries which were Member States, and one illegal regime, were still opposing decolonization and defying the United Nations. It was a noble task for the specialized agencies to participate actively in the assistance which those peoples should be given, and there could be no doubt what United Nations policy should be on the specialized agencies' role in decolonization. The statements of previous speakers clearly showed that the United Nations regarded the specialized agencies as an integral part of the United Nations system, and that UNESCO had pride of place in that design. UNESCO would, he hoped, make more rapid progress in implementing the policy of decolonization so as to continue to set an example to the other specialized agencies.

10. Welcoming the agreement between UNESCO and OAU, he expressed surprise that apparently nothing practical had yet emerged from the agreement. African Governments should urge the Secretary-General of OAU to reply to UNESCO requests for guidance as to how the purposes of the agreement might best be served. Nevertheless, UNESCO's attitude contrasted favourably with that of IBRD and IMF, whose actions were unfortunately not in keeping with United Nations policy on decolonization. IBRD was still lending money to Portugal and South Africa, and steps should be taken to end that scandalous state of affairs.

11. Operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution was highly important, since it recommended direct aid to the national liberation movements through OAU. Operative paragraph 7 outlined several practical measures which met the specialized agencies' requests for guidance. Sub-paragraph v rightly stressed the need for machinery to review the implementation of the General Assembly's resolutions.

12. It was essential to keep the item on the Council's agenda, and he commended the draft resolution as a realistic, balanced and practical document.

13. Mr. de SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) thanked the representatives of Tanzania and Sierra Leone for the interest they had shown in the activities of his organization, and particularly in the agreement signed on 10 July 1968 between UNESCO and OAU. It was a general agreement, under which both organizations had decided, with the approval of their respective governing bodies, to co-operate in activities such as the exchange of information and statistics. Pursuant to that agreement, UNESCO had received two requests for assistance from OAU, one for financial assistance in the preparation of a festival currently taking place in Algiers and featuring the cultures of Africa, and the other for assistance in organizing a training course for interpreters serving OAU.

14. Under paragraph 3 of resolution 9.12, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its fifteenth session, the Director-General of the organization had been invited to

<sup>3</sup> World Bank/International Development Association, Annual Report, 1968, appendix 2.



initiate correspondence with the Secretary-General of OAU to determine the needs and requests for aid which might be made. Such consultations were bound to take some time, but he was convinced that the Secretary-General of OAU would reply as soon as he had the necessary information.

15. In reply to the question by the Tanzanian representative concerning the financial arrangements to give effect to the agreement, he stated that the resolution adopted by the General Conference did not contain any figures, as the financial implications of co-operation between the two bodies were not yet known, although \$10,000 had been set aside to finance the preparation of a joint programme.

16. Replying to the question concerning UNESCO's "race programme", he said that from unspectacular beginnings in 1949 the programme had resulted in the publication of fifteen studies on the racial question, and that in 1955 those had led to protests from the Republic of South Africa, which had withdrawn from UNESCO. Nevertheless, he wished to reassure the Tanzanian representative that the programme was being continued. With regard to the booklet entitled *Apartheid*, published by UNESCO in 1966, a total of 9,600 copies had been printed, but it was the policy of the organization not to carry a big stock but to make reprints as and when required. Four hundred copies of the publication had been dispatched in November 1968 and a further 1,300 had been supplied to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania at half price in April 1969 for use in schools.

17. With reference to the implementation of resolution III of the International Conference on Human Rights, he gave the assurance that neither the secretariat nor the organization as a whole was neglecting the problem. One of the difficulties was to find ways of disseminating the findings of scientific papers on racialism.

18. Lastly, he said that ways of increasing the number of scholarships available to refugees were being considered, but to his knowledge no application on behalf of a refugee had ever been rejected.

19. Mr. DUMONTET (United Nations Development Programme), replying to the question raised by the Tanzanian representative, said that the reference in document A/AC.109/333 to UNDP activities under General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII) was inadequate, and that some amplification was required.

20. For instance, since the General Assembly's first resolution on the subject (resolution 1514 (XV)), UNDP had withdrawn all aid from territories under South African or Portuguese control and from Southern Rhodesia. UNDP had also acted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII).

21. Since 1966, UNDP had established, on the initiative of the United Kingdom Government, a scholarship programme, which now amounted to \$75,000 annually, to assist Africans from Southern Rhodesia. There were several

examples of efforts made by UNDP, in conjunction with UNHCR, to assist African refugees and to integrate them in the economic and social life of the countries of asylum. UNDP was ready to examine any request for similar projects received from the Governments of the countries of asylum to assist refugees from the territories referred to in General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII).

22. UNDP was providing the Zambian Government with the services of an OPEX expert to help in co-ordinating refugee-assistance measures adopted at the national level.

23. UNDP had established resident representative posts in most of the developing countries either just before or immediately after their accession to independence. Ninety-three such offices, of which more than forty were in Africa, had already been set up to assist Governments, to identify their requirements and to ensure liaison with UNDP. The largest proportion of allocations under the UNDP funds went to African countries.

24. Mr. ALI (International Labour Organisation) said that the Director-General of the International Labour Office submitted a report every year to the International Labour Conference. That report was distributed throughout the world and was given maximum publicity.

25. Mr. PANGGABEAN (Indonesia) said that his delegation had not taken part in the general debate on agenda item 20 for the simple reason that Indonesia's views on colonialism were already sufficiently well known. Indonesia had always supported international action aimed at ending the domination of one country by another. It had been a co-sponsor of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and his delegation lent its full support to draft resolution E/L.1276, which stemmed logically from General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII).

26. Mrs. KAMATH (World Health Organization), replying to the questions raised by the representative of Sierra Leone, said that WHO operated through six regional offices. The regional office for Africa was at Brazzaville, and WHO had long had a liaison officer at ECA. Contacts had already been established with OAU before the co-operation agreement between WHO and OAU had been ratified by the twenty-second World Health Assembly on 23 July 1969,<sup>4</sup> and WHO had been represented in early July at the first meeting of the OAU Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Health Commission. Those contacts were expected to lead to fruitful relations, but no specific request for assistance had as yet been received from OAU.

27. The Director-General reported to each session of the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly any decisions of United Nations bodies or organizations in the United Nations system liable to affect WHO, and both WHO bodies had been apprised in full of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. The forty-third session of the Executive Board in February

<sup>4</sup> Resolution WHA 22.16.

1969 and the twenty-second World Health Assembly had each adopted resolutions approving the steps taken by the Director-General pursuant to the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

28. Furthermore, WHO was also collaborating with UNHCR in the provision of health services to refugees.

29. Mr. CONSOLO (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), replying to the question raised by the Sierra Leone representative, said that the operations of IBRD were a matter of public record. All loan and credit agreements were deposited with the United Nations. He did not at present have full details available, but would be glad to transmit them to the Council later through the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

30. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) wished to appeal to those representatives, particularly of the leading developed countries, who had not yet spoken in the debate. The great Powers were not usually so reticent on matters which touched their interests more nearly.

31. It was to be hoped that the directives received by the specialized agencies in the form of resolutions provided them with adequate guidance on the course of action to be followed.

32. He hoped that draft resolution E/L.1276, of which his delegation was a sponsor, would be unanimously adopted.

33. Mr. EKONDY-AKALA (Congo (Brazzaville)) said that the black population of European colonies in Africa had frequently been enlisted to fight in European wars, of the causes of which they had usually been completely ignorant. The war of 1939-1945 testified to the importance which Europeans attached to liberty. They might therefore have been expected to liberate their African subjects. Events since the end of the Second World War had, however, caused a number of people to lose their illusions on the subject. Those who mouthed the most liberal slogans in favour of freedom and against colonialism still continued to sell arms to Portugal and trade with South Africa.

34. The least which representatives could do was therefore to give some semblance of moral support to the African liberation movement by voting in favour of the present draft resolution. Representatives of the great Powers had spoken out much more vehemently on resolutions of much less fundamental importance.

35. Mr. HILL (Jamaica) said that it required little sacrifice to vote for draft resolution E/L.1276. In the struggle against colonialism, however, attention should not be focused on the assistance which might be afforded by the specialized agencies. There were other much more effective ways of combating colonialism.

36. The PRESIDENT put draft resolution E/L.1276 to the vote.

*At the request of the representative of Upper Volta, the vote was taken by roll call.*

*Norway, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.*

*In favour:* Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico.

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Argentina, Belgium, France, Ireland, Japan.

*The draft resolution was adopted by 17 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.*

37. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom), explaining his vote, said that if a separate vote had been taken on each paragraph of the draft resolution, he would have voted in favour of some and against others. For example, he could not have supported paragraph 2. The freedom of action of IBRD and IMF was strictly limited by their terms of reference. Criticism of those institutions on political grounds was therefore unacceptable. He would also have had to vote against paragraphs 4 and 7, which likewise raised political difficulties.

38. Mr. HOOVER (United States of America) said that, although supporting some of the ideas contained in the draft resolution, his delegation had been unable to vote for it as a whole, since the activities of the United Nations in bringing about self-determination should not depart from the principles embodied in the United Nations Charter and should be such as to enlist the broad support of the Member States. The specialized agencies were effective institutions, and their effectiveness would be diminished by the obtrusion of political issues.

39. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) said that his delegation had abstained from voting in order that its position should be consistent with that adopted on similar issues on previous occasions. The Argentine delegation had also, for example, on constitutional grounds, abstained from voting on General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII). The specialized agencies should be allowed to carry out those activities which were properly within their competence. It was for the Member States to implement resolutions such as that on which they had just voted.

40. Mr. LÓPEZ HERRARTE (Guatemala) said he had reservations regarding some paragraphs of the draft resolution, but had voted in favour because it was a constructive measure in the struggle against colonialism.

41. Mr. PLEHN MEJIA (Mexico) said that his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution E/L.1276 because of its widely known traditional anti-colonialist policy; had a separate vote been requested on operative paragraphs 2, 4 and 7, he would have abstained for legal reasons. For the same reasons, Mexico had abstained in the vote on the sixth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

42. Mr. ESTABLIE (France) said that his delegation had abstained from voting because some of the paragraphs contained recommendations to the specialized agencies which were liable to conflict with their terms of reference.

43. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) found the position of those representatives who

had raised objections on legal or constitutional grounds difficult to grasp. In his opinion, there were no legal factors which could have prevented the Council from adopting draft resolution E/L.1276 as it stood.

44. It was particularly regrettable that those States which were largely responsible for the present situation in Africa had not found it possible to support the draft resolution.

45. The fact had to be faced, however, that the problem of colonialism would not be resolved by action taken by the specialized agencies, but by the African freedom fighters themselves.

The meeting rose at 11.55 p.m.



CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 13: Programmes of international action relating to youth (resumed from the 1631st meeting and concluded) . . . .	241
Agenda item 5: Financing of economic development of the developing countries: (a) International flow of capital and assistance (b) Promotion of private foreign investment in devel- oping countries (c) Export credits Report of the Economic Committee . . . . .	241
Agenda item 9: Evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation Report of the Co-ordination Committee . . . . .	243
Agenda item 19: Future institutional arrangements for science and tech- nology Report of the Co-ordination Committee . . . . .	243

President: Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 13

**Programmes of international action relating to youth  
(E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1) (resumed from the  
1631st meeting and concluded)**

1. The PRESIDENT, recalling the decision that had been taken at the 1631st meeting and noting that no draft resolution on agenda item 13 had been submitted, proposed that the Council should take note of the Secretary-General's note on programmes of international action relating to youth (E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

*It was so decided.*

AGENDA ITEM 5

**Financing of economic development of the developing  
countries:**

- (a) International flow of capital and assistance
- (b) Promotion of private foreign investment in devel-  
oping countries
- (c) Export credits

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/4738)

2. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on agenda item 5 and to vote on draft resolutions I and II. Both draft resolutions

had been adopted by the Economic Committee by 20 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.

I. PROMOTION OF PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT  
IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

3. Mr. POPOV (Bulgaria) said his delegation had abstained when the draft resolution had been put to the vote in the Economic Committee (502nd meeting), and would abstain from voting in the Council because of his country's well-known position on the role of private capital in the development of the developing countries.

4. Mr. POJARSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation had also abstained from voting on the draft resolution in the Economic Committee. That stand had been motivated by reasons which were still valid, and his delegation would once more abstain when the text was put to the vote in the Council. The proposed text was based partly on the conclusions of the Panel on Foreign Investment in Developing Countries, which had met in Amsterdam in February 1969, and which had favoured, *inter alia*, the promotion of contributions of private capital by creating a climate favourable to investment. His country felt that that method was against the interests of the developing countries and that its effect would be to hamper their economic progress.

5. Mr. LAURELLI (Argentina) asked that in the Spanish text of operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution under consideration, the words "*sobre la necesidad de efectuar un análisis más a fondo de*" should be replaced by the words "*un estudio sobre*", in accordance with the text which had actually been adopted by the Economic Committee.

6. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) said that the corresponding passage of the English text would then become "and a study on the effects ...".

7. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that if the Council wished to express its recognition immediately of the need for the further study, referred to in the draft resolution, his delegation would not object. He would point out, however, that, according to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the report of the Economic Committee, the text adopted had merely requested that the need for a further study should be considered. In his opinion, it would be better to let the Secretary-General decide.

8. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that the text as amended according to the Argentine representative's request tallied well with the text adopted by the Economic Committee.

9. Mr. VIAUD (France) said his delegation was prepared to support the proposed new text on the condition that it was submitted as a last-minute amendment; the summary record of the meeting should, however, mention his delegation's view that the Secretariat's report gave a true picture of what had really happened in the Economic Committee.

10. Mr. POJARSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that if the French opinion was mentioned in the summary record, the opposite point of view should also be mentioned. According to the notes taken by his delegation, the Argentine amendment was to the effect that a study should be undertaken, and not that the need for undertaking a study should be considered.

11. Mr. PLEHN MEJÍA (Mexico) said he would vote for the draft resolution before the Council. Nevertheless, he maintained the reservations expressed by his delegation during the general debate (1610th meeting) as to what items should be studied by future panels on the important subject of foreign private investment.

*The draft resolution (E/4738, annex I), as amended, was adopted by 20 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

## II. EXPORT CREDITS AND EXPORT PROMOTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

12. Mr. POPOV (Bulgaria) said that, as in the Economic Committee, his delegation would abstain from voting on the draft resolution, since it was unable to accept the first preambular paragraph. That paragraph referred to decision 29 (II) of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development<sup>1</sup>, which had been adopted with Bulgaria abstaining. His delegation had explained its position at the time.

13. He would also point out that the Russian text of operative paragraph 1 did not correspond exactly to the versions in the other languages.

14. The PRESIDENT said that the Russian text of operative paragraph 1 would be brought into line with the French text, which read: "*Prend acte avec intérêt ...*".

15. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) said that, as in the Economic Committee, his delegation would abstain from voting on the draft resolution under consideration because, not having received the report of the Round Table on Export Credit as a Means of Promoting Exports from Developing Countries (E/4661), his Government had been unable to form an opinion on the matter.

16. Mr. POJARSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation had reservations concerning the draft

resolution, for it was based on the report of the Round Table, whose conclusions were somewhat premature and gave too much attention to the establishment of a system of export credit insurance. The matter was very important and should be studied at leisure and very thoroughly.

17. Operative paragraph 3 went too far, and his delegation had already drawn attention to the unjustifiable financial implications of its application. Furthermore, if the draft resolution were to provide for co-operation with UNCTAD and its secretariat, the work could be organized much more rationally, and some of the financial implications that had been mentioned could be avoided. Moreover, although much had been said in the Economic Committee about the need for avoiding overlapping and duplication, the adoption of the draft resolution would lead to a non-rational use of the available resources.

18. Lastly, being unable to give the report of the Round Table its full approval, his delegation could not accept operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution. It would therefore abstain from voting.

*The draft resolution (E/4738, annex II) was adopted by 21 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.*

19. Mr. VIAUD (France) said his delegation had supported the draft resolution just adopted, but wished, in explaining its vote, to express some reservations. His country had noted with interest the report of the Round Table and some of its conclusions, and was of the opinion that the study which the Secretary-General was requested to carry out with IMF could produce results that might help to lighten the burden which the short-term financing of export credits imposed on developing countries. He was not convinced, however, that operative paragraph 3 could be effectively applied. The study which the Secretary-General would be requested to prepare in consultation with IBRD would be carried out without the intervention of UNCTAD, although it involved a matter within the competence of that body. There was thus a possibility of confusion and misunderstanding.

20. Furthermore, with regard to the substance of the proposal, he was afraid IBRD would be prevented by its Articles of Agreement from undertaking operations involving the financing or refinancing of export credits.

21. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to paragraph 5 of the report of the Economic Committee (E/4738) and especially to the draft contained therein. If there was no objection, he would consider that the Council agreed to include the draft in its report.

*It was so decided.*

*The report of the Economic Committee (E/4738) as a whole, as amended, was adopted.*

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes*, (United Nations publication, Sales No.:E.68.II.D.14), pp. 40 and 41.

## AGENDA ITEM 9

## Evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE  
(E/4743 and Corr.1)

22. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Co-ordination Committee on agenda item 9 (E/4743 and Corr.1) and to vote on the draft resolution on co-ordination at the country level: role of resident representatives, which appeared in paragraph 7.

23. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) said that in many respects the text proposed by the Co-ordination Committee prejudged the conclusions of the Capacity Study which Governments were to receive in two or three months' time. His Government was awaiting that document with much interest, but was not in a position to take a decision before receiving it. It would have liked the document as a whole to be available before any part of it was put into effect.

24. His delegation would abstain from voting on the text; the Council's adoption of the draft resolution would in no way prejudice his Government's position when the Capacity Study was submitted to the General Assembly.

*The draft resolution (E/4743 and Corr.1, para. 7) was adopted by 18 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.*

25. Mr. MBAPILA (United Republic of Tanzania) said that his delegation, like that of Upper Volta, had not been in a position to express an opinion; and he reserved his Government's right to revert to the question later and not to take a decision until it had seen the full text of the Capacity Study. For that reason his delegation had abstained when the Co-ordination Committee and the Council had been called upon to vote on the text that had just been adopted.

26. Mr. RANA (India) recalled his statement in the Co-ordination Committee that his delegation's vote in favour of the draft resolution just adopted was based on the understanding that the text was solely an interim measure for strengthening co-ordination at the country level.

27. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation had abstained for the reasons indicated by the representatives of Upper Volta and the United Republic of Tanzania.

*Paragraph 5 of the report of the Co-ordination Committee, as amended, (E/4743/Corr.1) was adopted.*

28. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the Co-ordination Committee's suggestions in paragraph 6 of its report.

*The report of the Co-ordination Committee (E/4743 and Corr.1) as a whole, as amended, was adopted.*

## AGENDA ITEM 19

## Future institutional arrangements for science and technology

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE  
(E/4739 and Corr.1)

29. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Co-ordination Committee on agenda item 19 and to vote on the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of the report (E/4739 and Corr.1), which the Committee had adopted by 20 votes to none, with 2 abstentions. He drew attention to paragraph 4 of the report concerning the implementation of operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution.

30. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) requested the replacement of the word "including" in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution by the words "and further study of".

31. His delegation had already proposed that amendment in the Co-ordination Committee, and was submitting it again to the Council, where it could be given consideration by a greater number of Member States. The purpose of the amendment was to ensure that the desirability of establishing intergovernmental machinery concerned with the application of science and technology to development was studied more carefully. The text adopted should not appear to prejudice the question from the outset.

32. Mr. McCABE (Ireland) observed that he had already expressed his delegation's concern in the Co-ordination Committee at the proliferation of intergovernmental bodies. Before another was established, care must be taken to make sure that it was really necessary. His delegation therefore supported the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom representative.

33. Mr. HALL (Jamaica) recalled that, when the United Kingdom representative had submitted his amendment in the Co-ordination Committee, the sponsors of the draft resolution before the Council had emphasized that an adequate study had already been made, and that further study was unnecessary. He recalled that the Co-ordination Committee at its 384th meeting had rejected the United Kingdom amendment by 11 votes to 8, with 2 abstentions, and that that vote had been further strengthened by the fact that, in the separate vote requested by the representative of France at the same meeting, the Co-ordination Committee had adopted operative paragraph 1 by 17 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

34. Mr. RANA (India) supported the Jamaican representative's point of view. For the reasons which had led the Co-ordination Committee to reject the United Kingdom amendment, the Council should adopt unchanged the text that had been placed before it.

35. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) supported the observations made by the Jamaican and Indian representatives.

36. Mr. VIAUD (France) supported the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom delegation, although he did not entirely share that delegation's point of view.

37. His delegation would be inclined to recognize at once the usefulness of an intergovernmental organization for the application of science and technology to development, but it knew that there were differences of opinion among delegations, including the sponsors of the draft resolution in document E/4739, as to the type of organization which should be established, and as to its composition and terms of reference. Many points, therefore, were still unresolved, and it would perhaps be preferable for the Council to request a further study of the matter.

38. Moreover, his delegation could not, at least at the present stage and in the Council, support operative paragraph 5. UNCTAD should perhaps establish a specialized body on the application of science and technology, and his delegation would perhaps support the idea at the ninth session of the Trade and Development Board, but it had received no instructions warranting it to say that UNCTAD was competent in the matter. It would announce its decision in due course, taking into account any instructions it had received. His delegation would therefore have to abstain from voting on operative paragraph 5 if it was put to a separate vote.

39. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) associated himself with the Jamaican representative's remarks: his delegation would vote against the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom, for it considered that the Secretary-General's report on the subject (E/4633) had demonstrated the usefulness of establishing intergovernmental machinery for co-ordinating the activities undertaken in the application of science and technology to development.

40. Mr. EL-IMAM (Kuwait) said that his delegation, in consonance with the position it had adopted in the Co-ordination Committee, supported the observations made by the representatives of Jamaica, India, Pakistan and Upper Volta.

41. Mr. DECASTIAUX (Belgium) said he would vote for the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom delegation for the reasons given by the French delegation, and would abstain from voting on operative paragraph 5 if it was put to a separate vote.

42. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that the report of the Secretary-General (E/4633) raised serious problems which must be studied more thoroughly. It was not a matter of delaying the action to be taken, but his delegation was convinced that the Council should not adopt an over-hasty decision. The sole purpose of the amendment submitted by the United Kingdom delegation was to ensure that the action taken resulted from thorough study, and his delegation would support that amendment.

43. Mr. POJARSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation had certain doubts about operative

paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, at least in its present form, particularly if that paragraph was considered in the context of operative paragraph 2.

44. The question was viewed more rationally in operative paragraph 2 according to which the views of member Governments and those of the organizations concerned within the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations concerned would be ascertained before the place and role of any intergovernmental machinery that might be set up for the application of science and technology to development were considered. It was only at a subsequent stage that the Council or, as the case might be, the General Assembly, could take a decision on the establishment of such machinery.

45. His delegation therefore supported the amendment submitted by the United Kingdom delegation and, for the reasons it had given at the 375th meeting of the Co-ordination Committee, would abstain from voting on operative paragraph 5 if it was put to a separate vote.

46. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) recalled that several delegations had abstained from voting in the Co-ordination Committee during the separate vote on operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution under consideration. Argentina, which was not a member of the Trade and Development Board, wished to inform the Council of its opinion that it was not for the Council to recognize the competence of UNCTAD, which had been defined with complete clarity in General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX). His delegation therefore requested a separate vote on operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution.

47. The PRESIDENT put successively to the vote the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom delegation, operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution in document E/4739 and the draft resolution as a whole.

*The results of the voting on the United Kingdom amendment were 11 votes in favour and 11 against, with 3 abstentions.*

*The amendment was not adopted.*

*Operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 10 abstentions.*

*The draft resolution as a whole (E/4739 and Corr.1) was adopted unanimously.*

48. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation reserved the right to state again its views on the desirability of establishing intergovernmental machinery for the application of science and technology to development. Since, by operative paragraph 7 of the resolution just adopted, the term of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development

had been extended until the end of 1971, his delegation hoped that the financial implications of the Advisory Committee's proposals would continue to be submitted to the Council for study.

49. Mr. McCABE (Ireland) recalled that at the 379th meeting of the Co-ordination Committee his delegation had expressed the view that the term of the Advisory Committee should be extended until the end of 1972. Although the amendments which it had proposed to that end had not been adopted, that point of view had been shared by several other delegations.

50. The PRESIDENT announced that the documents concerning agenda items 18, 21 and 22 had not yet been distributed in all the working languages; he therefore proposed that consideration of those items should be deferred until the 1637th meeting.

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.





ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Friday, 8 August 1969

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

at 3.5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS

I. COMPUTERS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 18:	
Development and co-ordination of the activities of the organizations within the United Nations system:	
(a) Reports of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and of the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	
(b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	
(c) Reports of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency	
(d) Expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee .....	247
Agenda item 21:	
Measures to improve the organization of the work of the Council and calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee .....	248
Financial implications of actions taken by the Council at its forty-seventh session .....	250
Agenda item 22:	
Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly .....	251
Adjournment of the session .....	251

*President:* Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 18

Development and co-ordination of the activities of the organizations within the United Nations system:

- (a) Reports of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and of the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
- (b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
- (c) Reports of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency
- (d) Expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE  
(E/4741)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Co-ordination Committee on agenda item 18 (E/4741) and suggested that the Council should examine and vote *seriatim* on the five draft resolutions in paragraph 13 of the report.

*It was so decided.*

2. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) reaffirmed the position taken by his delegation in the Co-ordination Committee; it was important to ensure that draft resolution I did not add to United Nations expenditure.

3. Mr. DECASTIAUX (Belgium) said that his delegation would support draft resolution I which was entirely in accord with his country's concern to modernize the United Nations. However, his delegation had some reservations with regard to the financial implications, which remained unclear.

4. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) associated his delegation with the reservations expressed by the last two speakers.

5. Mr. HILL (Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs) said that the increased activities proposed in draft resolution I could not be undertaken fruitfully without the appointment of experts on a temporary basis. The cost involved would be in the order of \$32,000 in 1970. He assured the Council that the Secretary-General would not proceed to appoint the experts in question until and unless the General Assembly decided to approve a sufficiently large increase in the staff for ACC and inter-agency affairs.

6. Mr. Malcolm O. COLE (Sierra Leone) said that, in the light of the statement by the Assistant Secretary-General, his delegation could vote in favour of draft resolution I.

*Draft resolution I was adopted by 20 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.*

7. Mr. MBAPILA (United Republic of Tanzania) said that his delegation had abstained from voting because it was still in doubt about the financial implications of the resolution.

II. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION ON THE UNITED NATIONS WORK PROGRAMME

8. The PRESIDENT reminded the Council that draft resolution II had been approved unanimously by the Co-ordination Committee. If he heard no comments, he would take it that the Council decided to adopt the draft resolution unanimously.

*It was so decided.*

### III. SUPPLEMENTARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING THE REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

9. Mr. MARTIN-WITKOWSKI (France) said that his delegation was a sponsor of draft resolution III.

10. In the Co-ordination Committee his delegation had requested the Secretariat to supply, for purposes of clarification, a document setting out the existing procedures for transmitting and handling reports of the Joint Inspection Unit. He had received such a document, but it was in a working language other than his own. He requested the Secretariat to circulate it as an official document in all the working languages of the Council.

11. Mr. HILL (Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs) confirmed that in response to the French delegation's request for information in the Co-ordination Committee, a draft had been prepared in consultation with the Joint Inspection Unit. It was an interpretation by that Unit of existing procedures and had not been cleared by the Secretary-General. Those procedures were in some respects in a confused state at the present time and he agreed that it would be useful to have a discussion of the matter at the next joint meeting of ACC and CPC. In the meantime the Secretariat would endeavour to revise the document and issue it in the necessary languages in time for the joint ACC/CPC meeting in October 1969.

12. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of delegations to paragraph 5 of draft resolution III setting forth the proposed future procedure for handling certain reports of the Joint Inspection Unit. If he heard no further comments, he would take it that the Council decided to adopt the draft resolution unanimously.

*It was so decided.*

### IV. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION ON CO-ORDINATION MATTERS, OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION; OF THE JOINT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION, AND OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

13. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) said that, in the Co-ordination Committee, his delegation had had some misgivings about the wording of the operative paragraph in part III of the draft resolution which called upon the Commission on Human Rights to consolidate certain types of information. After receiving assurances from the sponsors, his delegation had been able to support the draft resolution. However, he hoped that the Secretariat would be able to find a more appropriate translation of the word "consolidate" in order to bring the French text into line with the original English.

14. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no further comments, he would take it that the Council decided to adopt the draft resolution unanimously.

*It was so decided.*

### V. DEVELOPMENT AND CO-ORDINATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

15. Mr. VIAUD (France) pointed out that the list of sponsors which headed draft resolution V in the French text of the report was incomplete. His country and Bulgaria were also sponsors.

16. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) pointed out that the reference to the Council's co-ordinating role appeared twice in operative paragraph 2. It had been agreed in the Co-ordination Committee that that reference should be made only once, at the end of the paragraph.

17. The PRESIDENT said that the comments which had been made would be taken into account by the Secretariat.

18. Since draft resolution V had been approved unanimously by the Co-ordination Committee, he took it that the Council would also wish to adopt it unanimously.

*It was so decided.*

### AGENDA ITEM 21

#### Measures to improve the organization of the work of the Council and calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971

#### REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4742)

19. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Co-ordination Committee on agenda item 21 and to vote on the recommendations in paragraph 14 and on the draft resolution on measures to improve the organization of the work of the Council and calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971, which appeared in paragraph 15. The Committee had approved the recommendations in paragraph 14 (b) and (c) by a majority vote and all the other recommendations in that paragraph unanimously.

20. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to the recommendation in paragraph 14 (b), said that his delegation had reservations concerning the proposal for the Commission on Social Development to meet biennially.

*The recommendation in paragraph 14 (b), was adopted by 24 votes to 2.*

*The recommendation in paragraph 14 (c), was adopted by 24 votes to 2, with 1 abstention.*

21. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that paragraph 14 (t) did not make it clear to whom and when the Secretary-General was requested to report on the results of his study. His delegation considered that the Secretary-General should report to the Council at its resumed forty-seventh session.

22. Mr. VIAUD (France) associated his delegation with the United Kingdom representative's remarks. He noted that, according to the draft Calendar of Conferences and Meetings for 1970 (paragraph 16) the Governing Council of UNDP was tentatively scheduled to hold a special session from 16 to 20 March 1970 to examine the Capacity Study. He realized that the final decision concerning the dates would rest with the Governing Council, but wished to point out that the Study, which would probably be issued only a few weeks before the scheduled beginning of the session, was very important and should be examined carefully by Governments so that their delegations would arrive at the special session fully prepared. He therefore thought that it would be better to hold the special session early in April 1970. In any event, the Governing Council would know more about the matter in January and would be able to take an appropriate decision.

23. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that paragraph 10 of the report made it clear that any decision taken at the present stage was subject to further consideration. It seemed reasonable to assume that the Governing Council, in reaching a final decision concerning the special session, would take care not to set a date that would conflict with another important meeting. On that understanding, he could support the suggestion made by the French delegation.

24. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) suggested that the study to be made by the Secretary-General under paragraph 14 (t) might be examined by the Council at its forty-eighth session in January 1970, when it examined its programme of work for the year. That would allow time for a comprehensive paper to be prepared.

25. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) still thought that the study should be examined at the resumed forty-seventh session because, if it was decided that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should henceforth report direct to the General Assembly, it would presumably be necessary to modify the Statute of his Office. That was a decision which only the General Assembly could take.

26. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) said that the Secretariat would try to prepare the paper in question in time for the resumed forty-seventh session.

27. The comments which had been made concerning the Governing Council's special session would be taken into account by the Administrator of UNDP in making his recommendations.

28. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay) asked why it was proposed that the Council's forty-eighth session should be held in two parts.

29. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) explained that the original calendar proposed by the Secretary-General had been along traditional lines. However, the Co-ordination Committee had discussed ways and means of helping the Council to deal with its heavy agenda. An informal working group of the Committee had put forward the proposals reflected in the draft calendar for 1970. As the United States representative had already pointed out, the Council was asked only to approve the schedule in principle, subject to further consideration at the resumed forty-seventh session.

30. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) explained that the question had been discussed at great length in the Co-ordination Committee because, under the old calendar, delegations had had difficulty in attending first the Headquarters session of the Council in spring and then the summer session held shortly thereafter at Geneva.

31. The resumed forty-eighth session to be held in May 1970 would deal only with the reports of the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women. Therefore, members would not be obliged to send large delegations. The new calendar had been proposed in an attempt to improve the organization of the Council's work and to enable it to discuss important items more thoroughly.

32. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ LARRETA (Uruguay) said that, notwithstanding that explanation, his delegation was not convinced that it would be useful to hold the forty-eighth session in two parts. He requested that his delegation's opposition to that arrangement should be clearly reflected in the Council's report. In 1961 the spring session had been held in April and the summer session in July; that arrangement had allowed sufficient time for the necessary preparations.

33. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) observed that so many new organs and committees had been established since 1961 that the organization of the Council's work was now much more difficult. If the Council met in April, it would be unable to discuss the report of either the Commission on Human Rights or the Commission for Social Development; neither of those Commissions would conclude its session until the latter part of March.

*The recommendations in paragraph 14 as a whole were adopted.*

*The draft resolution set forth in paragraph 15 was adopted unanimously.*

34. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to examine paragraph 16 and the attached draft Calendar of Conferences and Meetings.

35. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) noted that four of the five functional commissions scheduled to

meet in 1970 were to hold their sessions at the Geneva Office of the United Nations. His delegation believed that some balance should be maintained between New York and Geneva. Furthermore, the Statistical Commission was currently engaged in a survey of statistical operations throughout the United Nations system, and since the United Nations Statistical Office was in New York it seemed appropriate for that Commission to meet there. His delegation therefore proposed that the Statistical Commission should meet in New York instead of Geneva. Moreover, if the Commission did not meet until October 1970, as proposed in the draft Calendar, it would not have met for two and a half years, an interval considered by statisticians to be far too long, and its report would not be submitted to the Council until 1971. His delegation therefore proposed that the Statistical Commission should meet from 10 to 20 February 1970.

36. Mr. MARTIN-WITKOWSKI (France) pointed out that, in order to preserve a proper balance, the General Assembly had adopted a series of resolutions, of which the latest was resolution 2478 (XXIII), establishing the conditions under which functional commissions of the Council might meet at Geneva. Since the fifteenth session of the Statistical Commission had been held in New York, the principle of alternation between New York and Geneva would be impaired if the sixteenth session were held at Headquarters.

37. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the recommendation made by the Co-ordination Committee in paragraph 16 of its report was not an accurate reflection of the Committee's discussions; it had been repeatedly pointed out that the draft Calendar of Conferences and Meetings was merely provisional and could be modified at the Council's resumed forty-seventh session. In his delegation's view, no final decision on the Calendar should be taken until that time.

38. Mr. KELSO (Observer for Australia), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, said that the Chairman of the Statistical Commission, who was an Australian, was strongly of the opinion that the Commission's sixteenth session should take place after an interval of two rather than two and a half years.

39. Mr. DECASTIAUX (Belgium) observed that one provision of General Assembly resolution 2478 (XXIII)—namely, operative paragraph 6 (e)—was already being violated in that the Council's 1969 summer session at Geneva was not closing six weeks before the opening of the General Assembly's session. In order to uphold the balance and the principle of alternation, he would prefer the Statistical Commission to hold its sixteenth session at Geneva.

40. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said he did not think anyone would maintain that the pattern of conferences laid down by General Assembly resolutions should be immutable in the face of strong objective arguments for one or the other meeting-place.

41. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) observed with reference to the principle of alternation that in 1969 the Population Commission was holding its second successive session at Geneva. However, he believed that, in determining the meeting-place of the Statistical Commission, the professional preference of statisticians should have priority; he therefore supported the United States proposal.

42. Mr. GALLARDO MONTERO (Mexico) said that he agreed with the representative of Belgium that the Statistical Commission should hold its sixteenth session at Geneva. In addition he fully shared the Uruguayan representative's views with regard to the division of the Council's forty-eighth session.

43. The PRESIDENT put the United States proposal to the vote.

*The proposal was not adopted, 10 votes being cast in favour and 10 against, with 7 abstentions.*

44. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council decide to adopt in principle the Calendar of Conferences and Meetings for 1970 and the tentative Calendar of Meetings for 1971, subject to further consideration, if necessary, at its resumed forty-seventh session.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Financial implications of actions taken by the Council at its forty-seventh session (E/4740)**

45. The PRESIDENT drew attention to document E/4740, which presented in summary form the financial implications of the actions of the Council at its forty-seventh session, submitted in accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure. Those implications would be discussed at the appropriate time by the competent organs of the General Assembly. The Secretary-General would review them and, as required, make provision in the revised budget estimates for 1970, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session.

46. Mr. VIAUD (France) said his delegation would comment on the revised estimates at the appropriate time. However, he noted that the estimates of the costs of convening the conference on the problems of the human environment remained the same as those calculated before the Council had adopted resolution 1448 (XLVII) requesting the Secretary-General to make all efforts to reduce the costs of the Conference. In the circumstances, those figures seemed to have little meaning.

47. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) agreed that the figures were meaningless. The Secretariat would make every effort to obtain new estimates of the financial implications in the light of Council resolution 1448 (XLVII). In his view, the procedure for discussion of financial implications by the Council was often pointless.

48. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) asked why, if the procedure was pointless, it continued to be followed. The Council would do well, at some future stage, to explore the possibility of more adequate methods of dealing with programme projections and financial implications.

49. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) agreed that the present system was ineffective, and that discussions of a possible reform of the whole programming and budgetary system of the United Nations would be desirable.

50. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that there was no merit in a procedure which consisted of stating that certain figures in documents before the Council were meaningless and would be replaced by others. As to the substance of the question, her delegation could support no expenditure which would entail an increase in the United Nations regular budget; in her view, the competent organs of the General Assembly should subject the revised budget estimates to keen scrutiny, bearing in mind the discussions which had taken place in the Council.

51. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that, in his opinion, the sum of \$32,000 listed against agenda item 18 should be deleted; the item should have no financial implications.

52. Mr. HILL (Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs) said that, on the contrary the sum in question would be required if the work contemplated was to be carried out effectively.

53. Mr. HALL (Jamaica) expressed agreement with the United Kingdom representative. There had been lengthy discussions in the Co-ordination Committee on the Secretary-General's note setting out the financial implications of the item (E/AC.24/L.362) as a result of which he had understood that the document in question would be withdrawn. He had therefore been surprised to see the sum of \$32,000 included in the table.

#### AGENDA ITEM 22

##### Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly (E/L.1261)

54. The PRESIDENT asked if the members of the Council would authorize him to prepare its report to the General Assembly as indicated in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's note (E/L.1261).

*It was so decided.*

##### Adjournment of the session

55. The PRESIDENT said that his service as President of the Council had enabled him to serve the interests of the

countries to which Belgium rendered technical assistance and also to perform his duties as Belgian Minister of Co-operation for Development more effectively.

56. He was very much in favour of the "internationalization" of bilateral assistance; he was eager to link Belgian bilateral aid to the assistance provided by international organizations and, so far as possible, to co-ordinate it with other bilateral aid. That was an easy matter at Brussels, the Headquarters of the European Communities. Whenever the representatives of African countries with which Belgium had concluded co-operation agreements came to Brussels, meetings were held with the Common Market authorities and in particular with the European Development Fund. His service as President of the Council had given him the opportunity for closer contact with the President of IBRD and with the Administrator of UNDP.

57. He was also very much in favour of what he called the "multiplier effect". That effect could be achieved through the international agencies when, for example, the help of technicians was made available to the developing countries in formulating worth-while technical projects which they then submitted to the international authorities, thus obtaining international financing which they would have been unable to secure without such co-operation.

58. Belgium had committed itself to pay \$80 million to the European Development Fund over a period of five years, to supply \$4.5 million of food aid under the International Grains Arrangement, and to increase its contribution to UNDP to \$2.5 million for 1970.

59. Unfortunately, however, in Belgium as in most of the industrialized countries today, development aid was not regarded by everyone as a matter of priority. The budgetary situation and the balance of payments of the donor countries carried too much weight in determining and influencing their aid policy. That state of affairs did not meet the needs of the developing countries, which had to make medium-term and long-term plans with a reasonable assurance of sustained financing, and which should not have to share the burden of readjustment imposed by the financial difficulties of the industrialized countries.

60. After an interval of sixteen years, he had returned to the presidency of an organ to which the United Nations Charter entrusted almost unlimited responsibility. Perhaps the international community had not yet been able to define in specific terms the role which should be played by the Council in laying down the guidelines for an international economic and social policy. That was in any case a difficult task, and the developing countries could make progress only through an accumulation of modest and painstaking efforts. However, the current session had yielded no sign of the political will to make such progress a reality. The network of decision-making organs of the United Nations had become more complex in recent years, but there was little to be gained by stripping the Council of yet more of its functions and handing them over to other organs if the political will was lacking.

61. On the other hand, the Council seemed to him to be healthily alert to new problems and new ideas, and had been able to broaden and refine the concept of development. The human environment, the sea-bed, pollution, urbanization, demography, technology and science were approached on the basis of highly professional studies and discussed in a way calculated to enlighten world opinion. In addition, the Council would shortly adopt a long-term comprehensive strategy and would then be in a position to propose at least a minimum of coherence and stronger guidelines for the innumerable development projects. It had managed to attune its thought—if not its action—to the changing currents in contemporary society. In addition it had developed a complex network of machinery which, given the necessary co-ordination, should gradually provide a strong supporting structure.

62. However, the Council had not only to do useful work; it must also ensure that the results of its work reached the outside world. Its general debate, however well prepared with high-quality background material, did not represent a fount of critical collective thought to which those responsible for vital economic decisions could come each year in search of inspiration. One reason was that, despite its length and the number and variety of those entitled to take part, no effort was made to delimit the subjects dealt with, to focus the discussion on a few main points, or to limit the length of speeches. A further reason was that the Council's powers were limited to making recommendations. Nevertheless, it should be able to increase its influence in world affairs if serious efforts were made in the right direction.

63. The general debate at the current session had emphasized the general concern over the population explosion. According to the figures put before the Council, the world population would double in the next twenty-five years. Yet little that was new had emerged from the general debate. The Council had been told that in some areas, including many parts of Africa, under-population was an obstacle to development; that family planning was a personal and social problem that went beyond the competence of economists and statisticians; that lack of education rendered family planning an ineffective remedy for over-population in many areas; and that pleas for birth control made by the representatives of industrialized countries were met with suspicion in many developing countries. But the President of IBRD had called population growth the greatest obstacle to the economic and social progress of the vast majority of under-developed peoples, and the International Conference on Human Rights, 1968, had acknowledged family planning as a necessity for human dignity.

64. During the Council's discussion of the problem, WHO had reiterated that it was not responsible for promoting any particular demographic policy and was not bound by any system of family planning or fertility control. Those were matters for Governments and families to decide, and the function of WHO was to give technical advice to countries requesting it. The Council had learned that the United Nations had established a United Nations Fund for Popu-

lation Activities to assist Member States in drawing up and executing programmes, and that voluntary contributions of \$3.5 million had already been made to the Fund. The Committee for Development Planning had called upon the world community to formulate its position with regard to population growth and to implement a population policy conceived to influence the main determinants of demographic growth. For that purpose, the Committee maintained, knowledge concerning the problem and possible remedies should be widely disseminated, and the appropriate facilities assured. But the Council had made no attempt to define such a policy, to show how those determinants could be influenced, or to identify those facilities. The Council should not be content to watch an already critical situation deteriorating every day and to evade its responsibilities out of a misdirected "respect for the human personality" that would allow the population explosion to cancel out all the progress which could be expected in human welfare. He deplored the fact that the Council had nothing to show for its session on a matter of paramount importance for the future of mankind.

65. With regard to the preparations for the Second United Nations Development Decade, he was deeply concerned at the atmosphere of weariness and disillusion which was now apparent on both sides. Despite the growing needs of the developing countries, despite the population explosion, the net flow of financial resources from the developed market-economy countries had fallen from 0.79 to 0.68 per cent of their gross national product in 1967, and it was to be feared that the reduction in commitments for the last years of the present decade would cause a further drop. Taken as a whole, the rich countries, far from drawing closer to the common target of 1 per cent set by the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, were lagging even further behind it. The majority of aid-giving countries seemed to recognize that, at the present rate, assistance efforts were insufficient to provide the stimulus required in the developing countries, but they seemed reluctant to increase their contributions on the grounds that the existing institutional framework was inadequate.

66. If the first Development Decade had not been a success, the reason was that neither side had been willing to make commitments. An international strategy for development should aim to harmonize the policies of Member States and gradually adapt them to converge on a single objective: the establishment of a better-organized world economy. The very notion of strategy implied commitments from the participants. Far too often, in their policy in relation to the developing countries, the industrialized countries thought in nineteenth-century terms and resorted to charity, which could relieve hardship but which had never generated development. The degree of development reached in the developed countries was the result of commitments made by Governments, political parties, employers and trade unions—in short, by all the vital forces of the nation. Responsible men had understood that development required structural reforms which had to be accepted by everybody; that economic problems had to be

tackled through a policy of industrial conversion; that social problems could be solved only through the application of a social policy directed towards the redistribution of income; and that structural policies needed the support of definite commitments and an assurance of continuity. But in their relations with the Third World, the developed countries did not seem to have grasped that the laws which governed the development of national economies also governed that of the world economy. When it came to building an integrated world economy, the developed countries became afraid of planning, although it had become an essential instrument of their growth; they feared to commit themselves.

67. The argument that annual budgeting prevented the industrialized countries from entering into medium-term or long-term commitments towards the developing countries was invalidated by modern budgetary techniques and international agreements. In the United States of America, the Planning, Programming, Budgeting System had revolutionized methods in both the private and public sector; major undertakings and government departments which applied that technique were well satisfied with it and were extending its applications. The System extended the budgeting period to five, ten or even twenty years, divided into annual instalments, and provided a means of linking medium-term or long-term programming with the preparation of the annual budget.

68. Moreover, many cases could be quoted in which international agreements and commitments had paved the way for achievements that would otherwise have been impossible. That applied, in particular, to the Marshall Plan, the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, and the establishment of the European Economic Community. In each case the original idea had been revolutionary; it had implied profound changes in outlook, in habits, and even in institutions and economic structures; but, where their own interests were plain, the industrialized countries had not shrunk from innovation.

69. It would also be in their interest, economically and politically, to make commitments to the developing countries, quite apart from the moral imperative which was the most important consideration. It might be difficult for some donor countries to make political commitments, but several industrialized countries had done so. Canada, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway had all set themselves to improve their aid to developing countries and to ensure its continuity.

70. However, the establishment of a truly international economy entailed more than fixing the volume of aid and

meeting the due dates. For the developed countries it entailed, *inter alia*, the removal of trade barriers, the diversification of production, and industrial reorganizations calculated to improve the world-wide division of labour. For the developing countries it entailed opening their markets to the products of other developing countries and, more particularly, creating the conditions for development, without which any aid would largely be wasted. The developing countries should draw up national development plans, commit themselves to structural reforms in the social and fiscal sphere, improve agricultural and land tenure, and accept family planning. They should strive to expand their markets and their scope for organized action by bringing their plans into harmony with those of their neighbours, by seeking to make regional agreements, and by lending their aid to countries less advanced than themselves.

71. It had often been said that it was impracticable to set specific development targets for a period as long as a decade. That made it vital to institute procedures of consultation, and to set up machinery to adjust the strategy from time to time and to keep the flow of aid moving satisfactorily. The strategy must on no account be limited to mere declarations of intent at the beginning of the Second Development Decade, which would thereafter remain a dead letter. There must be formal commitments to which every country would subscribe and which would possess all the validity of a treaty.

72. Young people today were questioning the existing world order, in which over 130 sovereign countries claimed the right to run their own affairs with minimum regard for the interests of others; in which States armed against one another; and in which one-third of the people were far richer than the rest. Young people loved danger and rejected the consumer society. They should be offered the opportunity to serve the cause of the developing two-thirds of the world. In nineteenth-century Belgium, poverty, inequality and injustice had given rise to political and ideological movements and to the formation of trade unions and youth groups; young and old had worked together for the fulfilment of their ideals. Statesmen must listen to young people and enlist their support in solving the world's problems. Young people had much to contribute because, although they lacked knowledge and experience, they had a sense of the world as it was. They must be trained to become aware of their potentialities and equipped to work as brothers on a united Earth.

73. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the forty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council adjourned.

The meeting rose at 6.40 p.m.