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*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.