



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Forty-sixth Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

Thursday, 5 June 1969,
at 10.50 a.m.



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President: Mr. Raymond SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 9

The role of the co-operative movement in economic and social development (*continued*)* (E/4648, E/L.1256, E/L.1259)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider draft resolution E/L.1259 on the role of the co-operative movement in economic and social development.

2. Mr. CHRISTIANSEN (Norway) pointed out that delegations had only just received the draft resolution and had not yet had time to consult their Governments about it. As he himself was in that situation, he would prefer that consideration of the draft resolution should be deferred to the next day.

3. After an exchange of views in which Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta), Mr. CHRISTIANSEN (Norway), Mr. SCHUURMANS (Belgium) and Mr. GELEV (Bulgaria) took part, the PRESIDENT suggested as a compromise that the sponsors of the draft resolution should introduce it at the current meeting but on the understanding that the debate and vote on it would take place the following day.

It was so decided.

4. Mr. EL HADI (Sudan) said that his country, as one of the sponsors, was particularly well-qualified to introduce draft resolution E/L.1259 on the co-operative movement because of its long experience in the matter. He referred in that regard to the Gezira project, which was run on a partnership basis between the Sudanese Government, some 75,000 tenant-cultivators (former nomadic tribes from the area, who still owned the land, although its use had been

nationalized) and the Gezira Board. The Government supplied the installations, water, canals, seeds, fertilizers, insecticides and agricultural equipment and received 40 per cent of the profits; 46 per cent of the profits went to the tenant-cultivators, who formed the labour force; and 8 per cent went to the Board, which was responsible for administration, social services, research work and marketing of the cash crops. The remaining 6 per cent was divided equally between social development, local government and a tenants' reserve fund. That project had radically transformed the lives of the people concerned, by providing them with a steady income, security in the form of the reserve fund and various social services such as education, medical care and housing. It had become the corner-stone of the economic and social development of the Sudan and was a model for other experiments of the same kind, which all harmoniously blended collectivism and individualism.

5. Traditional co-operatives had also expanded considerably in the Sudan over the past twenty years in widely varying forms, such as agricultural co-operatives, consumer co-operatives and credit co-operatives. The Sudan was fully prepared to offer the benefit of its experience to other African countries facing the same problems.

6. At the fourth Co-operative Conference, held at Khartoum in March 1969, the Sudan Director of Co-operatives had announced the creation of a central co-operative union, the consolidation of education and training programmes, and the formulation of programmes for the development of certain parts of the country through the creation of new co-operatives. All those measures were in line with the ILO recommendation on the role of co-operatives in the economic and social development of the developing countries.^{1/}

7. His delegation attached great importance to the role of the co-operative movement in economic and social development, particularly in the context of the Second United Nations Development Decade, and therefore took special pleasure in submitting draft resolution E/L.1259 in co-operation with the delegations of the Upper Volta and Bulgaria.

8. He then introduced the draft resolution to the Council, paragraph by paragraph.

9. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) thanked the Polish delegation, which had raised the question at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly^{2/} and had submitted to the Council a memorandum on the role of the co-operative movement in economic and social development (E/4648), and all the delegations

^{1/} See International Labour Conference, Fiftieth Session, Geneva, 1966, Records of Proceedings (Geneva, International Labour Office, 1967), annex XV, Recommendation No. 127 (4), p. 814.

^{2/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 12, document A/7426, para. 9.

*Resumed from the 1589th meeting.

which had expressed an interest in the question, both in the General Assembly and in the Economic and Social Council. His delegation was convinced that the co-operative movement had an important role to play in such sectors as production, marketing and credit, particularly in the context of the Second United Nations Development Decade. The Council should do everything possible to ensure that the contribution of the co-operative movement was properly reflected in international development strategy during the coming decade.

10. He particularly stressed the importance of operative paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 of the draft resolution submitted to the Council by his delegation, in co-operation with the delegations of Bulgaria and the Sudan, and he announced that the Tanzanian delegation had expressed a desire to become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

11. Mr. GELEV (Bulgaria) associated himself with the statements made by the representatives of the Sudan and the Upper Volta. He said that the documents before the Council during its consideration of agenda item 9—particularly the memorandum submitted by the Polish delegation (E/4648) and the statement submitted by the International Co-operative Alliance^{3/}—as well as the remarks made by a number of delegations during the discussion (1588th and 1589th meetings) had demonstrated the importance of the role of the co-operative movement in the economic and social development of the developing countries and the need for a long-term programme for the expansion of the movement, particularly in the context of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

12. When the Economic Committee had discussed agenda item 6 concerning land reform, several delegations, including the Bulgarian delegation, had drawn attention to some particularly interesting conclusions—which had appeared in the summary of the report on progress in land reform prepared by the Secretary-General in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization (E/4617 and Corr.1 and 2)—on the part which co-operatives could play in promoting land reform and in the general economic development of the developing countries.

13. He hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by the Council in its existing form, especially as none of its provisions should give rise to objections.

14. Mr. KHANACHET (Kuwait) said that his delegation wished to become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 19

Elections (E/4631 and Add.1-3, E/4632, E/4645 and Add.1, E/L.1247 and Add.1 and 2, E/L.1248 and Add.1-4)

15. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take up agenda item 19, concerning the election of members of the functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council.

At the invitation of the President, Miss Guevara Achaval (Argentina), Mr. Debergh (Belgium), Mr. Naito

(Japan) and Mr. Nelson (United States of America) acted as tellers.

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect eight members of the Statistical Commission (see E/4632) to serve for a term of four years. Three members were to be elected from the African States, one from the Latin American States, three from the Western European and other States, and one from the socialist States of Eastern Europe.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	26
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	26
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

Number of votes obtained:

Belgium	26
Libya	26
Morocco	26
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	26
Ireland	25
Uganda	25
Venezuela	25
United States of America	24

Having obtained the required majority, Belgium, Ireland, Libya, Morocco, Uganda, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and Venezuela were elected members of the Statistical Commission.

POPULATION COMMISSION

17. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect a member from the Western European and other States who would remain in office until 31 December 1972. That election was made necessary by the fact that at its resumed forty-fifth session the Council had decided to defer the election of that member to the forty-sixth session.

18. Mr. POWER (Ireland) nominated New Zealand to be a member of the Population Commission until 31 December 1972.

19. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should apply rule 72 of its rules of procedure and said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that New Zealand was elected a member of the Population Commission.

It was so decided.

20. The PRESIDENT then invited the Council to elect nine members of the Population Commission (see E/4632) who would remain in office for a period of four years. Those members were to be elected on the following geographical basis: two from the African States, two from the Asian States, two from the Latin American States, two from the Western European and other States, and one from the socialist States of Eastern Europe.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	26
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	26
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

^{3/} Document E/C.2/673.

Number of votes obtained:

Barbados	26
Haiti	26
Japan	26
Tunisia	26
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	26
Iran	25
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	25
United States of America	21
Cameroon	4
New Zealand	4
Chad	1
Kenya	1
Morocco	1
Sierra Leone	1
United Republic of Tanzania	1

Having obtained the required majority, Barbados, Haiti, Iran, Japan, Tunisia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were elected members of the Population Commission.

21. The PRESIDENT observed that a member from the African States still remained to be elected. The African group of countries had just announced that it was nominating Gabon. He therefore suggested that the Council should apply rule 72 of its rules of procedure and said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that Gabon was elected a member of the Population Commission.

It was so decided.

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

22. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect ten members of the Commission for Social Development (see E/4632) who would remain in office for a period of three years. Those members were to be elected on the following geographical basis: two from the African States, two from the Asian States, two from the Latin American States, two from the Western European and other States, and one from the socialist States of Eastern Europe.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	26
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	26
<i>Required majority:</i>	14
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Czechoslovakia	26
Italy	26
Mauritania	26
Philippines	26
Canada	25
Sweden	25
Thailand	25
Chile	23
Guatemala	23
Sierra Leone	23
Cuba	2

Having obtained the required majority, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, Italy, Mauritania, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sweden and Thailand

were elected members of the Commission for Social Development.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

23. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect eleven members of the Commission on the Status of Women (see E/4632) who would remain in office for a period of three years. Those members were to be elected on the following geographical basis: three from the African States, two from the Asian States, two from the Latin American States, three from the Western European and other States, and one from the socialist States of Eastern Europe.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	27
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	27
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

Number of votes obtained:

Mauritania	27
Tunisia	27
United Arab Republic	27
Canada	25
Hungary	25
Iran	25
Iraq	25
Belgium	24
Colombia	24
Austria	23
Uruguay	21
Australia	1
Dominican Republic	1
Guatemala	1
Italy	1
Peru	1
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1

Having obtained the required majority, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Mauritania, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Uruguay were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women.

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

24. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect eight members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (see E/4632) who would remain in office for a period of four years. The members were to be elected from among the States Members of the United Nations, the States members of the specialized agencies and the States adhering to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, taking into account the principles of equitable representation of opium-producing or coca leaf-producing countries, of countries where the manufacture of narcotic drugs was important, and of countries in which drug addiction or the illicit traffic in drugs constituted a serious problem. The Council should also take into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	27
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0

<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	27
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	26
Turkey	25
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	25
Brazil	24
Jamaica	24
Japan	24
Lebanon	23
Togo	23
China	9
Albania	1
Cuba	1
Iran	1
Tunisia	1

Having obtained the required majority, Brazil, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Togo, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

25. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect nine members of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning; two should be from African States, two from Asian States, two from Latin American States, two from Western European or other States, and one from a socialist State of Eastern Europe. He drew the attention of members of the Council to the note by the Secretary-General (E/4631 and Add.1-3), which contained information concerning the Committee and the names of countries which had notified the Secretary-General of their candidature for election.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	27
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	27
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Libya	27
Tunisia	27
Bulgaria	26
Finland	26
Malaysia	25
Australia	24
Brazil	24
Colombia	24
Pakistan	24
Iran	2
Albania	1
Chile	1
Cuba	1
Cyprus	1
India	1
Iraq	1

Having obtained the required majority, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Finland, Libya, Malaysia, Pakistan and Tunisia were elected members of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

26. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect ten members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, who would remain in office for a period of three years beginning on 1 August 1969. He drew the attention of members of the Council to the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1248 and Add.1-4) in which they would find the names of States which had informed the Secretary-General of their candidature for election.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	27
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	27
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Nigeria	25
Chile	24
Philippines	24
Sweden	24
Switzerland	24
Bulgaria	23
Indonesia	22
Turkey	21
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	21
Sierra Leone	18
Australia	15
Spain	15
Argentina	1
India	1
Italy	1
Malawi	1
Mexico	1
Niger	1
Norway	1
United Arab Republic	1
United States of America	1

Having obtained the required majority, Bulgaria, Chile, Indonesia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

27. The PRESIDENT INVITED THE Council to elect ten members of the Commission on Human Rights (see E/4632), who would remain in office for three years. Of the members elected, three should be from African States, one from an Asian State, two from Latin American States, three from Western European or other States, and one from a socialist State of Eastern Europe.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	27
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	27
<i>Required majority:</i>	14

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Ghana	27
Morocco	27

Peru	27
Democratic Republic of the Congo	26
Poland	25
Guatemala	24
Iraq	24
Turkey	21
Netherlands	18
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	15
Italy	14
Albania	1
Cuba	1
Cyprus	1
Sweden	1
Yugoslavia	1

Having obtained the required majority, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Guatemala, Iraq, Morocco, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

Ireland were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights.

28. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Council still had to elect members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, and elect one member of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, in which a seat had remained vacant since the last elections. The member elected would remain in office until 31 December 1969 and should be from a Latin American State. The ordinary elections to that Committee would be held at the resumed forty-seventh session of the Council.

29. Mr. BONNICK (Jamaica) wished to point out that his country was not a candidate for the vacant seat in the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

The meeting rose at 1.35 p.m.