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*President* : Mr. Foss SHANAHAN (New Zealand).

*Present* :

Representatives of the following States: Afghanistan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Italy, Japan, Jordan, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Iraq, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Tunisia, Yugoslavia.

Observers for the following non-member States: Federal Republic of Germany, Holy See, Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Health Organization.

AGENDA ITEM 3

World social situation (E/3489; E/CN.5/346/Rev.1, E/CN.5/346/Add.1-5, E/CN.5/357; E/CN.5/361)

GENERAL DEBATE (*continued*)

1. Mr. KAKITSUBO (Japan) said that the suggestions contained in the *Report on the World Social Situation* (E/CN.5/346/Rev.1) for dealing with the problem of balanced social and economic development were most timely, and might with advantage be adopted as practical policies by Member States.
2. His delegation agreed with the view expressed in chapter II of the *Report* (pp. 38-39) that, while it was theoretically not possible to state what level of social development should go with given levels of economic development, the practical process of decision-making could be assisted by an empirical study of actual patterns of development — i.e., by making comparisons between countries where social and economic development had gone hand in hand and countries where such a balance had not been achieved. The case-studies recommended should provide much valuable information.
3. In chapter III of the *Report*, an attempt had been made to outline certain patterns which would show whether a given country was "balanced" or "unbalanced", by

taking a number of selected countries and comparing their respective levels of economic growth and social development. But, since the main criterion used in grouping countries according to their level of economic development was per caput national income, the patterns produced were not a true reflection of existing conditions. The levels of minimum social development needed to maintain current rates of economic growth would naturally differ between countries with a high industrial growth and those with a low growth, even if their respective per caput national incomes were the same; and a country in the process of rapid economic expansion would have to face much more difficult social problems than a country developing at a slower pace. In future studies, therefore, countries should be grouped according to their stage of industrialization or their industrial structure.

4. His own country had to maintain a high rate of economic growth in order to secure full employment for the million new workers who were entering the labour market each year. At the same time, as his government's main efforts had thus far been concentrated on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the economy after the Second World War, the infrastructure — such as roads and transportation — had been largely neglected and developments in social security, town planning and technical education had been slow. Accordingly, in the ten-year economic and social development plan covering the period 1960-1970, the Japanese Government intended to allocate the equivalent of \$45,000 million of public funds for the improvement of housing and sanitary conditions, the establishment of educational and social welfare institutions and the improvement and expansion of roads, harbours and transport and communication facilities.

5. As to the developing countries, so long as their programmes of social development were sound and promised effective results, his country would offer them all the assistance it could, and would most willingly co-operate with the United Nations in its technical assistance activities in the social field. In March 1961, it had concluded an agreement with the United Nations for the establishment of the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, which was designed to train nationals from countries of Asia and the Far East in crime prevention. He hoped that other Member States would give the institute their moral support.

6. Mr. ANIEL QUIROGA (Spain) observed that, although no one could deny the interrelationship between economic and social factors, balanced economic and social development could not be regarded as the foundation of prosperity, and progress should not be measured merely by utilitarian and economic criteria. There were other matters to be taken into account, such as education, and moral and religious considerations. Social and economic

development and higher levels of living were only the first steps towards assuring the well-being of mankind. As stated in a recent Papal Encyclical entitled *Mater et magistra*, the only genuine solution for problems of population growth lay in an economic development and social progress which respected and promoted true human, individual and social values.

7. Differences in the rate and character of economic development in different countries had created social problems peculiar to each individual country, which could be solved only on a national, or perhaps regional, basis. In his own country, plans for balanced economic and social development had been applied with outstanding success in the provinces of Jaén and Badajoz, which had formerly suffered from seasonal unemployment. Spain regarded social harmony and stability as one of the most important requirements for economic progress and made every effort to apply the principle of social justice and to remove social inequalities.

8. His delegation fully endorsed the comments made on pages 24 and 25 of the *Report on the World Social Situation* concerning the social consequences of industrialization. The less developed countries should not be encouraged to embark on hasty industrialization and urbanization, which might cause workers to swarm from the country into the towns, with disastrous consequences for family and communal life.

9. On the other hand, he could not accept the conclusions which emerged from the section in chapter II entitled "Social obstacles to economic development". The view that economic progress was most rapid where the birth rate was lowest was open to criticism on ethical and religious grounds; and he could not acquiesce in the distinction drawn between technical and scholastic education in the Middle Ages.

10. With those exceptions, his delegation regarded the *Report* as a valuable starting point for the extensive programme which the Secretary-General had put forward. Some further studies might be made of methods of analysing income distribution and levels of living in individual countries.

11. Subject to certain amendments which he would submit in the Social Committee, his delegation supported the draft resolution II (E/3489, chapter XII) on urbanization proposed by the Social Commission. A department of urbanization had been established in the Spanish Ministry of Housing, and the problem was being tackled in both rural areas and in large towns. In principle, he agreed with the proposal to convene an *ad hoc* group of experts on housing and urban development to advise the Social Commission. Housing was one of the most important problems of modern times, and public investment in housing in his own country had amounted to \$750 million over the past twenty years.

12. With regard to social defence, he would endorse the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Second United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (*ibid.*, paras. 59-63), and wished to draw the Council's attention to the serious problem of juvenile delinquency, which in recent years had spread like an epidemic among the youth of the

more prosperous classes, and plainly illustrated the need to emphasize the ethical, cultural and religious, as well as the economic, factors involved in social development.

13. His delegation would support the draft resolutions V, VI and VII (*ibid.*, chapter XII) proposed by the Social Commission, though it would urge the Council not to have excessive recourse to the services of expert committees.

14. Mr. NELSON (Denmark) observed that the concept of social policies and economic policies as two completely distinct entities had been abandoned. In most countries all that remained was a mere difference of emphasis on social and economic factors, and where the dividing line was still maintained, that was due partly to respect for tradition and partly to purely practical considerations calling for some degree of specialization to deal with the complicated problems of the modern world.

15. The Danish people had been completely unprepared for the advent of industrialization, and increased national wealth and higher standards of living had been achieved at the price of serious social dislocations. It had taken many decades to bring social development into line with economic development by a process that he could only describe as muddling through. At that time, the greater part of the population was assured of fairly decent living conditions: but although the period of hit or miss was over, there was still much to be done before it could be claimed that the two related elements had developed to the optimum. It was extremely difficult to achieve balanced development as defined in paragraph 5 (iii) of chapter VI of the *Report*; but the difficulties involved should not prevent the effort from being made.

16. The problem of balanced development was of especial interest to the developing countries. As was stated on page 16 of the *Report*, the gap between the less developed and the more developed countries, while not necessarily visible in all aspects of human welfare, had been widening for many years, at least in regard to per caput production of goods and services. The less developed countries were, quite understandably, in a hurry to catch up with the more advanced countries: and in their efforts to do so, they could not afford to make the many costly mistakes which the advanced countries had made in their earlier stages of development.

17. One factor underlying the concern with balanced economic and social development might perhaps be a feeling in some quarters that international development programmes had concentrated primarily on economic development, with a consequent risk of underestimating the importance both of social development and of a simultaneous co-ordinated advance in the social and economic fields. He doubted whether there were any grounds for such apprehension since the first United Nations assistance programmes had been programmes of advisory services in the field of social welfare. Further, many of the specialized agencies had been persistent champions of social welfare in its various aspects, and none more so than the ILO.

18. The fact that the values of different economic and social programmes could not be compared in any precise manner in terms of what the programmes accomplished

for development as a whole meant that, when governments were trying to attain a balance between their efforts in the economic and social, as well as other, spheres, they were obliged to use empirical evidence in order to determine the optimum relationship. As stated in paragraph 10 on page 97 of the *Report*, government allocations for economic and social development were in the last analysis essentially the outcome of political decisions, but those decisions could benefit from various kinds of empirical data on the interrelations of economic and social factors. The empirical approach adopted in part II of the *Report* and in the case studies found in its addenda (E/CN.5/346, Add.1-5) had been extremely fruitful, and his delegation hoped that the additional studies recommended would be carried out and would provide a broader factual basis for reaching an adequate understanding of the problems of balance.

19. The question of balanced economic and social development demonstrated plainly the falsity of the concept that it was the politician's duty to decide what policies were to be pursued and the civil servants duty to find out how to put the policies into effect. It was becoming increasingly clear that civil servants could not limit themselves to mere implementation of policies; they had to consider, too, whether policies in different fields were in fact capable of simultaneous realization. For that, they needed not only information on the many factors involved, but a fair insight into the way in which those factors were interrelated: and the *Report on the World Social Situation*, together with the studies recommended by the Secretary-General, would be of immense assistance to them.

20. Mr. MELLER-CONRAD (Poland) recalled the time when statements by the Polish and other delegations on the problems of balanced economic and social development had been treated as propaganda. The reports before the Council, despite their errors, represented a first step on the right road. The main theme of the *Report on the World Social Situation* — the need for balanced development — was most apt, for all social development had an economic basis. The *Report* included a tentative definition of balanced development and on page 38 rightly pointed out that the index usually used, namely per caput national income, did not give a full picture of such optimum development because it failed to reflect the social value of goods produced and of services supplied, and thus the level of living of individuals and communities.

21. Apart from interesting data and observations, the *Report* contained serious defects such as generalization carried to extreme lengths and false objectivity. It appeared not to have made enough use of the lessons of experience in the socialist countries. By the very fact that their planned economy covered every aspect of life, those countries were the best equipped to apply a policy of balanced economic and social development. Their achievements had not been given the prominence they deserved.

22. Furthermore, the *Report* was purely statistical and static. It was unrealistic not to take into account such social and political processes as the emancipation of the colonial peoples, social conflicts in the capitalist countries, the effects of armaments expenditure on development and the resulting imbalance.

23. Chapter I of the *Report* related to recent trends. In that connexion the Polish delegation considered that the authors had made a reasonably wise choice of criteria for the analysis of the world social situation. Those criteria should, however, be supplemented by indices of assistance to the incapacitated, such as the aged and invalids.

24. The *Report* demonstrated once again the increasing disparity in level of living and social services between the developed countries and the developing countries, whether in regard to the food situation — which was more serious in the Far East and Africa than it had been twenty-five years previously — housing or per caput national income. Furthermore, the effect of the national liberation process on the development of social services in former colonial territories had been quite ignored.

25. Moreover, there was a disproportion in the *Report* between data on the capitalist and data on the socialist countries, in regard to both facts and the manner of their analysis. Thus, the authors minimized the economic recessions in Canada and the United States, which were reflected in an unemployment rate of 6 to 9 per cent of the labour force, and the unemployment existing in other countries, and failed to mention the far more rapid rate of economic and social development in the socialist countries. It was stated that real wages in the socialist countries had increased more rapidly than in the capitalist countries, but there was no mention of the same trend in many other indices, for example that of social insurance.

26. Chapter II of the *Report*, concerning the balance between economic and social development, was the more important. His delegation endorsed the opinion of FAO that land reform could not be fully effective unless it went hand in hand with the institution of agricultural credit, the provision of outlets for agricultural products, and the improvement of agricultural knowledge. The *Report* rightly pointed out how inappropriate it was to classify investment as "productive" — expenditure on capital equipment — and "non-productive" — social expenditure.

27. The Polish delegation had noted with interest the conclusions reached about the influence of investment in the social field on economic development. Some of the ideas expressed could not, it felt, be accepted without reserve. In the first place, there was the assumption that industrial production at least could develop on a large scale even under a system of forced labour. Yet the lesson of history was that any such system contained within itself the seeds of its own destruction and could not be productively effective. Another equally debatable assumption was that it would be preferable for some countries which wished to assure their economic development not only to invest in production itself, but to promote a reduction in the birth rate. Lastly, the authors of the *Report* stated that a redistribution of existing resources could not of itself solve the social problems of the under-developed countries, and that the overall resources must be increased by economic development; but it was a fact that the existing distribution of wealth in a number of countries was a serious obstacle to economic development. On the other hand, the conclusions relating to the exchange of experience between different countries with regard to the

connexion between economic and social development were well-founded.

28. In chapter III — Social-economic patterns — the authors had based most of the tables on two economic factors (national income and energy consumption) and two social factors (infant mortality rate and school enrolment ratio). There might be some doubts of the wisdom of selecting those indicators. International comparisons between per caput national incomes were not easy to establish, not only because incomes were calculated differently in the socialist countries and the capitalist countries and could not easily be given a common international value, but still more because they constituted an index of average income which failed to take into account variations in the distribution of wealth between different strata of the population. It would therefore be well, when giving the average per caput national income, to indicate the share of the wage earners.

29. Chapter IV contained extensive data on social expenditure in different countries. One general conclusion emerged: that the socialist countries made larger allocations than the capitalist countries for social services, education and cultural activities.

30. In regard to chapter V, the Polish delegation did not share the views expressed.

31. Mr. PAZHAWAK (Afghanistan) said that, with regard to the recommendations in the Secretary-General's note (E/CN.5/361), he agreed in principle with the suggested long-range programme of work. Its adoption, however, should not imply in any way a diminished emphasis on the urgency of the matter both for the less developed countries and for the world as a whole. He knew of no country where some part of the population was not suffering from distressed social conditions.

32. At the beginning of the recommendations the hope was expressed that the proposed work programme would involve the governments themselves, specialized agencies, and non-governmental and scientific institutions. In that connexion, the Government of Afghanistan wished to assure the Secretary-General and the members of the Secretariat concerned of its fullest co-operation in a task the execution of which would constitute a step in the direction of the achievement of his country's aspirations.

33. Likewise, his government was prepared, within its limited means, to give attention to the problem of identifying criteria for determining its allocations to social programmes, as suggested in recommendation No. 1.

34. His delegation was in general sympathy with the other recommendations; the studies envisaged in recommendation No. 5, however, were of particular importance to his country and he hoped that the Council would adopt that recommendation at that session.

35. United Nations activities in the social field were of great importance to Afghanistan and to the other developing countries, and there had been a considerable number of studies made on social development both within the United Nations family and outside it. The Council, however, had not discussed social problems with sufficient thoroughness. Even the work of its own subsidiary bodies in the social field had not received its full

attention. Social questions had, of course, appeared on the Council's agenda, but their discussion could have been more constructive. Much time had been consumed by attacks and counter-attacks which were irrelevant to those problems and merely gave expression to the uneasy state of coexistence between two opposing blocs. That uneasy situation was a very real and important problem for the less developed countries, which were its chief victims.

36. Another general point which deserved consideration was that non-governmental organizations were in a better position to conduct studies of social conditions than government agencies and it was therefore to be hoped that those organizations would be invited by the Council to co-operate in the studies proposed.

37. One of the most difficult problems facing the developing countries lay in the obstacles which ancient culture and tradition placed in the way of the changes needed for adjustment to the requirements of the modern world. It was one of the achievements of the United Nations family to have introduced certain essential elements into the national life of those countries, and he hoped that the work done along those lines would continue. That remark was particularly true of the work of the ILO and UNESCO.

38. It was an unfortunate fact that the unsatisfactory social conditions existing in Afghanistan and in some other countries were in no small measure the result of outside interference. That intervention, which in the case of Afghanistan had led to a disastrous series of civil wars, had slowed down social progress. For example, the emancipation of women had been attempted in the past, but all attempts had failed as a result of the civil wars; fortunately, two years previously, the resistance to it, which, as in the past, had been encouraged from abroad, had been overcome and success had been achieved.

39. In the past, religious beliefs had been used to incite the ignorant against reform programmes. The current technique was somewhat different and consisted in branding the Royal Government of Afghanistan as "communist".

40. He had been impressed by the statement of the United States representative at the 1167th meeting that there had been some progress towards the greater recognition of political freedom and of the dignity of man. There were, however, still millions of people struggling for national independence, and in certain areas some peoples had received support whereas others had met with opposition from the same quarters.

41. At the 1166th meeting the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had referred to the problems of over-population. His delegation did not wish to minimise those problems, but would point out that illiteracy and other social problems were as acute in Afghanistan — a country larger than France, but with only fourteen million inhabitants — as in such over-populated countries as Pakistan and India.

42. Mr. WADE (New Zealand) said that the *Report on the World Social Situation* itself provided documentary evidence of the indivisibility of economic and social

factors: much of its chapter I dealt with such economic subjects as national income, employment, balance of payments and food production.

43. The New Zealand Government readily sympathized with the balance of payments difficulties faced by the developing countries, which reduced the resources available for financing social programmes. New Zealand depended on overseas trading and, although its social programmes were relatively mature, so that short-term cyclical fluctuations did not impede their execution, serious problems would arise if adverse external conditions were unduly protracted.

44. His country also appreciated the heavy burdens borne by the newly independent countries. The New Zealand authorities recognized, for example, the need to continue the assistance in the social field which had been provided to Western Samoa, the Trust Territory for which New Zealand was the Administering Authority and which would achieve independence at the end of 1961.

45. The *Report* appropriately emphasized the problems facing the less developed countries, especially the primary producing countries. There were, however, other human problems such as the tendency, noted in the *Report*, to pay less attention to the environment of the aged person, with the result that the additional years which modern society had been able to bestow on humanity were not always happy ones. In that respect, the experience in New Zealand had been similar and it could be said that in the more economically developed societies the old had replaced the very young as the group most vulnerable to economic and social vicissitudes.

46. He fully agreed with the approach, both in the *Report* and in the introductory statement made at the 1166th meeting by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, to the problem of balanced development. The main emphasis should be placed on the integration and mutual reinforcement of social and economic programmes rather than on the essentially undynamic ideal of "balance".

47. His delegation agreed with the proposal for a long-range programme of studies on balanced development, and supported all the specific recommendations made by the Secretary-General on its content, particularly recommendation No. 8 relating to sector by sector studies to be carried out in co-operation with the specialized agencies concerned (E/CN.5/361). He hoped that that project would be launched as soon as possible and that the specialized agencies would co-operate fully in carrying it out. His country would co-operate in that and other projects by providing information and in every other possible way.

48. Experience in New Zealand illustrated the close inter-relationship of economic and social factors. For example, schemes for Maori welfare and development had not been framed in either specifically social or economic terms, but had been conceived rather as attempts to raise social and economic standards generally.

49. With regard to the report of the Social Commission (E/3489), social defence was one of the most fruitful areas of United Nations social activities. His delegation was particularly concerned about the problem of juvenile delinquency, which seriously affected both the developing

and the more highly developed countries. He was therefore glad to note that the Social Commission had included in its work programme a project on the subject of juvenile delinquency (E/3489, annex I, 31.3), to be carried out in co-operation with the specialized agencies concerned.

50. His delegation appreciated the need to strengthen the Headquarters staff in the interests both of the operational programmes and of the basic study and planning work for which it was responsible. He hoped, however, that it would be possible to do so through the transfer to the Bureau of Social Affairs of staff from areas of declining importance in the work of the United Nations, such as the Department of Trusteeship.

51. In that connexion, he recalled that UNICEF relied on the Bureau of Social Affairs for technical advice and support in connexion with its social services for children. At its recent session, the Executive Board of UNICEF had decided to lend its strong support to the proposals made by the Social Commission for strengthening the staff of the Bureau (E/3525, para. 111), and he hoped that the Council and the General Assembly would take that support into consideration.

52. The suggestions made by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 3 to 22 of his report on strengthening the work of the United Nations in the social field (E/CN.5/357) seemed generally sound. If, however, the United Nations wished to exert an increasing influence on the shaping of social planning, it would obviously have to move cautiously. Further, the specialized work of the Social Commission should not be neglected.

53. With regard to the specific proposals relating to the structure and working methods of the Social Commission, he agreed that the Commission should interpret its terms of reference rather more broadly than in the past and assume the function of advising the Council on wider social problems. With regard to the more specialized aspects of social policy, it should more often seek assistance from *ad hoc* groups of experts.

54. It was important that the Commission should be widely representative and, if possible, constitute at any given time a cross-section of the membership of the United Nations. Although there were certain disadvantages in enlarging a body of that kind, his delegation felt that some increase in membership was desirable in order to achieve that purpose.

55. On the other hand, his delegation was not convinced that it was desirable for the Commission to meet annually. At a time when, because of urgent operational programmes, the staff of the Bureau of Social Affairs had been obliged in some measure to neglect its basic responsibilities in study and research, it would be unwise to impose upon it the burden of servicing a meeting of the Commission every year. Even if the staff were increased as proposed, the servicing of annual meetings could be achieved only at the expense of other work, including the operational programmes.

56. In addition, the new emphasis on broad social planning, the increased delegation of detailed work to expert groups and the need to secure as members of the Commission persons of the highest calibre occupying senior posi-

tions, all seemed to point clearly towards the maintenance of the practice of meeting in alternate years.

57. Mrs. DELLA GHERARDESCA (Italy) said that her delegation had greatly appreciated the reports submitted to the Council and would be happy to collaborate in the future work of the Bureau of Social Affairs by making available to it the result of experience and information on projects being carried out in Italy. In the social field the aim should be to ensure a balanced development of the human personality by freeing man from the tyranny of poverty and fear and providing conditions favourable to free and full expression of his personality. As a Papal Encyclical had recently pointed out, technical progress was but a means, whereas the moral and spiritual progress of humanity was an end in itself.

58. The reports submitted to the Council touched on the social problems affecting migrant workers which were of great importance to the Italian delegation. It was impossible to remain indifferent to the discontent and anxiety which existed among foreign workers deprived of decent housing conditions and fair wages in countries where their work was indispensable. The *Report on the World Social Situation* rightly stated on page 7 that they needed "dwellings other than slum tenements". The specialized agencies were dealing effectively with questions such as family allowances and social security for migrant workers, but the Social Commission could very properly give closer attention to those problems.

59. In order to avoid emigration from its less favoured regions, the Italian Government was studying a series of projects for integrated economic and social development and was carrying out numerous inquiries with that end in view. An example was the work of the Cassa del Mezzogiorno, which was doing a great deal to improve the levels of living of the people by increasing the opportunities for education and vocational training.

60. On 17 January 1961 the Italian Council of Ministers, after consulting a large number of experts, had approved a bill providing for an extraordinary programme for the economic and social rehabilitation of Sardinia. The programme would be spread over fifteen financial periods (from 1960/61 to 1974/75), would cost about 400,000 million lire and would cover transport, housing, vocational training, agricultural and economic development, fisheries, arts and crafts, commerce and tourism. Assistance provided by an Italian non-governmental organization, the UNLA, had enabled very interesting results to be obtained in various projects which could serve as models for other Mediterranean countries.

61. Another step in the same direction was the institution of television courses with a view to increasing output of the most highly qualified teachers.

62. Unemployment and under-employment, although still very high in Italy, had fallen to some extent in recent years. As to the former, the number of unemployed had fallen from 1,700,000 in 1955, to 800,000 in April 1960, and to 650,000 or 4 per cent of the total labour force in July 1960. According to an ILO report entitled "The cost of social security 1949-1957", Italy showed the highest rate of increase in its expenditure on social security benefits.

63. Mr. QUIJADA (Venezuela) said that balanced economic and social development was of particular importance to the developing countries, which were witnessing the remarkable impact made by modern science and techniques on traditional cultures.

64. The statement in paragraph 3 of chapter VI of the *Report* that "as a rule, economic and social factors complement or support each other in the objective process of development" was perhaps broadly true in general terms, particularly since it was admitted to be subject to "certain exceptions". However, in the case of the developing countries, those exceptions often tended to become the rule. The mere fact of transforming a primary producing society into a developed society gave rise to acute social problems. Industrialization inevitably brought about social disruption.

65. The introduction of modern techniques in an agricultural society often affected the existing social and family structure. There were many examples of agrarian reform bringing about radical social changes. It would therefore be eminently useful to study the social effects of agrarian reform.

66. The problems in question were particularly urgent because the developing countries were endeavouring to carry through in a comparatively short time the process of industrialization which had taken half a century and more to complete in the older industrialized countries.

67. He noted with satisfaction that the Social Commission laid stress on the urgency of the social problem and on the need for a balanced development in the developing countries. Precisely because of their rapid development, those countries offered a fruitful field of observation with regard to the interrelation between social and economic factors. The developing countries lacked the necessary means of investigation, however, and international assistance in that respect would be particularly valuable to them.

68. In connexion with the proposed studies, a special effort should be made to arrive at comparability of results. That was a particularly difficult problem in social matters, where qualitative and psychological factors intervened. Education was a case in point: investment in education could perhaps be estimated, but it was difficult to estimate the qualitative and quantitative returns on that investment. The experts of the United Nations should devote their efforts to establishing uniform terminology in order to obtain comparable data.

69. Lastly, there was the importance of economic aid and [technical] assistance [to countries in the process of industrialization but such aid and assistance] should not be aimed at political and economic control. In countries such as Venezuela, technical assistance was particularly needed in the matter of vocational and technical training. That training would have to be provided at all levels, not only in schools but also in workshops and factories. A skilled labour force was essential for the transformation of a primary producing country into a fully industrialized one.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.