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The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Indonesia, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Observers from the following countries: Bulgaria, Chile, Hungary, Israel, Philippines, Poland, Romania.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization; World Meteorological Organization.

AGENDA ITEM 7

International co-operation with respect to water resource development (E/2327 and Corr.1, E/L.721, E/L.722, E/L.723) (*continued*)

1. Mr. BARRIGA (Ecuador) said that, whereas the interim report (E/2603 and Corr.1) which the Secretary-General had submitted to the Council at its eighteenth session concerning the utilization of water resources had not been very encouraging, the report currently before the Council (E/2827 and Corr.1) showed that remarkable efforts had been made and significant progress achieved. It would however be wrong to think that the work so far done had been on the scale envisaged by the Council in its original resolution [resolution 417 (XIV)]. The Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had admitted as much in his remarks at the opening of the session (900th meeting). The delegation of Ecuador was very interested in the item, for the insufficient utilization of water resources was undoubtedly one of the major causes of backwardness in economic development. It was for that reason that at its eighteenth session the Council had recommended Governments, national bodies and international agencies to co-operate in the assembly of hydrological data and in the exchange and dissemination of such data. There was currently under consideration in his own country a scheme which provided for the establishment of a meteorological and hydrological service, and which

had been prepared with the co-operation of United Nations experts.

2. The Secretary-General had realized that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) could make a valuable contribution through educational activities and the dissemination of information. There was no doubt that neglect and the lack of technical advice explained why the subject had not been studied thoroughly and why the necessary action had not been taken with regard to soil conservation and afforestation. He agreed with the Secretary-General that UNESCO could, in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), carry out educational programmes and formulate rational principles for the utilization of water resources. The assembly, co-ordination and exchange of information, technical knowledge and experience, at the national, regional and international levels, could be facilitated by the establishment of committees for water resource development and of subsidiary committees of regional bodies. At the international level, the main objective would be to ensure technical co-operation through the regional economic commissions and the competent specialized agencies, within the framework of the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and specialized agencies. Governments had to be assured of the necessary technical assistance in the fight against soil erosion and in the afforestation of arid zones as well as in the financing of irrigation programmes. Ecuador was already receiving assistance from an expert designated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and from another designated by the United Nations.

3. The progress of under-developed countries depended to a great extent on the efficient utilization of water resources, particularly for agriculture and industry, the two main branches of human activity. Latin America was making use of only 7 per cent of its water resources. In his own country, water resources were abundant and easily accessible, but their utilization for the production of electric power and for the irrigation of new land required international assistance. Experts had estimated that 400,000 hectares between the coast and the Sierra could be irrigated without difficulty. The National Board of Planning and Economic Co-ordination in Ecuador was preparing the final draft of a five-year electrification plan; the chief difficulty appeared to be the lack of capital.

4. It was clearly urgent to adopt an integrated international policy for the development and more efficient use of water resources; his delegation would therefore support any proposal conducive to co-ordination and co-operation.

5. Mr. ABOU-GABAL (Egypt) said that Egypt was keenly interested in the development of water resources. More than 70 per cent of its population depended upon agriculture for their livelihood. The contribution of agriculture to the total national income of Egypt was estimated at some 30 per cent; it accounted for 90 per

cent of the total volume of Egyptian exports. In view of the limited extent of arable land, the control and utilization of water was essential for the life of the country; that was why about 40 per cent of the total development budget for 1955-56 was applied to hydraulic projects.

6. With reference to the Secretary-General's report (E/2827 and Corr.1), he stressed the need for continued periodic meetings of experts, as well as for inter-agency meetings among the specialized agencies concerned. The discussions at the Council's eighteenth session and at the periodic inter-agency meetings had shown that the WMO was the agency competent to assemble hydrological data and to give assistance to Governments in the organization of hydrological services, in the training of technical personnel and in the procurement of suitable equipment. Sufficient financial resources had to be made available to WMO for that purpose. And yet a reduction of \$37,000 was noted in its 1956 budget compared with that for the previous year. Furthermore, the total appropriation for special activities in 1956 was only \$6,000 compared with \$48,952 in 1955.

7. The report of the Secretary-General singled out two problems, the study of which should receive priority: deficiencies in hydrological data and integrated river basin development. As far as the first problem was concerned, the assembly of hydrological data could not be properly initiated without a preliminary inquiry into existing hydrological services and into plans for their future extension. The report made proposals for the Middle East and Africa; in particular, it proposed the centralization of the pertinent data and information through the Bureau of Economic Affairs. The Bureau had already begun to analyse available information on water resource development in Africa with the object of preparing a review of water problems in the general context of economic development in that region. Regarding the other proposals, he stressed the importance of consultation of interested Governments before any action was taken. As far as integrated river basin development was concerned, the Secretary-General suggested that an international conference should be convened, to provide an opportunity for the examination and exchange, on a world basis, of the experience acquired to date, and in order also to draw the attention of Governments, economists and administrators concerned to the importance of the problems involved, especially in under-developed countries. Governments had to be given time to study that suggestion and to express their final decision. In order to help Governments to take their decisions, the Secretariat should provide, with the assistance of international experts, a survey of the administrative, economic and social problems involved in integrated river basin development.

8. The exchange of technological experience and studies concerning the utilization of saline water might have useful results, especially for the under-developed countries. The study envisaged by the United Nations Secretariat, with the assistance of UNESCO, should therefore be based on the study of the industrial uses of water which the Secretariat had already circulated to Governments.

9. Surveys and research should be carried out to assess the quantity and quality of sub-soil water, especially in the arid regions of the under-developed countries whose agriculture depended mainly on irrigation. In Egypt, for example, serious consideration was being given to the possibility of using sub-soil water for supplementary irrigation in the Nile valley, and for the

development of new lands in the vast western desert. There again the exchange of technical information would be of great value; an initial study of the problem by the Secretariat would also cover an important aspect of the subject of water resource development.

10. As the Council was asking the Secretariat every year to undertake new studies relating to various subjects, his delegation felt that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs should be reinforced and given the necessary means for carrying out its task. His delegation would support any proposal along those lines.

11. The Egyptian delegation proposed that operative paragraph 4 of the joint draft resolution (E/L.721) should be amended by the insertion after the words "demineralization of saline water" of the words "and the utilization of sub-soil waters", and by replacing the words "this problem" by "these problems".

12. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil) said that he would support the joint draft resolution proposed by France and the United States (E/L.721), and the Netherlands amendment (E/L.722).

13. Although the principle underlying the Pakistan draft resolution (E/L.723) was praiseworthy, he had misgivings about some of its provisions, particularly those in sub-paragraph (a) of the operative part.

14. Mr. CHA (China) said that, through the studies of all the international bodies concerned with the development of water resources, it had now become clearer how those resources should be used and controlled. The collection of hydrological and meteorological data was still in its infancy, and while it was difficult enough to collect reliable data it was still more difficult to interpret natural phenomena without them. The Council should therefore address an urgent appeal to the Governments of Member States to make every possible effort to collect such data. Similarly, the Council should organize an international conference on water resource development on the same lines as the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources and the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. Such a conference would require considerable preparatory work, and it would have to be decided whether new efforts had been made by Governments to collect data, whether the experts were provided with the latest available data and whether, in the opinion of Governments, the conference would be appropriate. The Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), as one of the most competent organs of the United Nations Secretariat, should be consulted on specific questions relating to the development of water resources.

15. China had always taken a great interest in questions of flood control and water resource development. The Taiwan, local topography placed serious difficulties in the way of flood control and these difficulties had to be overcome in various ways. Upon the completion of current projects, 2,005 hectares of land would be reclaimed and 102,018 hectares protected from floods. Various projects were under way which would provide irrigation for almost 20,000 hectares of land. The Government had begun to modernize existing irrigation systems. It had drawn up a multi-purpose programme for the development of water resources which would improve flood control, irrigation, navigation, the production of hydroelectric power, water supply, soil conservation and public health. The most important project was the Shihmen

reservoir project, begun in July 1955 and due for completion in 1960. The reservoir would be 30 square kilometres in area, would irrigate 54,540 hectares of land and increase rice production by about 69,000 tons, and would provide water for 340,000 people. It would also supply a hydroelectric plant with an installed capacity of 100,000 kilowatts. It would serve as a means of communication for the local inhabitants and would be a good breeding ground for fresh-water fish. Plans were now being considered for the construction of two more dams to irrigate 270,000 hectares of land and to supply water for hydroelectric plants generating a total power of 270,000 kilowatts.

16. The Provincial Government was continuing its research to determine the quantity and distribution of underground water resources. There were about 600 deep wells which were of great benefit to agriculture. Research was being carried on in two laboratories, one in the north and the other in the south. The former was studying the ways in which the rapid flow of energy from the spillway of a dam might be dissipated, the special characteristics of alluvial rivers and anti-erosion measures. The latter was concerned more particularly with flood control in the Peikong River.

17. China was ready to share its experience in the use of water resources to facilitate a better understanding of that important question.

18. His delegation would support the joint draft resolution proposed by France and the United States and the Netherlands amendment thereto. It shared the serious misgivings voiced by certain delegations about the Pakistan draft resolution; Pakistan should either amend or withdraw the draft.

19. Mr. SAKSIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to the great economic importance of water resource development. Noting the efforts of the under-developed countries to develop their water resources, he said that the USSR was ready to give them scientific and technical assistance in those endeavours, both by making contributions to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and by concluding bilateral agreements with interested countries. Under the United Nations technical assistance programmes, the USSR had already afforded Indian experts an opportunity to acquaint themselves with various aspects of the utilization of water resources in its territory. A delegation of Indian experts had visited the USSR in the summer of the preceding year and, in addition to studying many other branches of the national economy, had examined the utilization of water resources in the USSR, including the functioning of irrigation and hydraulic engineering works. They had visited dams, power plants, irrigation systems, institutes for the preparation of plans and the training of specialists for all types of work connected with the utilization of water resources. There could be no doubt that the visit had produced positive results. During the period covered by India's second Five-Year Plan, the central Government and the state Governments intended to devote 18 per cent of their total expenditure to irrigation and power production. Under the plan, the area under irrigation would be increased by 21 million acres.

20. After taking particular note of those parts of the Secretary-General's report (E/2827) which dealt with the practical measures directly connected with the provision of assistance to countries in the matter of water resource utilization, he said he was in favour of expanding to the utmost that practical side of the Economic

and Social Council's efforts to help the under-developed countries.

21. The report mentioned certain difficulties which had hampered the activities envisaged; in particular, it had not been easy to secure the services of qualified experts and engineers. In that connexion, he indicated that USSR organizations were ready to help by providing the services of highly qualified experts. The Soviet Union delegation would support any measure that would assist the under-developed countries in strengthening their economies and developing their water resources.

22. He asked that the vote on the draft resolutions before the Council should be postponed until the following day as his delegation would like to have time to study them more carefully, particularly the Pakistan draft resolution (E/L.723).

23. Mr. ESCANDE (France) said that the French delegation was ready to accept the Egyptian proposal to insert the words "and the utilization of sub-soil waters" after the words "demineralization of saline water" in operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution submitted by France and the United States (E/L.721), and to replace the words "this problem" by "these problems".

24. The French delegation could not support the Pakistan draft resolution (E/L.723). It was not opposed to the principles which had guided that delegation, but thought that the proposal might raise very delicate problems of a practical nature and that it might entail too much technical work.

25. His delegation was ready to accept the Netherlands amendment (E/L.722) which was prudently drafted in that it envisaged the convening of an international conference only as a possibility. Moreover, such a conference could only be of a technical and economic nature.

26. Mr. MOORE (Canada) pointed out that, according to paragraph 56 of the Secretary-General's report (E/2827), the problems calling for systematic international action and high priority were first the determination of hydrologic data deficiencies, especially in under-developed areas, and, second, the implications—economic, social and administrative—of integrated river basin development. The collection of hydrologic data and their later interpretation should probably be done by a working group of the Council. As to the second study, it should be regarded as a long-term project. It did not therefore seem advisable for an international conference to be convened at present. The question of integrated river basin development raised many complex problems that varied according to the basin concerned, and they would be difficult to discuss in an international assembly—and often even in a regional one. It would be better to leave the countries concerned to negotiate among themselves or to organize any meetings and conferences they deemed necessary.

27. The Canadian delegation would support the draft resolution submitted by France and the United States of America and would abstain on the Netherlands amendment to this draft.

28. His delegation thanked the representative of Pakistan for the interesting statement which he had made at the 920th meeting. The question of water resource development was certainly an urgent one and technical assistance for that purpose should be intensified. It was to be hoped that Governments would take advantage of the opportunities offered to them and would ask for such technical assistance within the framework

of the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Similarly, countries with water resource experts should be encouraged to make their services available to the under-developed areas.

29. The proposal in the Pakistan resolution (E/L.723) regarding regional training centres had already been discussed, in particular at the meetings of the Advisory Committee of the Colombo Plan, and all countries recognized the need for training centres in the areas that were being developed. That question was already being studied by various bodies and it would be better if the Council did not take any action on the matter.

30. With regard to the disputes which had arisen in certain areas in connexion with the use of water resources, the Canadian delegation thought that those problems should be discussed directly by the countries concerned, and that the Council should not interfere in questions which were essentially of a political nature.

31. The problem of co-ordination played a leading part in the use of water resources. Council Resolution 417 (XIV) emphasized the importance of co-ordination, so did paragraph 75 of the Secretary-General's report. In continuing their consultations with the Secretary-General, as provided for in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution submitted by France and the United States of America (E/L.721), the specialized agencies should therefore make every effort to achieve such co-ordination.

32. Mr. LAVALLE (Argentina) praised the Secretary-General's report (E/2827 and Corr.1) and the conclusions and recommendations it contained, and said that the Argentine delegation would support the draft resolution submitted by France and the United States (E/L.721).

33. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) emphasized that the panel of experts mentioned in paragraph 5 (c) of the joint draft resolution (E/L.721) should be set up and should function within the limits of the funds at present available to the Secretary-General. The maximum use should be made of the advice of such experts, and any projects envisaged should be submitted to them, whether they were undertaken by the regional economic commissions or by the specialized agencies.

34. The United States delegation, like the French delegation, accepted the Egyptian amendment to the draft resolution.

35. Mr. CARAYANNIS (Greece) said that his delegation approved the reasons which had induced the Pakistan delegation to submit its draft resolution. However, the problem raised was a complex one and it would be premature for the Council to try to solve it. The Greek delegation could not therefore support the Pakistan draft resolution.

36. It would, on the other hand, support the joint draft resolution submitted by the French and United States delegations and the Egyptian amendment thereto.

37. Mr. ARNALDO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) amplified the information on the Organization's work given in the Secretary-General's report (E/2827 and Corr.1).

38. He recalled that UNESCO had taken part in the first two inter-agency meetings on water questions (E/2827, para. 7). The Organization attached great importance to meetings of that type and hoped that they would continue. Further, it felt that WMO should be

responsible for the collection, analysis and exchange of hydrological data (*Ibid.*, para. 12). Provision had been made by UNESCO in its proposed 1957 programme and budget for collaborating in the preparation of a handbook on watershed management so far as the educational and research aspects of the question were concerned (*Ibid.*, para. 17).

39. With regard to the industrial uses of water (*Ibid.*, paras. 18-20) and national water boards (*Ibid.*, para. 21-23), he pointed out that UNESCO was in touch with international scientific and technical organizations on the basis of consultative arrangements approved by the General Conference, and that it could render services in that field to the United Nations and other specialized agencies. A list of such scientific and technical organizations had been supplied to the United Nations.

40. Paragraph 55 of the report referred to the use of saline water and to the work of UNESCO on that question. The Director-General of UNESCO had provided in the proposed programme and budget for 1957-1958 for the establishment of a research centre on the purification of salt water as part of the Organization's arid zone programme. Further, following consultations with the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC), the latter had requested UNESCO to study the possibility of undertaking some of the work of co-ordination of research on salt water purification.

41. With regard to integrated river basin development (E/2827, paras. 65 *et seq.*) UNESCO had prepared a handbook containing data on the different scientific aspects of the question. The handbook, which was now with the printers, would be available at the end of the year. UNESCO was intending to give assistance in that field to national organizations which were undertaking integrated resource surveys of specific arid areas. The provision of technical personnel and the training of local personnel through UNESCO fellowships were contemplated. Negotiations were proceeding in that connexion with the Syrian Government, which had already agreed to assume responsibility for a survey in the Palmyra area. It was to be hoped that similar arrangements would be made with the authorities of Asian countries.

42. Lastly, he said that UNESCO would continue its active collaboration with the United Nations and the other specialized agencies concerned in the field of water resource development, especially in areas where there was a scarcity of water.

43. Mr. ORR (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) stressed the need for improvement in watershed management. He described the dangers of deforestation and the irrational use of grazing land, which accelerated erosion and increased the danger of floods. Although great progress had been made in river control, many difficulties had been encountered in watershed management, especially in the case of privately-owned land. In the tropics, shifting cultivation was the chief cause of erosion and floods.

44. Unfortunately it was very difficult for international agencies or even Governments to take direct action in the matter. It was the land users in headwater areas who were responsible for those problems, and millions of persons living in the plains felt the effects of unwise farming and forestry practices in the upland areas. That was why Governments should make provision in their programmes for intensive educational activity, and furnish the financial and technical assistance needed for the special programmes.

45. Because watershed management improvement consisted in such large measure of agricultural and forest development work, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was naturally interested in the question, and had undertaken the preparation of a handbook and provided for the establishment of a training centre for the Far East. In the development of the plans for that training centre, FAO would seek the co-operation of international and regional organizations and of the Governments concerned.

46. Many areas of the world needed to improve their watershed management, and it would be useful to establish several regional and national training centres. There was also need for research, not only on the technical aspects of the question but also on the related social, economic and anthropological problems.

47. Governments should work energetically on watershed improvement programmes with the assistance of the competent specialized agencies.

48. The PRESIDENT, in compliance with the wish expressed by certain representatives, proposed that the vote on the different draft resolutions should be postponed until the next day.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 6

International co-operation on cartography (E/2823 and Corr.1, E/2823/Add.1 and 2, E/L.717 and Add.1) (concluded)*

Mr. Hasan (Pakistan), Vice-President, took the chair.

49. Mr. MACKAY (Canada), introducing the draft resolution submitted by Canada and Ecuador (E/L.717), said that the three objectives it was designed to achieve were: to assist and encourage the production of base maps to be used in the location and exploitation of natural resources in under-developed areas; to further the establishment of a uniform system of writing geographical names; and to produce a universally acceptable set of specifications for the one-millionth map of the world.

50. The Canadian delegation believed that the first objective was, from an economic point of view, the most important. Comparatively recent technical improvements in methods and equipment in the cartographic field had lessened the cost and speeded up the production of maps. Knowledge of those methods should be made available to countries where lack of adequate maps was holding up the development of resources; that was the purpose of operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution. Paragraph 3 dealt with the establishment of cartographic committees which would facilitate the work of countries whose economic development could be accelerated if they possessed adequate maps. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) represented one region in which there was no inter-governmental organization dealing with cartography, although in other regions certain organizations, such as the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History and the Scientific Council for Africa South of the Sahara, were already working on the question. The Cartographic Section of the Secretariat could act as a clearing-house for information on the latest progress in cartographic methods; that is, it could supply information to countries, on request, as to publications containing such information.

51. With regard to securing uniformity in the writing of geographical names, a question whose implications went far beyond the field of cartography, it seemed that more progress could be made if concrete suggestions were embodied in a report to a subsequent session of the Council. That proposal in no way contemplated the alteration of names on maps produced for use within any country, but rather a method of standardizing the manner of reproducing those names on world maps put out by the various countries.

52. Regarding the one-millionth map of the world, the Canadian delegation felt that the greatest drawback to the completion of that series of maps was the too rigid set of specifications originally adopted under the auspices of the International Geographical Union and the Central Bureau, International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale; the only way by which that desirable series of maps could be completed in the foreseeable future would be by adopting a more flexible series of specifications.

53. The main points of the draft resolution had been discussed at the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East, held at Mussoorie, at which the Canadian representative had pointed out to the under-developed countries the importance of cartography in resources development. It was to be hoped that at the next conference, the representatives of the under-developed countries would be better informed on the uses of cartography in the development of resources and that the discussion and exchange of information at that conference would yield fruitful results. He took the opportunity to thank the Japanese Government for its invitation to hold the conference in Tokyo.

54. The sponsors of the draft resolution had endeavoured not to bind the Secretariat too strictly in the matter of procedure; in particular, the possibility of establishing a central advisory board, as recommended by the Mussoorie Conference, was by no means ruled out. He thought, however, that it would be premature to set up such a board before the regional cartographic organizations had actually begun to function; meanwhile the Secretariat would be able to co-ordinate the work, in consultation with experts and the existing scientific organizations.

55. The purpose of operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution was simply to seek the co-operation of Governments; it seemed fitting that the United Nations should emphasize the value of international co-operation on cartography, since maps were essential for the development, conservation and administration of the resources of every country.

56. He pointed out that in paragraph 4 (b), the words "the draft", should replace the words "its draft".

57. Mr. BARRIGA (Ecuador) recalled that at the 914th meeting the Ecuadorian delegation had stated that it would support any proposal tending to develop international co-operation in the field of cartography. The different points it had then made were embodied in the draft resolution before the Council (E/L.717). As co-sponsor, the Ecuadorian delegation hoped that the Council would be able to adopt the draft resolution unanimously.

58. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) said that he would vote for the draft resolution submitted by Canada and Ecuador since his Government was keenly interested in the work accomplished in the very important field of cartography.

* Resumed from the 914th meeting.

59. All the reports showed that the Mussoorie Conference had yielded fruitful results, and his delegation was in favour of holding a second regional conference at Tokyo, in conformity with operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, although he could not at present promise that his Government would be represented there. It also supported operative paragraph 3 in its present form because it thought that regional inter-governmental organizations should be established before a central advisory board was set up in accordance with the recommendation of the Mussoorie Conference.

60. Operative paragraph 4 dealt with very technical questions on which the Secretary-General should consult with experts as well as interested organizations. With particular reference to the writing of geographical names, his delegation attached great importance to the following four points: firstly, the place names used inside States had first to be standardized by the States themselves before international standardization could be contemplated; secondly, any international system should use the Roman alphabet; thirdly, the standardization should be based on orthography rather than pronunciation; lastly, it would be advisable to provide that certain conventional transcriptions should continue to be used, although they should be reduced to a minimum.

61. With reference to the one-millionth map of the world, his delegation recognized that a large part of the world's surface was already covered by maps made on the basis of current specifications, but it thought that in the long run countries would more easily maintain the maps of their own territory up to date if the specifications of the world map were made the same as those of the World Aeronautical Chart of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), at least as concerned sheet layout and projection.

62. Mr. PEDERSEN (United States of America) said he would vote in favour of the draft resolution (E/L.717), which indicated the principal steps to be taken to carry out the recommendations of the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East. It was generally recognized that the Conference had served a useful purpose by permitting an exchange of views on the cartographic problems of Asia, where much remained to be done. The United States delegation supported the recommendation that a second conference should be held, for it felt that it would likewise produce excellent results. The Secretary-General should, however, be given some latitude in fixing the date of the conference, in case the programme of meetings should be too crowded in 1958. The support given by the United States delegation to the conference was without prejudice to its position on budgetary levels when the 1958 budget estimates came to be considered.

63. The United States delegation also supported the recommendation in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution on the establishment of cartographic committees. Since regional cartographic organizations already existed in Latin America and in Europe, it felt that paragraph 3 was primarily aimed at promoting the development of cartographic work among the members of ECAFE. He did not believe it appropriate to establish a central advisory board at present, since the Secretariat's Cartographic Section was already doing excellent work, and the Secretary-General could consult experts whenever he deemed it necessary. The regional economic commissions should therefore be left to carry out the provisions of paragraph 3 as they thought best, and it was to be hoped that the delegations which had favoured

the establishment of an advisory board would not insist upon it.

64. From the point of view of technical assistance, it was clear that any cartographic work to be done by the regional economic commissions should be accomplished with the funds already at their disposal, and should be limited to the exchange of data and to research. Practical services should be rendered within the framework of the technical assistance programme of the United Nations. The United States delegation approved the recommendation on that subject in operative paragraph 2.

65. While complete uniformity could not be achieved in the writing of geographical names, it was nevertheless desirable to establish a much more uniform system than the present one. He therefore supported the recommendation on that point in operative paragraph 4 (a), in connexion with which the United States Government was prepared to give the Secretary-General every assistance. The same uniformity was desirable for the map of the world on the millionth scale, but great flexibility was necessary in order to achieve the aims in view. The United States delegation recognized the need to maintain both the ICAO World Aeronautical Chart series and the Map of the World on the Millionth Scale series, and that specifications for the map of the world on the millionth scale, should allow necessary flexibility, while maintaining uniformity on some important points, such as publication and sheet layout.

66. He did not feel that it was absolutely necessary to invite Governments to comment again on the proposals and recommendations mentioned in sub-paragraphs 4 (a) and (b). In view of the importance of the consultations which had been held and of the copious information already available on the opinions of Governments on that subject, it might be sufficient if the Secretary-General were to report directly to the Council at a subsequent session. However, the United States delegation would not oppose the adoption of that proposal.

67. Mr. HAUCK (France) said that he too would vote in favour of the draft resolution. He thought it would be a good thing to organize a second cartographic conference and to authorize the regional economic commissions to establish cartographic committees with the assistance of the Governments concerned. It was also desirable to draw the attention of Governments to the possibilities of requesting assistance in the field of cartography under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

68. The French delegation, which was in favour of the establishment of a central advisory board, noted with satisfaction that, according to the sponsors of the draft resolution, such a possibility was not ruled out. It believed that sooner or later steps would have to be taken in that direction.

69. Mr. ABOU-GABAL (Egypt) said he would vote in favour of the draft resolution, although that did not necessarily mean that Egypt would accept an invitation to the conference to take place at Tokyo.

70. The Egyptian delegation did not think cartographic committees or regional cartographic organizations should be set up without consulting the Governments concerned.

71. Mr. SUWASTOJO (Indonesia) thought that cartography was an important question for the underdeveloped countries, and that the proposed endeavour

to co-ordinate the present cartographic work was to be encouraged. The Indonesian delegation would therefore vote in favour of the draft resolution.

72. Mr. TSAO (China) said that he too would vote in favour of the draft resolution, which covered the main points that the Chinese delegation had made during the general discussion.

73. The question of setting up regional cartographic organizations and a central advisory board should be included in the provisional agenda which the Secretary-General was requested to prepare under paragraph 6. The matter should be carefully studied in order to provide the Governments and specialized agencies concerned with fuller information on the nature and possible role of those organs.

74. Mr. DE MEIRA PENNA (Brazil) said that he would support the draft resolution. He particularly approved the provisions of paragraph 3, which were flexible enough to be applied to all regions, and of paragraph 4 (a) which might enable the Secretary-General, when drafting a programme, to take practical steps for the solution of the important question of the writing of geographical names.

75. Mr. STIKKER (Netherlands) said that the Netherlands delegation was among those which would have been in favour of the establishment of a regional advisory board. In view of the explanations given by the Canadian representative on that subject, he was, however, prepared to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

76. Mr. BOZOVIC (Yugoslavia) said that he approved the provisions of the draft resolution as a whole and would vote in favour of it.

77. As regards the writing of geographical names, however, he thought that the trend should be towards a standardization based on the pronunciation of toponyms, rather than on their spelling. As regards the specifications of the map of the world on the millionth scale, neither the dimension of the sheets nor the nomen-

clature should be changed; cities should be represented in accordance with the number of inhabitants and not the area covered, but a combination of the two specifications was possible. The present dimensions of the sheets were such that one sheet might cover areas belonging to two or three different countries, in which case the country with the largest area should be responsible for the production of the sheet.

78. Mr. SAKSIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that the Soviet delegation had already made its position clear at the nineteenth session of the Council; it would therefore vote in favour of the draft resolution as a whole, with the exception of two phrases which it would like to have put to the vote separately: the phrase "and on means for completion of the one-millionth map of the world" in the last paragraph of the preamble, and the phrase "bearing in mind the need to maintain both the ICAO World Aeronautical Chart series and the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale series" in operative paragraph 4 (b).

79. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the last phrase of the preamble of the draft resolution, "and on means for completion of the one-millionth map of the world".

It was decided to retain that phrase by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

80. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the phrase "bearing in mind the need to maintain both the ICAO World Aeronautical Chart series and the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale series" in operative paragraph 4 (b).

It was decided to retain that phrase by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

81. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution (E/L.717) as a whole, after having drawn the attention of the Council to the financial implications (E/L.717/Add.1).

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.