

1938th meeting

Wednesday, 15 January 1975, at 4 p.m.

President: Iqbal AKHUND (Pakistan).

E/SR.1938

In the absence of the President, Mr. Aké (Ivory Coast) took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Measures to be taken following the earthquake in Pakistan (E/L.1623)

1. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of the members of the Council to draft resolution E/L.1623 and announced that Brazil, Colombia, the Congo, Ecuador, Jamaica, Turkey, Yemen, Zaire and Zambia should be added to the list of sponsors.

2. Mr. MORSE (Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs) said that, on behalf of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, he wished to express his deep appreciation for the swift and substantial response made by many Governments and voluntary organizations to the Government and people of Pakistan following the recent earthquake in the northern part of the country. Immediately after news of the disaster had reached the United Nations, the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator had contacted many Governments, voluntary organizations and elements of the United Nations system to bring to their attention the emergency requirements of the situation. The Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Islamabad, acting for the Co-ordinator, had worked closely with the Cabinet Division of the Government of Pakistan in co-ordinating the Government's relief operations and establishing locally an interagency task force, which included the Resident Representative, a United Nations official assigned to work with the Cabinet Division, and representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

3. The close and effective co-operation between the Government and the representatives of the United Nations system had quickly established that there was an urgent requirement for winter tents, clothing, quilts, blankets and food, and those needs had been communicated immediately to United Nations organs and to potential donors by the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO). As a result of that close co-operation between the Pakistan Government, the United Nations system and donors, a total of over \$36 million had been pledged or received from Governments in cash and relief materials on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis. In addition, over \$900,000 had been contributed by the United Nations system, over \$750,000 by national Red Cross Societies and over \$200,000 from voluntary and private sources. The latest information received from the Co-ordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative in Pakistan was that, as a result of the rapid and generous contributions made by the international community and the prompt and efficient measures taken by the Pakistan Government, all emergency requirements could now be met and the provision of relief

to the victims was proceeding satisfactorily. The important Karakoram highway had been partly reopened and would be fully operational the following week.

4. It was tragic that at the end of 1974 Pakistan should have witnessed yet another natural disaster. On the other hand, that particular episode had demonstrated the heightened competence which the United Nations system, and UNDR0 in particular, had gained in disaster relief work. Credit should go to all concerned for the prompt and effective action taken to ensure a rapid response to the needs of the Government and people of Pakistan.

5. Mr. FASLA (Algeria), introducing draft resolution E/L.1623 on behalf of the sponsors, said that Algeria had many fraternal links with Pakistan, a developing country waging a valiant struggle to improve the economic and social conditions of its people. As a result of the earthquake, 5,000 people had lost their lives and 17,000 had been injured. Information was not yet complete and the final figures might well be higher. He was sure that the Council would adopt the draft resolution unanimously.

6. He announced that the following additional operative paragraph should be inserted after paragraph 1 of the draft resolution:

"Takes note with satisfaction of the statement made on behalf of the Secretary-General on the assistance given by the United Nations system and co-ordinated by the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator".

7. Mr. YEH Yuan-ke (China) said that the serious earthquake which had struck northern Pakistan in December 1974 had caused great loss of life and property. He wished to convey his Government's deep condolences to the people of Pakistan. His delegation supported draft resolution E/L.1623, which called upon all the organizations concerned within the United Nations system to assist in providing relief to the disaster victims. He believed that, under the leadership of their Government and with the support of friendly countries and the international organizations concerned, the people of Pakistan could overcome the temporary difficulties caused by the earthquake.

8. Mr. STURKEY (Australia) said that his delegation had been pleased at the Council's decision to place on its agenda an item relating to the earthquake which had brought so much destruction to Pakistan. No country was immune from natural disasters, and Pakistan had been singularly unfortunate in suffering both floods and earthquakes in recent years. The Australian Government and people had already expressed their sympathy and deep concern to the Government of Pakistan and had participated with the international community in the measures for relief and rehabilitation. His delegation had been pleased to co-sponsor draft resolution E/L.1623.

9. Mr. NEUGEBAUER (German Democratic Republic) said that his delegation wished to convey to the representative of Pakistan its deep sympathy with regard to the grave natural disaster which had struck

his country. He had welcomed the Council's decision to take up the matter at its organizational session. As an expression of its heartfelt solidarity with the population in countries stricken by natural disasters, the German Democratic Republic had always rendered direct help and support. Thus, his Government had provided aid to Pakistan in the form of medical supplies, clothing, tents, blankets and other items worth several hundred thousand marks. In so doing, it had acted in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly and with the decisions of the sixth special session in support of the least developed among the developing countries.

10. In that connexion, he wished to draw the attention of the Council once again to General Assembly resolution 3093 (XXVIII) on the reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and to the proposals put forward on the cessation of the arms race. Their implementation would free sizable material and financial resources which could be used for urgent social and economic projects, including steps to prevent the disastrous consequences of such natural catastrophes in the future.

11. The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the representatives who had spoken had undoubtedly expressed the views of the entire Council, there was no need for explanations of vote.

Draft resolution E/L.1623, as orally revised, was adopted [resolution 1915 (ORG-75)].

12. Mr. QADRUD-DIN (Pakistan) expressed the deep appreciation of the Government and people of Pakistan to the Government and people of Algeria for the interest they had shown in the provision of relief to the earthquake victims. The efforts made by Algeria were a further demonstration of the warm relations between the two countries. He also wished to thank the other sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1623.

13. The relief efforts in Pakistan had been remarkable and had been carried out with exceptional efficiency. Special mention should be made of the role played by the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, of the efforts of the UNDP Resident Representative in Pakistan, and of the assistance provided by UNICEF, WHO and WFP.

14. The Government of Pakistan had been very gratified at the assistance received from a number of countries, including, according to his latest information, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Iran, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Yugoslavia. His Government also expressed its appreciation for the assistance provided by the Red Cross Societies of Belgium, Canada, China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Turkey, and by the Red Lion and Sun of Iran. Thanks were also due to private organizations in the Federal Republic of Germany, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

15. He was particularly gratified that draft resolution E/L.1623 emphasized the need for assistance during the reconstruction phase. The relief phase had

been almost completed and must now be followed by reconstruction and rehabilitation. The technical assistance and expertise of UNDP would be of particular value during the reconstruction phase, which would involve the rebuilding of roads, hospitals, schools, welfare centres and cheap earthquake-proof housing. A major problem would be to develop a means of predicting such disasters in the future.

16. Lastly, he wished to thank those who had spoken in support of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General and all those concerned with the relief efforts in Pakistan.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Rationalization of the work of the Council and basic programme of work for 1975 (*continued*) (E/5604 and Corr.1)

17. Mr. BURNEY (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), referring to the decisions taken at the preceding meeting, said that the World Bank was aware of the considerations which had led to the decision of the Council to invite the President of the World Bank to participate in a session of the Council in the first half of the year instead of at the resumed session in the autumn. The President of the World Bank had been informed of that decision and, in the planning of his engagements for the rest of 1975, the invitation of the Council would be given the highest consideration. The Bank would keep in touch with the Secretary of the Council on the matter.

18. The World Bank's annual report to the Council would be made available to the Secretariat about mid-August 1975. The Bank looked forward to working closely with the Council and its secretariat on that and other substantive matters in the months to come.

19. Mr. ZEGERS (International Monetary Fund) said that the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund had noted the intention of the Council to invite him to address it at its summer session. He was most appreciative of that invitation, which would receive the most positive consideration possible.

20. As the Managing Director had stated at the resumed fifty-seventh session (1927th meeting) in response to a question put by the representative of France, there were certain difficulties involved in his addressing the Council at its summer session. Those difficulties had not been removed, and certain other problems of timing had arisen as a result of the important monetary and financial negotiations currently taking place. Nevertheless, as in the past, the Managing Director would make every effort to co-operate with the Council.

21. In 1975 the annual report of the Fund would be published one month earlier than was normally the case. It would become available in mid-August, in time to serve as an input for the seventh special session of the General Assembly.

22. With regard to the earthquake in Pakistan, he was able to inform the Council that the Fund would be giving full attention to the effects of that disaster and would consider what assistance it could give within its own area of competence.

23. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council), referring to the financial implications of the decision (65 (ORG-75)) of the Council to increase the number of daily meetings at its regular sessions from four to six, said that, since the two additional meetings would

be informal, the extra documentation costs would be reduced from \$240,000, the figure mentioned in document E/5604 (part I, sect. E), to \$65,000—in other words, a reduction of \$175,000. On the subject of the cost of producing summary records, he pointed out that while it was not possible to give a global figure, since that depended on a decision of the subsidiary bodies concerning the amount of summary record coverage required, it should nevertheless be noted that the production of summary records in each language cost approximately \$600 per meeting.

24. With regard to the meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held from 3 to 7 February and those of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination scheduled for 10 to 14 March, he said that certain documents being prepared by the Secretary-General for the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had not yet been finalized; the Chairman of that Committee had therefore agreed, following consultations, to a postponement of the Committee's meetings pending completion of the necessary documentation. He (Mr. Cordovez) therefore suggested revising the calendar of conferences 1975 by postponing the meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and those of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination until 10 to 14 March and 17 to 21 March respectively, thus ensuring that the necessary documentation would be available for consideration by both bodies.

25. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council agreed to the suggestion made by the Secretary in respect of changes in the calendar of conferences for 1975.

It was so decided [decision 68 (ORG-75)].

AGENDA ITEM 5

Participation in the Conference of the International Women's Year (concluded) (E/5605)

26. The CHAIRMAN invited the Council to consider the title to be given to the Conference to be held during the International Women's Year.

27. Miss TABATABAI (Iran) said that underlying the three key aspects of the International Women's Year, namely, equality, development and peace, was the idea of co-operation between men and women. Her delegation felt that that basic idea would be best reflected by the title "World Conference of the International Women's Year", which would show that the Conference involved the active participation and co-operation of both sexes. That was only a suggestion, and her delegation was prepared to consider any alternative wording which might be put forward.

28. Mr. BARCELO (Mexico) said his delegation's fundamental concern was to make it clear that the whole purpose of the Conference was to promote the well-being of women and their participation in the development process and the life of society. The title of the Conference should reflect both the need to make a continuing effort to achieve the full integration of women into the development process and the fact that further conferences would be held for the same purpose. In order to establish a precedent for future conferences, his delegation felt that the word "Year" should not be included in the title, just as it had not been used in the titles of the World Food Conference and the World Population Conference.

29. Mrs. BRUCE (Deputy Director, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, in charge of the Branch for the Promotion of Equality of Men and Women) said that, after careful consideration of the most suitable title for the Conference, it had been decided that if the word "Year" was omitted, as in the case of the Conferences referred to by the representative of Mexico, it would create an impression that the Conference was of concern only to women and that it would focus exclusively on their problems. It was therefore desirable to choose a title which did not give rise to such a misconception.

30. Mr. LINDENBERG SETTE (Brazil) said that his delegation could agree to the title proposed by the representative of Iran.

31. The PRESIDENT appealed to the representative of Mexico, in a spirit of compromise, not to press for a further change in the title. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Council decided that the Conference should be entitled "World Conference of the International Women's Year".

It was so decided [decision 67 (ORG-75), para. 2].

AGENDA ITEM 6

Elections and confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council (E/5598 and Add.1-3, E/5606, E/L.1616)

32. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take up the item CONCERNING elections and confirmation of members of its functional commissions.

33. Mr. BOOTHE (Jamaica), speaking on behalf of the Latin American group, said that, for the 10 seats allotted to it in the Commission on Transnational Corporations, his group could nominate only the following seven candidates: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. It nominated Bolivia for the one seat allotted to Latin America on the Executive Board of UNICEF, and Ecuador and Mexico for the two seats allotted to Latin America in the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Review of the Rules of Procedure of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies. His group was unable at present to nominate candidates for the two seats allotted to it in the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

34. Mr. LONGERSTAEY (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the group of Western European and other States, proposed that the elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF should be postponed, since the election of new members would not become effective until 1 August 1975, as was pointed out in the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1616), and the next session of the Executive Board would not take place until May 1976.

35. Mr. FASLA (Algeria) said that, after consultations with delegations in all the regional groups, his delegation wished to propose that the elections to the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Executive Board of UNICEF should be postponed for two or three weeks, since some delegations had not yet received instructions from their Governments concerning the Commission and there was an insufficient number of candidates for the Board.

36. The PRESIDENT, supported by Mr. KITI (Kenya), suggested that the Council might wish to suspend the work of the organizational session for two weeks to enable the different geographical groups to

hold consultations and decide on their candidates for the various functional commissions.

37. Mr. KASEMSRI (Thailand) suggested that the Council should proceed with the elections to fill the seats on bodies for which the various geographical groups were able to nominate candidates, postponing until a later date the elections to fill vacancies which still raised difficulties. Such a procedure was not without precedent in United Nations bodies.

38. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) pointed out that, if the elections were postponed for two weeks, the meetings of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Review of the Rules of Procedure of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies, scheduled for 27 to 31 January, could not be held, because its members would not have been elected.

39. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should postpone the elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF and the Commission on Transnational Corporations and proceed with the other elections.

40. Mr. MACKENZIE (United Kingdom) said that, bearing in mind that the first session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations was to be held in mid-March and that it would be necessary to appoint experts and hold consultations following the elections, the postponement of the elections should not be allowed to exceed two weeks.

41. Mr. KITI (Kenya) said that his delegation preferred the elections to be postponed for two weeks, but could agree to the election at the current meeting of the members of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group referred to by the Secretary, to enable that body to meet as scheduled.

42. Mr. BOOTHE (Jamaica) proposed, as a compromise solution, that the elections should be held on 27 January, when he understood that conference services would be available. If that were done, the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Review of the Rules of Procedure of the Council and its Subsidiary Bodies would be able to meet on the same day, after the elections.

43. Mr. QADRUD-DIN (Pakistan) expressed surprise that a compromise solution should be required for what was basically a simple issue. He supported the proposal that elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF and the Commission on Transnational Corporations should be postponed, and urged the Council to proceed with the other elections. Any elections which gave rise to difficulties could be left in abeyance until 28 January.

44. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council approved his suggestion that elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF and the Commission on Transnational Corporations should be postponed until a later meeting and that the Council should proceed with the other elections at the current meeting.

It was so decided.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

45. The PRESIDENT said that the 13 members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations were to be elected.

46. Mr. BADAWI (Egypt) suggested that, if there were no new candidates for seats on the Committee, the

existing members from the different regions should be re-elected.

47. Mrs. AUGUSTE (Trinidad and Tobago) pointed out that, although her delegation had served on the Committee in 1974, it was not a candidate for re-election.

48. The PRESIDENT noted that five members were to be elected from among the Afro-Asian States.

49. Mr. KACIMAIWAI (Fiji), speaking on behalf of the Asian group, said that the African and Asian groups had not met to decide the allocation of the five seats in question. Moreover, he knew of no candidates from the Asian group for membership in the Committee.

50. Mr. ESSY (Ivory Coast), speaking on behalf of the African group, said that his group had no candidates.

51. Mr. LONGERSTAEY (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the group of Western European and other States, said that France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America were candidates for the seats allotted to that group.

52. Mr. KOSSEV (Bulgaria), speaking on behalf of the group of Eastern European States, said that his group had only one candidate, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, for one of the two seats allotted to it.

53. The PRESIDENT observed that the Latin American group had no candidates for election to the Committee. He suggested that the Council should elect France, the Netherlands, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America by acclamation, and that the election of the other members should be postponed until the Council's next meeting, on 28 January.

It was so decided.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL FUND

54. The PRESIDENT announced that Sweden was a candidate for one of the two seats allotted to the group of Western European and other States. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Sweden by acclamation and postpone the election to fill the remaining vacancy until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION

55. The PRESIDENT said that there were vacancies for three members from among the African States and one member from among the Asian States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1977, and one member from among the African States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1976. He suggested that, in the absence of candidates for the existing vacancies, the elections to the Committee should be postponed until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

56. The PRESIDENT said that there were vacancies for two members from among the Asian States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and

expiring on 31 December 1978. Since there were no candidates for those vacancies, he suggested that the elections should be postponed until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

57. The PRESIDENT said that there were vacancies for one member from among the Asian States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1977, for one member from among the African States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1976, and for five members from among the African States and one member from among the Western European and other States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1975. Kenya was a candidate for the term of office expiring on 31 December 1976.

58. Mr. KITI (Kenya) said that his delegation would like its nomination to be withdrawn until the African group had had an opportunity to meet and consider its nominations for other Council committees.

59. Mr. KACIMAIWAI (Fiji) said that the Asian group had no nominations for the Committee.

60. Mr. LONGERSTAEY (Belgium) said that Greece was a candidate for the seat allotted to the group of Western European and other States.

61. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should elect Greece by acclamation and that the elections to fill the other vacancies should be postponed until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

62. The PRESIDENT suggested that the elections of candidates for the seats allotted to the African group on the Committee on Science and Technology for Development should be postponed until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

COMMITTEE ON REVIEW AND APPRAISAL

63. Mr. KACIMAIWAI (Fiji) said that the Asian group had no candidates for the Committee.

64. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should postpone the elections to the Committee until the following meeting.

It was so decided.

Ad Hoc WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

65. The PRESIDENT said that, pursuant to Council decision 21 (LVI) of 17 May 1974, the membership of the Ad Hoc Working Group was to consist of at least two members from each regional group, and was open also to any other interested member State. The groups of African States, Asian States and Western European and other States had no candidates. The two candidates from the Latin American group were Ecuador and Mexico.

66. Mr. KOSSEV (Bulgaria) said that the group of Eastern European States had only one candidate, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. It would nominate another candidate at a later stage.

67. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should elect Ecuador, Mexico and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by acclamation, and that it should postpone the election of other members until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

68. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to appoint to the Committee the 23 development experts nominated by the Secretary-General in document E/5606.

It was so decided [see decision 70 (ORG-75)].

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPMENT

69. The PRESIDENT noted that, since the Secretary-General was not yet in a position to nominate the 24 members of the Advisory Committee, it was suggested in the annotated provisional agenda (E/5600) that the Council should postpone the appointment of the members until the fifty-ninth session and should extend the terms of office of the present members until their successors were appointed. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Council endorsed that suggestion.

It was so decided [see decision 70 (ORG-75)].

COMMITTEE ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL

70. The PRESIDENT noted that, since the Secretary-General was not yet in a position to recommend the 15 members of the Committee, it was suggested in document E/5600 that the Council should postpone until the fifty-eighth session the appointment of the members. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Council endorsed that suggestion.

It was so decided [see decision 70 (ORG-75)].

71. The PRESIDENT observed that the names of the representatives in the functional commissions whom the Council was requested to confirm were listed in document E/5598 and Add.1-3.

72. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that a letter had been received from the Government of Ecuador that day nominating Mr. Leopoldo Benites for a post in the Commission on Human Rights. The curriculum vitae of Mr. Benites would be reproduced shortly, but the Council might wish to confirm his appointment at the current meeting.

73. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to confirm the names of the representatives listed in document E/5598 and Add.1-3, as well as the appointment of Mr. Benites.

It was so decided [see decision 70 (ORG-75)].

74. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that, following consultations between the President and the other officers of the Council, agreement had been reached on the distribution of offices during 1975. Mr. Aké (Ivory Coast) would be Chairman of the Economic Committee, Mr. Šmíd (Czechoslovakia) would be Chairman of the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee, Mr. Longerstaey (Belgium)

would be Chairman of the Social Committee, and Mr. Mills (Jamaica) would co-ordinate informal consultations throughout the year, in accordance with the practice established in 1974.

75. The PRESIDENT said that the organizational session would be resumed on 28 January 1975, to complete consideration of the item concerning elections.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.

1939th meeting

Tuesday, 28 January 1975, at 3.20 p.m.

President: Mr. Iqbal AKHUND (Pakistan).

E/SR.1939

AGENDA ITEM 3

Rationalization of the work of the Council and basic programme of work for 1975 (concluded) (E/5604 and Corr.1)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Economic Adviser to the President of Somalia to address the Council.

2. Mr. SAMANTAR (Observer for Somalia), said that he had recently given the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) up-to-date information on the disaster that had occurred in his country. A document would be distributed to all members of the Council to acquaint them with the facts. In the space of a week, the number of people made destitute by the drought had risen from 160,000 to 230,000. Refugees were flowing into the camps at the rate of some 10,000 a day. It was expected that by the end of May about 800,000 people would have lost their means of livelihood; food, medicines and other requirements would total some \$140 million. The heavy costs of saving those who had not yet been fully affected by the drought would also have to be borne. Once the rains came, there would be the problems of the rehabilitation and resettlement of those displaced by the drought. Cattle stocks would have to be replenished, and other economic problems would have to be solved. Steps must also be taken to protect the population from future droughts. Because of its meagre budget and resources, his country was, with the best will in the world, unable to keep pace with the problem. Although the international community had come to his country's assistance in the beginning, the aid received had been less than 25 per cent of what was needed. He appealed to the international community to remedy the situation before it became too drastic. He hoped that the Council would take cognizance of the difficult situation and marshal international assistance at the governmental and non-governmental levels. Although the organizations of the United Nations system were working on the medium-term and long-term problems, the international community must be aware of what was happening.

3. The PRESIDENT said he was sure he was interpreting the feelings of the Council in saying that the international community must begin to make appropriate efforts. An item on the drought situation would be on the agenda of the fifty-eighth session; he was sure that in preparing his report the Secretary-General would bear in mind the statement just made. He was confident that members would continue to deal with the matter in a spirit of international solidarity.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Elections and confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council (concluded) (E/L.1616 and 1624)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (concluded)

4. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that he wished to clarify a legal point. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations was the only committee of the Council established under the rules of procedure, which were under review. In accordance with resolution 1768 (LIV), the Committee was scheduled to meet once every two years, but rule 82 of the rules of procedure provided that its members should be elected for one year only. The Secretary-General had suggested that under the new rules of procedure members should serve for four years, as was the case for most of the subsidiary bodies of the Council. Members of the Committee would then be able to attend at least two formal sessions and would have time to hold informal consultations between sessions. He suggested that the Council might wish to suspend its existing rule and proceed in accordance with the proposed new rule of procedure.

5. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to follow that suggestion and elect the members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations according to the provisions of the proposed new rule of procedure. That being so, the term of office of the five members elected at the 1938th meeting would be deemed to be four years.

It was so decided [see decision 70 (ORG-75)].

6. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that Ghana, Japan, Kenya and Tunisia had been put forward as candidates from the African and Asian States; Czechoslovakia had been put forward as a candidate from the Socialist States of Eastern Europe.

7. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the five candidates had been elected by acclamation; the remaining three seats would be filled at the fifty-eighth session.

It was so decided [see decision 70 (ORG-75)].

**EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CHILDREN'S FUND**

8. Mr. MASSONET (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the Western European and other States, proposed that