

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

the election of 10 members of the Executive Board should be postponed until the fifty-eighth session.

*The Belgian proposal was accepted [ibid.].*

#### COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

9. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that Algeria, Gabon, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia had been proposed as candidates from the African States; Bangladesh, Democratic Yemen, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Kuwait, Pakistan and Thailand had been proposed as candidates from the Asian States; Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela had been proposed as candidates from the Latin American States; Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia had been proposed as candidates from the Socialist States of Eastern Europe.

10. Mr. MASSONET (Belgium) announced that the candidates from the Western European and other States were: Australia, Canada, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

11. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the Council elected the members from the African States, Asian States, Latin American States and Socialist States of Eastern Europe by acclamation. One seat allotted to the group of Asian States remained to be filled at the fifty-eighth session.

*It was so decided [ibid.].*

12. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote by secret ballot to elect 10 members from the Western European and other States, since there were 11 candidates for the seats allocated to those States.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Fasla (Algeria) and Mr. Fonseca Martínez (Colombia) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers: 52

Invalid ballots: 2

Number of valid ballots: 50

Required majority: 26

#### Number of votes obtained:

Sweden . . . . . 49

Canada . . . . . 47

France . . . . . 46

Germany (Federal Republic of) . . . . . 46

Italy . . . . . 46

Australia . . . . . 45

Netherlands . . . . . 45

United States of America . . . . . 45

United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland . . . . . 41

Greece . . . . . 34

Spain . . . . . 33

Portugal . . . . . 11

Japan . . . . . 1

New Zealand . . . . . 1

Portugal . . . . . 1

*Having obtained the required majority, Australia, Canada, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were elected members of the Committee on Transnational Corporations.*

13. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the distribution of the terms of office of members of the Commission would be that set out in document E/L.1624.

*It was so decided.*

14. The PRESIDENT announced that lots had been drawn to establish the terms for which members would serve. Of the African States, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Zambia would serve for three years; Kenya, Senegal, Uganda and Zaire for two years; and Algeria, Gabon, the Ivory Coast and Nigeria for one year. Of the Asian States, Bangladesh, Democratic Yemen, Japan and one member still to be elected would serve for three years; Indonesia, Kuwait and Thailand for two years; and India, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan for one year. Of the Latin American States, Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador would serve for three years; Barbados, Brazil, Mexico, and Trinidad and Tobago for two years; and Jamaica, Peru and Venezuela for one year. Of the Western European and other States, Australia, France and Germany (Federal Republic of) would serve for three years; the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America for two years; and Canada, Greece and Italy for one year. Of the Socialist States of Eastern Europe, Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic would serve for three years; the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for two years; and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Yugoslavia for one year.

#### BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL FUND (concluded)

15. The PRESIDENT recalled that, pursuant to a decision taken by the General Assembly at its 2325th meeting on 18 December 1974, two members were to be elected 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 1977. At its 1938th meeting, the Council had elected Sweden.

16. Mr. MASSONET (Belgium) said that the Western European States had no candidate at the current time.

17. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should postpone the election of the remaining member until the fifty-eighth session.

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

#### COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION (concluded)

18. The PRESIDENT said that three members from among the African States and one member from among the Asian States were to be elected for a term of office effective as of the date of the election and expiring on 31 December 1977, and that one member from among the African States was to be elected for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1976.

19. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that Zaire had been nominated as a candidate for a term of office expiring on 31 December 1977.

20. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council elected Zaire by acclamation for a term of office effective as of the date of the election and expiring on 31 December 1977, and that it decided to postpone the election to fill the remaining vacancies until the fifty-eighth session.

*It was so decided [ibid.].*

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES (*concluded*).

21. The PRESIDENT said that two members were to be elected from among the Asian States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1978. He suggested that, since there were no candidates, the election should be postponed until the fifty-eighth session.

*It was so decided [ibid.].*

#### COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (*concluded*)

22. The PRESIDENT said that one member from among the Asian States was to be elected for a term of office effective as of the date of the election and expiring on 31 December 1977, one member was to be elected from among the African States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1976, and five members were to be elected from among the African States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1975.

23. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that Kenya had been nominated as a candidate for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1976 and that the Central African Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Mauritania and Morocco had been nominated as candidates for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1975.

24. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council elected Kenya by acclamation for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1976, and the Central African Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Mauritania and Morocco for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1975; and that it decided to postpone the election to fill the remaining vacancy until the fifty-eighth session. He recalled that Greece had been elected at the 1938th meeting.

*It was so decided [ibid.].*

#### COMMITTEE ON REVIEW AND APPRAISAL (*concluded*)

25. The PRESIDENT said that four members were to be elected from among the African States and two from among the Asian States for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1977.

26. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that Algeria, Guinea, Kenya and Liberia had been nominated as candidates.

27. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council elected Algeria, Guinea, Kenya and Liberia by acclamation for a

term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1977, and that it decided to postpone the election to fill the two remaining vacancies until the fifty-eighth session.

*It was so decided [ibid.].*

#### *Ad Hoc* WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES (*concluded*)

28. The PRESIDENT said that, pursuant to Council decision 21 (LVI) of 17 May 1974, two members from among the African States, two from among the Asian States, one from among the Latin American States, two from among the Western European and other States and one from among the Socialist States of Eastern Europe were to be elected. At its 1938th meeting, the Council had elected Ecuador, Mexico and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

29. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that Japan, from among the Asian States, and France, from among the Western European and other States, had been nominated as candidates.

30. Mr. MACKENZIE (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had attended a meeting of the Group and was willing to continue doing so.

31. Mr. WILDER (Canada) appealed to members to bear in mind the Council's decision that at least two members of each geographical group should be represented on the Group and to do their best to participate in its work.

32. Mr. BENITES (Ecuador), speaking as Chairman of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group, said that the review of the rules of procedure of the Council and its subsidiary bodies was an extremely important matter. Consequently, he hoped that more interested delegations would attend meetings. It was not proper for a very small group to take decisions on such an important question. If the situation did not improve soon, he would have considerable difficulty in continuing to chair the Working Group.

33. Mr. AKÉ (Ivory Coast) nominated Kenya as a candidate for membership in the *Ad Hoc* Working Group. The African States, appreciating the importance of the work of the Group, would make known their second candidate as soon as possible.

34. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council elected France, Japan, Kenya and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by acclamation as members of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group.

*It was so decided [ibid.].*

35. Mr. BENITES (Ecuador) requested the Chairman to give him the names of candidates for vacancies in the Working Group so that he, as Chairman of the Group, would be able to distinguish between members and interested delegations attending meetings.

36. Mr. MACKENZIE (United Kingdom) said that it was his understanding that, since the Working Group was open to all Member States, there was no difference in status between members and non-members who attended meetings.

37. The PRESIDENT referred to Economic and Social Council decision 21 (LVI), paragraph (b) of which stated that the Group should consist of at least two members from each geographical group and that it would be open to other interested Member States.

That meant that all could participate actively in the work of the Group. Any delegations which were interested in participating should so inform him.

38. Mr. BENITES (Ecuador) said that, while all persons attending meetings of the Working Group would be on the same footing, members would have a special obligation to attend.

39. Mr. WILDER (Canada) suggested that the Chairmen of all regional groups should remind members of their groups that the *Ad Hoc* Working Group was open to all members of the General Assembly, not only to members of the Council.

#### INFORMAL GROUP TO EXAMINE THE MACHINERY FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION

40. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) recalled that, at its 1919th meeting, on 1 August 1974, the Council had decided to set up an informal group, open to all Member States, to meet in New York early in 1975 to examine the machinery for programme and co-ordination. The General Assembly had also decided to establish a Working Group on United Nations Programme and Budget Machinery, with a membership of 22, to review the intergovernmental and expert machinery for programme approval and to recommend improvements, taking into account the views expressed during the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly, and the deliberations in the Council's informal group and in the intersessional meeting of the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee. The informal group of the Economic and Social Council was to be as informal as possible, which would mean that interpretation would not be provided. Unless the Council decided to elect a chairman of the group, he suggested that the best procedure might be for the Chair-

man of the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee to convene the group and decide how it would co-ordinate its work with that of the Working Group of the Assembly.

41. Mr. BRITO (Brazil) questioned whether there was a real need for the Council to establish the informal group, as the mandates of that group and of the Working Group established by the General Assembly appeared to be similar.

42. Mrs. DERRE (France) said that there had long been confusion about the competence of the Economic and Social Council and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly. The functions of both organs should be defined as clearly as possible. The Fifth Committee dealt with the total budget of the United Nations, 67 per cent of which was spent on the Economic and Social Council programme. She suggested that the question of the machinery for programme and co-ordination should be taken up first by the informal group of the Council, and separately by the Working Group of the General Assembly, and then by the two groups working together. The Working Group of the General Assembly was to be restricted to 22 members, which meant that some delegations wishing to participate could not do so; those delegations could, however, participate in the open-ended informal group of the Council.

43. The PRESIDENT said that the suggestion made by the representative of France seemed reasonable. He requested the Chairman of the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee of the Council to consult informally with members and then proceed to organize the work of the Council's informal group.

44. He then declared that the Council had thus concluded the work of its organizational session for 1975.

*The meeting rose at 5 p.m.*