



Eighteenth session
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. J.K.D. APPIAH (Ghana)

1. The General Assembly, at its 1210th meeting, on 20 September 1963, allocated to the Second Committee agenda item 12 entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".
2. At its 891st and 902nd meetings, the Committee decided to give priority to proposals regarding the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.^{1/} At its 905th meeting, the Committee decided to report separately to the General Assembly on this matter.
3. In addition to the report of the Economic and Social Council, the Committee had before it the first and second reports of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (E/3720 and E/3799), a memorandum submitted by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.2/219) and a communication from the representative of Israel (A/C.2/220).
4. The Committee also had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.729) submitted by Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti,

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5503), chapter III, section II.

Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tanganyika, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen and Yugoslavia, entitled "United Nations Conference on Trade and Development", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 1785 (XVII) of 8 December 1962, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 917 (XXXIV) of 3 August 1962, 944 (XXXV) of 18 April 1963, and 963 (XXXVI) of 18 July 1963,

"Having considered the report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter III, section II, of document A/5503) pertaining to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

"Believing that the joint statement by representatives of the developing countries, contained in paragraph 186 of the report on the second session of the Preparatory Committee (E/3799), summarizing the views, needs and aspirations of those countries with regard to the Conference, represents a well-considered basis for the deliberations of the Conference,

"1. Notes with appreciation the work already done by the Preparatory Committee at its first and second sessions (report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter III, section II) and by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

"2. Welcomes the joint declaration of the developing countries at the eighteenth session of the General Assembly with regard to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which is annexed to the present resolution; 2/

"3. Invites the States which will participate in the Conference, in dealing with the various items on its agenda, to give serious consideration to the joint declaration."

5. This draft resolution was introduced at the 903rd meeting by the representatives of Nigeria and Colombia and was considered at the 903rd to 905th meetings.

2/ The text of the annex will be found in paragraph 9 below.

6. At the 903rd meeting, the representative of Israel stated that as one of the developing countries of the United Nations her delegation had signified its adherence to the joint declaration of the developing countries annexed to the seventy-five-Power draft resolution and regarded itself as a party to that declaration; it also associated itself with the draft resolution.
7. In the light of discussions which had taken place, the sponsors of the draft resolution, at the 905th meeting, submitted a revised text of their draft resolution (A/C.2/L.729/Rev.1), in which they had introduced the following changes:
- (1) A new paragraph was inserted between the second and third preambular paragraphs as follows:

 "Noting with satisfaction that the purposes of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are gaining strong support which has been reflected during the present session in a general recognition of the need for thorough preparations for the Conference in order to ensure its full success,";
 - (2) The words "deliberations of the Conference" at the end of the third (now fourth) preambular paragraph were replaced by the words "consideration of the problems of developing countries at the Conference and an important contribution to its deliberations";
 - (3) The words "and documents and proposals contributing to the lofty aims of the Conference" were inserted in operative paragraph 3 after the words "in dealing with the various items on its agenda".
8. The Committee then unanimously approved the revised seventy-five-Power draft resolution.

Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1785 (XVII) of 8 December 1962, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 917 (XXXIV) of 3 August 1962, 944 (XXXV) of 18 April 1963 and 963 (XXXVI) of 18 July 1963,

Having considered chapter III, section II, of the report of the Economic and Social Council,^{3/} pertaining to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Noting with satisfaction that the purposes of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are gaining strong support, which has been reflected during the eighteenth session in a general recognition of the need for thorough preparations for the Conference in order to ensure its full success,

Believing that the joint statement by representatives of the developing countries, contained in the report on the second session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,^{4/} summarizing the views, needs and aspirations of those countries with regard to the Conference, represents a well-considered basis for the consideration of the problems of developing countries at the Conference and an important contribution to its deliberations,

1. Notes with appreciation the work already done by the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its first and second sessions^{5/} and by the Secretary-General of the Conference;

2. Welcomes the joint declaration of the developing countries with regard to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, made at the eighteenth session of the General Assembly, which is annexed to the present resolution;

3. Invites the States which will participate in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in dealing with the various items on its agenda and with documents and proposals contributing to the lofty aims of the Conference, to give serious consideration to the joint declaration.

^{3/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5503).

^{4/} E/3799, para. 186.

^{5/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5503), chapter III, section II.

ANNEX

JOINT DECLARATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: AFGHANISTAN, ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BURMA, BURUNDI, CAMBODIA, CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CEYLON, CHAD, CHILE, COLOMBIA, CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE), CONGO (LEOPOLDVILLE), COSTA RICA, CYPRUS, DAHOMEY, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, ETHIOPIA, GABON, GHANA, GUATEMALA, GUINEA, HAITI, HONDURAS, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRAQ, JAMAICA, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LAOS, LEBANON, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALAYSIA, MALI, MAURITANIA, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NEPAL, NEW ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, NIGER, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERU, PHILIPPINES, RWANDA, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SOMALIA, SUDAN, SYRIA, TANGANYIKA, THAILAND, TOGO, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC, UPPER VOLTA, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA, YEMEN AND YUGOSLAVIA

I

1. The developing countries consider that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should represent an outstanding event in international co-operation conducive to the development of their economies and the integrated growth of the world economy as a whole. They believe that the full attainment of even the modest targets of the United Nations Development Decade will depend on the concrete decisions taken at this Conference and on their effective implementation. They are already making and are determined to continue to make great efforts for their economic and social advancement through full mobilization of domestic resources, agricultural development, industrialization and diversification of their production and trade. However, this task can be accomplished only if these domestic efforts are supplemented and assisted by adequate international action. The developing countries look to the Conference to help them reach the stage of self-sustaining growth.

II

2. International trade could become a more powerful instrument and vehicle of economic development not only through the expansion of the traditional exports of the developing countries, but also through the development of markets for their new products and the general increase in their share of

world exports under improved terms of trade. For this purpose, a new international division of labour, with new patterns of production and trade, is necessary. Only in this way will the economic independence of the developing countries be strengthened and a truly interdependent and integrated world economy emerge. The development of production and the increase in productivity and purchasing power of the developing countries will contribute to the economic growth of the industrialized countries as well, and thus become a means to world-wide prosperity.

3. The existing principles and patterns of world trade still mainly favour the advanced parts of the world. Instead of helping the developing countries to promote the development and diversification of their economies, the present tendencies in world trade frustrate their efforts to attain more rapid growth. These trends must be reversed. The volume of trade of the developing countries should be increased, its composition diversified, the prices of their exports stabilized at fair and remunerative levels, and the international transfers of capital made more favourable to those countries so as to enable them to obtain through trade more of the means needed for their economic development.

4. To achieve these objectives, a dynamic international trade policy is required. This policy should be based on the need for providing special assistance and protection for the less developed parts of the world economy. The removal of obstacles to the trade of the developing countries is important, but the accelerated development of the parts of the world which are lagging behind requires more than the unconditional application of the most favoured nation principle and the mere reduction of tariffs. More positive measures aimed at achieving a new international division of labour are essential to bring about the necessary increase in productivity and diversification of economic activity in the developing countries. The measures taken by developed countries to promote the development of the relatively backward areas within their national boundaries provide a guide for the purposeful and dynamic action which needs to be taken in the field of international economic co-operation.

III

5. The fundamental trade problems of developing countries are well identified. What the world is lacking today is, therefore, not the awareness of the problem, but the readiness to act. Many constructive proposals were advanced during the second session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. The representatives of developing countries making the present declaration recommend to all Members of the United Nations that they give earnest consideration to these proposals and that they explore, before the beginning of the Conference, all practical means for their implementation, so as to make it possible to reach at the Conference basic agreement on a new international trade and development policy. This policy, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1785 (XVII) of 8 December 1962, should lead to the adoption by the Conference of concrete measures to achieve, inter alia, the following:

- (a) Creation of conditions for the expansion of trade between countries at a similar level of development, at different stages of development or having different systems of social and economic organization;
- (b) Progressive reduction and early elimination of all barriers and restrictions impeding the exports of the developing countries, without reciprocal concessions on their part;
- (c) Increasing the volume of exports of the developing countries in primary products, both raw and processed, to the industrialized countries, and stabilizing prices at fair and remunerative levels;
- (d) Expansion of the markets for exports of manufactured and semi-manufactured goods from the developing countries;
- (e) Provision of more adequate financial resources at favourable terms so as to enable the developing countries to increase their imports of capital goods and industrial raw materials essential for their economic development, and better co-ordination of trade and aid policies;
- (f) Improvement of the invisible trade of the developing countries, particularly by reducing their payments for freight and insurance and the burden of their debt charges;

- (g) Improvement of institutional arrangements, including, if necessary, the establishment of new machinery and methods for implementing the decisions of the Conference.

IV

6. The developing countries are looking to more stable and healthy international economic relations in which they can increasingly find from their own resources the means required for self-sustaining growth. The developing countries are confident that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will not only be able to contribute to the acceleration of their economic development, but will also be an important instrument for promoting stability and security in the world.

7. The developing countries expect that the Conference will offer an opportunity for the manifestation, in the field of trade and development, of the same political will that was responsible for the Charter of the United Nations signed at San Francisco and the creation of the Organization. They are confident that, in this spirit, the decisions of the Conference will bring about fuller international co-operation and that greater progress can be made towards the attainment of collective economic security. International trade will thus become a strong guarantee of world peace and the Conference will be a landmark in the fulfilment of the Charter.
