

# United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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**SECOND COMMITTEE, 876th  
MEETING**

Thursday, 13 December 1962,  
at 3.25 p.m.

**NEW YORK**

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**Chairman:** Mr. Bohdan LEWANDOWSKI  
(Poland).

## AGENDA ITEMS 33 AND 94

**Economic and Social consequences of disarmament: report of the Secretary-General transmitting the study of the group of expert consultants appointed under General Assembly resolution 1516 (XV) (concluded)**

**Economic programme for disarmament (concluded)**

**ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (A/C.2/L.708)**

1. Miss SELLERS (Canada), Rapporteur, presented the draft report of the Committee (A/C.2/L.708).

*The draft report was adopted unanimously.*

## AGENDA ITEM 39

**Permanent sovereignty over natural resources (continued)**

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (A/5344/ADD.1)**

2. Miss SELLERS (Canada), Rapporteur, presented the report of the Committee (A/5344/Add.1) and pointed out that, in accordance with the decision taken by the Committee (872nd meeting), the part of the report on the first group of questions which concerned item 39 was being submitted separately. She paid a tribute to the members of the Secretariat who had worked hard in the preparation of the complex report.

3. Mr. FINGER (United States of America), supported by Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines), proposed that consideration of the report be postponed until the following meeting.

*It was so decided.*

## AGENDA ITEMS 12, 40, 41 AND 78

**Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter IV) (A/5203) (continued)**

**Progress and operations of the Special Fund (A/5247, A/C.2/L.710/Rev.1, E/3576, E/3646/Rev.1) (continued)**

**United Nations programmes of technical co-operation (A/5259, A/5330, A/C.2/L.710/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.719) (continued):**

(a) **Review of activities (E/3680);**

(b) **Confirmation of the allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (A/C.2/216);**

(c) **Question of assistance to Libya: report of the Secretary-General (A/5281, A/5282, A/C.2/L.711 and Add.1 and 2)**

**Rwanda and Burundi: report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1746 (XVI) (A/5283 and Corr.1, A/C.2/L.716 and Add.1) (continued)**

4. Mr. JALIL (Ecuador) explained that he had supported the draft resolution adopted at the Committee's 873rd meeting (A/C.2/L.710/Rev.1) because its aim was to promote programmes which were of great benefit to the developing countries. A considerable expansion of the resources of those programmes was required and his Government regretted its inability to increase its own contribution for the time being, as its current economic and social development programmes imposed a very heavy financial burden.

5. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to consider the draft resolution on the question of assistance to Libya (A/C.2/L.711 and Add.1 and 2).

6. Mr. FEKINI (Libya) recalled that the special interest the United Nations had shown in assistance to his country was a result of the historical circumstances which had led the Organization to concern itself with the fate of Libya. The United Nations had played a major role in the political evolution which had resulted in the proclamation of his country's independence pursuant to General Assembly resolution 289 A (IV).

7. Even before Libya's independence, the United Nations had assisted in promoting the economic and social development of the country. The question of assistance to Libya had in fact been treated as a permanent item on the General Assembly's agenda and had given rise to the adoption of numerous resolutions. The memorandum attached to the communication of September 1962 from the Prime Minister of Libya to the Secretary-General (A/5282) provided a fairly detailed record of the aid given to Libya by the Organization, the efforts made by the country itself, the highly successful results obtained and the country's future economic and social prospects. The record was one of which the international community and the Libyan people themselves could indeed be proud.

8. His country had made great progress in its ten years of independence, but a great effort was still required if its development plans were to be implemented and considerable external assistance would still be required, particularly in the technical field, if full advantage was to be taken of the new situation created by the discovery of petroleum in its territory. The need for such assistance would be felt in particular during the transitional period when the revenue from petroleum would not yet suffice to finance the development programmes which had been undertaken.

9. The discovery of petroleum had in fact accentuated some of his country's greatest handicaps, notably the acute shortages of technical and professional staff and the need for administrators at every level and for teachers in every subject. The pace of economic change under the stimulus of accelerated petroleum exploration and exploitation was in itself a challenge and was imposing serious strains on a society which, hitherto, had been primarily rural and agricultural.

10. Libya had sought to derive the maximum benefit from the technical assistance given to it, and the improvement in its financial situation would enable it to bear its rightful share of the cost of the aid provided and in some cases even the full cost. Table 2 in the memorandum showed that his Government proposed to assume responsibility for 12.5 per cent of the local cost of the experts in Libya. It had taken the necessary measures to renounce the preferential treatment generously granted to it by the United Nations in the past and hoped that the voluntary relinquishment of that benefit might enable the Organization to increase its assistance. The funds-in-trust payments to be made by his Government in the next two years would amount to only about 10 per cent less than the amount to be allocated to his country under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

11. In his Government's view, there was no longer any need to regard assistance to Libya as a matter to be given special treatment by the General Assembly. The problems of his country could henceforth be dealt with in the same way as were those of the many other newly independent States in Africa. His country wished to place on record its indebtedness to the Organization for the assistance it had already given and for that

which it hoped would be forthcoming in the future. In that connexion, his delegation regarded the draft resolution as eminently satisfactory and thanked those delegations which had sponsored it and those which had indicated their support.

12. In conclusion, he wished to convey the gratitude of his Government to the United Nations, its technical assistance organs and the specialized agencies for their valuable assistance. He wished also to thank all the Governments which had provided financial and technical aid. His Government was confident that it would receive in the future a large measure of aid from the United Nations until it was itself in a position to contribute to the programmes aiding the less favoured nations. The success of United Nations assistance to Libya should inspire the international community to redouble its efforts on behalf of those peoples which were seeking to overcome the difficulties of their first years of independence.

13. Mr. SAHLOUL (Sudan), introducing the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.711 and Add.1 and 2) on behalf of its sponsors, said that the delegation of Sierra Leone had joined the sponsors. The draft resolution had been inspired by Libya's record of achievement during the first decade of its independence.

14. The United Nations had expressed its interest in the welfare and development of Libya through many organs, and the specialized agencies had played a major role in the country's progress. Valuable work had been done by the Libyan Public Development and Stabilization Agency, the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission and the Libyan-American Joint Services. The success of the endeavour was illustrated by the rapid progress made by Libya in education and health and by the rise in its per caput income.

15. The discovery of petroleum, an event of tremendous importance in the economic life of Libya, had come in the wake of a development decade in which the administrative and educational structure of the country had been placed on a firm basis. Consequently, the assistance required in the future would be of a somewhat different nature, with particular emphasis on technical aid.

16. The accelerated pace of economic development made possible by petroleum royalties would create new problems of a technical and administrative nature which would require technical assistance for their solution if the newly discovered resources were to have a beneficial and lasting effect. It was noteworthy that Libya intended to participate fully in all African regional enterprises launched under the auspices of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and that it would consider the possibility of participating in such new inter-African ventures as the African Development Bank.

17. Libya, by its record of achievement in the field of development, by its sense of maturity and responsibility, shown by its request to forgo the preferential treatment it had hitherto enjoyed and by its goodwill towards its fellow African countries, deserved the continuing support of the United Nations. He believed that the draft resolution would have the full support of the Committee.

18. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) expressed his delegation's satisfaction at the highly favourable information submitted to the Committee in the memorandum of the Libyan Government (A/5282) and the report of the

Secretary-General (A/5281). The discovery and the initial exploitation of the petroleum resources of Libya were very welcome developments. The aid given by the United Nations and by a number of individual States had been used wisely, but Libya still needed external assistance, particularly in the technical field. He hoped that the projects affecting Libya which had recently been approved by TAC would help to meet its most urgent needs.

19. Italy had been glad, in recent years, to assist Libya in various ways. It had contributed, since 1956, a total of almost \$7.7 million to the Libyan economy. It had exempted most Libyan imports from customs duty, had sent many experts to assist the Libyan administration and had contributed substantially to Libyan educational and training programmes through the provision of scholarships and schools.

20. His Government would continue to take Libya's economic assistance needs into account and would contribute, so far as its resources and its commitments to other countries permitted, to Libya's efforts to accelerate its economic and social development. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

21. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) said that the submission of the draft resolution reflected a very happy development in the history of Libya and of the co-operative international development efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

22. His delegation congratulated the Government and people of Libya on their achievement. It had been privileged to make its own contribution to that country's progress, which had amounted to approximately \$180 million in grants and \$10 million in loans. Other countries of the free world had contributed aid amounting to over \$50 million.

23. It was gratifying to note that Libya was on the path towards achievement of self-sustaining growth, a goal sought by all the developing countries and those assisting them, and it was noteworthy that that had been made possible by agreements with private enterprises for the development of the country's resources.

24. His delegation was pleased to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

25. Mr. FARHADI (Afghanistan) said that his delegation had been impressed by the record of achievement contained in the document before the Committee and in the statement made by the Libyan representative. It welcomed, in particular, the proposal that Libya should no longer receive preferential assistance from the United Nations.

26. The change in the fortunes of the Libyan people was most gratifying and he was sure that, with continuing aid from the international organizations, Libya would, with the other countries of the Arab Maghreb, attain the high level of civilization enjoyed in past centuries by the nations of North Africa.

27. His delegation would support the draft resolution.

28. Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) said that his delegation was heartened by the Libyan success story, which was no less a record of the success of the United Nations. The Libyan decision to renounce preferential treatment was a praiseworthy and welcome development. His Government was gratified that the assistance it had been able to provide to Libya had been of value and was confident that the Libyan Government and

people would continue to show the same skill and tenacity in their development efforts as they had in the past. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

29. Mr. YAKER (Algeria) said that in view of the great efforts made by the Libyan people to develop their country, Algeria had been glad to contribute to the progress reported to the Committee. The United Nations and the specialized agencies had rendered great assistance to Libya and he was sure that the experience gained in its development would be of value to other new nations. His delegation welcomed the draft resolution and hoped it would be approved unanimously.

*The draft resolution (A/C.2/L.711 and Add.1 and 2) was adopted unanimously.*

30. Mr. EL BANNA (United Arab Republic) welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution. The Libyan Government's recommendation that assistance to Libya was no longer required to be a special agenda item proved that it had benefited from its co-operation with the United Nations and was determined to assume its obligations and responsibilities. It was to be hoped that the treatment to be accorded to the question in the future would not prevent the provision of continuous and ample aid to Libya, since the petroleum discoveries had not removed all the country's difficulties. The United Arab Republic was prepared to continue and to accelerate its aid to Libya. The Libyan Government and people were to be congratulated on the remarkable economic and social successes they had achieved since independence.

31. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to vote on the draft resolution contained in the Secretary-General's memorandum concerning confirmation of the allocation of funds for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (A/C.2/216).

32. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation would vote for the draft resolution, subject to the considerations it had expressed before TAC (281st meeting) and the Second Committee (873rd meeting).

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

33. The CHAIRMAN asked the members of the Committee to consider the draft resolution concerning the provision of operational, executive and administrative personnel (A/C.2/L.719). The delegation of Niger had expressed its desire to become a co-sponsor.

34. Mr. DIEZ DE MEDINA (Bolivia) recalled that in its report, the Economic and Social Council had expressed the view that further steps were required to make the OPEX programme more fully responsive to existing needs (A/5203, para. 625). The aim of the draft resolution was to facilitate solutions to the problems faced by the OPEX programme on the basis of provisions already adopted by the General Assembly. In resolution 1768 (XVII), the General Assembly had decided to provide in the regular budget for 1963 the sum of \$6.4 million for technical programmes, including the OPEX programme. The draft resolution before the Committee, which invited TAC to give special attention, in the study it would make in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 1768 (XVII), to the importance of making the OPEX programme more responsive to the needs of Governments, would therefore have no financial implications. The success of the OPEX programme, especially in the newly independent

countries, had been amply demonstrated. The appropriation of \$850,000 for 1963 made no provision for any expansion of the programme to enable a fair distribution to be made of the assistance provided among the countries needing such assistance.

35. It was to be hoped that, despite the late stage at which the text had been submitted, the members of the Committee would support the draft resolution, which would make a positive contribution to the future stability of the OPEX programme.

36. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) said that the OPEX programme had proved successful and had made a valuable contribution to the development of the economically less developed countries. The provision of experts to those countries could help to bring nearer the day when nationals of the countries would be able to carry out operational, executive and administrative functions. Such a complex matter should not, however, be discussed hastily. His delegation therefore suggested that the Committee should recommend that the draft resolution be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council at its resumed thirty-fourth session. The Council did not have such a heavy agenda as the Second Committee and it included representatives of countries with different views on the OPEX programme.

37. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the subject of the draft resolution, which had been submitted at a late stage in the Committee's proceedings, was important and complex. The Committee did not have the necessary information to take a decision in the matter. He thought that TAC would be a more appropriate body to discuss the matter than the Economic and Social Council.

38. Mr. BOLT (New Zealand) agreed that it would not be appropriate for the Second Committee to discuss the draft resolution, which raised questions which had been dealt with by a working group appointed by TAC and on which action had not yet been taken by TAC itself.

39. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) thought that the Council should be left to decide how to deal with the matter. As a compromise, however, he proposed that the Committee should decide to recommend to the General Assembly that the draft resolution be transmitted to the Council at its resumed thirty-fourth session for any appropriate action including, *inter alia*, its transmittal to TAC.

40. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. DIEZ DE MEDINA (Bolivia) and Mr. SIDIKOU (Niger) declared that the United States proposal was acceptable.

*The United States proposal was adopted.*

41. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the Committee to the draft resolution concerning the question of technical assistance to Rwanda and Burundi (A/C.2/L.716 and Add.1).

42. Mr. GASSOU (Togo) paid a tribute to the work of the mission of the Secretary-General's special representative who had been sent to Rwanda and Burundi in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1746 (XVI), the expressed satisfaction with the Secretary-General's report (A/5283 and Corr.1). It was gratifying that the Secretary-General had been able to provide Rwanda and Burundi with urgently needed technical and financial assistance.

43. After reviewing the steps leading to the independence of Ruanda-Urundi, he recalled that, shortly before the adoption, in June 1962, of resolution 1746 (XVI), the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi had pointed out, in paragraph 263 of its report (A/5126 and Add.1), that unless a considerable amount of foreign aid was forthcoming, it was difficult to see how Rwanda and Burundi could solve the economic and financial problems facing them and that the two Governments had already asked the United Nations for the services of a group of economic, social, monetary, banking, customs and administrative experts. In paragraph 376 of the report, the Commission had emphasized that the United Nations, as the authority which had conferred the trusteeship, could not, without impairing its moral prestige, abdicate its special responsibility for a territory of which it had taken charge for fifteen years; the future of those countries as a genuinely independent State would depend in large part on the way in which the United Nations exercised its responsibilities during the first years of the territory's independence, which would be gravely prejudiced unless a special effort was made. The Commission had set forth its recommendations regarding United Nations assistance to Rwanda and Burundi in paragraph 285 of its report and had in particular recommended that the General Assembly should consider setting up a special fund for their assistance.

44. On the basis of the Commission's report and recommendations, the General Assembly had adopted resolution 1746 (XVI) but, because of the opposition manifested during the debate, it had found an interim solution to the financial problem and had authorized the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution 1735 (XVI) on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1962, to enter into commitments not exceeding \$2 million for the purpose of such emergency measures as might be required to ensure the continuation of essential services in the two countries. The Secretary-General's report (A/5283 and Corr.1) had been prepared in implementation of resolution 1746 (XVI) and the General Assembly must decide how its programme of assistance to the two States would be continued.

45. Some emergency means must be found of providing economic assistance to the two States. Recalling that many delegations had expressed fears in June 1961 that the United Nations would again become involved in a costly and unpredictable operation, with a consequent loss of prestige, he noted that the atmosphere had now greatly improved. Some delegations had said that the needs of Rwanda and Burundi were the same as those of other under-developed countries; that was largely true, but they were also particularly urgent since the two States had no administrative personnel and would long depend on foreign assistance. The assistance. The assistance provided bilaterally by Belgium and by the specialized agencies could not meet all needs. The United Nations had a clear responsibility: it must supplement assistance from other sources. The situation in regard to administrative cadres was described in paragraphs 276 and 277 of the Commission's report (A/5126 and Add.1). As paragraph 31 of the Secretary-General's report showed, there had been a considerable reduction in the number of foreign technicians after 1 July 1962. Those technicians must be replaced in order to maintain essential services and to ensure a minimum economic infrastructure. Belgium alone could not fill those needs.

46. It was for those reasons that twenty-two countries had submitted the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.716 and Add.1). The projects for which the sum of \$513,600, mentioned in operative paragraph 1, was requested, were summarized in item A of paragraph 74 of the Secretary-General's report. The project for the development and training of internal security forces should not be considered a precedent, because the situation was exceptional; at the time of the independence of Rwanda and Burundi, those forces had been insufficiently trained and had no officers. Moreover, the project involved national security forces for the purpose of maintaining order, not armies. The project for road repair was also necessary because the road was the only surface link between Burundi and the rest of the world. The project for the construction of public and residential buildings at Kigali was also essential; since the former capital had been at Usumbura, when Rwanda had become independent it had had no buildings adequate for accommodating the Government.

47. The question had been raised as to whether the projects should be financed under the regular budget. His delegation felt that they should, since they were clearly of an exceptional character. Moreover, the United Nations was already committed to executing most of the projects. If the programme could be carried out at a lower cost, the sponsors would have no objection to the reduction of their estimate because they felt that what was essential was that the projects should be carried out.

48. The supplementary needs listed in item B of paragraph 74 of the Secretary-General's report were, for the most part, common to other under-developed countries and less urgent. The sponsors of the draft resolution hoped that they could be met through voluntary contributions from States, as they had proposed in operative paragraph 2, without any charge to the United Nations budget.

49. After consultations, the sponsors had agreed to delete operative paragraph 3 and to amend paragraph 5 by replacing the words "paragraphs 1 and 3" by the words "paragraph 1". Since the urgent programme would last for three years only, it was logical that the General Assembly should ask the Secretary-General to include in the budget estimates for the financial year 1963-1964 an estimate for the continuance of that programme, as the sponsors requested in operative paragraph 5.

50. Whatever position delegations might take on principles of assistance under the regular budget of the United Nations, the sponsors felt that they should take account of the exceptional nature of the situation of Rwanda and Burundi, which had been recognized by all Member States in General Assembly resolution 1746 (XVI). Support for the draft resolution would therefore not imply any reversal of previously held positions.

51. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that the Congo (Leopoldville) and Morocco and asked to become sponsors of the draft resolution.

52. Mr. BUBIRIZA (Burundi) expressed his delegation's gratitude to the sponsors for having submitted a draft resolution concerning assistance to his country. Burundi's pressing needs, which the General Assembly had recognized in resolution 1746 (XVI), still remained. Burundi thanked the United Nations, the Secretary-General's special representative and the United Nations Commission for their efforts on its behalf.

53. The assistance which Burundi urgently needed had already been clearly described by the Under-Secretary in charge of Congo Civilian Operations (872nd meeting), by the Togolese representative and in the Secretary-General's report. The total of the immediate programme for which Burundi needed outside aid, whether bilateral or multilateral, amounted to \$3,520,000 and included \$500,000 for co-operatives, \$1 million for community development, \$700,000 for health services and the campaign against parasites, \$300,000 for the improvement of animal husbandry, \$220,000 for the improvement of fisheries, \$260,000 for the improvement of an agricultural school, \$260,000 for the improvement of a primary school, \$300,000 for the expansion of a sanatorium, \$1 million for the enlargement of two schools and \$800,000 for the expansion of two academies.

54. He asked the Belgian representative to convey to his Government Burundi's gratitude for its voluntary and unconditional offer of millions of Belgian francs together with the services of various technicians and experts. While his latest information indicated that that offer had not yet materialized, he hoped that Belgium would honour it without interfering in his country's internal affairs, but he feared that the offer was conditional upon its demand that the Burundi courts should follow its orders. Voluntary contributions were of little use if they were accompanied by threats to curtail assistance unless certain conditions were fulfilled.

55. He appealed to the economically strong countries to make voluntary and unconditional contributions.

56. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) said that, as described in the Secretary-General's report, the requirements of Rwanda and Burundi were similar to those of nearly all the newly independent countries. Paragraph 35 of the report stated that, besides bilateral assistance from Belgium, the European Economic Community had provided a sum of about \$10 million for the implementation of a number of projects. Fifteen of those projects had already been approved and five were under study. Rwanda and Burundi would also benefit from the assistance to be given to the African countries associated with EEC within the framework of the new association. Each country was to receive \$5.5 million out of the total sum of \$183 million to be allocated to the associated countries to help them diversify their economies and industrialize.

57. With regard to the technical assistance provided under the Expanded Programme for Rwanda and Burundi, Italy would have liked to have seen larger sums set aside for programmes of education and vocational training. His delegation also hoped that all the various programmes which were to benefit Rwanda and Burundi would be kept in proper balance. It was particularly gratifying that the Fifth Committee had decided not to reduce the allocation of \$800,000 which was to be used for building and road repair in Rwanda and Burundi, as was indicated in the statement of the Secretary-General on the financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.716/Add.2).

58. He was glad that operative paragraph 3 had been deleted because it would have given rise to rather complex financial implications in respect of a matter which did not appear to be within the purview of the Second Committee. Although his delegation had a number of reservations concerning the present wording of operative paragraph 2, it was prepared to give favourable consideration to the draft resolution.

59. Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) said that his country had watched with the greatest sympathy the progress made by Rwanda and Burundi since their independence. Obviously, they deserved and required considerable external aid in order to grapple with the tremendous tasks facing them. It was only fitting that their needs were receiving full consideration within the limits of the existing programmes of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. But his delegation had serious doubts about the new projects listed in paragraph 74 of the Secretary-General's report. In themselves, such projects were obviously vital for the development of the two countries. But the Committee did not have the detailed information necessary to pass judgement on them. As pointed out in paragraph 5 of the statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.2/L.716/Add.2), the method of financing the projects would have to be decided by the General Assembly.

60. The draft resolution suggested two methods of financing. First, according to operative paragraph 1, the money would come from the regular budget. However, the figure given in operative paragraph 1 did not seem to tally with the figures quoted in paragraph 6 of the financial statement. In any case, the financial details must be settled by the Fifth Committee and not the Second Committee. Secondly, according to operative paragraph 2, voluntary contributions were to be solicited for the execution of the projects listed in item B of paragraph 74 of the Secretary-General's report.

61. The proposal to use the regular budget could not be supported if it meant that the already heavy financial commitments of the United Nations were to be taxed still further. It might be acceptable if the sponsors inserted a provision stipulating that the money must be found within the existing total level of appropriations for 1963. Yet even then the proposal would be open to criticism. It was undesirable for the Second Committee to recommend technical assistance appropriations for named countries. Such an innovation had serious implications for the future and might constitute a very awkward precedent.

62. Similar objections could be raised against the proposal concerning voluntary contributions. If it were implemented, the level of voluntary contributions to the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund, which were designed to help all Member States, would inevitably fall. To divert funds from those two programmes into an account bearing a special label would be quite contrary to existing legislation.

63. In the past, the General Assembly had rightly avoided any apportionment of technical assistance resources to individual countries. Emergency allocations might be justified, but the proposal before the Committee had implications which went beyond 1963. The only satisfactory way of meeting the needs of Rwanda and Burundi was to conform to existing procedures. Their needs would receive proper consideration and no doubt merit a high priority during the allocation of funds normally made in TAC or in the

Government Council of the Special Fund. Although the aims sought by the sponsors were admirable, his delegation could not support their proposals because they ran counter to the procedures normally followed for the allocation of technical assistance funds.

64. Mr. FORTHOMME (Belgium) said his delegation had noted with satisfaction the strenuous efforts of the Secretary-General to help Rwanda and Burundi during the early days of their independence. That was why it had added its name to the sponsors of the draft resolution. The solicitude which the United Nations had long evinced for Rwanda and Burundi could not cease with the termination of trusteeship. Nor, as Mr. Amachree, the Under-Secretary in charge of Congo Civilian Operations, had pointed out in his statement, would Belgium cease to demonstrate its concern with regard to those two countries. It desired to continue to collaborate with them and it intended to do so on a footing of complete equality. Between 1950 and the achievement of independence, Belgian aid had averaged \$10 million a year. Since independence, the budgetary deficit of the two countries, amounting to about \$3 million, had been taken over by Belgium. Belgium had also supplied telecommunication equipment valued at 5 million Belgian francs and military equipment valued at some \$900,000. Since 1 January 1962, Belgium had also advanced considerable sums to meet other urgent needs.

65. According to the Belgian Government, the problem of bilateral aid should be solved by freely negotiated technical assistance agreements. As Mr. Amachree had pointed out, an agreement had been signed on 13 October 1962 between Belgium and the Republic of Rwanda, under which aid amounting to approximately \$4 million would be provided for 1963. Belgium was ready to reach a similar agreement with Burundi but certain difficulties had arisen. In April 1962, i.e. during the period of trusteeship, the Greek Kageorgis had been condemned to death for the assassination of Prince Rwagasore. As the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs had explained in the Chamber of Deputies, a letter had been sent to the Government of Burundi requesting formal assurance that the trial of the assassin would not be reopened. So far, no reply to that letter had been received but certain verbal assurances had been given. There had been no question of interference in Burundi's internal affairs. The Belgian Government hoped that the difficulty would be solved and that relations between Burundi and Belgium would be maintained in mutual friendship and confidence.

66. Although Belgium was continuing its assistance, United Nations aid could be useful for the training of local security forces and for certain projects concerned with agricultural training and community development. Generally speaking, his delegation supported the suggestions made by the Secretary-General concerning the allocation of the various projects between the regular programme and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

The meeting rose at 7.5 p.m.