

emergency financial grants to FAO and providing free freight shipments to the Sudano-Sahelian region. UNDR0 greatly appreciated the desire of Governments to provide assistance for those activities. In that connexion, he noted that draft resolution A/C.3/L.2085, as revised by the representative of Yugoslavia on behalf of the sponsors, now referred to the appeal to Governments made by the Secretary-General and the Director-General of FAO on 26 November 1973 for \$30 million in cash and 450,000 tons of food.

79. Lord GAINFORD (United Kingdom) said that his delegation wished to thank the representative of FAO for replying so promptly to its request for information and the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator for providing clarifications concerning the role of UNDR0 in the emergency operations for the Sudano-Sahelian region. It was also grateful to the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2082 for accepting its amendment to operative paragraph 1 and to the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2085 for the changes they had proposed. His delegation would now be able to support that draft resolution, on the understanding that it was not intended to be broader in scope than General Assembly resolution 3054 (XXVIII).

80. The CHAIRMAN said he took it the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.3/L.2082, as amended, unanimously.

*It was so decided.*

81. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.3/L.2085, as revised, unanimously.

*It was so decided.*

82. Mr. BERKOL (United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator) expressed his appreciation for the Committee's support and encouragement, which would be most helpful to the activities of his Office. He particularly thanked the representative of Iran and the other sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2082 for their initiative. In his work, he would bear in mind the suggestions that had been made during the debate.

83. Mrs. LYKOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said her delegation fully supported draft resolution A/C.3/L.2082, but if it had been put to the vote, it would have abstained on operative paragraph 1 for the reasons she had mentioned in her previous statement.

84. Her delegation also fully supported draft resolution A/C.3/L.2085, but wished to make clear its understanding that the draft resolution went no further than General Assembly resolution 3054 (XXVIII).

*The meeting rose at 1 p.m.*

## 2042nd meeting

Wednesday, 28 November 1973, at 3.15 p.m.

*Chairman:* Mr. Yahya MAHMASSANI (Lebanon).

A/C.3/SR.2042

### AGENDA ITEM 12

**Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters V (section A), XXI (sections A and C), XXII to XXV, XXIX and XXX (section B)] (A/9003 and Corr.1, A/C.3/L.2048, 2073, 2083, 2086, 2087, 2088)**

1. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee would begin its consideration of item 12, on the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of its fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions (A/9003 and Corr.1). The General Assembly had allocated to the Third Committee chapter V, section A, chapter XXI, sections A and C, chapters XXII to XXV, chapter XXIX and chapter XXX, section B. The General Assembly had also considered that chapters II and III, chapter V, section D, chapters IX and XIV and chapter XXI, section B, which had been allocated to the Second Committee, and chapter V, sections B and E, allocated to the Fifth Committee, might also be of interest to the Third Committee. The Committee had before it draft resolutions A/C.3/L.2083, A/C.3/L.2087 and A/C.3/L.2088, concerning chapter XXII and the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/L.2048, concerning chapter XXIII. Also, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1796 (LIV), the Secretary-General had drawn the attention of the General Assembly to that resolution and to the report of

the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts of the Commission on Human Rights.<sup>1</sup> He suggested that the Committee should begin by considering chapter XXII, on narcotic drugs.

2. Mr. NASSER-ZIAYEE (Afghanistan) said the control of narcotic drugs was a complex questions which could not afford a simplistic approach. It had implications that should be studied in depth by the international community if it was to understand the realities of the situation. In order to find ways and means of eliminating illicit traffic it was not sufficient to consider it in the context of producing countries that had traditionally cultivated opium poppy, cannabis and other natural narcotic drugs; it must also be studied objectively from the viewpoint of the demand in consuming countries. The elimination of the sources of demand would contribute greatly to the suppression of the illicit traffic and to the strengthening of the international system of control. Another problem was that it was hard to determine the origin and the amount of opium and other drugs entering the illicit market. For instance, opium that passed through Afghanistan in transit was often wrongly referred to as "opium of Afghan origin"; large quantities of cannabis also crossed Afghanistan in transit, as was demonstrated by the seizures made at the Kabul and Kandahar airports.

<sup>1</sup> E/5245.

3. Afghanistan had banned the cultivation of opium poppy and the production, trade and use of opium, but cultivation might subsist to some extent in areas where it was the only product from which the population derived its livelihood. The Government was doing its utmost to combat the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and also to prevent their transit through the country. Afghanistan was anxious to co-operate with the international community in the strengthening of the international system of control of narcotic drugs, and he could cite as an example its close collaboration with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control.

4. Opium had traditionally been cultivated as a cash crop in certain areas in Afghanistan and, when it was banned, substitute crops and other economic activities must be found in order not to create hardships for the population; that meant carrying out a genuine agricultural and economic reform. In order to do so, it was essential to put an end to the isolation of those parts of the country like Badakshan, in the first instance through the construction of a road connecting it to Kunduz, an important economic centre in the north of the country. The Government could not undertake so comprehensive a programme without substantial financial and economic assistance from the international community—a fact that was well understood by the United Nations experts who had visited Afghanistan and the regions concerned. The Government had undertaken a vast developmental effort, to which it had devoted its material and human resources and the assistance it was receiving from multilateral sources and bilateral donors. It was therefore unable to assume unaided the elimination of the production of and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs because it was not able to change its developmental priorities.

5. The problem of natural drugs and their abuse should not be viewed in isolation from the increasing addiction to synthetic drugs. It was to be hoped that the industrialized countries would soon accede to the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. Abuse of synthetic drugs was increasing at an alarming rate and must be controlled immediately, lest the eastern countries should become consumers of illicit synthetic drugs and the great industrialized western countries the sources of provision.

6. Introducing draft resolution A/C.3/L.2083, he said that it reflected the concepts which he had expressed. The sponsors hoped that it would be acceptable to all countries which were confronted with drug abuse and to all those determined to strengthen the international system of control.

7. Mr. MESSING-MIERZEJEWSKI (representative of the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and of the Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs) drew attention to the statement made by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva in February 1973,<sup>2</sup> concerning the reorganization of the secretariat of the Fund and the Division of Narcotic Drugs. The intention was to ensure the most effective integration and co-ordination of the activities of the Division and the Fund and to avoid unnecessary duplication, and to that end the Director of the Division had been given the role of providing advisory services to the Executive Director of the

Fund. The reorganization had led to close co-operation between the two secretariats.

8. He was pleased to report that the contributions to the Fund had doubled during the preceding half-year, so that total contributions and pledges now amounted to almost \$10.2 million and the number of government contributors was some 30. A number of Governments had agreed to make regular contributions, which made the Fund's planning task easier. Intensive fund raising was taking place, in both the public and the private sectors.

9. During the preceding year, the task of the Fund had lost none of its necessity or urgency. Although some changes in the trends of drug abuse patterns could be discerned, the world situation continued to be serious and called for constant vigilance. In the western parts of Europe and in North America there were encouraging signs of a decrease in the incidence of opiate abuse, and some loss in the intensity of illicit traffic was also seen in some areas of South-East Asia. Unfortunately, those decreases were counterbalanced by increases elsewhere. There was, for instance, an increase in opiate abuse in several Asian countries and in the abuse of psychotropic substances in many countries, including a number of the developing ones. In some countries there was little or no drug abuse, but an increasing illicit drug traffic in transit. That was a cause for alarm because experience showed that, wherever there was transit drug traffic, there was almost always leakage into the host country, which thus ran the risk of becoming a victim of abuse. That problem could be solved only through practical co-operation between the countries involved.

10. On the other hand, there was a growing understanding of the drug abuse problem and of the need for research into its causes and for the design of an integrated programme to deal with it. Of course, the long-term plan of action which was required must evolve from experience gained in the shorter run. In the meantime, in co-operation with the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, a series of short-term and medium-term objectives through 1978 had been defined. The means of reaching those objectives were implicit in the list of some 60 projects and programmes financed by the Fund and already in operation or awaiting early implementation.

11. A point to be noted was the increasing concern of a number of developing countries with the problem of fulfilling their obligations under international treaties on the subject. They recognized the existence of uncontrolled cultivation of narcotic crops, and they were fully aware of the difficulties of controlling production, enforcing legislation and providing alternative sources of livelihood to the rural people affected. In order to solve those problems, they were requesting assistance from the Fund, and so far, provided that they committed themselves to making every possible effort to fulfil their obligations, the Fund was in a position to respond with exploratory missions to formulate and prepare appropriate programmes.

12. The Fund was not currently, however, in a position to assure Governments that it would be able to respond comprehensively to their needs through United Nations assistance. Nor could it finance research programmes, new educational activities and other programmes. The financial resources of the Fund

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3, annex IV.*

from contributions or pledges now totalled roughly \$10 million. Taking into account the amounts needed to continue on-going programmes in 1974, total firm commitments would reach \$7.5 million, leaving only \$2.7 million available. Because of the need to take a longer perspective a draft programme for 1975 had already been elaborated, and \$2.4 million would be needed in that year simply for the continuation of current approved programmes, leaving the Fund with less than half a million dollars pending the receipt of new pledges from Governments of Member States.

13. The Fund was currently in a better position to project its needs and to justify them than it had been one year previously. A conservative projection of the needs through 1978 gave the following results: if a 10 per cent annual growth rate of programmes was accepted, the requirement would be \$20.6 million through 1978; if 15 per cent was added to the amount of annual programmes in order to handle new initiatives in prevention, rehabilitation, research, and so forth, a total of \$22.5 million would be required through 1978. Finally, if the Fund was to be able to deal with the needs of the developing countries in implementing comprehensive country programmes of the type frequently required, the cost of establishing such programmes in some eight countries would bring the total cumulative need to some \$43 million by 1976 and over \$60 million by 1978. That showed the magnitude of resources needed to deal with the drug problem in countries needing help.

14. The Fund had felt obliged to be conservative in the formal commitments it undertook in order to ensure that programmes were financed for a reasonable time ahead. Currently available resources would carry existing programmes through 1974, allowing only modest increases for the new initiatives he had mentioned. Nothing would be available, however, for new country programmes. Given the state of requests and plans for preparatory assistance missions, it was now reasonably certain that at least two comprehensive country programmes would be ready for financing during 1974 at a cost in excess of \$5 million, and it was possible that a third country programme would be ready for implementation during that year.

15. Further requests for assistance had been received from three other countries, not to mention other areas where needs for future assistance could be seen. Taking as a rough basis of calculation total costs of \$3 million for smaller country programmes and \$5 million for large programmes, the Fund would project a total need of \$10 million per year in pledges through 1978 to permit the level of activity which it considered necessary. It was most important that that target level should be achieved in the first years, so as to permit sound planning and the commitment of resources necessary to carry programmes to completion.

16. The obvious alternative was to concentrate on less expensive technical assistance activities and to fund country programmes one year at a time. That latter course of action made it difficult to plan comprehensive programmes and deprived the Governments concerned of the assurance that undertakings they embarked upon would really have international support up to the time when they were completed. In that context, it was important to make it clear that the Fund was not, and would not be, in a position to finance national programmes aimed at large-scale rural de-

velopment and redirection of economic life. What the Fund was ready to do, if sufficient funds were available, was to finance pilot programmes in well-defined key areas which could eventually serve as models for further enlarged activities along the same lines.

17. The Fund, the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and other agencies had gained valuable experience in implementing such programmes. The Fund had taken stock of what had been achieved so far in research, training and other projects, and it was ready to go on in a spirit of cautious and realistic optimism, provided that it had the full moral and material support of the Governments of Member States.

18. Mr. SÖYLEMEZ (Turkey) said that on 30 June 1971 the Turkish Government had announced the bold and historic decision to ban the cultivation of opium in Turkey. That decision had been taken in view of the world-wide spread of the abuse of narcotic drugs, especially among the young. It had not been an easy decision to take, because opium had been cultivated in Anatolia for more than 5,000 years, involving the livelihood of nearly half a million people.

19. Turkey had never had a problem of drug addiction or drug abuse among its population, yet had always supported international measures and action designed to solve those problems. Some 80 Member States, including Turkey, were now parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. The Single Convention did not provide for the banning of opium cultivation, but placed production under government control.

20. Until 1971, opium legally produced in Turkey had been sold to a public corporation owned by the State, which had purchased the annual production of opium at market prices. As the international demand had grown, great quantities of opium had found their way to the underground, operated by an international syndicate of smugglers and traffickers whose profits had been astronomical.

21. Following the Turkish Government's decision to ban opium production in Turkey, starting from the autumn of 1972, some 90,000 families had been deprived of their main source of income, in an area covering a total of 130,000 hectares. In order to find a solution to that problem, plans and programmes designed to provide substitute sources of livelihood for those people had been drawn up. An Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Board had been set up under the chairmanship of the Minister of Agriculture. Over the preceding 18 months, the Co-ordination Board had been responsible for the economic and social development and reconstruction of the seven poppy-growing provinces in western Turkey. A number of projects had been successfully initiated, including a project for the growing of sunflowers on about 10,000 hectares of land, a project for animal feed crops, such as alfalfa, on 70,000 hectares, and various projects to promote cattle farming. Seeds, fertilizers, machinery and agricultural tools had been distributed free of cost. The possibility of mushroom cultivation was also being considered. In addition, under a Co-ordination Board project for industrialization of the region, preparations had been initiated for a dairy plant to take advantage of the surplus milk production capacity in the area, which in two years would become the common property of the former opium-growing farmers.

22. Through bilateral arrangements, a total of \$20 million had been allocated for the economic development of the area concerned. In addition, the annual cash compensation paid to opium farmers would continue until 1975 and would total \$15 million, again provided through bilateral aid and assistance. The loss sustained by the national economy was in the vicinity of 300 million Turkish lire per year.

23. It had been reported in the international press that, following the decision of the Turkish Government to ban opium production unilaterally, there had been a sharp decline in heroin imports from across the Atlantic; owing to the change in methods of trade and distribution of opium, the Orient had come to occupy an important position in the international drug trade pattern. Despite the implementation of various programmes designed to limit the use of dangerous drugs, it had not been possible to control the problem of drug abuse in the developed countries directly concerned. No society, developed or developing, was immune from the abuse of dangerous drugs. That social ill would remain a problem until severe national drug laws were adopted and existing national and international measures were strictly enforced.

24. Turkish penal law and law enforcement was rather severe with drug traffickers, especially if smuggling was involved. Sentences of up to 30 years of rigorous imprisonment could be given by Turkish courts. Parallel reorganization of police and security forces responsible for investigating drug offences had taken place. Turkey had embarked on the process of ratification of the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs to strengthen its legal framework by giving additional powers and responsibilities to INCB.

25. The Board's activities at the technical level were commendable, and he recalled that at its thirteenth session, held in October-November 1973, it had concluded that drug abuse remained a serious social problem in many countries and that, despite some decline in narcotic abuse, it was concerned over increases in the abuse of dangerous psychotropic substances such as amphetamines, barbiturates and hallucinogens, and also cocaine and multi-drug abuse. The Board had accordingly emphasized the importance of early ratification and implementation of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. The Turkish Government closely co-operated with the Board and was convinced that international action must be taken simultaneously on all fronts, namely, prevention of abuse, repression of illicit traffic, manufacture and distribution, research, treatment and rehabilitation. Turkey had proved its goodwill and sincerity by decreeing a total ban on the production of opium but he pointed out that it was still lawful in India, Iran, Japan, Pakistan, the USSR and Yugoslavia. Unfortunately, illegal production in many parts of the world continued to supply the illicit trafficking—a problem which remained to be solved.

26. Turning to another aspect of the problem of drug abuse, he drew attention to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1658 (LII), 1665 (LII) and 1773 (LIV) and to General Assembly resolution 3013 (XXVII) and pointed out that the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances should be ratified or acceded to by all Governments concerned, especially the industrialized countries which still hesitated to take that step.

Turkey was convinced that international action against drug abuse would be effective only when the control system for narcotics was supported by appropriate measures in the field of psychotropic substances. Furthermore, Turkey was not willing to be a party to that Convention until a majority of the industrialized countries ratified or acceded to it because there was no alternative but to treat the problem as a whole and deal with narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on an equal footing. Turkey was a member of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and was of the view that similar regional sub-commissions should be established to facilitate the co-operation of the countries directly involved in South-East Asia and Latin America.

27. The establishment of the special United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control was a welcome development which should be instrumental in channelling international efforts to those countries which needed technical and financial assistance on a continuous basis. Contributions to the Fund, and technical and financial assistance to the developing countries, were therefore of great importance and that importance was reflected in the draft resolution introduced by Afghanistan (A/C.3/L.2083). In addition, the promising developments in research and scientific activities and the plans for crop substitution in Thailand, Afghanistan and Lebanon, which were already being implemented, were worthy of note.

28. The Turkish delegation urged the Committee to adopt unanimously the draft resolutions in document A/C.3/L.2087 and A/C.3/L.2088, of which Turkey was a sponsor.

29. Mr. BUCHANAN (United States of America) said that the report of INCB for 1972<sup>3</sup> noted a steady increase in the volume, geographical extent and number of persons affected by drug abuse. On the other hand, the increased efforts to stop the illicit traffic, eradicate the illicit production and reduce the demand for narcotic drugs provided a solid basis for hope in the future. Those efforts had been undertaken within national borders, within the context of bilateral agreements, and multilaterally through the many international organizations co-operating in drug abuse control. The United States had attacked drug abuse on all fronts—supply, trafficking and demand—and its efforts would be increased both nationally and internationally. Other nations had also undertaken programmes designed to eliminate the sources and to moderate the effects of the illicit traffic in drugs and those programmes derived increased scope and effectiveness from mutual co-operation and assistance. He expressed his Government's deep gratification at those efforts and its sincere hope for their continuing success.

30. The organs created by the world community for dealing with drug problems were dedicated to a common goal. Among the more important actions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs there had been the establishment of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and the authorization of an *Ad Hoc* Committee for the Far East Region. The Board was also actively pursuing its responsibilities under the treaties on the question. The United States delegation supported the efforts by the Secretary-General to achieve better co-

<sup>3</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.XI.5.

ordination among the various international drug control bodies, in accordance with the draft resolution recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its twenty-fifth session<sup>4</sup> and adopted by the Economic and Social Council as resolution 1777 (LIV). The international community could not afford duplication, waste or inefficiency in its efforts, but it was important to continue the current special administrative arrangements between the Board and the Secretariat aimed at ensuring the technical independence of the Board in carrying out its treaty functions. In his delegation's view, it would not be desirable to have the Board's activities or personnel merged with those of any other body.

31. The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control was promoting and supporting an expanded programme of assistance. Despite the difficulty of achieving a balance among programmes affecting the three aspects of the drug problem—supply, trafficking and demand—the Fund had achieved a considerable measure of success. Thus, it had on-going programmes of assistance not only in the training of law enforcement officers and replacement of illicit narcotics production with other crops, but also in prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and research. The Fund was also giving increased emphasis to co-ordination with other United Nations agencies concerned with the problem, and the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) augured even better co-operation in the future. The United States delegation was also pleased to note the beginning of programme evaluation included in the most recent ACC report, and looked forward to the realization of the Fund's plans for assigning regional advisers to the principal geographical areas to enable the United Nations to be more responsive more promptly to countries' requests for advice and assistance in meeting their international obligations. The Fund had been established to provide extraordinary resources for emergency needs, and could give the United Nations the capacity to respond to requests for assistance from countries with significant drug abuse control problems. The maintenance of that capacity was the responsibility of every nation, because the Fund could act only with the resources provided to it by the international community.

32. With regard to the series of international conventions designed to control the abuse of drugs, he said that as a result of international conferences there was a moral commitment, which his country respected, to perfect and up-date the international control system in the interests of all countries and all peoples. The United States pledged itself to make every possible effort, internally and in co-operation with other nations, to reduce drug abuse and bring it under effective control.

33. He introduced two draft resolutions on the item (A/C.3/L.2087 and A/C.3/L.2088), both of which added important elements to the general programme for finding an international solution to the problem. Draft resolution A/C.3/L.2087 focused on the current nature of the illicit drug problem and stressed the international co-operation required for effective action in that regard. His delegation urged the Committee to manifest its support for the world programme to eliminate illicit drugs by voting in favour of that text, and he announced that Canada, Italy and Japan had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/L.2088 could constitute an important step towards strengthening the international treaty system on the subject, and as such it merited the support of all nations. The delegation of Japan had become a sponsor of that draft resolution.

34. The United States was also sponsoring the draft resolution submitted by Afghanistan (A/C.3/L.2083), because it believed that it was an excellent statement of the needs of the developing countries for assistance in their narcotics programmes.

35. Mr. THOMAS (Liberia) said that his delegation was deeply concerned about the report of the Economic and Social Council, especially as it related to narcotics control and to the problem of drug abuse and its baneful consequences, and it felt that the solution of that problem was an urgent matter. It was therefore happy to be a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2087, submitted by the United States, and also to support draft resolution A/C.3/L.2083, submitted by Afghanistan. However, it wished to propose that a new operative paragraph—operative paragraph 5—should be added to the latter, reading: "*Appeals* to international financial institutions to assist these developing countries in carrying out their respective narcotics control programmes".

36. Mr. VON KYAW (Federal Republic of Germany) said, with regard to the issues dealt with in the report of the Economic and Social Council, that his Government attached great importance to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1749 (LIV) and 1789 (LIV), concerning migrant workers. There were more than 2.3 million migrant workers in the Federal Republic of Germany. They were playing a highly appreciated role in the national economy, while at the same time contributing, through the transfer of their earnings, to the development of the economies of their home countries. However, in view of recent developments and their impact on the economies of many nations, his Government had had to desist from any new arrangements that would provide for the entry of additional migrant workers, although it would continue its efforts to ensure the full social and economic integration of migrant workers into society.

37. With regard to the Council's action on narcotic drugs, his delegation emphasized that it was necessary to adopt stringent measures against drug abuse, on both the national and the international scale, and he announced that his country had initiated procedures for obtaining parliamentary approval for the relevant international instruments. The Federal Republic of Germany was a member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and it had contributed to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and intended to continue to do so. However, he would like to draw attention in that regard to the assurances given by the Secretary-General in paragraph 807 of the Council's report. Moreover, further contributions from his Government would also depend on the possibility afforded to the contributing States to participate in decisions on the use of the financial means at the disposal of the Fund. He also drew attention to paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 3012 (XXVII), in which the Assembly stressed the need to co-ordinate measures against drug abuse. With those reservations, his delegation was in a position to support the three draft resolutions before the Committee on the subject.

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3*, chap. XII.

38. With regard to Economic and Social Council resolution 1745 (LIV), on capital punishment, he said that in the Federal Republic of Germany the death penalty had been completely abolished in 1949, and the country's statistics provided no evidence in support of the argument that capital punishment had a deterrent effect. With regard to Council resolution 1796 (LIV), on infringements of trade union rights, he considered that the violation of such rights was particularly deplorable. The right of workers to organize themselves independently of outside influences must be recognized, because any society which ignored fundamental human rights and principles of social justice was bound to generate violence and disruption. Finally, his delegation supported the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/L.2048, as well as the amendments to it proposed in document A/C.3/L.2086.

39. Miss CAO PINNA (Italy) introduced the amendments in document A/C.3/L.2086 to the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council and contained in document A/C.3/L.2048. The amendments really affected only the title of the Council's draft resolution, which it was proposed should be expanded so as to cover not only the draft principles concerning equality in the administration of justice but the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, which were also covered in General Assembly resolution 2858 (XXVI), because of the affinity between those two questions, which both fell within the broad field of administration of justice. Resolution 2858 (XXVI) was the common root of subsequent developments in both directions, which was why it was proposed, in the second amendment, to insert in document A/C.3/L.2086 a preambular paragraph which would recall that resolution, thus making it possible to deal in the draft resolution not only with the action taken by the Commission on Human Rights and by the Economic and Social Council on the draft principles but also with the developments which had taken place in 1972 in the further consideration within the United Nations, of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. To that end, in the third amendment it was proposed to add to the text of the draft resolution a new separate section.

40. The developments in connexion with the Minimum Rules were the recommendation of the Working Group of Experts on the Standard Minimum Rules<sup>5</sup> that attention should be given to the wider dissemination and application of the Rules, and the decision of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to include the treatment of prisoners in the agenda of the Fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in Canada in 1975.<sup>5</sup> The Minimum Rules were conceived in the light of the principle of the humanitarian treatment of offenders affirmed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and solemnly reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 2858 (XXVI).

41. Mrs. MAIR (Jamaica) said that, among the wide range of topics with which the Economic and Social Council dealt—all of which were priority items—two or three were of particular interest to her delegation. Firstly, she recalled the work of the Commission for Social Development, whose report on its twenty-third

session<sup>6</sup> had been considered by the Council's Social Committee at the fifty-fourth session of the Council and was dealt with in chapter XXI, section A, of the report of the Council. Her delegation believed that the Social Committee had been successful in amalgamating two draft resolutions which shared the common goal of social progress but proposed different national strategies for reaching that goal. The Committee had maximized areas of agreement and had achieved overwhelming approval for Council resolution 1746 (LIV).

42. At its twenty-third session, the Commission had devoted considerable attention to the unified approach to development analysis and planning, as was reflected in Council resolution 1747 (LIV), which set out fundamental guidelines for the pursuit of balanced social and economic progress in all countries. Those guidelines were especially valid for the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Her delegation noted with approval that the Economic and Social Council had taken action under resolution 1748 (LIV) to overcome some of the difficulties which the Commission for Social Development had faced in fulfilling its task. One difficulty had been the inadequacy of social standards and indicators, which were essential if social development was to be assessed in all its components. Resolution 1748 (LIV) also invited the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development to undertake further studies on the matter in order to enable the Commission more effectively to apply the unified approach in its review of the Second United Nations Development Decade. During the First United Nations Development Decade, emphasis had been placed on economic aspects; however, it was imperative to strive for greater social balance if very serious problems were to be avoided.

43. The reorganization of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs had been a matter for concern to the Commission for Social Development, not because of the changes in the Council's administrative machinery as such, but in connexion with the grave responsibilities entrusted to the Commission, especially in reviewing and appraising social problems. The fact that the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs was present and participating in the work of the Committee had certainly helped to allay that concern.

44. Referring to chapter XXIII of the Council's report, dealing with the work of the Commission on Human Rights, she emphasized the ceaseless efforts and the impressive achievements of that body in promoting the rights and freedoms of men and women the world over. The Commission on Human Rights faced the difficult uphill task of freeing the world from racism and racial discrimination. Although that task had not been completed, the fact that many members of the Third Committee represented countries which had been colonies only a few years before was proof of the great progress achieved. There was no doubt that the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were widely accepted and that, as a result, the present need was not so much to insist on concepts as to perfect strategies to combat those evils at the international and national levels. With a sense of realism, it

<sup>5</sup> See E/AC.57/8.

<sup>6</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 5.*

was already possible to imagine a world free of racism and racial discrimination. Once those problems had been overcome, new and equally important ones would arise, such as those deriving from scientific and technological progress and the status of women in the world. Those problems were already among the concerns of the United Nations, and especially the Economic and Social Council, but action in those areas should be broadened.

45. Turning to chapter XXIX of the report, she said that she was pleased that the draft resolution submitted to the Co-ordination Committee,<sup>7</sup> concerning the merging of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Social Development, had not been adopted. There was no question that the sponsors of the draft had been motivated by concern for women's problems, but such a merger would not have promoted the struggle to eliminate discrimination against women. That struggle was a triple process of identification, improvement and integration. In the case of the problems of women, the first stages had not been completed, and it should be remembered that equality was the only basis for integration. The reorganization and expansion of the Economic and Social Council, referred to in chapter XXIX of the report, provided evidence of the Organization's capacity for adapting its institutional framework to new demands in international life.

46. Mr. VALDERRAMA (Philippines) said that he found it alarming that drug abuse had increased in volume, in geographical extent and in number of people affected, especially among young people, who would be the leaders of tomorrow. Fortunate indeed was the country that was not menaced by that evil. The adoption of appropriate measures at the national level and concerted international action was essential to solve the problem. In the Philippines, the "social scourge" of modern times was being combated with the participation of the Government and the private sector, and action was also being taken at the regional and international levels. In 1972, the Dangerous Drugs Act had come into force, initiating an official campaign against drug abuse, one aspect of which was the inclusion of instruction on the harmful effects of drugs in school curricula. The police were engaged in a campaign against drug trafficking, and the Anti-Smuggling Action Centre was actively combating drug smuggling, including narcotics. The Food and Drug Administration was authorized to order the closure, or suspend or revoke the licence, of any drug firm found violating laws and regulations governing the sale and distribution of dangerous and narcotic drugs. In the private sector, the Narcotics Foundation of the Republic of the Philippines had begun operations in 1971, and another organization, the Drug Abuse Research Foundation, operated rehabilitation centres and conducted an educational programme against the dangers of drugs.

47. In 1967 his Government had ratified the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention were still under consideration. In addition, in view of the serious general concern over the problem of drug abuse, his Government supported the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and his delegation was pleased to be a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2087 and to

support draft resolution A/C.3/L.2083. It would also support draft resolution A/C.3/L.2088.

48. In conclusion, he emphasized the importance of the activities of INCB and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and their efforts in helping to curb the drug problem. He hoped that more Governments would contribute to the Fund so that it could offer assistance to all countries, especially the developing countries.

49. Mr. PAPADEMAS (Cyprus) said that, with the exception of the destruction of the environment, drug abuse was the most dangerous non-violent phenomenon of the present day. It was a global problem to which no society was immune.

50. His country did not have a drug abuse problem but, because of its geographical position, it had to contend with drug trafficking. In recent years, unscrupulous traders had attempted to use the country as a link in the drug smuggling route to Europe. His Government, however, remained vigilant and was confident of success in protecting not only its own people but also the people of the rest of the world. Thus, it had supported the establishment of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control from the outset, and it supported all international efforts both within and outside the United Nations to control the abuse of drugs and psychotropic substances. He was pleased to announce that, two days previously, his Government had acceded to the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and that the Chamber of Deputies had already ratified the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention.

51. His delegation supported all the draft resolutions on the subject before the Committee, and hoped that the debate would contribute to efforts made within the framework of the Fund to counter the dangers of drug abuse.

52. Mrs. RAKOTOFIRINGA (Madagascar) expressed concern about the restrictive wording of operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2083, which seemed to seek to confine the benefits of technical and financial assistance under the Fund to those countries of Asia and Latin America mentioned in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution. While she recognized the gravity of the problem of illicit traffic, illicit production and abuse of narcotic drugs in those regions and was aware of the efforts being made by those countries to solve the problem, she saw no reason for disregarding the needs of other countries and the efforts they were making to prevent the problem from becoming irremediable. They could not be deliberately precluded from receiving assistance which should be available to all, without any kind of discrimination; furthermore, the title of the draft resolution referred to assistance to the developing countries in the field of narcotics control, without making any distinction. At the fifty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council, Madagascar had given information about the narcotic drugs programme which it had initiated because it was situated on the illicit drug traffic route.

53. Mr. COSTA COUTO (Brazil) said that Brazil endorsed the comments made by Madagascar, because it should be possible for countries outside Asia and Latin America—and especially for countries in Africa—to benefit from technical and financial assistance for the effective elimination of illicit traffic, illicit production

<sup>7</sup> E/AC.24/L.450.

and abuse of narcotic drugs. If the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2083 agreed, the words "mentioned above", in operative paragraph 4, might perhaps be deleted. Furthermore, in the same paragraph, after the words "Fund and", the words "according to their capacities" might be inserted, which would bring the text into line with draft resolution

A/C.3/L.2087 and the resolution adopted at the previous session. The purpose of the small change he suggested was to provide a guideline for potential support of the Fund from the developing and the developed countries.

*The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.*

## 2043rd meeting

Thursday, 29 November 1973, at 10.45 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Yahya MAHMASSANI (Lebanon).

A/C.3/SR.2043

### AGENDA ITEM 12

Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters V (section A), XXI (sections A and C), XXII to XXV, XXIX and XXX (section B)] (*concluded*) (A/9003 and Corr.1, A/C.3/L.2048, 2073, 2083, 2086, 2087, 2088)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider draft resolutions A/C.3/L.2083, A/C.3/L.2087 and A/C.3/L.2088, on narcotic drugs control.

2. Mr. CHAVANAVIRAJ (Thailand) said that the problem of narcotics control had always been of particular concern to his Government, since it believed that narcotic drug addiction was a threat to the well-being and progress of society and the international community. Although Thailand had a relatively small drug addiction problem, the Thai Government had first initiated an intensive campaign against dangerous drugs in 1959 and, more recently, had been working in close co-operation with the United Nations. In 1962, the United Nations had participated in a government survey on the problem of illicit opium production, and the dispatch of United Nations missions to Thailand in 1967 and 1970, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2434 (XXIII), had led to the establishment of the United Nations-Thailand Programme for Drug Abuse Control in 1971. Over a period of five years, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, with UNDP playing a co-ordinating role, would provide more than \$2 million for that Programme. Counterpart funds from the Thai Government would amount to about \$5 million. The purpose of the Programme was to achieve the progressive replacement of opium cultivation by other agricultural activities which would provide a higher standard of living in villages in remote parts of northern Thailand.

3. The implementation of the Programme required a sacrifice on the part of his Government because it had to divert a large part of its national development budget to that Programme and other related programmes. Because of its firm stand on the issue of narcotics control, however, it attached high priority to that Programme and the King of Thailand had taken a personal interest in it and had initiated and financed projects for economic assistance to village tribes. Those projects included field trials and agricultural extension work in villages where the poppy had been a subsistence cash crop for generations. In addition to the replacement of

opium cultivation, an important feature of the Programme was the social and economic development of certain key villages and neighbouring satellite villages. Many government Departments and two universities were also participating in the Programme. As proof of its success, he noted that some 30 villages had voluntarily given up opium cultivation for experimentation with other agricultural activities, such as vegetable farming and cattle and poultry breeding.

4. His Government realized that the drug problem could not be eliminated overnight by mere legislation or resettlement of village peoples and emphasis had therefore been given to treatment and rehabilitation programmes for addicts. The United Nations-Thailand Programme also included a project for the treatment and rehabilitation of addicts which would be implemented shortly. Efforts would be made to seek out and treat drug-dependent persons in urban and rural areas. A work plan was also being prepared for his Government's programme of public information and preventive education on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the consequences of their abuse, which would be carried out in close co-operation with WHO and UNESCO. The Programme had received valuable support from the United Nations and agencies such as FAO, WHO, the ILO, UNESCO and WMO, as well as UNICEF.

5. His Government, with bilateral assistance, was responsible for law enforcement and the strengthening of measures against illicit traffic. It had introduced stringent controls and seizures of drugs had greatly increased in recent years, particularly in the "golden triangle" on the borders of Laos, Burma and Thailand. Since the end of 1972, all police stations in the country had been authorized to handle the detection and investigation of narcotics cases and the Police Department had set up a Narcotics Crime Suppression Centre for improved efficiency and promptness in the handling of drug cases.

6. His delegation had appreciated the statement by the representative of the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control at the preceding meeting concerning the current and future activities of the Fund and hoped that it would receive continuing assistance to enable it to carry out its drug abuse control projects.

7. His delegation was glad to be a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.3/L.2083. It also supported and would vote in favour of draft resolutions A/C.3/L.2087 and