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**Forty-fourth session**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE NINETY-THIRD MEETING**

**Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 17 May 1990, at 10 a.m.**

**President:**

**Mr. GARBA**

**(Nigeria)**

**Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations [129] (continued)**

**Development and international economic co-operation [82] (continued)**

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The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 129 (continued)

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
(A/44/926/Add.2)

The PRESIDENT: Before we turn to the item on our agenda I should like to draw the Assembly's attention to document A/44/926/Add.2, which contains a letter addressed to me by the Secretary-General informing me that since the issuance of his communications dated 12 and 26 March 1990 Burundi, the Central African Republic and Peru have made the necessary payments to reduce their arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 82 (continued)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/44/L.65)

The PRESIDENT: This morning the Assembly reconvenes to consider agenda item 82, "Development and international economic co-operation".

Members will recall that pursuant to decision S-19/23 of 1 May 1990 taken by the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session the Assembly should consider, at a meeting of its forty-fourth session on 17 May, the draft resolution entitled "Second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries." It is proposed, after consultations with the sponsor, that the draft resolution that has been circulated under the symbol A/44/L.65 should be considered under agenda item 82, which would thus be reopened.

Furthermore, pursuant to consultations, and in order to dispose of this matter in the most expeditious manner, it is proposed that consideration of the draft resolution should be taken up directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly agrees to this procedure?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I now call on the representative of Bolivia, who will introduce the draft resolution on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

Mr. NAVAJAS-MOGRO (Bolivia) (interpretation from Spanish): On behalf of the Group of 77, it is my honour to introduce draft resolution A/44/L.65, entitled "Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

This important draft resolution has already been introduced and orally revised, at the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee of the special session devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of the economic growth and development of the developing countries. Further consideration of the draft resolution was postponed until this meeting of the General Assembly.

The draft resolution calls for a two-day meeting for consultations among senior officials preceding the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris from 3 to 14 September this year. It expresses appreciation to the Government of France for its generous offer to host the Second Conference, as well as to the Governments of Bangladesh, Finland, Nepal, the Netherlands, Niger and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for their willingness to host the preparatory meetings for the Conference.

The Secretary-General is requested to invite to the Conference all Member States and all specialized agencies and organizations that normally receive a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate at its meetings, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Economic and Social Council.

(Mr. Navajas-Mogro, Bolivia)

Finally, the draft resolution welcomes the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to provide assistance, through the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, in financing the expenses of representatives of least developed countries for the preparatory process and the Conference itself and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the participation of representatives of least developed countries in the Conference and the two-day meeting for consultations by financing from the Special Measures Fund the travel expenses of three representatives from each least developed country.

On behalf of the Group of 77 I recommend that this draft resolution, which has important implications for the success of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, be adopted without a vote.

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take action on draft resolution A/44/L.65.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/44/L.65?

Draft resolution A/44/L.65 was adopted (resolution 44/241).

The PRESIDENT: Before I call on the first speaker in explanation of position, may I remind delegations that in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401 explanations are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

I call on the representative of Norway, who will speak on behalf of the Nordic countries.

Mr. HOLTHE (Norway): In our statement at the close of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of growth and development of the developing countries, the Nordic countries - Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway, countries I have the honour to represent in this intervention - especially pointed

(Mr. Holthe, Norway)

out the importance we attach to pursuing the special interests of the least developed countries in the further negotiating processes that now lie ahead of us. In the immediate future those efforts will be focused on, but in no way confined to, the Second Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris in September.

The resolution we have just adopted contributes to the preparatory process for the September Conference by dealing with questions of participation, thus hopefully excluding the possibility of stumbling-blocks in this regard. The Nordic countries would like to see the same principles applied to participation as at the First Conference on Least Developed Countries.

As was stated in our intervention at the recent preparatory meeting at Geneva, the Nordic countries would like from the September Conference a final document that is comprehensive and contains clear commitments to promoting the development of the least developed countries.

Furthermore, the particularly difficult situation of the least developed countries must also receive due attention at the June preparatory meeting for the New International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. The Nordic countries would especially welcome contributions from the least developed countries themselves for this purpose.

Ten years ago the First Conference on the Least Developed Countries was called because the plight of that group of developing countries called for special assistance measures from the international community. In light of the deterioration of living standards in most least developed countries, there is an urgent need for special measures and strengthened international co-operation to promote development in least developed countries. Let us together contribute, in the same spirit and atmosphere of co-operation that characterized the recent

(Mr. Holthe, Norway)

special session of the General Assembly on economic co-operation and development, to making the Second Conference on the Least Developed Countries a forward-looking, forthcoming and constructive event. It is in that spirit that we have adopted this resolution.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Ireland, who will speak on behalf of the States members of the European Community.

Mr. BURKE (Ireland): Speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States in explanation of vote, I warmly welcome the adoption by the General Assembly of this resolution. We see it particularly in the light of the positive result of the special session of the General Assembly, which resulted in the adoption by consensus of the Declaration on international economic co-operation for sustained development of the world economy and in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.

The European Community and its member States are important partners of the least developed countries in their development efforts. They are important providers of aid to them. They have been taking steps to increase both the volume and the quality of this aid. The Twelve see the outcome of the special session as providing a positive impetus to the work of the Paris Conference, an international meeting to which they attach the highest importance. As the representative of the Presidency of the Community stated in his speech to the special session,

"the Paris Conference should ... provide a valuable opportunity to explore realistic options for improving the operation of their economies. The Conference must aim to agree a range of practical actions to be taken by developed and least developed countries alike. Action, involving commitments, is urgently required for the least developed countries, many of which will not be able to achieve sustained development without substantial support even should they implement sound national strategies." (A/S-18/PV.2, pp. 7 and 8)

In recognizing the importance of the Paris Conference, the Twelve pledge their full support for it and for a successful outcome to its deliberations.

Mr. MATINAI (Israel): My delegation joined the consensus on draft resolution A/44/L.65, which the General Assembly has just adopted. It did not want to block the consensus, although it has strong reservations about paragraph 4, and particularly about subparagraph (b).

Mr. DUGAN (United States): Although the United States joined the consensus on the draft resolution, that does not imply that it has changed its position with reference to the resolutions referred to in paragraph 4 (b).

The PRESIDENT: We have heard the last speaker in explanation of position and have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 82.

The meeting rose at 10.55 a.m.