



Agenda item 7:* Study of the problems of raw materials and development

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* For the discussion of this item, see: Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Special Session, Plenary Meetings, 2208th to 2231st meetings; and *ibid.*, Ad Hoc Committee of the Sixth Special Session, 3rd to 21st meetings.

DOCUMENT A/9541*

Letter dated 30 January 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General¹

*Original: French
5 February 1974*

I have the honour to transmit the message addressed to you today by His Excellency President Houari Boumediène, President in Office of the Group of Non-Aligned Countries, President of the Revolutionary Council and President of the Council of Ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, in which he requests you to initiate the appropriate procedure for the convening of a special session of the General Assembly to consider the following item:

"Study of the problems of raw materials and development".

(Signed) Abdellatif RAHAL
*Permanent Representative
of the People's Democratic Republic
of Algeria to the United Nations*

* Incorporating document A/9541/Corr.1.

¹ By note verbale of 31 January 1974, the Secretary-General transmitted the letter and its annex to all Member States, in accordance with rule 9 (a) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

ANNEX

Message dated 30 January 1974, addressed to the Secretary-General by His Excellency Mr. Houari Boumediène

In recent years, the United Nations has attempted to establish the conditions for the democratization of international relations in various fields. The progress made in decolonization has enabled the Organization and the agencies of the United Nations system to concentrate their attention on the problems of development, thanks mainly to the determination of the third world countries to create national and international conditions such that the existing relationships of domination could be replaced by just relationships founded

on equality and respect for the sovereignty of States. Trusting in international co-operation, they have, in unambiguous documents, solemnly adopted programmes and put forward solutions likely to promote their development while respecting the interests of all parties concerned. The Algiers Charter of the "Group of 77", adopted in October 1967^a and the Lima Declaration of November 1971^b illustrate this desire for co-operation with a view to instituting a just

^a See: Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session, vol. I and Corr.1 and 3 and Add.1 and 2, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.II.D.14), annex IX.

^b *Ibid.*, Third Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4), annex VIII.F.

and lasting international balance. However, the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, meeting at Algiers in September 1973, were compelled to recognize, *inter alia*, that, as is stated in their solemn declaration:

"This failure of the International Development Strategy is due both to the lack of political will on the part of the developed countries to take urgent action, and to the inadequacy of the growth target in relation to the real needs of the developing countries.

"Indeed, the necessary international co-operation has been lacking. The attitudes of the Governments of some developed countries, and the behaviour of transnational firms and other monopolies benefiting from the plundering of developing countries, have not contributed to the creation of an external economic situation in line with the objectives of the International Development Strategy.

"Other factors are the inflationary rise in the cost of imports, the pressures on the balance of payments caused by transfers by private foreign investors, loan repayments and the heavy cost of external debt servicing and the aggravating effects of the international monetary crisis."^c

It is in this context that developing countries must ensure the growth of their economies by having recourse in the first instance to the mobilization of their natural resources, until such time as the international community can guarantee the establishment of new, more just and more balanced economic relations.

There can be no doubt that the current international conditions have conferred particular significance upon the joint action of the oil-producing countries, which, in exercise of their sovereignty, are undertaking the mobilization of their domestic resources to place them at the service of development and of the advancement of their populations. There have been certain assessments made of this situation

^c A/9330 and Corr.1, p. 61.

which have underestimated its scope, resulting only in a restrictive interpretation, divorcing the situation from the context of general relations between the third world and the developed countries. At a time when various initiatives are emerging with a view to finding the best way of assessing the current international situation, I have the honour, in my capacity as President in Office of the Group of Non-Aligned Countries, to draw your attention to the changes now in progress which may serve to guide international co-operation in the future. Independently of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session on the holding of a special session on development problems,^d it seems to us that the proposal made by the French Government on 18 January 1974 could be of value if, instead of being restricted to the problem of energy alone, it covered all the questions relating to all types of raw materials. Thus, in order that useful discussions may be held on development and on international economic relations and all their implications with a view to establishing a new system of relations based on equality and the common interests of all States, I have the honour to request you to initiate the appropriate procedure for the convening, in the context we have just defined, of a special session of the General Assembly. Any other approach would merely make the present situation more complex and postpone the establishment of the equilibrium which has now become imperative and which the international community has been seeking in vain for many years through the efforts of the developing countries.

(Signed) Houari BOUMEDIÈNE

*President in Office of the Group of Non-Aligned Countries
President of the Revolutionary Council
President of the Council of Ministers
of the Democratic People's Republic
of Algeria*

^d Resolution 3172 (XXVIII).

DOCUMENT A/9542

Note verbale dated 25 February 1974 from the Secretary-General to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations

*Original: English/French/Spanish
25 February 1974*

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of . . . to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's note of 31 January 1974 transmitting a request from His Excellency Mr. Houari Boumediène, President of the Revolutionary Council and of the Council of Ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, for the convening of a special session of the General Assembly to consider an item entitled "Study of the problems of raw materials and development" (A/9541).

On 14 February, the required majority of Member States had concurred in this request. Consequently, under rules 8 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the special session should have been convened not later than 1 March. In this connexion, however, the Secretary-General received a letter dated 14 February from the Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations, in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of 77, informing him of a general desire among the members of the Group to postpone the opening of the special session to a later date and requesting him to take appropriate steps to consult the membership about this proposal and take the necessary action accordingly. The Permanent Representative added that some members of the Group had suggested the date of 2 April as appropriate for convening the session. In this regard, it will be recalled that in the past there have been instances in which

regular sessions of the General Assembly were postponed, at the request of a Member State and after consultations with the other Member States, beyond the scheduled opening date specified in the rules of procedure.

By letters of 15 February, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary-General, brought the communication of the Chairman of the Group of 77 to the attention of the Chairmen of the various regional groups, requesting them to ascertain and to inform him whether a postponement was acceptable to the members of their groups and, if so, whether the suggested date of 2 April was suitable. Similar letters were also sent to those Member States which do not belong to any regional group.

By 19 February, the Secretary-General had been informed by the Chairmen of all the regional groups that there was a consensus among the members of the groups in favour of a postponement of the opening date of the special session. The Member States which do not belong to any of the regional groups also informed the Secretary-General that they concurred in the postponement.

On 21 February, the Secretary-General received a further letter from the Chairman of the Group of 77 informing him that the Group had unanimously decided in favour of the date of 9 April for the opening of the special session.

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After consultations, the Chairmen of the five regional groups informed the Secretary-General that the members of their groups had concurred in the date of 9 April. The Member States which do not belong to any regional group also informed the Secretary-General that they concurred in that date.

The Secretary-General therefore has the honour to inform the Permanent Representative that the sixth special session of the General Assembly will convene at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 9 April 1974, at 3 p.m.

Three copies of the provisional agenda (A/9543), drawn up in accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure, are attached. Further copies will be distributed through the usual channels.

The Secretary-General wishes to remind the Permanent Representative that the credentials of those representatives who are not already authorized to represent their Governments in the General Assembly should be issued in accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure.

DOCUMENT A/9556*

Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Sixth Special Session

Original: English/French
30 April and 1 May 1974

1. At its 2210th plenary meeting, on 11 April 1974, the General Assembly allocated to the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Sixth Special Session the consideration of agenda item 7, entitled "Study of the problems of raw materials and development", with the exception of the debate on the item which was being held directly in plenary meetings (2208th to 2231st meetings).

2. The *Ad Hoc* Committee held 21 meetings, from 10 April to 1 May 1974. An account of the *Ad Hoc* Committee's discussions is contained in the relevant summary records.

3. At its 1st meeting, the *Ad Hoc* Committee elected Mr. Fereydoun Hoveyda (Iran) as its Chairman. At its 2nd meeting, the Committee elected Mr. Jan Arvesen (Norway), Mr. Eugeniusz Kułaga (Poland) and Mr. Eustace E. Seignoret (Trinidad and Tobago) as its Vice-Chairmen. At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Hama Araba Diallo (Upper Volta) was elected Rapporteur.

4. The *Ad Hoc* Committee had before it the following documents:

Document No.	Title	Document No.	Title
A/9544 and Corr.1	Evolution of basic commodity prices since 1950: note by the Secretary-General	A/9546	Letter dated 8 April 1974 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the President of the General Assembly
A/9544/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2	The significance of basic commodities in world trade in 1970: note by the Secretary-General	A/9548	Letter dated 9 April 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/9544/Add.2 and Corr.1	The hypothetical impact of commodity price movements on world trade: note by the Secretary-General	A/9551	Letter dated 18 April 1974 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/9544/Add.3	Evolution of banana prices since 1954 and the significance of bananas in world trade in 1970: note by the Secretary-General	A/9552	Letter dated 22 April 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/9545	Letter dated 5 April 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General	A/9553	Note verbale dated 23 April 1974 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
		A/AC.166/L.1 and Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by France
		A/AC.166/L.2	Note by the Secretary-General
		A/AC.166/L.3	Summary of proposals made in plenary by Japan
		A/AC.166/L.4	Summary of proposals made in plenary by Romania
		A/AC.166/L.5	Summary of proposals made in plenary by Zaire
		A/AC.166/L.6	Note by the Secretariat
		A/AC.166/L.7	Note by the Secretariat
		A/AC.166/L.8	Summary of proposals made in plenary by the Federal Republic of Germany
		A/AC.166/L.9	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by the Ivory Coast

* For technical reasons, the mimeographed version of the report was issued in two parts: paragraphs 1 to 13 in document A/9556 (Part I), of 30 April 1974; paragraphs 14 to 20 in document A/9556 (Part II), of 1 May 1974.

Document No.	Title	Document No.	Title
A/AC.166/L.10	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Argentina	A/AC.166/L.34	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by India
A/AC.166/L.11	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by the United States of America	A/AC.166/L.36	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Uruguay
A/AC.166/L.12	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Ghana	A/AC.166/L.37	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Egypt
A/AC.166/L.13	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Algeria	A/AC.166/L.38	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Kenya
A/AC.166/L.14 and Rev.1	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Madagascar	A/AC.166/L.39	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Uganda
A/AC.166/L.15	Revised outline of a proposal by Iran for the establishment of a special development fund (SDF)	A/AC.166/L.40	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Bolivia
A/AC.166/L.16	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Spain	A/AC.166/L.43	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by the Sudan
A/AC.166/L.17	Note by the Secretariat		
A/AC.166/L.18	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by the Philippines		
A/AC.166/L.19	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by the Netherlands		
A/AC.166/L.20	Summary of proposals made in plenary by Norway		
A/AC.166/L.21	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Sweden		
A/AC.166/L.22	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Canada		
A/AC.166/L.23	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Morocco		
A/AC.166/L.24	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by the German Democratic Republic		
A/AC.166/L.25 and Corr.1	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Italy		
A/AC.166/L.26	Immediate measures in regard to the supply of fertilizer and pesticides—proposal by New Zealand and Sri Lanka		
A/AC.166/L.27	Summary of proposals made in plenary by Bhutan		
A/AC.166/L.28	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Venezuela		
A/AC.166/L.29	Summary of proposals made in plenary by Poland		
A/AC.166/L.30	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Finland		
A/AC.166/L.31	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Austria		
A/AC.166/L.32	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Bulgaria		
A/AC.166/L.33	Summary of the proposals made in plenary by Mongolia		

5. At its 3rd meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee heard statements by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

6. At the same meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to set up a Working Party of the Whole to consider the proposals made by delegations during the general debate in plenary meeting. At the 6th meeting, Mr. Eustace E. Seignoret (Trinidad and Tobago), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, was elected Chairman of the Working Party. The Working Party held eight meetings, from 17 to 25 April 1974. It elected Mr. Munir Akram (Pakistan) as its Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

7. The Working Party established a list of headings to facilitate the discussion of the specific proposals before it as follows:

1. Special measures to mitigate the immediate difficulties of the developing countries most seriously affected by economic crisis bearing in mind the particular problems of the least developed and land-locked countries.

2. International trade and development:
(a) Raw materials and other primary commodities;
(b) Food;
(c) Manufactures and semi-manufactures;
(d) General trade.

3. Financial matters including assistance to the developing countries.

4. Technology and development.

5. Institutional questions, follow-up.

6. Other proposals.

8. At the 19th meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on 29 April 1974, the representative of France introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.166/L.35/Rev.1) titled "United Nations economic observatory", which was read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Convinced that the operation of raw material markets can be improved only if the information which these markets are based is widely known

"Considering that in the case of a number of raw materials, including some of the most important, the information available to the international community is often partial, scattered or non-existent,

"1. *Believes* that a series of steps should be taken to ensure better knowledge and a clearer picture of the markets;

"2. *Decides* to establish for this purpose within the United Nations a central economic observatory with the task of:

"(a) Collecting information on the prices actually quoted in major transactions involving mineral, energy and agricultural raw materials, including tropical products, particularly those for which there are no internationally recognized and readily available quotations;

"(b) Analysing the conditions which determine the prices of raw materials (supply and demand, reserves and stocks, operating costs, feasibility and cost of replacement, marketing channels, etc.);

"(c) Determining the short-term and long-term outlook for market development;

"(d) Establishing sets of weighted average prices to serve as a reference base, and undertaking all necessary statistical studies on production and consumption prices;

"(e) Drawing, where necessary, the attention of the international community to imbalances which may drastically and seriously disrupt the conditions of supply and demand and hence the prices of these products;

"(f) Providing objective basic data for the negotiation of international agreements or arrangements on raw materials;

"3. *Requests* the Governments of Member States to co-operate fully with the economic observatory, especially by facilitating the collection and provision of the relevant information necessary for the effective attainment of the objectives set out in paragraph 2 above;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, in consultation with the various competent United Nations organs and the other international agencies concerned, to implement this resolution, bearing in mind the special responsibility of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the field of raw materials of export interest to developing countries;

"5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session on the measures taken pursuant to this resolution."

9. At the same meeting, the representative of Japan, on behalf of Bolivia, France, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, the Philippines and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.166/L.41) entitled "United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 3167 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, which established the United

Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration,

"*Bearing in mind* the need to extend and intensify the activities of the United Nations system to meet the need for increased natural resources exploration in developing countries to accelerate their economic development,

"1. *Invites* all Members of the United Nations to contribute voluntarily to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration so as to facilitate the early start of its operations;

"2. *Further invites* the agencies and organs of the United Nations system, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in particular, to co-operate positively with the operations of the Revolving Fund."

10. At the same meeting, the representative of New Zealand, also on behalf of the delegation of Sri Lanka, introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.166/L.42) entitled "Emergency measures in regard to the supply of fertilizers and pesticides", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"*Aware* that over a quarter of mankind is living at a level of bare subsistence,

"*Noting* that ensurance of adequate food supplies is a matter of utmost priority to all countries and particularly to developing countries,

"*Noting further* that most developing countries are faced with grave problems of food scarcity and rapidly increasing food prices resulting in malnutrition with the threat of starvation becoming a near reality,

"*Acknowledging* that Governments of many developing countries are experiencing difficulties in obtaining the required quantities of fertilizers at reasonable prices,

"*Recognizing* that all constraints on increasing food production should immediately be removed,

"*Acknowledging also* that the area for immediate priority that will have a major impact on food supplies and food prices is that of fertilizers,

"*Appreciating* that an emergency multilateral effort by the world community would enable urgent supplies of fertilizers and pesticides to be deployed promptly and rationally to those developing countries in greatest need,

"*Considering* the urgent need to increase the supply of fertilizers to developing countries, to assist them to finance their fertilizer imports, and to provide them with the necessary technical and financial assistance to process their own raw materials into semi-finished or finished fertilizer products,

"1. *Requests* the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations:

"(a) To draw up immediately an emergency plan of operations for increasing the supply of fertilizers to developing countries, including the establishment of a fertilizer pool, and to call an emergency session of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to approve the plan of operations and put it into effect;

“(b) To invite countries to contribute fertilizers or cash for the purchase of fertilizers to this pool;

“(c) To invite developing countries to submit requests for fertilizers from this pool on a grant or subsidized basis;

“(d) To distribute widely as a matter of urgency an analysis of the world supply and demand situation for fertilizers and pesticides including constraints on increased production and the under-utilization of existing productive capacity;

“2. *Calls upon* those developed countries manufacturing fertilizers and pesticides substantially to expand exports to developing countries at reasonable prices, bearing in mind their serious balance-of-payments difficulties, and to increase production particularly for that purpose;

“3. *Calls upon* developed countries and other countries in a position to do so, as well as international institutions, to extend technical and financial assistance and capital equipment on the softest possible terms to developing countries so as to enable them to utilize fully their existing productive capacity;

“4. *Urges* the international community, and especially the developed countries, to give the necessary capital and technical assistance to developing countries in order to process their own raw materials into semi-finished or finished fertilizer products;

“5. *Calls upon* the World Food Conference to consider, *inter alia*, the medium-term and long-term aspects of the fertilizer problem;

“6. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to bring these proposals urgently to the attention of all Member States, to appeal for an urgent and positive response, and to report on the replies received to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session.”

11. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.166/L.44) entitled “Group of eminent persons to study natural resources”, which read as follows:

“*The General Assembly*

“1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Governments, to appoint from the public and private sectors and on a broad geographical basis, an international group of 20 eminent persons intimately acquainted with international trade, social and economic problems to be supported by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat:

“(a) To undertake immediately, with the assistance of the Secretariat, a comprehensive survey of the earth’s non-renewable and renewable resources, relying whenever possible on existing sources of information;

“(b) To develop recommendations concerning a global early warning system to foreshadow impending surpluses and scarcities;

“(c) To report its final comments and recommendations to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-ninth session in July 1975 for consideration

by the General Assembly at its special session to take place in September 1975;

“2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to analyse and disseminate data on natural resources and utilize the United Nations University, when it is established, to conduct long-term and basic research on resources, especially on the problem of energy;

“3. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, as well as other appropriate United Nations organizations, to assist developing countries to discover and develop raw material resources now known to be in short supply during the decade;

“4. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other appropriate United Nations organizations to continue studies in the field of commodities with respect to production, export, imports, stocks, prices, and artificial restrictions on supply and trade;

“5. *Requests* the international community to co-operate in the efforts specified in paragraph 3 above by making available appropriate technology and funds through governmental and private channels, particularly for explorations in the least developed among the developing countries and the land-locked countries.”

12. At the same meeting, the representative of France introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.166/L.45), which read as follows:

“*The General Assembly*,

“*Recognizing* that it is vitally important that the changes taking place in the relations among States should be effected in accordance with the requirements of greater justice and greater international solidarity, so as to ensure equitable and stable social and economic development for present and future generations,

“*Aware* of the need to bring about the balanced development of the international community,

“*Reaffirming* the principle of the sovereignty of States over their natural resources,

“*Recognizing* that raw materials occupy an essential place in the world economy and in particular the economies of the developing countries,

“1. *Decides* to establish a temporary committee of limited size to pursue the discussions which have taken place at the sixth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to raw materials and development, taking into account all the ideas expressed during those debates, with a view to identifying all possibilities of concerted action, in particular through commodity agreements or arrangements, and proposing appropriate procedures for the implementation of its conclusions;

“2. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to appoint the members of this Committee in accordance with the principles of balanced geographical and economic distribution; any representative of a member country may have access to the committee and submit to it working documents com-

ing within the area of its competence; he may, at his request, be heard by the Committee; the committee may, as required, set up working groups and call upon experts;

"3. *Requests* the committee, in particular, to begin without delay consideration of the general problems posed by the rational exploitation of energy resources and the satisfaction of world needs in conditions which are reasonable and equitable for all;

"4. *Requests* the committee to initiate to that end a preparatory dialogue between producers and consumers within the committee itself with a view to obtaining a better knowledge of resources, needs and market trends, particularly in the medium and long term, and with a view to the stabilization and regulation of trade;

"5. *Also requests* the committee to examine the possibilities of improving the conditions for the transfer of technology related to research and exploitation of energy resources and the conditions of the industrial and agricultural development of the producing countries, as well as the action to be taken to solve the particularly serious problems concerning certain by-products such as fertilizers and pesticides;

"6. *Requests* the committee to study means of extending the dialogue thus undertaken to include the international community as a whole, either by means of a special conference or by referring the questions to be discussed to competent existing organs, and requests it to report on this point to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council."

13. At the same meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia introduced a draft resolution, subsequently issued as document A/AC.166/L.46, the text of which read as follows:

The General Assembly,

Considering that many of the principles and guidelines contained in the Declaration and the Programme of Action elaborated at the sixth special session are of a long-term nature and may not be put into operation forthwith,

Taking into account that the world economic and financial situation demands a series of immediate practical measures while long-range remedies are explored to solve the multifarious problems arising from the production, distribution and consumption of raw materials as well as from the export and import of manufactured products,

"1. *Decides* that:

"(a) Three groups representing a cross-section of Member States be established on a ministerial level, with a view to reaching concrete agreement on certain problems:

"(i) A group of ministers to deal with energy;

"(ii) A group of ministers to deal with mineral resources other than energy;

"(iii) A group of ministers to deal with agricultural products;

"(b) Each group should meet either at Geneva or Vienna and should comprise practical experts;

"(c) The United Nations should lend its facilities for the meetings of these groups, each of which should not exceed 10 or 12 ministers in addition to the experts;

"(d) The three groups need not meet concurrently unless they see fit to do so;

"2. *Requests* these groups to report the results of their deliberations to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session."

14. On 30 April 1974, the representatives of Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Barbados, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, the Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Swaziland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia submitted a proposal, contained in document A/AC.166/L.47, which read as follows:

"Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order

"We, the Members of the United Nations,

"Having convened a special session of the General Assembly to study for the first time the problems of raw materials and development, devoted to the consideration of the most important economic problems facing the world community,

"Bearing in mind the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

"Solemnly proclaim our united determination to work urgently for

"THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and co-operation among all States, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development for present and future generations.

"1. The greatest and most significant achievement since the foundation of the United Nations has been the independence from colonial and alien domination of a large number of peoples and nations which has enabled them to

"2. *Calls upon* the industrialized countries, developing countries whose income from exports has greatly increased in recent months, and other potential contributors, to extend immediate relief and assistance to the most seriously affected countries. The relief must be of an order of magnitude that is commensurate with the needs of these countries. Such relief and assistance must be in addition to the existing levels of aid and, if in the form of aid, provided on 'grant' or 'soft' terms, and be provided by the end of 1975. The criteria for disbursement and relevant operational procedures and terms must reflect the essential characteristics of this exceptional situation. The assistance could be provided either through bilateral or multilateral channels. The special measures may include the following:

"(a) Concessional commodity assistance, including petroleum, fertilizer, and food aid, on a grant basis or deferred payments in local currencies;

"(b) Deferred payments for all or part of imports of essential commodities and goods;

"(c) Long-term suppliers' credits on easy terms;

"(d) Specialized technical assistance to eliminate economic bottlenecks, enhance food and fertilizer distribution and storage facilities, and generally assist emergency and development assistance programmes;

"(e) Long-term financial assistance on concessional terms;

"(f) Contributions on special terms for drawings from a special International Monetary Fund facility;

"(g) Agreements for bilateral debt renegotiation on a case-by-case basis where default appears unavoidable;

"(h) Provision on more favourable terms of financial resources, capital goods, and technical assistance to accelerate the industrialization of affected countries;

"(i) Investment in industrial and development projects on favourable terms;

"(j) Subsidy for additional transport and transit costs, particularly of land-locked developing countries;

"3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to launch a world-wide appeal to Member States to provide relief to the most seriously affected developing countries with the aim of maintaining unimpaired essential imports and to invite industrialized countries, developing countries whose income from exports has greatly increased in recent months, and other potential contributors to provide emergency relief to the most seriously affected countries, either bilaterally or through multilateral institutions;

"4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council at its present session to establish an ad hoc committee of Council members which would on the basis of information provided by member States and competent organizations of the United Nations system:

"(a) Identify the developing countries most seriously affected by the current economic crisis;

"(b) Prepare an assessment of the volume and kind of assistance required by the most seriously

affected countries over the course of the next 18 months to overcome their difficulties;

"(c) Monitor various measures being taken bilaterally and multilaterally to assist the most seriously affected countries;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund and heads of other competent international organizations to assist the ad hoc committee in performing functions assigned to it under operative paragraph 4;

"6. *Requests* the ad hoc committee to submit its report and recommendations to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session and invites the Council, on the basis of its consideration of the ad hoc committee's report, to submit suitable recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session;

"7. *Decides* to consider as a matter of high priority the question of special measures for the most seriously affected countries at its twenty-ninth session."

17. At the 21st meeting, on 1 May 1974, the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee introduced two proposals contained in documents A/AC.166/L.50 and A/AC.166/L.51. The Ad Hoc Committee adopted these proposals without a vote (see para. 19 below, draft resolutions I and II). In the light of this decision, the sponsors of the proposals contained in documents A/AC.166/L.47 and A/AC.166/L.48 (see paras. 14 and 15 above) did not press for a vote on their proposals.

18. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the representative of Tunisia, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the draft resolutions contained in documents A/AC.166/L.35/Rev.1, L.41, L.42, L.44, L.45 and L.46 (see paras. 8-13 above) should be referred to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session.

Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee

19. The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly

Adopts the following Declaration:

DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

We, the Members of the United Nations,

Having convened a special session of the General Assembly to study for the first time the problems of raw materials and development, devoted to the consideration of the most important economic problems facing the world community,

tion and Development, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the heads of the other competent international organizations to assist the Ad Hoc Committee on the Special Programme in performing the functions assigned to it under paragraph 6, and to help, as appropriate, in the operations of the Special Fund;

8. *Requests* the International Monetary Fund to expedite decisions on:

(a) The establishment of an extended special facility with a view to enabling the most seriously affected developing countries to participate in it on favourable terms;

(b) The creation of special drawing rights and the early establishment of the link between the allocation of special drawing rights and development financing; and

(c) The establishment and operation of the proposed new special facility to extend credits and subsidize interest charges on commercial funds borrowed by Member States bearing in mind the interest of the developing countries and especially the additional financial requirements of the most seriously affected countries;

9. *Requests* the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund to place their managerial, financial and technical services at the disposal of Governments contributing to emergency financial relief so as to enable them to assist without delay in channelling funds to the recipients, making such in-

stitutional and procedural changes as may be required;

10. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme to take the necessary steps, particularly at the country level, to respond on an emergency basis to requests for additional assistance which it may be called upon to render within the framework of the special programme;

11. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee on the Special Programme to submit its report and recommendations to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session and invites the Council, on the basis of its consideration of this report, to submit suitable recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session;

12. *Decides* to consider, within the framework of a new international economic order, as a matter of high priority the question of special measures for the most seriously affected countries at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

* * *

20. The Ad Hoc Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly decides to refer to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session the six draft resolutions contained in paragraphs 8 to 13 of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee."

DOCUMENT A/9557

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution II recommended by the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Sixth Special Session in document A/9556

Note by the Secretary-General

Original: English
1 May 1974

1. At its 21st meeting, on 1 May 1974, the Ad Hoc Committee of the Sixth Special Session adopted a draft resolution on the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (A/9556, para. 19, draft resolution II).

2. Under the terms of section X, paragraph 2, the General Assembly would decide, as a first step in the Special Programme, to request the Secretary-General to launch an emergency operation to provide timely relief to the most seriously affected developing countries, as defined in preambular paragraph (c), with the aim of maintaining unimpaired essential imports for the duration of the coming 12 months and to invite the industrialized countries and other potential contributors to announce their contributions for emergency assistance or intimate their intention to do so by 15 June 1974 to be provided through bilateral or multilateral channels, taking into account commitments and measures of assistance announced or already taken by some countries. The Assembly would further request the Secretary-General to report the progress of the emergency operation to the General

Assembly at its twenty-ninth session through the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session.

3. Under the terms of section X, paragraph 5 (ibid.), the General Assembly would establish a special fund under the auspices of the United Nations, through voluntary contributions from industrialized countries and other potential contributors, as a part of the Special Programme, to provide emergency relief and development assistance, which will commence its operations at the latest by 1 January 1975.

4. Under the terms of section X, paragraph 6, the General Assembly would establish an *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Special Programme, consisting of Member States, which would:

(a) Make recommendations on the scope, machinery, modes of operation etc. of the Special Fund, taking into account the need for:

- (i) Equitable representation on its governing body;
- (ii) Equitable distribution of its resources;