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Chairman: Mr. Costa P. CARANICAS (Greece).

AGENDA ITEM 45

Operational activities for development *(concluded)* (A/7603, chap. X, sects. A and B):

***(a)* Activities of the United Nations Development Programme: reports of the Governing Council (A/7685, E/4609, E/4706);**

***(b)* Activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (A/7704, A/C.2/L.1064)**

1. Mr. BENNANI (Morocco) said that, in analysing the Administrator's statement (see 1279th meeting) and the Governing Council's reports (E/4609 and E/4706), his delegation had been greatly impressed by UNDP's achievements in the matters of project appropriations and investments resulting from them directly or indirectly. Those achievements augured well for the great contribution UNDP would make to the Second United Nations Development Decade. With the organization and strengthening of economic regions and sub-regions UNDP could, in the Second Development Decade, act as an important catalyst in regional and sub-regional economic integration. During a period when so many bodies were constituting, or planned to constitute, themselves into cohesive economic groupings, UNDP had chosen the right moment to increase its influence and add to its accomplishments by giving shape to such proposals, the natural corollary of its development activities.

2. His delegation shared the hope expressed by some delegations that the services of the Resident Representatives would be strengthened. Such a move should form part of a group of measures based on national and regional priorities and would supplement the regional economic commissions' endeavours to decentralize. Of course, the means to be used should also be strengthened. The Moroccan delegation hoped that provision would be made for such activities not only in UNDP but also in the work of the institutions it was temporarily administering. While welcoming UNDP's untiring efforts to operate the United Nations Capital Development Fund in a rational manner, his delegation noted with regret that the results achieved had not been proportionate to the intense activities undertaken. Several ways of breaking the deadlock had been considered but none had seemed to correspond to the objective initially intended for the Fund. His delegation had therefore noted with interest the Governing Council's decision at its eighth session (see E/4706, para. 286 *(c)*) requesting the Administrator to continue on a wider basis his consultations with Governments and international organizations. The Governing Council should undertake exploratory action leading to several working hypotheses the choice of which should be subordinated to two criteria: first, to stimulate the interest of all Member States of the United Nations; and secondly, to normalize and develop the Fund's activities. In the meantime, the Fund should continue its normal activities. His delegation, in association with others, would later submit a draft resolution on those lines.

3. Mr. SIERRA (Spain) said that his delegation had been very encouraged by the lucid and very optimistic statement of the Administrator at the Committee's 1279th meeting. It was stimulating to note that UNDP's activities continued to increase; thus, despite its limited financial possibilities, the Spanish Government had increased its support considerably: its contribution to the Special Fund component of UNDP would increase from $250,000 to $400,000, to which would be added a contribution of $75,000 for the Technical Assistance component. He would not dwell on the projects in which the Spanish Government participated but would merely mention the scientific study of water resources in the Canary Islands which, it was to be hoped, would serve as a model for territories in a similar situation, and the centre for the improvement of olive growing, a multinational undertaking in which other developing countries would participate. It should be noted that the Spanish Government's contribution to the latter project would be the equivalent, in pesetas, of $1,048,000.

4. Mr. SKATARETIKO (Yugoslavia) said that during the forty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council his delegation had taken an active part in the discussion on the Governing Council's report on its eighth session.[1] He wished, however, to express his agreement with the Administrator's statement that the Second Development Decade represented the greatest surge forward that the community of man could make toward the goal of equal opportunity for every child on the planet. That line of

1 See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session*, 1618th-1621st meetings.

thinking coincided with a phrase in paragraph 11 of the draft preamble of the international development strategy[2] which stated that equality of opportunities should be as much a prerogative of nations as of individuals within a nation. Organizations of the United Nations system, and particularly UNDP, should play a major role in achieving that objective.

5. It was not yet possible to form a precise idea of the role UNDP would play in the Second Development Decade. It was to be hoped that the Study of the Capacity of the United Nations Development System, undertaken by Sir Robert Jackson for UNDP, would provide the necessary clarifications in that respect.

6. His delegation agreed that co-ordination was one of the great problems facing the United Nations and called for detailed examination. The adoption of hasty solutions on that issue must be avoided. Measures conducive to improved co-ordination must be based on good co-ordination at the national level and the confidence of member States in the executive organs of the United Nations family at the international level.

7. The discussions showed that the question of UNDP's resources was not so critical as it had been previously, although that did not imply that the question had been settled. In order to do that, the General Assembly would have to make new recommendations.

8. The time had come for the major developed countries to review their attitude to the Capital Development Fund. It must be hoped that the initiatives of some of them would contribute to the solution of that problem and thus transform UNDP into a body capable of fully promoting the interests of developing and developed countries.

9. Mr. TADJO (Ivory Coast) said that the multiplicity of activities in the agricultural, industrial, services and other sectors, and the participation in those activities of nearly all United Nations specialized agencies and bodies concerned with economic and social development, conferred a major role on UNDP in the development strategy for the Second Development Decade. UNDP should therefore have the imagination and dynamism necessary to meet the demands of that Decade, ensure effective co-ordination in the field and integrate development efforts. To that end, it must strengthen the role of its Resident Representatives.

10. The increase in their requests for assistance proved that the absorptive capacity of the developing countries was growing. UNDP's resources should, therefore, be increased. The fact that member States' voluntary contributions were put to good use should lead the wealthier among them to increase their financial participation. UNDP's resources were used for pre-investment in priority sectors and were also applied in a balanced manner to those sectors and to the regions. His delegation was grateful to UNDP for its many activities in the Ivory Coast in such sectors as mineral prospecting, agriculture and forestry; nevertheless, it hoped that the steps taken to speed up the procedure for the study of requests and for the provision of assistance would be more effective in the future. It hoped in particular that the contribution of States benefiting from UNDP assistance would be proportionate to the amount of that assistance and to the degree of their development. The developed countries could contribute in a proportion greater than the average while the participation of the developing countries, particularly the least privileged among them, should be reduced to the minimum with, in some cases, the elimination of local costs. Obviously, UNDP's means were limited. That was why his delegation greatly appreciated, in some cases, the association between UNDP and the other bilateral and multilateral sources of technical co-operation.

11. His delegation hoped that the number of training projects would be increased because of the importance of vocational and technical training which should lead to increased investment possibilities, particularly in the industrial sector, in which UNIDO should play the greatest role. In that respect, it was astonishing that UNIDO had been made responsible for the execution of only 5 per cent of the industrial projects. Fortunately, there was a satisfactory increase in that organization's role, as was indicated in the Governing Council's report on its eighth session (E/4706).

12. The regional economic commissions should be more effectively associated in the execution of regional and interregional technical assistance projects. Similarly, a link between the regular programme and UNDP's Technical Assistance component would be very useful.

13. His delegation fully approved of the proposed extension of UNDP's activities, particularly in basic agricultural research, tourism, population activities, and co-operation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and UNCTAD.

14. With respect to the regular programme of technical assistance, he noted with satisfaction the continuing activities in social development and public administration, and the facilities provided for the regional economic commissions, and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut, to enable them to play their part, particularly with respect to economic and social integration.

15. His delegation would reserve its comments on the United Nations Capital Development Fund until the Committee came to consider that agenda item (item 39). His Government gave its unreserved support to effective and productive action by the United Nations in the field of international co-operation, and had shown as much by increasing its contribution to UNDP for the year 1970 by 200 per cent compared with the previous year.

16. Mr. GOBBA (United Arab Republic) said that he wished to express his Government's gratitude to the Administrator for the remarkable manner in which he was guiding UNDP's activities.

17. His delegation noted with satisfaction the new direction being given to the Programme's activities, and wished to express its interest in projects relating to applied research, family planning, industry and trade.

18. His delegation favoured the co-ordination of multilateral and bilateral aid programmes, but considered that such co-operation should be at the national level, since it

[2] See document A/7325/Add.3, annex.

was the recipient Governments who decided their own priorities in terms of their needs and in the light of their knowledge of the limited nature of the funds made available to them.

19. It was high time that the United Nations Capital Development Fund should begin to operate normally. A number of suggestions had been put forward on that point, in particular by the Syrian representative (see 1280th meeting), and they deserved careful study.

20. The experts were UNDP's spokesmen in the field, and they therefore had a major part to play. Consequently, UNDP would do well to consider recruiting more experts from the developing countries, since they were familiar with the problems that arose in those countries, and had the necessary experience to deal with them.

21. With respect to the regular programme of technical assistance, his delegation had voted for draft resolution A/C.2/L.1065, adopted by the Committee at its 1275th meeting, on the inclusion in part V of the budget of a separate section for industrial development, in accordance with the attitude his country had adopted during the discussion in the Governing Council and the debate on the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2298 (XXII). Of course every consideration must be given to the Economic and Social Council's special position among the organs concerned with economic and social affairs, but it must also be remembered that the Charter of the United Nations conferred higher authority on the General Assembly.

22. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that there was no need to dwell on the vital role of pre-investment and technical assistance for the developing countries. However, it must be recognized that the complaints directed against the insufficiency of aid, though justifiable to some extent, reflected only half the truth. In fact, pre-investment and technical assistance were essential to increase the capacity of the developing countries to absorb aid.

23. He was particularly happy to find himself in agreement with the favourable evaluation of UNDP's activities made in the Pearson Commission's report.[3] However, no human activity was perfect, and the results of the Capacity Study should make it possible to improve the Programme.

24. Since UNDP was one of the most dynamic parts of the operational activities for development in the United Nations system, it must be one of the key instruments for implementing the strategy for the Second Development Decade. In that capacity, UNDP would have to face certain problems. While voluntary contributions to UNDP had increased at an average rate of some 13 per cent a year since 1959, the increase in 1969 had been only 7 per cent over the level for 1968. The Japanese Government, for reasons relating to its budgetary procedures, had not yet been able to announce its contribution for 1970, but it would do all it could to increase the amount.

25. His Government had always had some misgivings about the fact that Asia had received a disproportionately low level of UNDP resources. The reasons for that were complex, and should not be attributed entirely to the policy of the administration of UNDP. Whatever the reason, there was a need to rectify the situation.

26. As to the priority among various economic sectors, his delegation noted with satisfaction that about one third of UNDP expenditure had been on agricultural development projects. Agricultural development was a prerequisite for industrial development, and he therefore hoped that UNDP would continue to devote special attention to agriculture in its future activities. Japan welcomed the Administrator's intention of expanding UNDP's activities in basic agricultural research, which harmonized well with one of the newly established policies of IBRD.

27. The need for an integrated country and regional approach could not be over-emphasized. In the final analysis, it was for the recipient Government to determine priority projects. Hence, the developing countries would be well advised to co-ordinate themselves the inflow of aid from various external sources. At the same time, it was important to co-ordinate the aid flows at source. Co-ordination posed certain practical, and sometimes legal, difficulties; in particular it was closely related to the problem of administrative efficiency.

28. His Government looked forward with keen interest to the forthcoming appearance of the Capacity Study, and hoped to contribute in a constructive manner to its examination by the Governing Council. Japan welcomed the new arrangements for regional and interregional projects under the Technical Assistance component of the Programme.

29. With respect to the activities of the Office of Technical Co-operation, his delegation had voted for Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII) relating to part V of the regular budget of the United Nations, and hoped that the procedure provided for in that resolution would be approved by the General Assembly. It was therefore a matter of regret that the Second Committee had approved, in its draft resolution A/C.2/L.1065, a separate section for industrial development within part V of the United Nations budget. His delegation hoped that the Committee would be able to arrive at a solution that would allow a more effective and flexible use of budget allocations.

30. Mr. ASANTE (Ghana) said that his delegation welcomed the reorganization undertaken by UNDP to improve its efficiency, and was particularly pleased with the revised procedures for reporting and project evaluation. Ghana had noted with interest the Administrator's proposals to accelerate the flows of follow-up investments and mobilize domestic capital.

31. His delegation also noted with satisifaction that the Governing Council would meet in March 1970 to give detailed consideration to the Capacity Study (see E/4706, para. 214). Ghana considered that the time had come to undertake a review of UNDP objectives to determine if they still reflected the real needs of the developing countries. He

3 See Commission on International Development, *Partners in Development* (New York, Praeger Publishers, Inc., 1969), pp. 215-217.

accordingly hoped that account would be taken of the need to review the concept of technical assistance when the Capacity Study was examined. In view of the remarkable qualities of the Administrator, it seemed likely that UNDP would not hesitate to break into new territory.

32. Mr. KAWAH (Liberia) thanked the Administrator of UNDP and the Commissioner for Technical Co-operation for their most interesting statements (see 1279th meeting). His delegation wondered, however, if the activities undertaken could not be more productive. The report of the Governing Council should not be a mere summary of the progress of projects, but should also indicate what had been done by each Government in co-operating with UNDP. Appreciable progress had undoubtedly been made, but there did not seem to be enough concern with the problems of integrated development; consequently it was to be hoped that the Capacity Study would provide the necessary elements to facilitate integration of the various bodies participating in UNDP activities.

33. His delegation was most anxious to see a strengthening of regional and sub-regional economic co-operation, and considered that UNDP, in conjunction with the Economic Commission for Africa, should redouble its efforts to strengthen sub-regional co-operation in that continent. His delegation was glad to note that the Commissioner for Technical Co-operation had expressed his interest in the development of the infrastructure. His delegation approved of the recent decisions of the Governing Council, and stressed the need for joint planning. Although that need had been accepted in principle both by the developed and developing countries, there were still many obstacles to be overcome, and it must be hoped that UNDP would help to find a solution to the problems involved, if necessary by adopting new methods.

34. Mr. BORSHCHEVSKY (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that, in the Second Development Decade, the basis for development must be national plans fixing the strategy and priorities of each of the countries concerned. In the view of his delegation, it was most important to examine the allocation of UNDP resources from that standpoint, and that was what it understood to be the meaning of paragraph 333 of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/7603), which should have been worded more clearly.

35. UNDP should be an instrument of the development strategy, but the strategy should be based on the national plans and specific requests of the developing countries and not on a universally applied international formula. It was difficult to achieve the integration of UNDP activities with national plans, but the effort had to be made. At the fifth session of the Governing Council, reference had been made to the need to concentrate UNDP efforts on basic sectors such as agriculture, industry, health and the training of national personnel. The evaluation undertaken in that connexion corresponded exactly to the needs of the developing countries. The seventh and eighth sessions of the Governing Council had produced a number of positive results. The activities concerning individual and group training for nationals of developing countries deserved particular mention. However, there were still serious shortcomings.

36. More attention and resources must be devoted to the development and strengthening of the public sector and of national planning services. It could not be considered proper that assistance in planning and in the training of qualified economists and planners should occupy a secondary place in the activities of UNDP; out of 1,025 approved Special Fund component projects, only twenty-seven related to planning, and only three of these had been executed. That situation must be remedied, especially as some people were trying to cast doubt on the effectiveness of planning. In particular, references were being made to the failure of attempts at planned development in some developing countries. However, it was clear that such failures were due precisely to the lack of genuinely scientific planning and the shortage of key personnel.

37. Another basic shortcoming was that priority was given to the execution of pre-investment projects. Greater attention must be devoted to actual investment activities. Moreover, pre-investment activities often did not lead to follow-up investments. In fact, the pre-investment activities of UNDP were in many cases a free service for private investors. The policy of sub-contracting could only encourage such a situation. At the end of 1968, nearly 500 projects costing $100 million had been executed with no real supervision from UNDP. In the view of his delegation, the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of UNDP should formulate recommendations for the establishment of a much stricter system of control over the choice of investment sources, once pre-investment projects had been completed, bearing in mind in particular the need to make the greatest possible use of national and foreign public funds.

38. His delegation wished to draw attention to the high administrative and management costs, which should be carefully analysed and considerably reduced. The Financial Management and Administrative Policy Division would have much to do in that connexion.

39. There were not enough genuinely industrial projects among the so-called "industrial" activities of UNDP. There should be greater compliance with requests from developing countries in the field of industrial development. It might also be hoped that UNIDO would play a more active role in the execution of technical assistance projects. It would be useful, with a view to improving the allocation of UNDP resources, to determine how much should be earmarked for each sector of activity.

40. Consideration should also be given to the possibility of working out an allocation of UNDP resources among the developing countries, so as to achieve greater stability in the flows of external aid. It was not proper that UNDP should be giving sizable assistance to countries which were participating in acts of aggression against the people of Viet-Nam and the Arab countries. Similarly, considering the way in which UNDP was financed, the German Democratic Republic was obviously suffering an injustice. There should be an end to such discrimination. The contributions which the Byelorussian SSR made to UNDP were insufficiently utilized, in regard to both the Technical Assistance and the Special Fund components. As at 1 August 1969, 400,000 roubles had not been utilized, and the figure was increasing every year. The unutilized sums represented six years'

contributions in the case of the Special Fund, three years' contributions in the case of the Technical Assistance component and two years' contributions in the case of the regular programme. His delegation hoped that the reply given by the Administrator as the result of a statement by his delegation in the Second Committee during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, would be reflected in action. Representatives of about thirty developing countries were receiving technical training in the Byelorussian SSR. In most cases, the activities in question were being conducted under bilateral agreements.

41. Over 64 per cent of the UNDP budget was devoted to the costs of experts. There were more than 8,000 experts in the field. Over the past nine years, however, only three Byelorussian experts had worked for UNDP. That was an abnormal situation. Many Byelorussian SSR experts in various specialities had been considered by the technical assistance recruitment service and had been favourably reported on, but in practice the situation had still not improved.

42. As a result of Economic and Social Council resolution 1432 (XLVII), the United Nations regional economic commissions would have a larger role in the preparation of technical assistance projects. His delegation could only welcome that development. It did not believe that the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance was the best way of mobilizing efforts for development, and it should be absorbed into UNDP. Such centralization of all technical assistance activities would make it possible to improve their effectiveness and eliminate unnecessary administrative costs.

43. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) said that his delegation had been very impressed by the intensification of UNDP activities and the results obtained in the sphere of technical assistance. It was also encouraging to note that an excellent working relationship had been established between UNDP and the World Bank Group, and he hoped that similar relationships would be established with the regional development banks. His delegation welcomed the strengthening of UNDP's population activities; that was a sphere in which dynamic and practical action was required, with due respect for the traditions and moral values of the developing countries. The Resident Representatives would have an increasingly important role to play, and the Regional Meeting of Resident Representatives in Asia and the Far East, held at Manila in February 1969, had therefore been most useful. It was to be hoped that social development would not be overlooked in the development strategy and that the interdependence of economic and social factors would be taken into account. It was depressing to see how under-utilized the physical and human resources of the developing countries had been. Training activities had been stepped up, but efforts must be continued, particularly in the agricultural sector so that the "green revolution" could be accelerated. United Nations public information activities should be supported, so that the taxpayers in donor countries would have a better idea of the effort required of them. All countries should send to Headquarters a list of their national experts on whom the United Nations could draw. The Philippines welcomed the action taken to reduce the effects of natural disasters, and the Philippine Government endorsed the idea of establishing a corps of volunteers for development. Lastly, while welcoming the excellent results achieved, his delegation felt that a still greater effort was needed in the fight against poverty.

44. Mr. PATRIOTA (Brazil) expressed his approval of the reports of the Governing Council (E/4609 and E/4706) and said that his delegation would support the draft resolution to be submitted. Brazil was financially supporting the operational activities of UNDP and was gratified at the intensification of its work. Still greater tasks awaited UNDP in the years to come, and the Resident Representatives would have to be enabled to play an even more active role.

45. His delegation agreed with the Administrator that, in order to find markets, agriculture must be developed, but it wished to stress that industry had the major role to play in the creation of markets. Economic development was often hampered because that essential problem had not been solved. Account should therefore be taken, in industrialization planning, of the need to create the domestic demand which would absorb a large proportion of industrial output. A larger proportion of the population would therefore have to participate in the production process, and industry would have to be prepared to absorb the manpower made available by increased productivity in other sectors. An increase in output resulting from improved productivity must, of course, be distinguished from that caused simply by an increase in the means of production. Problems of that kind would have to be very thoroughly studied. His delegation had supported the intensification of UNIDO's activities and it believed that, if agriculture was to be given its proper place, a more equitable international division of labour, in which the need for industrialization was also taken into account, would have to be achieved.

46. At the eighth session of the Governing Council, his delegation had expressed its views concerning the United Nations Development Fund. It accordingly supported the action that had been taken to bring it into operation and hoped that the Administrator of UNDP would adopt as soon as possible one of the courses considered by the Governing Council (see E/4706, para. 286).

47. Mr. SOW (Guinea) complimented the Administrator of UNDP and the Commissioner for Technical Co-operation on their excellent statements (see 1279th meeting). While his delegation supported UNDP's activities as a whole, it believed that due account must be taken of the conditions in the developing countries. Moreover, the population must be made aware of the opportunities offered by technology, particularly in agriculture. Education should concentrate on practical subjects and experts should be used to reinforce local personnel.

48. UNDP should play an increasingly important role in the strategy for the Second Development Decade. The experience gained by the Resident Representatives must also be turned to advantage, and there should be more collaboration and co-operation among all the organizations in the United Nations system. As a member of the Organization of Senegal Riparian States, Guinea welcomed the collaboration with UNDP for the development of the Senegal River Basin, a project which was intended as a preliminary step in the gradual integration of the economies of the four riparian States. Guinea had a special interest in

agricultural projects, because, in its view, agriculture had a threefold function: to provide the food needed by the population as a whole, to provide raw materials for new industries, and to earn the foreign exchange required for a country's capital development. For that reason, the Government of Guinea had developed and diversified agricultural production and had proclaimed 1969 as "Agriculture Year".

49. Mr. NYIRABU (United Republic of Tanzania) noted with satisfaction the intensification of UNDP's activities. His Government had always supported the work of UNDP and had made as generous a contribution to it as possible. Although it was useful to learn that investments in projects supported directly or indirectly by UNDP had totalled $2,800 million in 1968, information on the total cost of viable projects which it had not been possible to finance during the same period would have been equally useful. Such information would provide evidence of the need for a change of attitude on the part of the developed countries. Moreover, UNDP should increase its efforts to facilitate the mobilization of the domestic resources of developing countries. The Capacity Study would probably provide a stronger impetus for decentralizing operational activities—a problem which the United Nations had not so far confronted honestly. When all countries would benefit from the results of a project, the entire cost of its execution should be borne by UNDP. Moreover, the least developed countries should be given special treatment.

50. The Commission on International Development gave special emphasis in its report[4] to the importance of technical assistance for Africa. Funds should be administered as flexibly as possible and recipient countries should have every opportunity to exercise initiative. UNDP should also encourage the establishment of suitable training institutions in the developing countries, instead of giving preference to the existing ones in developed countries. The current state of affairs perpetuated the dependence of the developing countries on the developed countries and contributed to the brain drain. Recipient countries should also be allowed to choose the experts, because some experts, selected by purely technical criteria, might lack an understanding of the fundamental social and political development aims of the countries to which they were sent.

51. UNDP assistance should be extended to new sectors, both in the recipient countries and in the matter of sources of recruitment. Experts were needed in such spheres as trade, State trading and industry, and UNDP should try to recruit them from sources other than the traditional ones, including the socialist countries and the developing countries themselves.

52. Mr. VOLOSHIN (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said one could hardly disagree with the view of the Administrator of UNDP that the Programme had become an important development instrument of the United Nations. Nevertheless, the potentialities of UNDP were definitely not being utilized as well as they might be. That was so because the principal aim of the Programme—to apply voluntary contributions to accelerating the pace of development—was not being consistently pursued. The activities of the Programme were still largely concerned with pre-investment. The activities of the Special Fund component of UNDP, in particular, were almost exclusively of that type. The Administrator had stressed the importance of that aspect of the Programme's activities, which he considered to be the most rational and effective. Rational pre-investment activities were, of course, essential if development problems were to be solved, but such activities had to be carried out within certain limits and with due regard for investment projects. It was a matter for regret that most of the projects arranged by UNDP had led to no practical results; only one out of every three projects had attracted follow-up investments. Furthermore, private firms and monopolies which, in executing the projects, took no account of the developing countries' own requirements were being increasingly involved in the execution of the pre-investment projects. The proportion of the Special Fund's resources earmarked for agricultural and industrial projects was very inadequate. The Programme gave hardly any attention to the construction of pilot plants, and the resources it made available to UNIDO were clearly inadequate.

53. His delegation could not agree to the granting of assistance by UNDP to countries which were participating in acts of aggression in the Middle East or in South-East Asia. Furthermore, the principle of universality was not respected in UNDP's activities. Every State, irrespective of its political and social system, should be able to take part in the financing and carrying out of technical assistance programmes. Similarly, the principle of equitable geographical distribution was not respected in the selection of Resident Representatives, the membership of missions and the execution of projects. All those matters should be borne in mind in preparing the programme for the Second Development Decade.

54. With regard to UNDP expenditure, he said that the Ukrainian SSR was paying part of its contributions to UNDP and to the regular programme in national currency. Experience showed that such contributions could effectively be used in the execution of projects; in other words, they could be converted. One example of that was the training course for metallurgists at Zaporozhye. His delegation reiterated that it could not agree that the financing of the regular programme of technical assistance should be a charge against the United Nations budget. Technical assistance should be based on voluntary contributions from each State. Attempts to make the contributions compulsory only complicated the question of accumulating resources. The regular programme should be separated from the United Nations budget, entrusted to the UNDP Governing Council and financed by voluntary contributions.

55. Mr. MAROOFI (Afghanistan) said he felt that, despite the limited funds available to it, UNDP had provided valuable assistance to the developing countries.

56. His delegation particularly welcomed the remarks of the Administrator concerning new agricultural methods to increase the production of proteins. However, as in the case of all new methods, it was important to ensure that the proposed methods could be used in the least developed of the developing countries and that they were available to those countries at a cost they could afford.

4 Op. cit.

57. In some countries, the resources available for development purposes fell short of requirements. Those countries were able to absorb more resources than they were actually receiving and he hoped that UNDP would look into the matter. In addition, his delegation favoured greater co-ordination in the identification and preparation of projects and in feasibility studies. However, he would like to see a review of the procedures used for determining the feasibility of projects, as the least developed countries sometimes experienced difficulty in obtaining approval for their requests for assistance.

58. He hoped that UNDP would consider the question of more effective co-ordination of aid provided to a country from different sources, as well as better co-ordination of resources, programmes and projects.

59. He noted with satisfaction the co-operation between UNDP and IBRD and was hopeful that similar co-operation could be established between UNDP and the Asian Development Bank.

60. The establishment of an Investment Advisory Centre was a good example of co-operation between the United Nations and bilateral aid agencies. His Government wanted to provide its own nationals with the necessary training to enable them to take over the tasks performed by foreign advisers, technicians and administrators and he hoped that UNDP would study that problem in greater detail. In that connexion, he stressed the need for greater co-operation between the advisers and their local counterparts.

61. Mr. RABEARIVELO (Madagascar) said that UNDP's resources were still inadequate in relation to needs, but there seemed to have been an impressive increase in contributions over the past ten years. He hoped that the contributions of the developed countries would continue to grow so that the objectives of the Second Development Decade could be achieved. Moreover, his delegation was glad that a percentage of UNDP resources had been earmarked for basic agricultural research.

62. The execution of UNDP projects depended essentially on the qualifications of the experts provided to countries. The United Nations, and Governments too, should take great care in selecting experts. Governments often seemed to have no freedom of choice, because the organizations concerned submitted only one candidature and countries were therefore obliged to accept the proposal in order not to delay the execution of the project. In that connexion, co-ordination between multilateral and bilateral technical assistance would undoubtedly be beneficial. In Madagascar, experience had shown that bilateral technical assistance was more rapid and more flexible. An exchange of ideas between experts from different parts of the world would be very useful; and, on completion of their mission, the experts should submit a report, within a specified period. One factor which impeded the execution of projects was the excessive mobility of personnel. It often happened that the executing agencies recalled their expert just when he was really beginning to understand the problem. Experts should remain in the country until the project was completed.

63. Relations between the experts and Governments should also be clearly defined. The expert should be integrated into the administrative machinery of the recipient Government. The practice of sending experts on short-term missions should be abandoned. Sending experts to study vast problems in a very limited period only created difficulties for Government departments which were obliged to supply a great deal of information that could not be discussed profitably in a few hours. That was a total waste. The role of the Resident Representative should be strengthened, and the Government concerned should discuss all questions relating to United Nations activities solely with him. As the representatives of Nepal and Thailand had said (see 1279th meeting), the Resident Representative should be a key figure and an essential link in the chain at the local level.

64. Miss WILLIAMS (New Zealand) said that her Government was giving substantial aid to several islands in the South Pacific region, in particular the Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands, as well as Western Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and other Pacific Territories. Her delegation had noted with satisfaction that UNDP too had provided those distant islands with assistance.

65. New Zealand, which was essentially an agricultural country, had increased its technical assistance in agriculture. She had noted with great interest that the Administrator was proposing to increase UNDP activities in the field of basic research on agriculture, nutrition and proteins. She hoped that the proposed studies would deal with proteins of animal as well as vegetable origin.

66. Pending the publication of the Capacity Study, her delegation welcomed certain measures taken to improve administration and co-ordination and, in particular, to strengthen the role of the Resident Representatives. The Administrator of UNDP had also spoken of the need to improve the co-ordination of assistance from multilateral and bilateral sources, a question which was of special interest to New Zealand. Technical assistance programmes should be as flexible as possible. For that reason, her country had supported the recommendation made by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1434 (XLVII), but had been unable to endorse the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1065), adopted by the Second Committee at its 1275th meeting, calling for a special section for industrial development in part V of the budget of the United Nations. Lastly, she said that she supported the draft resolution (see A/7685) concerning new programming procedures, which was recommended by the Council in its resolution 1432 (XLVII) for adoption by the General Assembly.

67. Mr. HOFFMAN (Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme) thanked the various delegations for their suggestions, and for their flattering remarks about the activities undertaken by UNDP over the past ten years. During that period, it had been possible to complete the groundwork and learn how to administer foreign aid. With regard to the importance of pre-investment activities, it should be remembered that although only 20 per cent of pre-investment projects led to follow-up investments, the remaining 80 per cent related to activities in the fields of health, planning, etc., which did not, owing to their very nature, give rise to follow-up investments but were none the less essential. At the risk of over-simplification, it was

possible to distinguish between three main objectives of UNDP activities: to increase the incomes of farmers, to increase the incomes of wage-earners, and to try to provide equal opportunities for all. The value of each project was assessed in terms of the long-term improvement it was likely to bring about in the productivity of farmers or wage-earners. The higher incomes obtained as a result of increased productivity made it possible to start the process of industrialization. The effort to provide equal opportunities for all was essential in order to avoid a tragic waste of human resources.

68. The terms "developed countries" and "third world" should no longer be used, as all countries were developing countries at various stages of development and the major objective was world unity. The United Nations had a vitally important role to play in maintaining peace and bringing unity to a peaceful world. The task was not an easy one, but the Organization's efforts would in the end be crowned with success.

69. The CHAIRMAN thanked the Administrator of UNDP, whose remarks were a source of encouragement to all the members of the Committee.

70. He proposed that the Committee should adopt the following draft resolution on the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP:

"*The General Assembly*

"*Takes note* of the reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme of its seventh and eighth sessions (E/4609 and E/4706)."

It was so decided.

71. The CHAIRMAN then invited the Committee to consider the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1432 (XLVII) on procedures for implementation of new arrangements for regional and interregional projects under the Technical Assistance component of the United Nations Development Programme. The text of that draft resolution could be found in paragraph 2 of document A/7685.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

72. The CHAIRMAN recalled that at the beginning of the discussion on item 45 (see 1279th meeting), he had drawn the Committee's attention to resolution 1434 (XLVII) in which the Economic and Social Council had recommended that the General Assembly should adopt certain budgetary and programming procedures for part V (Technical programmes) of the United Nations budget—in other words, in regard to the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation. On the other hand, on Monday, 10 November 1969 (see 1275th meeting), after considering agenda item 38 relating to UNIDO, the Committee had adopted a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1065) whereby the General Assembly would decide to maintain the separate section in part V of the United Nations budget for the needs of technical assistance in industrial development. In view of the adoption of that draft resolution, it seemed that the recommendation made to the Assembly by the Council in its resolution 1434 (XLVII) would require some revision, and there had been some consultations on the subject. However, the most effective way of dealing with the question would be to adopt a resolution which would take into account the Committee's earlier decision on industrial development. He therefore proposed the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*Programming and budgetary procedures for the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation*

"*The General Assembly*

"*Having considered* chapter X, section B, of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/7603), dealing with technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

"*Having reviewed* the notes by the Secretary-General on operational activities for development undertaken by him (A/7704) and on the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (A/7705),

"*Having noted* Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII) of 25 July 1969 recommending revised programming and budgetary procedures for the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation,

"*Keeping in mind* resolution 2511 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969 on the regular programme of technical assistance for industrial development, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed its resolution 2298 (XXII) of 12 December 1967 providing for programming and budgetary procedures for the regular programme of technical assistance in the field of industrial development,

"*Approves* the application of the programming and budgetary procedures contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII) to the United Nations technical co-operation activities other than industrial development, which is provided for under part V (Technical programmes) of the United Nations budget."

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

73. Miss DARLING (United Kingdom) said that her delegation's position on the matter was well known, and was not affected by the adoption of the draft resolution; the programming and budgeting procedures set out in Council resolution 1434 (XLVII) should be applied to all United Nations technical co-operation activities.

74. Mr. RANKIN (Canada) supported the position of the delegation of the United Kingdom.

75. Mr. KOVALEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the position of the USSR had been stated on a number of occasions. If the draft resolution just adopted had been put to the vote, the USSR would have abstained in regard to the fourth preambular paragraph

76. The CHAIRMAN said that the observation by the representative of the USSR would be noted in the summary record.

77. Mr. KELSO (Australia) regretted that his delegation had not had an opportunity to study the draft resolution.

78. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should authorize the Rapporteur to submit the report on item 45 directly to the General Assembly.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 21

Problems of the human environment: report of the Secretary-General *(continued) (A/7514, A/7603, chap. V, sect. D; A/7707, A/7780, E/4667)**

79. The CHAIRMAN recalled that at its 1278th meeting the Committee had adopted draft resolution A/C.2/L.1069 and Add.1. At the same meeting, he himself had been requested to draw up the list of the twenty-seven Governments mentioned in operative paragraph 4 of that draft resolution. However, consultations on the subject had not yet been completed, and he requested the delegations concerned to intensify their efforts.

Organization of the Committee's work

80. The CHAIRMAN read out the proposed time-table for the next two weeks: for the week of 18 to 21 November: consideration of agenda items 43 (The role of the United Nations in training national technical personnel for the accelerated industrialization of the developing countries), 42 (One day of war for peace), 12 (Reports of the Economic and Social Council), a statement by the Chairman of the Commission on International Development and item 39 (United Nations Capital Development Fund); for the week of 24 to 28 November: consideration of draft resolutions on items 37 (UNCTAD), 38 (UNIDO), 12 and 40 (Second United Nations Development Decade), item 41 (International Education Year) and item 46 (Review of the World Food Programme).

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.

* Resumed from the 1278th meeting.