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GOVERNING COUNCIL

Twenty-seventh session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 707th MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Monday, 30 June 1980, at 3.p.m.

President: Mr. POPESCU (Romania)

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Closure of the session

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The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

OTHER FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES (agenda item 7)(continued)

(f) ASSISTANCE TO DROUGHT-STRICKEN COUNTRIES IN AFRICA AND THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION (continued)

Draft decision DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.6

1. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) pointed out that the document symbol referred to in the fifth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 1 should be DP/445, not DP/494.

2. Draft decision DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.6 was adopted.

Document DP/L.336/Add.1

3. The draft decision relating to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in document DP/L.336/Add.1 was adopted.

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (agenda item 8)(continued)

Draft decision DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.27

4. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) said that the words "from \$1.0 million" in operative paragraph 1 should be replaced by "the ceiling of \$1.0 million mentioned above".

5. Mr. PEREIRA (Argentina) said that, in his delegation's view, the second preambular paragraph should become the first, the words "Taking note" being replaced by "Having examined". His delegation also proposed a new operative paragraph 1, to read:

"Takes note of the report of the first High-level Meeting on the Review of TCDC and decided to refer it through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly".

6. The remaining operative paragraphs would be renumbered accordingly.

7. His delegation also thought that, in order to reflect more accurately the decisions taken at the first High-level Meeting, the word "basis" in the second line of the present operative paragraph 3 should be followed by a comma and the words "inter alia".

8. Replying to a question by Mr. LAWLESS (United Kingdom), Mr. PEREIRA (Argentina) said that decision I/80/7 in document TCDC/13 was the text in question.

9. Mr. CAVALCANTI (Brazil) proposed that the words "policies, rules and procedures of UNDP" in the present operative paragraph 5 should be followed by the words: "as regards the flexible use of country IPFs for TCDC purposes,".

10. Mr. HUTTON (Canada) said that his delegation had some difficulty with that proposal, on account of the restriction referred to in the present operative paragraph 3. He hoped that the Brazilian delegation would agree to withhold the proposal until the next High-level Meeting.

11. Mr. BROWN (Deputy Administrator) said that the decision to invite the Administrator to proceed with the preparation of proposals for modification related to all UNDP policies, rules and procedures, not solely to the flexible use of country IPFs for TCDC purposes; it should also be borne in mind that the question of the reimbursement from IPFs of local currency costs had been discussed at length. The Brazilian delegation's proposal could therefore give rise to some difficulties.
12. With regard to the Argentine delegation's proposal, it had indeed been realized, at the High-level Meeting, that there might be principles other than those set forth in the present operative subparagraphs 3(a) to 3(d), but the omission of the words "inter alia" had not been an oversight. The Governing Council was of course at liberty to introduce those words if it thought that the Administrator might be given discretion in the matter.
13. Mr. CAVALCANTI (Brazil) said that his delegation withdrew its proposal in the light of the Deputy Administrator's observations.
14. Mr. MUWAMBA (Malawi) said that his delegation preferred the text of the present operative paragraph 3 as it stood, since there had been nothing to suggest any widening of the scope of its four subparagraphs.
15. Mr. PEREIRA (Argentina) said that his delegation had no wish to amend the substance of the draft decision but it felt that the operative paragraph concerned should either refrain entirely from quoting the decision taken at the High-level Meeting or quote it in full.
16. Mr. MUWAMBA (Malawi) said that, in view of the Deputy Administrator's explanation, the amendments proposed by the Argentine delegation might not be entirely in line with the original text and might lead to the opening up of further debate on the matter.
17. Mr. BROWN (Deputy Administrator) said that it had been realized, at the time of the decision taken at the High-level Meeting, that the Governing Council might wish to have further principles taken into account also. If the Governing Council so wished, therefore, it could have that possibility reflected in the present text.
18. Mr. MUWAMBA (Malawi) said that his delegation would be prepared to proceed on that principle, on the understanding that the matter could be reviewed by the Governing Council at its twenty-eighth session, since the question of how to use IPFs for TCDC purposes was of concern to a number of delegations.
19. Mr. HUTTON (Canada) recalled that there had been considerable discussion about the word "flexible". A consensus had finally been reached on the principles as reflected in the present operative paragraph 3. His delegation therefore shared the Malawian delegation's misgivings and would be reluctant to see the words "inter alia" added to the present operative paragraph 3.

20. The PRESIDENT invited the Governing Council to adopt draft decision DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.27, including the amendment to the preambular part and the new operative paragraph 1 proposed by the Argentine delegation, as also the additional wording suggested by the Secretariat to the new operative paragraph 2.

21. Draft decision DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.27, as amended, was adopted.

FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (agenda item 10) (continued)

Draft decisions recommended by the Budgetary and Finance Committee

Document DP/L.336/Add.6

22. The draft decision on future financing of the Programme was adopted.

23. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) pointed out that the symbol of the document referred to in the decision on the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Sources Exploration, which the Council had already adopted, should read DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.17/Rev.1.

24. The draft decision on the annual review of the financial situation: 1979 was adopted.

25. Mr. KELLAND (Denmark) said that it was his understanding that operative paragraph 5 of the decision did not preclude the matter to which it referred being discussed at the Council's twenty-eighth session.

26. Mr. HUTTON (Canada) associated himself with the observation of the Danish representative.

27. Mr. MAKAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that the comment was unnecessary, since the decision referred to the future.

28. Mr. KELLAND (Denmark) said he was prepared to add the words "as regards the third IPF cycle" to his previous observation.

29. The PRESIDENT said that the Danish representative's observation would be noted in the summary record.

Document DP/L.336/Add.7

30. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) pointed out that the symbol of the decision on UNHFA to which the document referred and which had already been approved by the Council, should read DP/GC/XXVII/BFC/CRP.15/Rev.1.

Document DP/L.336/Add.8

31. The draft decision on the review of the Integrated Systems Improvement Project (ISIP) was adopted.
32. The draft decision on the headquarters staffing review was adopted.
33. The draft decision on the Interagency Procurement Services Unit (IAPSU) was adopted.
34. The draft decision on support costs and related matters was adopted.

Document DP/GC/XXVII/BFC/CRP.1 and Corr.1

35. The draft decision on supplementary budget estimates for 1979 was adopted.

Draft report of the Budgetary and Finance Committee (DP/L.337 and Add. 1-10, DP/L.340)

36. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) pointed out that document DP/L.340, which contained a consolidated, but not exhaustive, list of the amendments to the draft report of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, should be considered in conjunction with it.

Document DP/L.337

37. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) read out the following amendment from the Soviet delegation for insertion after paragraph 9:

"One representative said that his delegation was alarmed by the considerable size of the supplementary appropriations under the estimates for 1979. He pointed out that the practice of making supplementary appropriations each year could not be fully explained as being due to the effect of inflation. The absence of appropriate control over the planning and utilization of available resources should also be viewed as an important cause of over-expenditure. He requested the Administrator to offer guarantees of some kind concerning the limitation of over-expenditure and the more efficient use of resources, above all by the restriction of administrative, management and other non-productive costs connected with programme implementation. In that connexion he called upon the Administrator to improve the efficiency of financial control over administrative, management and other non-productive expenditure with a view to doing away with completely, or reducing to a minimum in future, the supplementary annual appropriations needed to cover the Programme's budget deficit."

38. Document DP/L.337, as amended, was adopted.

Documents DP/L.337/Add.1 and 2

39. Documents DP/L.337/Add.1 and 2 were adopted.

Document DP/L.337/Add.3

40. Mr. SUN HUIYUAN (China) proposed that the paragraphs under agenda item 10 (e), relating to the Headquarters staffing review, should be deleted on the grounds that they duplicated the report on that subject already appearing in document DP/L.337/Add.1.

41. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) said that the text in document DP/L.337/Add.3 was that which had finally been adopted by the Budgetary and Finance Committee.

42. Document DP/L.337/Add.3 was adopted.

Document DP/L.337/Add.4

43. Document DP/L.337/Add.4 was adopted with the amendments to paragraphs 9, 12, 15 and 16 appearing in document DP/L.340.

Document DP/L.337/Add.5

44. Document DP/L.337/Add.5 was adopted.

Document DP/L.337/Add.6

45. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) drew attention to the amendments set forth in document DP/L.340.

46. Mr. GAGLIARDI (Brazil), referring to the amendment in paragraph 4, asked whether the reference in the second line should be to a draft report or a draft decision.

47. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) said that the wording had been prepared by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany.

48. Mr. LIPTAU (Federal Republic of Germany) said that the word should be "decision".

49. It was so agreed.

50. Mr. PEREIRA (Argentina) drew attention to the following amendment which had been omitted from document DP/L.340: the Committee had decided that the word "Most" at the beginning of paragraph 3 of its report on agenda item 8(a) (DP/L.337/Add.6) should be replaced by "Some" (Varios).

51. It was so agreed.

52. Document DP/L.337/Add.6, as amended, was adopted.

Document DP/L.337/Add.7

53. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) drew attention to the amendments in document DP/L.340.

54. Document DP/L.337/Add.7, as amended, was adopted.

Document DP/L.377/Add.8

55. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) drew attention to the amendments in document DP/L.340.

56. Document DP/L.337/Add.8, as amended, was adopted.

Document DP/L.337/Add.9

57. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council), said that there were no amendments.

58. Document DP/L.337/Add.9 was adopted.

Document DP/L.337/Add.10

59. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) drew attention to the amendment in document DP/L.340 and pointed out that the reference number after the word "documents" should be "DP/WGOC/32/Corr.1".

60. Document DP/L.337/Add.10, as amended, was adopted.

61. The draft report of the Budgetary and Finance Committee as a whole (DP/L.337 and Addenda 1-10), as amended, was adopted.

DRAFT REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL TO THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 1980, OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (agenda item 13) (DP/L.339 and Add.1 to 3, DP/L.338 and Add.1 to 7)

62. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council), introducing the report, said that the Rapporteur, who was unfortunately unable to be present, had asked him to make the following statement.

63. Members would note the new form of the report, which was the first to be prepared in response to relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the control and limitation of documentation, including the reports of subsidiary bodies. It was also the first report prepared since the Governing Council's decision in February 1980 not to duplicate in its report information already contained elsewhere and easily accessible.

64. In a serious effort to reduce the length of the Council's report - which had consisted of 232 pages in 1978 and 211 pages in 1979 - summaries of comments made during the debate had been replaced by references to the relevant summary records. Members of the Council were reminded of the increased importance of the summary records, which were an integral part of the report of the Governing Council, and urged to review them promptly and carefully to ensure that the views of their respective delegations were accurately reflected, particularly views on specific decisions adopted by the Council.

65. The report of the Budgetary and Finance Committee - which had no summary records - as approved by the Council, with amendments, would be issued separately in document DP/505, which would be given general distribution. The decisions adopted by

the Council itself on the recommendations of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Working Group on Support Costs and the Working Group on IPPs would be incorporated in chapter XI of the Governing Council's own report, which would be issued as a document of the Economic and Social Council under the E/1980 series.

66. He suggested that the Council should consider the draft report chapter by chapter. He would, on behalf of the Rapporteur, draw attention to any additions or corrections.

67. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft report chapter by chapter.

68. It was so agreed.

Introduction (DP/L.339)

69. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council), introducing document DP/L.339 on behalf of the Rapporteur, said that a final sentence should be added to paragraph 27, to read: "Statements made by delegations on this decision are contained in summary record DP/SR.705".

70. Paragraph 31 should be replaced by the following text: "Action on this item was taken when the Council adopted decision 80/30 on preparation for the third programming cycle, 1982-1986".

71. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, the Introduction to the draft report, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter IV: Country and intercountry programmes and projects (DP/L.339/Add.1)

72. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council), introducing chapter IV on behalf of the Rapporteur, said that in paragraph 8 the words "on assistance to Fiji" should be inserted after the symbol document DP/PROJECTS/R.13/Add.7.

73. In paragraph 9 the words "on country and intercountry programmes and projects" should be inserted after the reference to decision 80/10, and a final sentence should be added, to read: "Statements made by delegations on this decision are contained in summary record DP/SR.695".

74. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter IV of the draft report, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter III: Programme planning and preparation for the third programming cycle, 1982-1986 (DP/L.339/Add.2)

75. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council), introducing chapter III on behalf of the Rapporteur, said that the final phrase of paragraph 4 should be amended to read: "... who presented to the Council at its 705th meeting recommendations contained in document DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.20, as amended, for consideration and adoption".

76. Paragraph 5 should be amended to read: "... the Council, on the recommendation of the Working Group, adopted decision 80/30 on preparation for the third programming cycle, 1982-1986, the text of which appears in chapter XI of this report as well as the wording of item 5 of the provisional agenda of the twenty-eighth session". A final sentence should be added, to read: "Statements made by delegations on this decision are contained in summary record DP/SR.705".

77. The second and third phrases of paragraph 6 should be amended to read: "... the Council, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, adopted decision 80/_____ on the future financing of the programme". A final sentence should be added, to read: "Statements made by delegations on this decision are contained in summary record DP/SR.707".

78. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter III, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter V: Other funds and programmes (DP/L.339/Add.2 and 3)

79. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council), introducing chapter V on behalf of the Rapporteur, said that a number of changes should be made in document DP/L.339/Add.2. A new paragraph 4 should be added, to read: "At its 701st meeting, the Council adopted decision 80/13/I, the text of which appears in chapter XI of this report", while the former paragraph 4 (now 5) should be amended to read: "At its 707th meeting, the Council, taking into account the recommendations of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, adopted decision 80/13/II, the text of which appears in chapter XI of this report".

80. A final sentence should be added to former paragraph 7 (now 8), to read: "Statements made by delegations on this decision are contained in summary record DP/SR.____".

81. A new paragraph 22 should be added, to read: "At its 706th meeting, the Council adopted decision 80/35 on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region, and decision 80/36 on assistance to the drought-stricken countries in Africa". The former paragraph 22 (now 23) should read: "At its 707th meeting, the Council, taking into account the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, adopted decisions 80/____, the texts of which appear in chapter XI of this report".

82. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter V, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter VI: Technical co-operation among developing countries (DP/L.339/Add.3)

83. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter VI was adopted.

Chapter VII: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters (DP/L.339/Add.3)

84. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter VII was adopted.

Chapter VIII: Action by other organs of the United Nations system (DP/L.339/Add.3)

85. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter VIII was adopted.

Chapter IX: Other matters (DP/L.339/Add.3)

86. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter IX was adopted.

Chapter X: Date and provisional agenda for the twenty-eighth session (DP/L.339/Add.3)

87. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) said that chapter X of the report could not be completed until the Council had taken a decision on the appropriate agenda item.

88. The PRESIDENT suggested that the consideration of the draft report of the Council should be suspended, so that a decision might be taken on agenda item 12.

89. It was so decided.

DATE AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (agenda item 12) (DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.34)

90. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider document DP/GC/XXVII/CRP.34, which set forth a recommendation by the Working Group on the organization of the sessions of the Governing Council with regard to the date and provisional agenda for its twenty-eighth session.

91. The recommendation by the Working Group was adopted.

DRAFT REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL TO THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 1980, OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (agenda item 13) (continued)

Chapter X: Date and provisional agenda for the twenty-eighth session (DP/L.339/Add.3) (continued)

92. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, chapter X was adopted.

Chapter XI: Decisions of the Governing Council adopted at its twenty-seventh session (DP/L.338 and Addenda)

93. The PRESIDENT pointed out that document DP/L.338 and its addenda contained the texts of the decisions already approved by the Council and was for information only.

94. In reply to a question by Mr. LAWLESS (United Kingdom), Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) said that eight addenda to the document, containing all the decisions adopted by the Council at its twenty-seventh session, should be available in their final form on 1 July.

95. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt its draft report as a whole.

96. Subject to editorial and formal changes by the Secretariat, the draft report of the Governing Council, as a whole, as amended, was adopted.

97. Mr. BOURGOIS (Secretary of the Governing Council) said that the report of the Governing Council would be presented by the Administrator to the second regular session, 1980, of the Economic and Social Council, when the latter considered its agenda item on general operational activities.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

98. The PRESIDENT said that the efforts of the members of the Governing Council, which had enabled the work of the twenty-seventh session to be brought to a successful conclusion, had shown their determination to strengthen the United Nations Development Programme in forthcoming years.

99. As a result of hard work in a spirit of co-operation and compromise on the part of every delegation, a consensus had been reached concerning the size of the third programming cycle and the criteria for it. That had been the greatest achievement of the session, and indeed of the past decade, and augured well for the future of UNDP and of multilateral co-operation in development.

100. After expressing gratitude to all concerned, he declared the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council closed.

The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.