

# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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## GOVERNING COUNCIL

Twenty-eighth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 730TH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 25 June 1981, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. ABDULAH (Trinidad and Tobago)  
later: Mr. GADEL HAK (Egypt)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS (continued)

(a) RELEVANT TRENDS AND PROBLEMS IN THE COUNTRY PROGRAMMES (continued) (DP/522)

1. Mr. LIPTAU (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation welcomed the presentation of the country programmes before the beginning of the new programming cycle. That practice would contribute to a better understanding of the role of UNDP, assist the Governing Council in its consideration of the programmes and facilitate the co-ordination of all the necessary inputs. Another advantage of timely presentation was that it enabled the Governing Council to discuss the sectoral approaches and priorities in detail without affecting the sovereign right of the recipient countries to determine the scope of and sectors covered by individual programmes. Finally, early presentation facilitated the over-all co-ordination of UNDP-assisted programmes with programmes supported by bilateral or multilateral agencies.

(b) COUNTRY PROGRAMMES (continued)

European States (continued) (DP/GC/BUL/R.3 and RECOMMENDATION, DP/GC/POL/R.3 and RECOMMENDATION)

2. Mrs. BALLESTER (Cuba) said that her delegation fully supported the Administrator's recommendations concerning the country programmes for Bulgaria and Poland. Both programmes were closely linked to the respective national development plans and reflected national priorities. Cuba trusted that the objectives of the programmes would be achieved by UNDP and the peoples of Bulgaria and Poland in the spirit of international co-operation.

3. Mr. FESENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the country programme documents reflected the practical contribution UNDP was making to strengthening the national economies of the countries concerned and revealed the close links between the programmes and the national economic development plans. His delegation supported the technical assistance programmes for Bulgaria, Cuba, Poland and Viet Nam. The programme for Viet Nam was a particularly good example of the co-ordination of international assistance, which had helped to repair the damage to the national economy resulting from three decades of struggle against foreign exploiters.

4. Mr. Gadel Hak (Egypt) took the Chair.

5. Mr. POPESCU (Romania) said that he had understood the Chief of the Unit for Europe to state at the 729th meeting that UNDP would not be promoting technical co-operation among developing countries in Europe. He asked whether he had interpreted the statement correctly.

6. Mr. PRINS (Chief, Unit for Europe) said that the regional programme for Europe would contain many TCDC elements. In a number of regional projects there would be an exchange of know-how and personnel among European countries. In that sense, UNDP would be promoting TCDC, since it felt that such a direct exchange among countries at their own expense would be very helpful. UNDP did have reservations, however, about the use of country IPFs for TCDC in Europe. In Africa and Asia there were cases of co-operation in which the inputs came from the respective country IPFs. It was felt that in Europe there many opportunities for TCDC along different lines.

7. Mr. POPESCU (Romania) said that his Government favoured TCDC in all regions. The United Nations recognized that there were developing countries in Europe, and several such countries, including Romania, were members of the Group of 77. It was important for UNDP to promote TCDC among those countries too, in accordance with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries.

8. The PRESIDENT invited the Governing Council to adopt the recommendations in paragraph 6 of document DP/GC/BUL/R.3/RECOMMENDATION and paragraph 8 of document DP/GC/POL/R.3/RECOMMENDATION.

9. It was so decided.

10. Mr. FREYBERG (Poland) said that his delegation appreciated the support of the Governing Council and UNDP for Poland's country programme.

11. At the 729th meeting the United States representative had referred to certain subjective factors that had adversely affected the Polish economy. It should be realized that there were many objective factors contributing to the current state of the Polish economy.

African States (DP/GC/CON/R.2 and RECOMMENDATION, DP/GC/KEN/R.4 and RECOMMENDATION, DP/GC/MAU/R.3 and RECOMMENDATION, DP/GC/RWA/R.3 and RECOMMENDATION)

12. Mr. DOO KINGUE (Assistant Administrator, Regional Director for Africa), introducing the country programmes for the Congo, Kenya, Mauritius and Rwanda (DP/GC/CON/R.2, DP/GC/KEN/R.4, DP/GC/MAU/R.3 and DP/GC/RWA/R.3), said that the four countries had very different characteristics. Rwanda was designated as one of the least developed countries; it was a mountainous, land-locked country, with a major population problem. Mauritius, an island often affected by cyclones, had only limited natural resources; its economy depended heavily on its relations with the rest of the world. Kenya was generally considered prosperous, although its economy was based primarily on agriculture; it had been afflicted by drought in recent years and was one of the countries most seriously affected by the world economic crisis. The Congo, the only oil-producing country in the group, was well endowed with natural resources but was just beginning to overcome its management problems, which had been aggravated by internal political dissension.

13. The UNDP programme for Rwanda for the third programming cycle was relatively concentrated; the average cost of the 21 projects was \$1.5 million, with two thirds of the resources going to three crucial sectors: agriculture, the main source of

(Mr. Doo Kingué)

income, development planning and administration, and industry. Substantial resources were also allocated for education. As a land-locked country, Rwanda needed to develop its transport and communications network, and some 9 per cent of the total resources were allocated to that sector. UNDP was assisting the Government to explore and inventory the country's natural resources.

14. Concentration was likewise a feature of the country programme for Mauritius, with 81 per cent of the resources going to five major spheres of activity: agriculture, health, education, transport and communications, and the over-all organization of development. Some 89 per cent of the resources were for new projects, such as assistance to the National Fishing Company, assistance to the Mauritius Marine Authority, strengthening of the export promotion services and assistance to the meteorological services. The over-all emphasis of the programme was on restructuring and diversifying the economy and training managers.

15. Kenya's policy was to enlist UNDP assistance for such politically sensitive activities as the organization and management of development programmes, the development of certain sources of energy and industrial development; the programme also covered training and the promotion of rural development, with special emphasis on the basic needs of the population and on agricultural and livestock production. Approximately 28 per cent of the programmed resources were for training. In the light of the significant increase in Kenya's IPF, resources for new projects represented nearly two thirds of programmed resources.

16. In the Congo's programme special priority was accorded to two vital sectors: nearly 87.5 per cent of the resources had been allocated to agriculture and development planning and management. There were two reasons for that remarkable concentration of resources: the difficulties caused by inadequate economic management and the country's considerable agricultural potential. New projects accounted for approximately 71 per cent of the programmed resources.

17. Mr. DON NANJIRA (Observer for Kenya) said that the country programme for Kenya should be examined in the context of the global programme and other major UNDP-supervised programmes at the country, subregional, regional and interregional levels. Document DP/524 identified priorities in the global and interregional programmes which were acceptable to his delegation and vital to Kenya's development. What was not clear from that document was how UNDP-supported interregional and global activities had been organized before the introduction of the global and interregional programmes. A synopsis of the situation before 1969 for the global programme and before 1972 for the interregional programme would have been most useful. Kenya urged the various United Nations bodies to co-operate more closely with UNDP and called upon UNDP to make available to Governments all completed feasibility and other studies, so that they could be used by country planners and policy-makers.

18. His Government was grateful for UNFPA's valuable assistance with regard to the 1969 population census and in the field of family planning. The total figure approved and allocated for population activities in Kenya for 1981 was \$720,673. The amount of \$255,000, which was to have been spent on a health project in 1981,

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(Mr. Dcn Manjira, Observer, Kenya)

had had to be reallocated for 1982. His Government wondered why that project had not been carried out, although the funds had been approved and allocated, and appealed to WHO not to delay its execution. UNFPA's assistance to Kenya between 1974 and 1981 totalled \$6,918,484. Kenya, whose annual population growth rate was one of the highest in the world, appealed to UNFPA to intensify its assistance in the years ahead and to continue to advise the Government on various effective ways of dealing with the population explosion.

19. Kenya appreciated the assistance extended by the World Food Programme, the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration and the United Nations Volunteers programme. While it realized that national development was primarily its own responsibility, it needed help to complement its own limited resources and thus appealed to donor countries and UNDP to increase their assistance and contributions.

20. His delegation fully supported the recommendations in documents DP/536 and DP/537 for generous contributions to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration so that the annual funding target of at least \$10 million could be achieved. It also strongly supported the view that the Fund's activities should encompass geothermal energy. He noted with satisfaction that the Council had approved, in 1979, a project concerning copper, zinc, lead, gold and silver exploration in Kenya.

21. His Government's interest in the successful operation of the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development could hardly be over-emphasized. Kenya had already submitted some projects to the Fund and hoped it would approve them as soon as possible. It was most disappointing that, two years after the Vienna Conference, less than \$40 million of the agreed target of at least \$250 million had been achieved. The slow pace of implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development was regrettable, as was the fact that although they had persuaded the Group of 77 to settle for the minimum target of \$250 million, the leading industrialized countries had pledged no contributions to the Fund so far. He was gratified to note that Austria, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and Italy had made pledges and urged them to pay their contributions to the Fund as soon as possible. Given the inadequate level of the Fund's resources and bearing in mind that the Fund was to be incorporated into a Financing System for Science and Technology for Development as from 1 January 1982, under which the Fund might well serve as the financing body for new and renewable sources of energy, he wondered how prepared the Fund was to become part of a permanent long-term financing institution which was intended to be funded at the level of about \$200 million per year.

22. His delegation had taken note of the report of the Administrator concerning action taken in respect of the Energy Account (DP/540) and welcomed UNDP's contribution to the preparations for the Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. The very interesting information given in the report required elaboration, however; it was not stated for instance, what response there had been from Governments and other prospective donors to the Energy Account. Governments should

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(Mr. Don Manjira Observer Kenya)

be regularly informed of the activities of the United Nations system in the energy field and should receive reports and studies as they became available. He suggested that the Council authorize the Administrator to forward all available documents on energy to Nairobi for consideration by the Conference.

23. His delegation was grateful to UNDP for its assistance to the drought-stricken areas in Africa, including Kenya, and hoped that UNDP would contribute to the study mission to be sent to Kenya and other East African States to survey the drought situation and determine the level of assistance necessary. His delegation also welcomed UNDP's role in promoting technical co-operation among developing countries.

24. The country programme for Kenya reflected the priorities identified by his Government and was therefore consistent with the objectives of Kenya's fourth Development Plan. His Government strongly believed that the recipient country should always have the right to identify its priorities and to determine how the UNDP resources allocated to it should be utilized. His Government was grateful for the assistance it had received from UNDP and from traditional donors and would look to them for continued aid for the fulfilment of its social and economic development aspirations.

25. His delegation attached considerable importance to a number of UNDP-sponsored projects in Kenya that were mentioned in other documents before the Council, among them the projects covering advisory services on energy policy programming and petroleum policy. While his Government was pleased with the work of the two long-term energy advisers, it needed two more energy advisers for at least two years each and more funds for geothermal and petroleum exploration.

26. His Government would in due course be recommending some modifications to the country programme to reflect changes in its economic and energy situation that had occurred in the previous two years. The recommendations would take full account of UNDP's input into the agricultural sector. He called on the Council to approve the country programme for Kenya and the 13 other country programmes which the Council was considering.

27. Mrs. BALLESTER (Cuba) said that she wished to place on record her delegation's firm support for the programmes for African countries. She was gratified to note that, in general, Governments had included in their country programme not only projects designed to strengthen their economic infrastructure but also projects designed to increase the national capacity to absorb external aid effectively.

28. Mr. MANGOUTA (Observer for the Congo) said that the economic situation of his country had started to deteriorate in 1975. The new political leadership which had emerged in 1979 had placed economic and financial recovery at the forefront of its concerns and had opted for a self-reliant and self-sustaining development strategy based on the interdependence of agriculture and industry. Since the launching of the recovery programme, forestry production had resumed, the balance-of-payments situation had improved and the stabilization plan, which the International Monetary Fund had recommended as a condition for giving assistance, had come into force. The situation, however, remained precarious.

(Mr. Mangouta, Observer, Congo)

29. The assistance described in the country programme document for the Congo (DP/CG/CON/R.2) would provide essential financial and logistic support for the Government in implementing its policy. In that connexion he pointed out that the Government attached the highest priority to the development of agriculture.

30. Mr. RUKIRA (Rwanda) said that the assistance requested of UNDP for the third programming cycle - which coincided with Rwanda's third five-year development plan - was part of a long-term strategy for the 1980s, the cost of which was estimated at over \$3 billion. The purpose of the strategy was to overcome the obstacles which Rwanda faced in its efforts to promote development because of its land-locked situation and the fact that it was one of the least developed countries. The Assistant Administrator had outlined the vital areas for which UNDP assistance would be used. He urged the Council to approve unanimously the Administrator's recommendations for his country. Finally, he fully supported the development programmes outlined in the report of the Administrator on relevant trends and problems in the country programmes (DP/522).

31. Mr. Abdulah (Trinidad and Tobago) resumed the Chair.

32. Mr. TUAN (Liberia) made a special appeal to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to intensify its assistance to his country, many of whose problems were due to a soaring birth-rate and the resultant need for improved facilities in terms of schools and housing. His Government was actively seeking to reduce infant mortality and malnutrition.

33. Mr. TAKASU (Japan) strongly supported the African country programmes and welcomed the fact that they were largely in line with national priorities. The country programme for the Congo rightly gave priority, to the extent of 51.2 per cent of allocated resources, to the agricultural sector, since the livelihood of over 50 per cent of the population depended on agriculture, forestry or fishing. He welcomed the addition of a new and indispensable element, that of transport and communication. However, only 3.8 per cent of the programmed resources were allocated to that sector, and since the 1982-1986 programme, with its emphasis on agriculture, depended on the development of the northern part of the country, it was a factor which needed very careful treatment and appropriate resources.

34. His delegation welcomed the increased economic growth recently achieved by Egypt and its improved balance-of-payments record. However, Egypt faced a number of urgent and difficult tasks, including control of population growth, distribution of income, and the need to increase productivity, and it was vital for long-term stability that it should improve the underlying structure of the economy and create a favourable environment for foreign investment. The country programme was satisfactory in that it took account of those general trends. One of the most urgent problems facing Egypt was the attainment of food security. His Government, following a ministerial visit to Egypt, was sending an agricultural mission to draw up detailed plans for co-operation in that field.

(Mr. Takasu, Japan)

35. Kenya's economy had expanded steadily, at a yearly growth rate of 5.8 per cent, over the period 1964-1977, and industry's share in the gross domestic product had risen to 15.6 per cent, a commendable achievement. Given that background, emphasis was required on developing economic planning ability, on human resources and on increasing agricultural productivity; those three areas were rightly given priority in the programme. In particular, he welcomed the fact that 37.7 per cent of allocations were to be expended on human resources development.

36. The economy of Mauritius was heavily dependent on sugar production, which was extremely vulnerable to climatic and price fluctuations. The Government was seeking ways of diversifying agricultural production, and the focus of the country programme on agriculture was accordingly very desirable.

37. The country programme for Rwanda coincided with the national five-year development plan and therefore naturally reflected national priorities, and particularly the most important area of the economy, agriculture. However, he questioned the small percentage of programme funds allocated to the transport sector; since Rwanda was a land-locked country it needed a highly developed communications network, both for the purposes of domestic economic development and in order to encourage trade.

38. His delegation strongly supported all the country programmes for the African region and recommended their adoption by the Council.

39. Mr. CHEN Xingnong (China) said that the Council should adopt all the country programmes for the African region, since the assistance which they envisaged was in keeping with the national development priorities of the countries concerned, and would therefore benefit both the Governments and their peoples.

40. Mr. HAGGAG (Egypt) said that the proposed country programmes for the African region would indeed cater for some of the needs and priorities of the countries involved: actual needs in those countries far exceeded UNDP's capacity to provide assistance. At the very least, the programmes demonstrated the concern of the world community to try to meet those needs, and they should all be adopted by the Council.

41. Mr. DOO KINGUE (Assistant Administrator) observed that the representative of Japan had rightly observed that in the case of the Congo it was essential for the north of the country to be opened up and that the transport and communications sector would require greater resources than those which UNDP had been able to allocate. The Government of the Congo was, in fact, currently negotiating with other sources of finance on that subject.

42. That same sector was also of great significance in Rwanda. However, a number of regional transport and communications projects, funded through bilateral co-operation arrangements, did exist, together with subregional projects being financed by UNDP in conjunction with other donors. Thus the sector was receiving greater resources from UNDP than might appear from the country's IPF.



43. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt the recommendations in documents DP/GC/CON/R.2/RECOMMENDATION, DP/GC/KEN/R.4/RECOMMENDATION, DP/GC/MAU/R.3/RECOMMENDATION, and DP/GC/RWA/R.3/RECOMMENDATION.

44. It was so decided.

Arab States (DP/GC/EGY/R.3 and RECOMMENDATION)

45. Mr. CAPPELLETTI (Officer-in-Charge, Regional Bureau for Arab States) said that he was happy to report that the very satisfactory progress of the UNDP programme in the Arab region had been maintained and, in fact, gained momentum. By the end of the cycle in 1981 the level of approved budgets would have more than doubled since 1977. Moreover, cost-sharing had grown from around \$5 million per year at the beginning of the cycle to \$30 million in 1980; there was every likelihood that cost-sharing contributions for 1977-1981 would reach a total of about \$95 million, representing approximately 25 per cent of the total resources available to UNDP in the Arab region, with some two thirds of that sum being contributed by recipient Governments and the remainder by donor Governments and organizations. Cost-sharing was not necessarily peculiar to the financially stronger countries; the highest level of cost-sharing during the second cycle would occur in the Yemen Arab Republic, one of the least developed countries, and the third highest would be in Egypt, a relatively low-income country. Among the Arab States, the Sudan and Egypt would exceed the UNDP resources available to them in the second cycle and would borrow a modest amount from the third cycle; with few exceptions, all the others would utilize fully their IPF resources for the second cycle.

46. During the previous 12 months there had been a considerable reactivation of the UNDP programme in Lebanon. The rate of delivery was expected to reach almost \$4 million in 1981. The Government had started preparations for the second country programme, 1982-1986, to be submitted to the Governing Council in 1982. The UNDP resources required would amount to about \$22 million.

47. In February 1981 the Government of Djibouti had organized a donors' round table to review and co-ordinate the country's external assistance requirements. As required by General Assembly resolution 33/132, UNDP had assisted in the preparation of documentation, in co-ordination with the Office of the Secretary-General, the Economic Commission for Africa and the World Bank. A pledging conference would follow some time in 1982.

48. The Regional Bureau for Arab States had taken measures to assist the three least developed countries, Democratic Yemen, Sudan and Yemen Arab Republic, in preparing for the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries to be held at Paris in September 1981; funds had been provided to UNCTAD for the recruitment of consultants, and further assistance had been furnished by the UNDP offices in those countries.

49. Egypt's country programme for 1982-1986 was before the Council, and 14 other Arab countries planned to submit their programmes at the 1982 session, and Kuwait and Saudi Arabia at the special session in January 1983. Only two countries,

(Mr. Cappelletti)

Djibouti and Qatar, had not yet set a firm date. Kuwait's programme, approved in June 1979, had been the first to be fully funded by the Government. The Government of Qatar also intended to prepare such a programme.

50. The drastic reduction in UNDP resources, in real terms, in the third cycle, would mean that only three Arab countries, Sudan, Egypt and Djibouti, would experience a reasonable increase in resources, in monetary terms at least. Most of the others would have the same resources as in the second cycle, which implied a drastic reduction in the volume of UNDP operations. The Governments of some of those countries might decide to provide supplementary resources of their own, and in other cases third-party cost-sharing might again be arranged. However, it would be necessary to assess the available options very carefully, to resort to innovative approaches, and to be very cost-conscious. Long-term experts might have to be increasingly replaced by short-term experts, costly academic training abroad increasingly curtailed in favour of local training and, inevitably, additional responsibilities delegated to Governments.

51. The regional programme for Arab States for 1982-1986 was to be submitted to the Governing Council at the 1982 session. The Regional Bureau for Arab States was engaged in consultations on a preliminary list of priorities, to be submitted, in co-operation with the two regional economic commissions, towards the end of the year for scrutiny by Governments.

52. The country programme for Egypt for 1982-1986 had been carefully planned to ensure that it was soundly based and used the IPF resources to maximum effect. It encompassed a variety of economic and social sectors and development needs, involving a switch from very large-scale to medium-sized projects requiring fewer long-term experts and more modest equipment and training components. The major burden would rest with the Government, in accordance with the concept of increased self-reliance. The Government had made a deliberate effort to reflect the global priorities established by the General Assembly and other United Nations intergovernmental bodies. The programme contained nine investment-oriented projects, with a total UNDP contribution of some \$7.5 million; 18 per cent (not 6.3 per cent, as stated in annex VII of document DP/522) had been earmarked for investment-oriented activities. It was worth noting that in 1977-1981 UNDP contributions of \$6.3 million to projects in various economic sectors had attracted directly or indirectly, \$1.6 billion in follow-up investment.

53. Mr. HAGGAG (Egypt) said that the range of activities carried out by the Bureau was very wide, both in individual countries and through the regional programme. His delegation hoped to see more flexibility in the regional and subregional programmes in future so that all the countries of the region could benefit from the best available expertise. In that way, the Bureau would greatly encourage harmonious and co-ordinated development in the Arab region.

54. Egypt's country programme corresponded to the national economic plan and to the global priorities and the "new dimensions" concept affirmed by the United Nations. It also addressed itself to the poor strata of the population, the

(Mr. Haggag, Egypt)

growing need for new and renewable sources of energy, and the integration of women into the development process. For the first time, it included special programmes in Egypt for trainees from the developing countries, as his Government's expression of support for the principle of technical co-operation among developing countries.

55. He could assure the representative of Japan that his Government was trying its best to make suitable arrangements to encourage outside investment; there had already been an improvement in the range, quality and quantity of that investment. His Government was very grateful for the generous assistance rendered by Japan and would strive always to consolidate and expand its relationship with its Government.

56. Mr. AL-EBRAHIM (Kuwait) said that his country's programme was the only one that was fully funded. His delegation hoped that other Gulf States would follow Kuwait's lead and take advantage of its experience.

57. The country programmes for the Gulf States should be increasingly oriented towards the specific needs of the region. They were desert countries whose main product was a non-renewable resource, and the programmes should be addressed to the acute problems of desertification and the lack of agriculture. During the ten years that UNDP had been working in the region, much had been achieved, and his delegation hoped that the Regional Bureau would work closely with the Gulf States in order to formulate better UNDP programmes, more relevant to their needs. His delegation fully supported Egypt's country programme.

58. Mr. ALAKWAA (Yemen) said that despite the energetic development efforts of the Government and people, his country's living conditions gave cause for great concern, as illustrated by the figures cited in document DP/FPA/12/Add.11. It was not until 1975 that the first population census had been taken. Life expectancy was around 41 years, there were high rates of mortality and illiteracy, and per capita GNP was less than \$400; the figure of \$520 given by the World Bank and quoted in the UNFPA document was incorrect. The Government and people were currently launching their second economic plan, the main objectives of which were to raise the standard of living and to promote economic and social development. His delegation hoped that the Council would take into consideration Yemen's basic needs as one of the least developed countries.

59. Mr. ELFAKI (Observer for Sudan) said that his delegation supported the country programme for Egypt and those for the other African countries, the Congo, Mauritius, Rwanda and Kenya.

60. Mrs. BALLESTER (Cuba) said that her delegation supported the recommendation contained in paragraph 15 of document DP/GC/EGY/R.3/RECOMMENDATION. With regard to Lebanon's request, her delegation had co-sponsored a draft decision which she hoped would receive unanimous support.

61. Mr. CHEN Xingnong (China) said that his delegation was gratified to learn that in the second cycle of UNDP programmes for Arab States, the volume of funds had increased and project implementation had, on the whole, been satisfactory. The country programme for Egypt reflected the country's development priorities and

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(Mr. Chen Xingnong, China)

stressed rural development and energy. His delegation endorsed it and hoped that it would complement the Government's economic development plans.

62. Mr. CAPPELLETTI (Officer-in-Charge, Regional Bureau for Arab States) said that he had taken note of the remarks made by the representatives of Egypt and Kuwait concerning the preparation of the forthcoming regional programme and the need for projects and activities which catered to subregional needs and the specific requirements of the countries involved. Those comments would be conveyed to the intergovernmental meeting which would formulate priorities for the new intercountry programme.

63. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt the recommendation in paragraph 15 of document DP/GC/EGY/R.3/RECOMMENDATION.

64. It was so decided.

65. Mr. HAGGAG (Egypt) thanked the Council and the delegations which had spoken in support of the country programme. He assured the Council that his Government would always support the Administrator and the Resident Representative in order effectively to implement the programme.

Latin American States (DP/GC/CUB/R.3 and RECOMMENDATION)

66. Mr. TAKASU (Japan) said that his delegation had noted that Cuba's economic and social development programme for 1981-1985 had emphasized the proper allocation of resources for industrial promotion and investment. Accordingly, the country programme allocated 47.4 per cent to the industrial field, and 75 per cent of those resources would go to projects in high-level technology and science. In January 1979 President Castro had stated that it would take two or three generations for the revolution to be completed and that austerity would be necessary throughout that period. According to a decision taken in December 1980, however, there was to be a new emphasis on improving the country's standard of living. There were no specific projects reflecting that policy in the country programme before the Council, and he hoped some information would be forthcoming on the matter.

67. Mr. BAKALOV (Bulgaria) said that the evaluation of Cuba's second country programme had served as the basis for the third country programme. The fact that Cuba's development plan was one year ahead of the country programme had had a favourable impact on the identification of areas for co-operation with UNDP. The programme's priorities were in line with those of the national development plan, and emphasized the acceleration of the economic and social development of the country through the expansion and strengthening of the scientific and technical base of the economy. The programme would provide access to advanced technology developed elsewhere. His delegation fully supported it.

68. Mr. GUKOVSKI (Regional Bureau for Latin America) pointed out, in reply to the representative of Japan, that paragraph 23 of the country programme document mentioned the co-ordination of the country programme with activities other than those financed from the IPF. Several of those activities were in the social and cultural sectors.

69. Mr. TAKASU (Japan), Mr. HAGGAG (Egypt), Mr. GONZALEZ (Argentina), Mr. AL-EBRAHIM (Kuwait), Mrs. VAZQUEZ (Mexico), Mr. POPESCU (Romania), Mrs. ANTONINI (Venezuela), Mr. SEALY (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr. TAHINDRO (Observer for Madagascar) and Mr. RAMOS (Observer for Cape Verde) expressed support for Cuba's country programme.

70. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt the recommendation in paragraph 16 of document DP/GC/CUB/R.3/RECOMMENDATION.

71. It was so decided.

72. Mrs. BALLESTER (Cuba) expressed her delegation's gratitude to the Council and the Regional Bureau for Latin America. UNDP assistance was of great importance, and her country's authorities tried to use the resources as effectively as possible in conjunction with the resources of the national budget. She thanked all the representatives who had expressed support for the Cuban country programme.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.



69. Mr. TAKASU (Japan), Mr. HAGGAG (Egypt), Mr. GONZALEZ (Argentina), Mr. AL-EBRAHIM (Kuwait), Mrs. VAZQUEZ (Mexico), Mr. POPESCU (Romania), Mrs. ANTONINI (Venezuela), Mr. SEALY (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr. TAHINDRO (Observer for Madagascar) and Mr. RAMOS (Observer for Cape Verde) expressed support for Cuba's country programme.

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The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.