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GOVERNING COUNCIL

Twenty-eighth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 736th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Tuesday, 30 June 1981, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. ABDULAH (Trinidad and Tobago)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

DATES AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(DP/L.369/Rev.1)

1. Mr. KIRDAR (Secretary of the Council) said that the number of the decision referred to in foot-note of document DP/L.369/Rev.1 should be completed to read "81/37". Foot-note 2 should read: "In accordance with the relevant provisions of the decision of the Council adopted on the revised rules of procedure, and paragraph 2 (d) of decision 81/37, the election of officers will take place at the Council's organizational session". If the provisional agenda was adopted, it would become part of Council decision 81/45 entitled "Dates and provisional agenda for the twenty-ninth session of the Governing Council".
2. Mr. WINDSOR (United Kingdom) pointed out that there was some unfinished business in connexion with the discussion of non-convertible currencies. The Council should perhaps consider placing a special item on the provisional agenda for the next session, in case it did not reach a satisfactory conclusion before the end of the present session.
3. Mr. FESENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, if any delegation wished once again to propose the inclusion of the so-called item on non-convertible currencies in the agenda, it was entitled to do so. However, from the strictly organizational standpoint, the Council had a provisional agenda. The decision on the issue had been put to a vote and adopted and members had been able to make statements. His delegation therefore felt that the question was settled.
4. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the statement in foot-note 1 that subitems would be added and annotations prepared in the light of other decisions adopted at the Council's twenty-eighth session. In his view, that would cover the point raised by the representative of the United Kingdom.
5. Mr. WINDSOR (United Kingdom) said that, in view of that assurance, his delegation was content to go along with a consensus decision on the provisional agenda.
6. The provisional agenda for the twenty-ninth session (DP/L.369/Rev.1), as orally amended, was adopted.
7. Mr. KIRDAR (Secretary of the Council), referring to the tentative schedule of meetings for 1982, informed the Council that the most suitable date and venue for the one-day or two-day organizational session would be during the week beginning 22 February, in New York. Delegations would be informed of the exact date well in advance. The next regular session was scheduled for 1-21 June 1982 in Geneva. The special meeting which the Council was to hold pursuant to paragraph 2 (c) of its decision 81/37 would take place immediately prior to the session, at the same time as the meeting of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, from 24 to 28 May. Arrangements were being made, in accordance with paragraph 2 (k)

(Mr. Kirdar)

of the same decision, for an additional team of interpreters to be available as from the second week of the regular session for a meeting of the working group in case of need.

8. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection he would take it that the Council agreed to the dates, venue and schedule of meetings as outlined by the Secretary.

9. It was so decided.

DRAFT REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1981 (DP/L.344 and Add.1-6, Add.7-13 and annexes, Add.14 and Add.15).

10. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should consider the draft report chapter by chapter and section by section.

11. It was so decided.

Table of contents and Chapter I. Organization of the session (DP/L.344)

12. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, drew attention to some drafting errors in the table of contents and said that the decisions adopted by the Council would appear not in chapter X but as annex I; the annex already listed in the table of contents would become annex II. The preface to the report would be completed by the Secretary of the Governing Council following his analysis of the annotated agenda of the Economic and Social Council second regular session of 1981, which had just opened in Geneva, in accordance with the procedure followed in 1980. He drew attention to some minor changes in chapter I.

13. Document DP/L.344 as amended, was adopted.

Chapter II, Section A. Programme implementation: annual report of the Administrator (DP/L.344/Add.7 and annex)

14. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, drew attention to some changes in paragraph 3, including the insertion of the names of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago after that of Bangladesh.

15. Document DP/L.344/Add.7 and annex, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter II, Section B and C. Programme implementation: assistance to the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU); assistance to the Palestinian people (DP/L.344/Add.6)

16. Document DP/L.344/Add.6 was adopted.

Chapter II, Sections D, E and F. Programme implementation: action taken in response to decisions adopted by the Council at its twenty-seventh session: evaluation; action taken in response to Governing Council decision 79/48 (DP/L.344/Add.8 and annex)

17. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, proposed that the insertion after paragraph 5 of a new paragraph, reading as follows: "At its 734th meeting, the Council decided to take note with appreciation of the progress report of the Administrator and of the evaluation summary. The text of the decision appears in annex I of the report as decision 81/29."

18. Document DP/L.344/Add.8 and annex, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter III, Sections A and B. Programme planning and preparation for the third programming cycle, 1982-1986: country programming policies and procedures: matters arising from decision 80/30 on preparation for the third programming cycle (DP/L.344/Add.9 and annex)

19. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, proposed the addition of a paragraph 9, reading as follows: "At the same meeting, the Council also approved a draft decision on the establishment of a UNDP study programme submitted by the Chairman of the Working Group as contained in document DP/L.358. The text of the decision and its annex appears in annex I of the report as decision 81/30."

20. The PRESIDENT pointed out that, in decision 81/15 (DP/L.344/Add.9/annex), the brackets around paragraph 9 should be removed and the foot-note deleted.

21. Document DP/L.344 Add.9 and annex, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter III, Sections C and D. Programme planning and preparations for the third programming cycle, 1982-1986: assistance to specific countries; report on pre-investment activities (DP/L.344/Add.10 and annex)

22. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, said that Cuba and the Gambia should be added to the list of sponsors in paragraph 3 and Bangladesh to the list of sponsors in foot-note 2, which he suggested should be incorporated in paragraph 4.

23. Document DP/L.344/Add.10 and annex, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter IV. Country and intercountry programmes and projects (DP/L.344/Add.11 and annex)

24. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, said that decision 81/23, contained in the annex, was an omnibus decision for all 13 country programmes which had been approved, with two additional paragraphs on the approval of the country programme for Viet Nam. Paragraph 8 of document DP/L.344/Add.11 should indicate that the draft decision on the programme for Viet Nam (DP/L.366) had been adopted as amended, and the reference to the text of the decision should be added to paragraphs 2 and 3 of section II.

(Mr. Baramov, Bulgaria)

25. He proposed the addition of a paragraph 18, in order to reflect the Council's understanding with respect to the substance of paragraph 72 of the Administrator's report. The paragraph would read: "At the same meeting, the Council agreed to regard paragraph 72 of document DP/524 as being in square brackets and that, following consultation by the Administrator with the organizations concerned, he would report to the Council at its twenty-ninth session on the outcome of such consultations."

26. Mr. XU Shuyun (China) said that, when at its 731st meeting the Council had adopted a separate decision on the country programme for Viet Nam, its reasons for doing so had been clear. His delegation therefore felt that the view agreed upon by all members of the Council, that the programme for Viet Nam should be dealt with separately ought to be reflected in the wording of decision 81/23.

27. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the Council had also agreed that all decisions taken on item 6 should be consolidated into one decision. In order to single it out, however, the decision on the country programme for Viet Nam was referred to separately in paragraphs 2 and 3 of section II.

28. Mr. XU Shuyun (China) said that, in view of the President's explanation, his delegation was prepared to join in consensus on the decision.

29. Document DP/L.344/Add.11 and annex, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter V, section A. Other funds and programmes: United Nations Fund for Population Activities (DP/L.344/Add.3)

30. Document DP/L.344/Add.3, was adopted.

Chapter V, sections B and C. Other Funds and programmes: United Nations Volunteers; United Nations Capital Development Fund (DP/L.344/Add.1)

31. Document DP/L.344/Add.1 was adopted.

Chapter V, sections D, E and F. Other funds and programmes: United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration; United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development; interim arrangements for energy exploration and pre-investment surveys (DP/L.344/Add.4)

32. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, said he understood that the secretariat of the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration would prefer section IV of decision 81/8 to constitute a separate decision of the Governing Council. If the Council agreed, that section would become decision 81/24, entitled "Report of the Working Group of Government Experts on its review of the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration".

33. Document DP/L.344/Add.4, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter V, sections G and H. Other funds and programmes: United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; assistance to drought-stricken countries in Africa and follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Desertification (DP/L.344/Add.2)

34. Document DP/L.344/Add.2 was adopted.

Chapter V, section I. Other funds and programmes: United Nations technical co-operation activities (DP/L.344/Add.5)

35. Mr. RAMONDT (Netherlands) said that his delegation was unhappy with paragraph 4 of decision 81/11. It was time that the same wording was used in decision 81/24, paragraph 9, but in that context it formed part of a balanced package, whereas in decision 81/11, it was taken slightly out of context.

36. Document DP/L.344/Add.5 was adopted.

Chapter V, section J. Other funds and programmes: agency regular and extrabudgetary technical co-operation expenditures (DP/L.344/Add.12 and annex)

37. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, said that in paragraph 3 of document DP/L.344/Add.12, the number of the decision should be corrected to read 81/34, as in the annex.

38. Document DP/L.344/Add.12 and annex, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter VI. Technical co-operation among developing countries (DP/L.344/Add.13 and annex)

39. Mrs. VAZQUEZ-DIAZ (Mexico) said that UNDP was to be commended for its efforts to promote technical co-operation among developing countries. Mexico attached great importance to the exchange of experience and resources among developing countries and felt that psychological barriers, the preference for bilateral agreements and the lack of skilled personnel were among the many reasons for the slow progress of TCDC. However, definite achievements had been made since the Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries. The developing countries should now take the initiative with regard to TCDC, enlisting the participation of both public and private institutions. As far as possible, TCDC should take place under the umbrella of UNDP or other international agencies and should draw on the advisory services and research capabilities of the developing countries themselves. The whole concept of TCDC was entering a decisive stage. Mexico stood ready to strengthen even further its co-operation with other developing countries and to offer, within its means, opportunities for them to benefit from its experience. It supported a multilateral approach to TCDC at the subregional, regional and interregional levels.

40. Document DP/L.344/Add.13 and annex was adopted.

Chapter VII. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters (DP/L.344/Add.14)

41. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, said that document DP/L.344/Add.14 was solely for the information of the Governing Council. Chapter VII would be a record of the action taken by the Council at its 735th meeting with respect to the recommendations of the Budgetary and Finance Committee under agenda item 9. After the adjournment of the current meeting, the Committee would meet to consider its report, which would subsequently be approved by the Council. He proposed that he should be authorized to finalize the text of chapter VII on the basis of the action taken by the Council.

42. It was so decided.

Chapter VIII. Other matters (DP/L.344/Add.15)

43. Mr. d'ORVILLE (Secretary of the Council) said that decision 81/37, concerning the streamlining and rationalization of the work of the Council, would give rise to financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations. Pursuant to paragraph 2 (c) of the decision, the Governing Council would hold a short special meeting prior to its twenty-ninth regular session and a special meeting in February 1983. Meeting servicing requirements would amount to \$371,900 on a full-cost basis in the biennium 1982-1983. In paragraph 2 (k), the Council proposed that arrangements, including interpretation, should be made for the servicing of at least one working group. On the assumption that the working group would meet for up to two weeks per session, the financial implications would amount on a full-cost basis to \$166,200 in the biennium 1982-1983. In paragraph 3 (b), the Council proposed to convene, regularly, the Budgetary and Finance Committee one week prior to the annual Council sessions. Meeting servicing requirements would amount on a full-cost basis to \$83,000 in the biennium 1982-1983.

44. In summary, additional financial implications of \$621,100 on a full-cost basis, chargeable to the regular budget of the United Nations, would arise in the implementation of decision 81/37. Those estimates had been prepared according to the standard procedures used for full-cost estimates. They would be incorporated in the consolidated statement of conference servicing requirements to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at the end of its thirty-sixth session. At that time, a determination of actual requirements arising and necessitating appropriations would be made. In other words, only then would it be possible to identify the actual additional expenditures.

45. Document DP/L.344/Add.15 was adopted.

Chapter IX

46. Mr. BARAMOV (Bulgaria), Rapporteur, said that chapter IX of the report would be a record of the action taken by the Council at the current meeting with respect to the dates and provisional agenda for its twenty-ninth session. He proposed that he should be authorized to finalize the text of the chapter accordingly.

47. It was so decided.