Thirty-third session
2-27 June 1986, Geneva

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE WORK AND DECISIONS OF
THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. By paragraph 2 of section III.A of decision 83/5, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) decided that, for a trial period of three years, it should, in the context of regularly scheduled sessions, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, in order to:

   (a) Consider major issues related to programme matters;

   (b) Review country, regional, interregional and global programmes and projects;

   (c) Review programme and project implementation;

   (d) Consider reports on evaluation studies;

   (e) Deal with other matters related to the programme management of UNDP.
2. Paragraph 3 of the same decision provided, inter alia, that the meetings of the Committee of the Whole should be scheduled so as not to coincide with the meetings of the plenary and that a written report should be submitted to plenary by the presiding officer, who should be the President of the Council or another member of the Bureau designated by him.

3. At its organizational meeting for 1986, the Governing Council decided to allot the following items to the Committee of the Whole:

   Agenda item 5 (b) (i) Relevant trends and problems in country programmes;
   Agenda item 5 (b) (ii) Implementation of country programmes in various regions;
   Agenda item 5 (b) (iii) All country and intercountry programmes, global and interregional projects;
   Agenda item 4 (d) Evaluation matters.

4. Subsequently, the Governing Council assigned three items from its own agenda to the Committee of the Whole. In accordance with decision 86/1, paragraph (e), the Committee of the Whole on 19 February 1986 assigned to the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole three topics falling within the scope of the mandate of the Committee of the Whole, as established in decision 83/5, section III a, paragraphs 2 (c) and (d), as follows:

   (a) Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;
   (b) Evaluation;
   (c) Management aspects of programme and project implementation.

5. At the opening of its thirty-third session, the Governing Council decided to resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole on 2 June 1986. It held 15 meetings up until 17 June 1986. The Working Group of the Committee of the Whole held two sessions on 24-25 February and 24-26 March 1986.
II. DOCUMENTATION

6. For its consideration of the agenda items referred to it, the Committee had before it the following documents:

4 (a) Annual report of the Administrator for 1985
Implementation of measures to improve programme and project quality, Report of the Administrator (DP/1986/13) 1/

4 (b) (iv) Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries

4 (d) Evaluation
Evaluation, Report of the Administrator (DP/1986/20) 1/

5 (b) Country and intercountry programmes and projects

(i) Trends and problems in country programmes

(ii) Implementation of selected country programmes
Implementation of selected country programmes in the Arab States region, Report of the Administrator (DP/1986/27).


(iii) Consideration and approval of country programmes (including a request for extension)

(a) **Country Programmes**

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Kiwibati
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Mali
Mauritania
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Netherlands Antilles
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Niue
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(b) Extension
Maldives     DP/CP/MDV/EXTENSION/1

5 (b) (iv) International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology - Field Testing and Demonstration of Integrated Pest Management Strategies (DP/PROJECTS/REC/19).

III. THE COMMITTEE'S DELIBERATIONS

7. In addition to the documentation made available to the Committee, each document was introduced by the Assistant Administrator, or senior official concerned. In some cases, Resident Representatives introduced country programmes. Following the debate on the various items, these senior officials responded to the points raised in the debate on the agenda items as required.

8. The discussion in the Committee of the Whole of the various programmes and other items involved the broad participation of members and observers. Observations were also made by agencies. A number of points were raised in the debate to which senior officials of UNDP and, in some cases involving country programmes, concerned delegations provided answers. Several Resident Representatives were present to provide further details on the programming process utilized, as well as on other questions raised.
9. For the consideration of all matters before the Committee, in particular
the global projects and country programmes and extensions, full information
was made available by the Administration and representatives of countries
concerned. This permitted an extensive examination of the various issues and
programmes before the Committee.

10. The President of the Council, in his capacity as Chairman of the Working
Group, at the meeting of the Committee of the Whole held on 16 June 1986,
submitted a report in the form of a statement on the work of the Working Group
of the Committee of the Whole. The Committee of the Whole considered this
report on 17 June. 2/

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

11. At the conclusion of its deliberations, the Committee of the Whole
decided to make the following recommendations to the Council:

5 (b) (i) Trends and problems in country programmes
To take note of the Administrator's report on trends and
problems in country programmes as contained in documents

5 (b) (ii) Implementation of selected country programmes
To take note of the Reports of the Administrator on
implementation of selected country programmes in the
various regions contained in documents DP/1986/26,

5 (b) (iii) Country programmes

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Jamaica
Kiribati
Lao People's Democratic Rep.
Malta
Mauritania
Mongolia
Nepal
Netherlands Antilles
Nicaragua
Niue

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DP/CP/BAR/OCTE/4
DP/CP/BZE/3
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only)
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DP/CP/NEP/4 and Corr.1
DP/CP/NEP/NOTE/4
DP/CP/NAN/2
DP/CP/NIC/4
DP/CP/NIU/3 and Corr.1
To take note of the extension of the country programme of Maldives for one year, through 1987, as contained in document DP/CP/MDV/EXTENSION/1.
Global and interregional projects

To approve the project placed before the Council as contained in document DP/PROJECTS/REC/19.

Report of the Chairman of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole

To take note of the report of the Chairman of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole.

The future of the Committee of the Whole and of its Working Group

To extend the trial period of the Committee of the Whole by one year, and to review the experience with the Committee of the Whole and the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole at the thirty-fourth session of the Governing Council (1987). To confirm, until then, the mandate of the Committee of the Whole, as contained in decision 83/5 and of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole, as contained in decision 85/17, as well as the continued validity of the arrangements for the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole, as laid down in decision 86/1, and as modified at the current session of the Council.

V. FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WORKING GROUP OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

12. In accordance with decision 86/1, as modified at the current session of the Council, the Committee decided on the topics to be assigned to the Working Group and the number and timing of sessions as follows:

Topics assigned to the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole for the coming year

(a) Management issues: delivery rates - Update on steps taken and an analysis of the main factors affecting the delivery rates (including discussions with agency representatives to review their procedures).
(b) **Implementation of the UNDP programme** - the role of UNDP and the executing agencies in facilitating the timely use of inputs (experts, equipment, fellowships, counterparts).

(c) **Project development facility and preparatory assistance.**

(d) **Government execution.**

(e) **Equipment** - procurement of equipment and services with special reference to procurement from developing countries.

(f) **Project personnel** - with special reference to quality of project personnel and use of developing country nationals.

(g) **Co-ordination** - in 1987, the Council will receive a report on this subject, including UNDP and agency consultative arrangements at the country level. Selected agencies could be invited to participate in discussions.

**Number and timing of sessions of WG/COW:**

(a) There will be a session of the Working Group in New York, September 1986. The proposed dates are 15-17 September 1986, subject to further inquiries with United Nations Conference Services by the Secretariat.

(b) In 1987, two sessions will be held in New York between January and late April. The proposed dates for the first session are 11-13 February 1987, while the dates for the second session remain to be determined, subject to the availability of conference services.

**Notes**

1/ These reports were considered by the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole, except for DP/1986/13, which was reviewed in part only. In addition, UNDP staff prepared several background papers which had been requested by the members of the Working Group.

2/ It may be recalled that, at its 23rd meeting on 17 June 1986, the Governing Council already decided, upon recommendation by COW, to refer the Report of the Chairman on the work of WG/COW, documents DP/1986/17 and DP/1986/20 to the Council's Drafting Group for elaboration of appropriate draft decisions, if necessary.
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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Corrigendum

Page 7, paragraph 11

Under 5 (b) (iii) "Country Programmes" insert "to approve the following country programmes: ".

Page 10, line 8

Before the heading "The future of the Committee of the Whole and of its Working Group" insert "4 (b) (iv) ".

Page 10, line 17

Following "... session of the Council." insert "(i.e. in paragraph (f) of decision 86/1 the period should be extended until June 1987) ".

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Corrigendum

Page 6, paragraph 7

The first sentence should read:

In addition to the documentation made available to the Committee, each
document was introduced by the Associate Administrator (St. Helena), the
Assistant Administrator, or senior official concerned.