



**Governing Council  
of the  
United Nations  
Development Programme**

Distr.  
GENERAL

DP/1988/SR.1  
25 February 1988  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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GOVERNING COUNCIL

Organizational meeting for 1988

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 1st MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Tuesday, 16 February 1988, at 10 a.m.

Temporary President: Mr. OLSEN (Denmark)

President: Mr. MANGWAZU (Malawi)

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

#### OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT declared open the organizational meeting of the Governing Council for 1988 and welcomed new and re-elected members of the Council.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect a Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents, due account being taken of the need to ensure equitable geographical representation in the Bureau and geographical rotation of the office of President among the different regional groups.

3. Mr. KEILAND (Denmark) nominated Mr. Mangwazu (Malawi) for the office of President.

4. Mr. Mangwazu (Malawi) was elected President by acclamation.

5. Mr. Mangwazu (Malawi) took the Chair.

6. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had many important tasks to perform and would have to take decisions concerning the welfare not only of the States members of the Council but also of other countries, which might not even be States Members of the United Nations.

7. The following candidates had been nominated by their respective regional groups for election as Vice-Presidents of the Council: Mr. Leenstra (Netherlands) by the Group of Western European and Other States, Mr. Zielinski (Poland) by the Group of Eastern European States and Mr. Brotodiningrat (Indonesia) by the Group of Asian States.

8. Mr. TALADRID SUAREZ (Cuba), speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, nominated Mr. Salazar Sancisi (Ecuador) for the office of Vice-President.

9. Mr. Leenstra (Netherlands), Mr. Zielinski (Poland), Mr. Brotodiningrat (Indonesia) and Mr. Salazar Sancisi (Ecuador) were elected Vice-Presidents by acclamation.

10. The PRESIDENT said that he intended to convene a meeting of the Bureau to discuss the assignment of tasks to the Vice-Presidents and would report to the Council thereon at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to Council decision 81/37, the Bureau and the Administrator were also required to consult with Member States both before and during Council sessions in order to organize the Council's work and facilitate its completion. He intended to make full use of such consultations.

Statement by the Administrator

11. Mr. DRAPER (Administrator) welcomed members of the Governing Council, paid tribute to the outgoing President and Vice-Presidents and pledged support to the incoming President and Bureau. The results of the Pledging Conference for 1988 had been particularly gratifying. Pledges had reached the highest level in the history of UNDP: over \$1 billion. That resource base provided a solid foundation for the tasks ahead and he expressed deep appreciation to all Governments which had contributed so generously to the Programme.

Statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities

12. Mrs. SADIK (Executive Director, United Nations Fund for Population Activities) said that she wished to bring four points to the attention of the Council: (a) the Fund's approval authority and programme delivery for 1988; (b) the documents which UNFPA would be presenting to the Council in June 1988; (c) the intercountry programme proposal to be submitted to the Council in 1988; and (d) the provisional agenda and organization of work of the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council.

13. In June 1987, the Fund had projected that its 1988 income would be \$153.7 million and, in accordance with the financial rules approved by the Council, had requested approval authority in the same amount. The Fund thanked donors for their generosity: most had increased their contributions, some substantially. That increase in contributions testified to the importance which Member States attached to population concerns and to the work of UNFPA. In addition, the Fund had benefited from favourable exchange rates. It therefore intended to approve project allocations from new programmable resources for 1988 in line with its estimated income, currently projected at between \$171 million and \$178 million, or \$20 million more than the original projection. It would thus be possible to fund more fully the various components of some 70 ongoing, multi-year country programmes as well as the intercountry programmes which the fund supported throughout the world, always on the basis of the criterion that expenditure should not exceed the level of available resources. The Fund would report again to the Council on that matter in June, by which time it should have a firm estimate of the 1988 income.

14. In 1988, UNFPA would submit 12 reports and 15 country programmes to the Council for its information and approval. Over half of those reports would be regular reports which were submitted on an annual or periodic basis: the Executive Director's annual report, allocations to projects in 1987, the Fund's work plan and request for approval authority, the status of financial implementation of country programmes and projects approved by the Governing Council and the annual financial review. The other reports would be submitted in response to specific requests made by the Council at the 1987 session. The Fund would also submit documents on evaluation, its programming experience using the existing criteria for selecting priority countries for population assistance, the proposed intercountry programme of the Fund for 1988-1991, a review of the overall staffing requirements in the field and at headquarters, and the Fund's revised administrative and programme support budget for 1988-1989.

(Mrs. Sadik)

15. In view of the large number of allocations and the different and important areas covered by the Fund's intercountry programme for 1988-1991 (including interregional and all regional programmes), the Fund had decided to submit the programme in two documents rather than in a single document, as originally planned. The first document would provide background information on the major components of the programme and the second would be a policy document defining programme objectives for the four-year period; there would also be an examination of the links between the intercountry programme and the multi-year country programmes and large-scale projects which UNFPA helped to finance and implement.

16. It was proposed in document DP/1988/L.3 that UNFPA should be taken up as the first item on the agenda, first in plenary meetings of the Council and then in the Committee of the Whole. The Fund considered that it was an excellent idea to consider country programmes in the Committee of the Whole. Three country programmes (Benin, Cape Verde and Uganda) would be submitted to the Council by both UNFPA and UNDP and would be considered back to back in the Committee of the Whole. Council members would thus have a clearer understanding of the interaction of population and development programmes in those countries.

#### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (DP/1988/L.1 and Add.1)

17. Mr. ROHNER (Switzerland) proposed that an item relating to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries should be added to the Council's provisional agenda. In view of the evolution of the Fund's resources, his delegation would like the situation and prospects of the Fund to be considered at the thirty-fifth session.

18. The PRESIDENT pointed out to the representative of Switzerland that the Council was considering documents DP/1988/L.1 and Add.1, which dealt with the provisional agenda for the Council's organizational meeting. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the provisional agenda contained in documents DP/1988/L.1 and Add.1.

19. It was so decided.

#### PROGRESS REPORT ON RATIONALIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

20. The PRESIDENT said that in accordance with Governing Council decision 87/51, the Council would be informed of the measures taken to provide timely documentation in all working languages.

21. Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator) referred to the faithful and successful implementation of decision 81/37 on the streamlining and rationalization of the work of the Governing Council, including the holding of an organizational meeting to adopt the yearly programme and elect the Council's officers.

22. The secretariat proposed a work schedule whereby, throughout the thirty-fifth session, the Council would hold only two simultaneous meetings, as opposed to three

(Mr. Brown)

in the past. The overall duration of the session could be shortened by two days. That would reduce considerably the total number of meetings requested by the Council.

23. Informal consultations among members of the Council on organizational and substantive issues had been useful; the information and explanations provided had assisted members in taking decisions.

24. The Council and the General Assembly had been focusing on the need to utilize fully all conference resources and to start meetings on time. He was pleased to report that during the thirty-fourth session, the Council had again demonstrated that it was possible for intergovernmental bodies to keep the loss of time to a minimum. Since 1982, services had been provided for a drafting group, established by paragraph 3 (k) of decision 81/37, during the regular Council sessions. The drafting group had contributed to the adoption of clearer and more concise decisions.

25. With regard to documentation, the Council had requested, in its decision 87/51, information on the measures taken to provide timely documentation in all working languages. In that connection, it might be recalled that in its decision 87/1, the Council had approved on an experimental basis proposals submitted by the Administrator in a note on biennialization and streamlining of documentation (DP/1987/7).

26. Reports on the special funds would be submitted on a biennial basis, except those on the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). That meant that in 1988 the Council would have before it full reports on only the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) and UNIFEM. Similarly, in accordance with Council decisions 87/39 and 87/38, separate reports would be submitted on the new arrangements in the fields of science and technology, and on the terms and conditions of assistance to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration.

27. However, full annual reports on those Funds and on the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) would be submitted in 1989. At the Council's request, resource and financial data on the Funds would be contained in the addendum to the Administrator's annual report for 1987 entitled "UNDP-administered special funds".

28. The report relating to the amendments to the Financial Regulations of UNDP would also be taken up biennially. Since such a report was due in 1988, one would be submitted at the thirty-fifth session under agenda item 9.

29. A number of reports had been consolidated in accordance with decision 87/1. Thus the reports of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sahel region and on the implementation in that region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification would be submitted as a single report.

(Mr. Brown)

30. Most topics under agenda item 4 (a) ("Programme implementation") had been consolidated into two reports. One report, entitled "Review of thematic programmes" established by decisions of the Council, would cover UNDP co-operation with non-governmental organizations and grass-roots organizations; women in development; and experience in human resources development since 1970. The second report, entitled "Review of programme and project activities", would deal with programme and project quality; government execution; proposals for standard modalities of technical co-operation; project development facility; and project personnel.

31. As a result of those steps and the fact that the Council had far fewer country programmes before it, documentation had been reduced from the 1987 level.

32. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia) asked whether the report on the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development and the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology would be presented during the same year or in alternate years. If they were presented during the same year, the UNDP Governing Council might not benefit from the policy guidelines laid down by the Intergovernmental Committee.

33. Mrs. DUDIK-GAYOSO (United States of America) inquired whether, under the provisions regarding the biennialization of documentation, information would be provided to delegations on the experimental loan programme of UNCDF.

34. Mr. ROHNER (Switzerland) proposed that the secretariat should return to the 1984 and 1985 practice of publishing the annual report in a bound volume. That would be very useful to the administrative organs of the various Governments. He also requested that consideration should be given to the possibility of including the most important documents of the thirty-fifth session in the annual report and its annexes.

35. Mr. FREE (Canada) asked whether the Associate Administrator would address the possibility of presenting an annual report on the preparation of a subject index to the Governing Council's decisions, as provided for in decision 87/34.

36. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Observer for Tunisia) said that the Associate Administrator's report amply demonstrated that the secretariat was committed to rationalizing the Governing Council's work and distributing documents on time in all the working languages. On the other hand, while the number of meetings of the plenary Council had been reduced, there had been virtually no reduction in the number of meetings of the Council's subsidiary bodies, namely, the Committee of the Whole and the Working Group.

37. Mr. VENE (France) commended the secretariat for the compact documentation. It would be useful for delegations to be able to examine the background documents.

38. Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator), referring to the statement by the Observer for Tunisia, said that he did not recall having referred to a reduction in the number of meetings though he had spoken of a reduction in the number of

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(Mr. Brown)

documents and pages. He had also expressed the hope that the Governing Council's next session might be shortened by two days according to the plan presented by the Secretariat. However, the Council would have to decide whether or not it accepted the plan when it considered document DP/1988/L.3.

39. With regard to the suggestion made by the representative of France, the evaluation reports would be made available to any Governments which requested them.

40. In reply to the question put by the representative of Indonesia, he said that the report on science and technology which was to be submitted to the Council in June was in line with the provisions of Council decision 87/39, paragraph 3. However, it would confine itself to the extent to which the new provisions strengthened and improved the work of UNDP in the areas of science and technology and energy. With regard to whether the annual reports would be submitted before or after the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee, he suggested that delegations should wait until the exact dates of the Committee's meeting were known.

41. Concerning the loan programme of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), which the representative of the United States had referred to, he pointed out that the relevant information would be included in the report of UNCDF the following year. At the Council's request, UNCDF would not be submitting a report in 1988. In any event, the loan programme had only just begun.

42. Concerning the question put by the representative of Switzerland, regarding the issuing of the annual report and other important documents in bound form, he said that, unfortunately, that had not been done in 1987 and expressed the hope that it would be done in 1988. Delegations would have to be consulted, probably during the current session, regarding the inclusion of other documents in the bound volume.

43. The representative of Canada had referred to the index of Governing Council decisions, and he was pleased to announce that work on the index was almost completed and that advantage had been taken of the work already done by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library. The bound index, which would be made available to delegations at the June meeting, would cover all the decisions adopted by the Governing Council starting in 1970.

44. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to take note of the statement by the Associate Administrator and of the statements made by delegations.

45. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 5: MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IN 1988  
(DP/1988/L.2 and Add.1, DP/1988/L.3; DP/1988/6, DP/1988/7 and DP/1988/8)

46. The PRESIDENT, referring to the Council's special session, invited the Secretary to introduce documents DP/1988/L.2 and Add.1.

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47. Mr. D'ORVILLE (Acting Secretary of the Governing Council) drew attention to document DP/1988/L.2, which contained the provisional agenda. Under the heading "Other matters" the Council would consider the five issues outlined in documents DP/1988/L.2 and Add.1. Document DP/1988/L.2/Add.1 contained suggestions regarding the organization of work which the Council or the Committee of the Whole might wish to follow. However, in light of the cancellation of the Tuesday afternoon meeting the work schedule would be shifted back by half a day and the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole would have to meet on Monday, 22 February.

48. He recalled that, at its 1986 and 1987 sessions, the General Assembly had decided to waive the quorum requirement referred to in rules 67 and 108 of its rules of procedure, thereby considerably reducing the amount of time wasted. The Governing Council might wish again to waive the provisions of rule 22 of its rules of procedure inasmuch as it referred to the quorum needed in order to open a meeting and proceed with the debate.

49. The PRESIDENT, referring to documents DP/1988/L.2 and Add.1, said that the following sub-items should be added to item 4 entitled "Other matters":

(d) Change of name of the Office for Projects Execution to Office for Project Services;

(e) The role of UNDP in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

50. If he heard no objection, he would take it that, as suggested by the Secretary and in line with measures adopted by the General Assembly, the Council wished to waive rule 22 of its rules of procedure, inasmuch as it referred to the requirement of a quorum of one third of the members of the Governing Council present before a meeting could be opened and a debate proceed.

51. It was so decided.

52. Mr. GOPINATHAN (India) proposed that sub-item (a) "Co-operation against AIDS" of item 2 of the provisional agenda should be moved to item 4 entitled "Other matters", and that the title should be amended slightly to read "Co-operation with the World Health Organization against AIDS".

53. Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator) informed the Council that Dr. Mann, Director of the World Health Organization's Special Programme on AIDS, had travelled to New York for the specific purpose of attending Wednesday's debate. If the Council decided to consider the item on AIDS under item 4, "Other matters", he suggested that Dr. Mann should be permitted to address the Council on Wednesday anyway, since he was leaving the following day, and that the statement should not be followed by a debate. The Administrator would introduce the item later under the item "Other matters" and the debate could then proceed.

54. Mr. TETTAMANTI (Argentina) said that it was his delegation's understanding that the waiver of the requirement for a quorum, which had just been agreed to, would not apply to the adoption of such decisions as, for example, whether to



(Mr. Tettamanti, Argentina)

adjourn the debate on an item. His delegation supported the proposals made by the representative of India and the Associate Administrator.

55. Mr. GAJENTAAN (Netherlands) said that he agreed with the Indian proposal but did not agree with the proposal by the Associate Administrator that the AIDS issue be considered at a later date. He suggested that the item should be considered under item 4 "Other matters" but at the Wednesday meeting when Dr. Mann would be present.

56. Mr. FREE (Canada) agreed with the representative of the Netherlands that the Council should take advantage of the presence of Dr. Mann to consider the AIDS issue.

57. Mr. ALPTUNA (Turkey), referring to the sub-item entitled "Co-operation against AIDS" pointed out that paragraph 11 (d) of document DP/1988/1, read as follows: "For advice on AIDS programmes UNDP will rely on WHO, which is the leading and co-ordinating international organization. Other partner agencies such as UNICEF, UNFPA, the World Bank and UNESCO will be consulted, as appropriate". Since the co-operation required was broader than just with WHO, he suggested that the title should remain unchanged.

58. Mrs. DUDIK GAYOSO (United States of America) said that if the current special session was extended until Friday, the four days available to the Working Group would be Monday to Thursday of the following week, rather than Friday and Monday to Wednesday. In addition, the agenda of the Working Group would include such items as additional measures of the special session on the critical economic situation in Africa, the Programme of Action for Africa, consideration of regional projects and evaluations and national technical co-operation programmes. If the Council considered on Thursday or Friday the future work of the Working Group, that was to say, the agenda of a body which was to meet after June, she could not understand paragraph 12 of document DP/1988/L.3, which proposed allocating to the Working Group items other than those which had been adopted at the previous June session and which were to be considered in February, that was to say, at the end of the current week or during the following week.

59. Mr. D'ORVILLE (Acting Secretary of the Governing Council), responding to points raised by the representative of the United States, said that the Committee of the Whole would have three days at its disposal, which was the customary length of its session. With regard to the Working Group's agenda, the questions to which the representative of the United States had referred were in fact on the agenda of the session in question, which would be held immediately after the special session. With regard to paragraph 12 of document DP/1988/L.3, a decision on additional topics that might be considered by the Working Group in the period up until June could be adopted at the current session.

60. Mr. MOHAMED (Observer for Somalia) said that he wished to suggest that a new sub-item entitled "Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries Financing" should be added to agenda item 4 ("Other matters").

61. Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator) said that when the title of agenda item 2 (a) had been considered, it had been concluded that the range of UNDP co-operation extended beyond co-operation with WHO and that, although there was a special arrangement with WHO, it was inevitable that in the field there would be co-operation with many other agencies. He therefore wished to suggest that the current title should be retained so as not to give the impression that UNDP restricted its co-operation to WHO, even though WHO was in fact its chief partner in the area in question.

62. Mr. GOPINATHAN (India) said that, taking account of the remarks made by the Observer for Turkey and the Associate Administrator, he wished to propose the following title: "Co-operation with WHO and other agencies against AIDS".

63. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt that amendment to the agenda. Furthermore, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the Somalian proposal to include a new sub-item entitled "Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries Financing".

64. It was so decided.

65. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) said that, although sub-items were being added to agenda item 4, if there was sufficient time there would be an opportunity for delegations to raise any issues that the Council did not wish to list individually.

66. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the provisional agenda and the arrangements for the special session set forth in documents DP/1988/L.2 and Add.1, as orally amended.

67. It was so decided.

68. Mr. D'ORVILLE (Acting Secretary of the Governing Council), introducing documents DP/1988/L.3 and DP/1988/8, said that document DP/1988/L.3 set out the proposed arrangements for the thirty-fifth session, which fully reflected the decisions adopted by the Council at its thirty-fourth session, especially those contained in the annex to decision 87/50.

69. The Administration proposed that the session should begin on 6 June 1988 and end on 29 June 1988, instead of 1 July as originally envisaged. With regard to the draft provisional agenda, under agenda item 10 (c) - concerning issues arising from action by the General Assembly at its forty-second session - UNDP would submit to the Council several reports dealing with the questions of the UNDP response to the findings of the case-studies (Jansson report), UNDP co-operation with the World Bank as an executing agency, rationalization of the field structure, and support costs.

70. In connection with the work schedule, which was to be found in annex II, it should be noted that there would be only two simultaneous meetings, with the exception of Monday, 13 June, when three simultaneous meetings were scheduled.

(Mr. D'Orville)

That should facilitate full participation by delegations, particularly the smaller ones, in the Council's work. In annex II to document DP/1988/L.3, in the English version the programme for the morning of 9 June 1988 should read "UNDP", instead of "UNFPA".

71. The high-level segment would take place in the second week of the session and would be limited to three days, namely 13 to 15 June 1988, as requested by a number of delegations in informal consultations with the Administrator. The last sentence of paragraph 7 of document DP/1988/L.3 should read "the three-day high-level segment will be scheduled for the first half of the session's second week" instead of "for the second half".

72. In the high-level segment the general debate would once again be focused on the Administrator's annual report and other policy issues, unless a specific theme was agreed upon at the current organizational meeting. The Administrator would submit to the Council four policy reports, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/196.

73. Paragraph 11 proposed the allocation of certain reports to the Committee of the Whole, in accordance with Council decisions 83/5, 86/23 and 87/20, and for the first time included UNFPA country and intercountry programmes. The Council and the Committee of the Whole would also have to decide whether there should be a further meeting of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole before the thirty-fifth session. In the event that it should be decided that such a meeting should be convened, paragraph 12 listed a number of topics that could be assigned to the Committee of the Whole for further referral to the Working Group.

74. The Drafting Group would meet on 13 June 1988 to deal with UNFPA issues and then again from 20 to 28 June.

75. Where documentation was concerned, he wished to draw attention to document DP/1988/8, which sought a waiver of the 10-week rule for the submission of certain documents. The current financial crisis of the United Nations might mean that the Department of Conference Services would be unable to cope in a timely manner with the documentation workload and servicing requirements.

76. Mr. GOPINATHAN (India), referring to annex I to document DP/1988/L.3, said that he wished to suggest that in note c/ the words "General Assembly resolutions 42/196 on operational activities for development and" should be replaced by the following: "General Assembly resolution 42/196 on operational activities for development and other General Assembly resolutions, including resolution". It would thus be acknowledged that the whole of resolution 42/196 concerned the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, whereas resolution 42/187 dealt with operational activities only in one or two of its paragraphs. That would not mean that the importance of the Commission's report would be in any way diminished.

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77. Mr. GAJENTAAN (Netherlands) said that he wished to refer to an issue that was dealt with only in note c/ in document DP/1988/L.3, namely, the implications of General Assembly resolutions 42/196 and 42/187. Since those resolutions made specific requests to such bodies as the UNDP Governing Council, it was necessary to focus on the issues in question. He wished to refer in particular to the resolution concerning the case-studies on operational activities in the field - which was of fundamental importance where the Council's work was concerned - and to suggest that that resolution should be regarded as a key element of the high-level segment, in which the Council would also consider such issues as the future role of UNDP, which was related to resolution 42/196. Furthermore, consideration of the various reports that UNDP was being requested to submit would require a certain amount of time and could not be completed on a Friday afternoon. The reports should therefore be considered throughout the session.

78. Mr. PETTITT (United Kingdom), referring to the Governing Council's work schedule, said that it was too optimistic to allocate only three half-days to the Committee of the Whole, in view of the Committee's new responsibilities in connection with UNFPA matters. In the plenary meeting, agenda item 8 (a) shared the afternoon of 16 June with agenda items 8 (b) and (c). Two half-days were also set aside for the consideration of agenda item 8 (a) in the Budgetary and Finance Committee. It would be inconvenient to consider that item simultaneously in the plenary meeting and in the Budgetary and Finance Committee. At least one full half-day must be set aside for agenda item 8 (a), without having the relevant meetings take place simultaneously, preferably before the item was considered in the Budgetary and Finance Committee.

79. The Drafting Group had six days at its disposal, including the time set aside for the consideration of UNFPA and UNDP activities. Since experience suggested that much more time would be needed, he wished to suggest that a flexible approach should be taken towards the plan to hold only two simultaneous meetings.

80. Mr. VALDEZ CARRILLO (Peru), referring to the remarks made by the representatives of India and the Netherlands in connection with resolution 42/196, agreed that the resolution dealt with the essence of the Council's work and should be a central element in the discussions in 1988. With respect to item 4 (a) (i) of the provisional draft agenda, he asked which of the Council's decisions were being referred to.

81. Mr. TETTAMANTI (Argentina) said that he shared the views that had just been expressed by other delegations, in particular those of India and Peru. He objected to the term "thematic programmes" in item 4 (a) (i), even though it had been used in the Governing Council's 1987 agenda. If it did not refer to multinational, regional or national programmes which were of concern to the Governing Council, perhaps it would be more appropriate to transfer that sub-item to item 3 of the provisional agenda so as not to give the impression that "thematic programmes" were distinct from the known programmes.

82. With respect to paragraphs 12 and 13 of document DP/1988/L.3, which suggested that the Committee of the Whole might request its Working Group to hold a session

(Mr. Tettamanti, Argentina)

prior to the thirty-fifth session, he wished to know why the Administration believed that an additional session was possible. In any event, he suggested that it should not be held during the General Assembly.

83. Mr. ROHNER (Switzerland) said that the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries had ceased to be attractive in recent years and its situation should be studied at the next session. The Administrator should prepare a report on the Fund or devote a chapter of his annual report to it so that, in June, the Fund's resource situation could be studied and the possibility of strengthening its special feature and making it more attractive to participant countries.
84. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) endorsed what the representative of the Netherlands had stated regarding the importance of item 10 (c) of the provisional agenda. The high-level segment would give countries an opportunity to exchange views, which was preferable to merely making statements; however, he hoped that there would also be an opportunity to exchange views in plenary meeting. He asked the Secretariat for clarification concerning some organizational matters in connection with the provisional agenda.
85. Mr. TALADRID SUAREZ (Cuba) said that his delegation, like the delegations of Peru and Argentina, had some doubts concerning item 4 (a) (i) of the provisional agenda and would like clarifications from the secretariat.
86. Mrs. DUDIK GAYOSO (United States of America) welcomed the proposal by the delegation of the Netherlands that the implications of General Assembly resolution 42/196 should be studied during the high-level segment. The Council should ensure that both the Council in plenary meeting (preferably during the high-level segment) and the Working Group were given sufficient time to study the item thoroughly. She agreed with the delegation of New Zealand that it was worth having an exchange of views and asked whether the Council would not have time, at the thirty-fifth session, for an informal exchange with Mr. Jansson, who had pointed out some problems which also were referred to in the resolution on operational activities. With respect to item 4 (a) (i) of the provisional agenda, the debate on experience acquired in human resource development was very important to her delegation and UNDP had devoted two years to that evaluation. Consequently, she wondered whether sufficient time had been allowed in the current agenda for a thorough consideration of the question.
87. With respect to the United Nations Volunteers, the calendar of meetings (DP/1988/L.3) allocated an entire day to that item in the Budgetary and Finance Committee and part of an afternoon in the Council. Moreover the meetings had been scheduled to take place concurrently. Before adopting decisions on the United Nations Volunteers, policy questions should be considered in detail.
88. Concerning flexibility, she supported the New Zealand proposal that the Council's organizational session be extended so as not to have to change the calendar of meetings during the thirty-fifth session.

89. Mr. SAHLMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) supported the Netherlands proposal that General Assembly resolution 42/196 should be studied during the high-level segment of the Council. He also supported the New Zealand proposal concerning flexibility. He welcomed the United Kingdom proposal that more time should be allocated to the Committee of the Whole, and said that the United Nations Volunteers should be taken up during the high-level segment. Finally, he supported the proposal that the Working Group should hold a third meeting in 1988.

90. Mr. FREE (Canada) said that his delegation attached great importance to item 10 (c) (DP/1988/L.3), particularly with respect to General Assembly resolutions 42/196 and 42/187, and it endorsed the proposal by the delegations of the Netherlands, India and New Zealand that operational activities should be taken up during the high-level segment. He supported the United States proposal that there should be an exchange of views with Mr. Jansson on the report which he had submitted to the General Assembly. He agreed with the remarks made by the delegation of New Zealand concerning the time allocated to the debate on Africa and on the fourth programming cycle.

91. He did not agree with the reduction from four to three days of the time allocated to the Working Group. He recalled, on the other hand, that one of the problems which made it difficult to work with flexibility was the availability of interpretation services.

92. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Observer for Tunisia) said that his delegation supported the proposed Indian amendment to the footnotes on page 9 of document DP/1988/L.3; it better reflected the spirit in which the Council should study resolution 42/196. With respect to item 10 (c), he proposed that the words "relevant to UNDP" should be added after the word "issues", since resolution 42/196 did not refer solely to UNDP. It did not seem appropriate that the item should be discussed during the high-level segment and he proposed instead that the item on the role of UNDP in technical co-operation among developing countries should be discussed in conjunction with the annual report of the Administrator for 1987.

93. With respect to paragraph 11 of document DP/1988/L.3, it was obvious that the purpose of decision 87/20 was to encourage countries to submit UNDP and UNFPA country programmes at the same session, even though they would not be examined simultaneously. Concerning the information which the secretariat would give on the future work of the Working Group, he wished to remind members that meetings of the Working Group should not continue to be concurrent with other meetings nor, much less, should they coincide with the opening of the General Assembly session.

94. He supported the statements by the representatives of Peru, Argentina and Cuba concerning item 4 (a) (i) a, b, and c which, in effect, did not correspond to decisions on programme priorities of either the Economic and Social Council or the Governing Council; for that reason, the item should be redrafted.

95. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GAOUTHE (Observer for Mauritania) said that, in the French version, the graphic presentation of annex II to document DP/1988/L.3 made the annex both difficult to read and hard to understand; the other language versions were clearer. He wished to have a number of matters clarified. In annex II,

(Mr. Ould Cheikh El Gaouthe,  
Observer, Mauritania)

Wednesday, 22 June was set aside for the consideration of items relating to Africa, including the Programme of Action, national liberation movements and the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO). It was inappropriate to set aside only one day for the consideration of such important matters, even though the Programme of Action would be considered in the Working Group. It had been suggested that the question of UNSO should be considered in the Committee of the Whole, but that would unfortunately not be the case. UNSO had been established in order to meet the needs of six countries and it was currently serving 30 countries, despite the fact that neither its human nor its financial resources had been increased. He wished to request the Associate Administrator to provide information on any plans there might be to increase the efficiency of UNSO.

96. He supported the Indian proposal regarding AIDS control and believed that the title in question should refer to co-operation between UNDP and WHO. Where the United Nations Emergency Operations Trust Fund was concerned, he wished to know whether the Governing Council could take independent action in that connection or whether it was going to recommend the liquidation of the Fund to the General Assembly.

97. Mr. MULLER (Observer for Australia), referring to the question of the theme to be considered in the high-level segment, said that a number of ideas concerning paragraphs of resolution 42/196 and TCDC had been put forward. His delegation believed that no theme should be decided upon at the current meeting, so as to allow delegations to select topics that they considered important. Such topics would be considered in the context of the Administrator's report, which was the basis for the debate in the high-level segment.

98. With regard to the consideration of agenda item 4 (b) on 22 June and agenda item 5 (a) on 23 June, he shared the concern voiced by the representative of New Zealand that those important agenda items should be considered at a relatively late stage in the Council's programme of work. At the special session that was to take place the current week, the Council would be called upon to adopt a decision on the Administrator's statement that a supplementary budget request should be prepared in connection with the question of Africa, for the thirty-fifth session. He wondered under which agenda items the supplementary budget request in question would be submitted to the Council in June. It would be pointless for the Budgetary and Finance Committee to consider the supplementary budget request before the question of Africa had been considered in the plenary meeting. It would therefore perhaps be necessary to recast agenda item 4 (b).

99. The secretariat was to be commended for having managed to keep simultaneous meetings to a minimum in the draft work schedule. However, the four half-days allocated to the Working Group for the consideration of issues directly relating to UNDP might well prove inadequate. It was a matter of concern to him that the availability of interpretation services might reduce the Council's flexibility at the June session. He did not wish the continuation of the meetings of the Budgetary and Finance Committee to reduce yet further the amount of time set aside for the Drafting Group. The Council must ensure that interpretation services would

(Mr. Muller, Observer, Australia)

not be a factor that held it back in its work. It would perhaps, already at the current stage, be worth scheduling a number of additional days at the end of the Council's session.

100. Mrs. PERKOVIC (Yugoslavia), referring to the Netherlands proposal that General Assembly resolution 42/196 should be considered in the high-level segment, said that her delegation would support other delegations if they were of the view that that issue should be considered, even though it believed that consideration of the question was inappropriate because there was already a resolution on the subject. Agreement must be reached on what UNDP was to do. The New Zealand suggestion that another forum should be found for consideration of the issue would therefore appear to be preferable. Her delegation was willing to support the proposal put forward by the Observer for Tunisia that the issue of technical co-operation among developing countries should be considered in the high-level segment.

101. Mrs. EKASS (Norway) said that, where agenda item 10 (c) was concerned, she could endorse the proposal put forward by the Netherlands and Canadian delegations and other delegations that, to the extent that it concerned UNDP, General Assembly resolution 42/196 should be considered in the high-level segment. However, enough time must be set aside in the Council's regular programme of work for considering other important resolutions in connection with that agenda item.

102. Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator) said that, in view of the suggestions that had been made, it would be necessary to include once again in the work schedule the two additional days that the secretariat had hoped to be able to dispense with. He wished to suggest that the secretariat should be given an opportunity to reorganize the programme of work and resubmit it in a day or two. In the revised version, account would be taken of all the proposals in question.

103. Where the high-level segment was concerned, there appeared to be a misunderstanding with regard to the Council's reasons for not selecting a specific theme for the high-level debate. Three days had been set aside for that debate in order to permit delegations to consider in the plenary meeting any questions that they regarded as important. For example, resolution 42/196 would be an appropriate theme for the high-level debate, as indicated in paragraph 16 of document DP/1988/L.3. There was thus no question of any desire to detract from the importance of resolution 42/196 or of issues relating to the environment or the fourth programming cycle.

104. On the issue of the Jansson report, delegations would soon be invited to a meeting to be held on 26 February, at which Mr. Jansson would have an opportunity to discuss his report with delegations.

105. With regard to the question raised by the representative of Peru concerning the basis on which the thematic programmes under agenda item 4 (a) had been selected, he wished to refer delegations to Governing Council decisions 87/10 (para. 5, on non-governmental organizations), 87/15 (concerning women in development) and 87/16 (concerning human resources development). Those decisions requested the Administrator to submit a report at the June session. If there was



(Mr. Brown)

any objection to the use of the term "thematic programmes", it would be possible to refer simply to programmes and to delete the adjective "thematic". However, paragraph 3 of section B of the annex to decision 87/1 must be borne in mind.

106. With regard to Switzerland's request that the Special Measures Fund for Least-Developed Countries should be considered as a special question, if there was no objection, the secretariat would prepare a paper in that connection.

107. In reviewing the sets of topics, the secretariat would take account of the Council's wish that the issues in question should be considered in the plenary meeting before they were discussed in the Budgetary and Finance Committees.

108. The Observer for Mauritania had raised a point concerning the United Nations Emergency Operations Trust Fund. The relevant report should be the last one on the Trust Fund because all the available resources had already been allocated and no more interest would be received. The secretariat expected that by June it would be in a position to inform the Council that the Fund had been liquidated, in accordance with the General Assembly's wishes.

109. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council's officers should be authorized to consider the Council's programme and organization of work for the thirty-fifth session in the light of the comments made by delegations. The officers would submit their proposals when the Council's organizational meeting was resumed, at the end of the current week.

110. It was so decided.

111. At the meeting in question, the Council would consider the issue of the election of the members of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole and the allocation of tasks to the Vice-Presidents.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.

