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GOVERNING COUNCIL

Thirty-fifth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
on Friday, 1 July 1988, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. MANGWAZU (Malawi)

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olidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of  
session.

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

CLOSING STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR

1. Mr. DRAPER (Administrator, United Nations Development Programme) noted with satisfaction that consensus had been reached on all the substantive questions on the agenda, especially item 5 (a) concerning the resources of the fourth programming cycle. Admittedly, a few details still needed to be resolved, but he had taken careful note of all the deliberations and would spare no effort to implement fully the decisions taken at the current session.

2. The work done at the session had yielded some very positive results: the Committee of the Whole, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Drafting Group and the Ad Hoc Working Group had made a number of very important recommendations which would have far-reaching consequences for UNDP. The main issue considered had, of course, been agenda item 5 (a), concerning the resources of the fourth cycle, on which significant agreement had been reached. Like any consensus, that agreement was not completely satisfactory for all participants, but it was the best possible agreement in the circumstances. The decisions taken at the session formed a package that would make UNDP stronger, healthier and more determined than ever to help the developing countries better their economic and social conditions.

3. The PRESIDENT said that the Governing Council had greatly appreciated the excellent documentation prepared for the session and the way in which the documents and agenda items had been presented. It had also been impressed by the active participation of UNDP staff in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (DP/1988/L.10)

4. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take a decision on the recommendations made in paragraph 8 of the report of the Committee of the Whole (DP/1988/L.10).

5. The recommendations of the Committee of the Whole were adopted.

REPORT OF THE DRAFTING GROUP (DP/1988/L.9 and Add.1-25)

6. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take a decision on the draft decisions submitted by the Drafting Group in documents DP/1988/L.9 and Add.1-24. Document DP/1988/L.9/Add.25 would be considered at the following meeting.

DP/1988/L.9 and Add.1 and 2

7. Draft decisions DP/1988/L.9 and Add.1 and 2 were adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.3

8. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, pointed out that in the fourth line of operative paragraph 5 the word "and" should be inserted between "co-operation" and "assessment".

9. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.3, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.4 and 5

10. Draft decisions DP/1988/L.9/Add.4 and 5 were adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.6

11. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the following two corrections should be made to the English text: operative paragraph 11 should end with a semi-colon, and in operative paragraph 14 the word "countries'" before the word "request" should be replaced by "country's".

12. Mr. KRAMER (Canada) pointed out that in operative paragraph 6 the per capita gross national product criterion had been omitted from the list of criteria and threshold levels to be used in designating priority countries for the purposes of assistance from the United Nations Population Fund. His delegation therefore proposed that the words "per capita GNP of \$750 or under" should be inserted in the first line of paragraph 6 immediately after the bracket. The rest of the text in brackets should remain unchanged.

13. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, agreed to the amendment.

14. Mrs. FRANKINET (Belgium) requested that the word "also" should be inserted after the words "Executive Director" in the fifth line of operative paragraph 18.

15. The PRESIDENT said that the secretariat would take note of that amendment.

16. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.6, as orally amended by the Chairman of the Drafting Group and with the Canadian amendment, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.7

17. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that, as a result of last-minute informal consultations, two changes should be made to the text. First, the words "detailed critical analysis" at the beginning of the first preambular paragraph should be replaced by the words "useful review". Secondly, operative paragraph 3 should be replaced by the following: "Invites the Administrator to capture and synthesize technical co-operation experience and thus ensure that future assistance furnished by the United Nations Development Programme achieves maximum impact".

18. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.7, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.8

19. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.8 was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.9

20. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, pointed out that, in the English text, the title of the draft decision should read: "Pre-investment activities".

21. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.9, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.10

22. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.10 was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.11

23. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the decision mentioned on the fourth line of the third preambular paragraph had not yet been adopted and that the corresponding number would be inserted in the text if the decision was adopted. In the English text, "(1988)" in the second line of operative paragraph 11 should read "(1989)".

24. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.11, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.12

25. Mr. ZHOU Xiaoming (China) proposed that the words "taking into account the expertise in the United Nations system" should be added at the end of the text of the draft decision.

26. Mr. KRAMER (Canada) observed that the amendment proposed by China would substantially alter the meaning of the text, which concerned the study of UNDP's in-house expertise. If the Chinese delegation agreed, he proposed that its amendment should be replaced by a paragraph that would serve as the preamble to the draft decision and read:

"Aware of technical capacities within the United Nations system".

27. Mr. ZHOU Xiaoming (China) agreed to that proposal.

28. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.12, as amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.13 and 14

29. Draft decisions DP/1988/L.9/Add.13 and 14 were adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.15

30. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the text in square brackets in operative paragraph 5 referred to a decision that might be taken by the Council at its following meeting. If that decision was adopted, the brackets would be removed and the number of the decision inserted. Operative paragraph 12 had been replaced by a separate draft decision, which appeared as DP/1988/L.9/Add.18. Operative paragraph 12 of the draft decision under consideration had thus been deleted and paragraphs 13 and 14 renumbered 12 and 13 respectively.

31. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.15, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.16

32. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that following informal consultations two changes had been made to the text. Firstly, the first and second lines of operative paragraph 4 should read: "Recommends the General Assembly to consider this issue and the change of

designation of the United Nations Fund ...". In other words, the General Assembly would consider not only the change in the name of the Fund, but also the new arrangements in general. Thus amended, paragraph 4 should logically appear immediately after paragraph 1, thereby becoming paragraph 2; existing paragraphs 2 and 3 would be renumbered 3 and 4 respectively.

33. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.16, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.17 and 18

34. Draft decisions DP/1988/L.9/Add.17 and 18 were adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.19

35. Mr. MUGUME (Observer for Uganda) suggested that in the English text the word "implementation", which appeared in the penultimate line of operative paragraph 10, should be replaced by "development".

36. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.19, as amended by the observer for Uganda, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.20

37. Mr. ABBA (Observer for Algeria) pointed out that the reference in the second line of the second preambular paragraph to Governing Council decision 88/2 was incorrect; the reference should in fact be to Economic and Social Council resolution 88/2.

38. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, confirmed that point and said the text should read: "Economic and Social Council resolutions 88/2 of 5 February 1988 and 88/3 of 24 May 1988".

39. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.20, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.21

40. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the words "to the Council at its organizational session in 1989" should be added at the end of operative paragraph 3.

41. Mr. MUGUME (Observer for Uganda) proposed, following consultations with the sponsors of the draft decision, that operative paragraph 1 should be amended by adding the phrase "including preparatory meetings" after the words "participate fully in the preparations".

42. Mr. KABIR (Observer for Bangladesh) supported the amendment on behalf of the least developed countries of the Asian and Pacific region.

43. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.21, as orally amended by the Chairman of the Drafting Group and with the Ugandan amendment, was adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.22 and 23

44. Draft decisions DP/1988/L.9/Add.22 and 23 were adopted.

DP/1988/L.9/Add.24

45. Mr. BRODININGRAT (Indonesia), Chairman of the Drafting Group, pointed out that the phrase "in natural resources, management" in the third line of operative paragraph 3 should read "in natural resources management".

46. Draft decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.24, as orally amended, was adopted.

MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL IN 1989 (agenda item 11)

Meetings of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole in 1988 and 1989

47. The PRESIDENT reminded the Council that it must take a final decision on the holding of a session of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole from 31 August to 2 September 1988. He understood that the consultations on the subject initiated by the representative of Ecuador were nearing their conclusion.

The meeting was suspended at 11.50 a.m. and resumed at 12.35 p.m.

48. Mr. SALAZAR-SANCISI (Ecuador) announced that general agreement had been reached within the Council on the advisability of holding a session of the Working Group from 31 August to 2 September 1988. Agreement had also been reached on the agenda for that session, which would comprise two major items. The first would be a review of global, interregional and regional programmes, covering all methods and procedures. The second would be project design and would include an update of UNDP's efforts to improve project design; the role and effectiveness of resident representatives, the Project Development Facility, and specialized agencies in project formulation (including consideration of similar aspects of UNFPA project formulation and review processes); experience with the Project Approval Committee and other aspects of the review process; comparison of specialized agency and UNDP project review processes and how they were linked (including consideration of similar aspects of the UNFPA project formulation and review processes).

49. Delegations had also agreed that a session of the Working Group should be held in February 1989 following the special session of the Governing Council, at a time when the member States concerned were not scheduled to participate in other important meetings in New York. The agenda for the February 1989 session would comprise three items: first, management development (i.e. the nature of that new and important element in UNDP activities); secondly, technical co-operation among developing countries; and thirdly, a review of the future role of UNDP, including the work of the task force on that subject.

50. Mr. SAHLMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) supported the agenda proposed for each of the two sessions of the Working Group. Recalling that the Group's discussions on UNFPA programming had proved very successful, he thought it would be very useful if the Group could continue its work on comparisons and undertake a review in 1989 of co-operation between UNDP and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. He therefore suggested that item 1 of the agenda for the February session should be expanded to include a review of the results and major achievements of UNDP-funded activities relating to the development of national planning and management capacity, including activities implemented by or with the Department of Technical Co-operation for

Development. He further suggested that a review of the co-operation and working relationship between UNDP and that Department should be added to item 2 of the agenda.

51. Mr. ZHOU Xiaoming (China) agreed in principle to the agenda proposed for the two sessions of the Working Group, and to the proposals made by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany. With regard to matters scheduled for consideration at the August-September 1988 session, he felt that the processes of project design and project approval were closely linked, and that consideration of item 2, concerning project design, should be expanded to include a study of ways in which project approval could be accelerated in the field and at Headquarters.

52. Mr. SALAZAR-SANCISI (Ecuador) observed that the topics for discussion which he had listed were the result of negotiations and represented a package deal. Since it was too late for consultations to be resumed, he appealed to the members of the Council to display a spirit of co-operation and agree to that solution as it stood.

53. Mr. MUGUME (Observer for Uganda) said he was not opposed to the choice of topics but felt that the list of questions for consideration could be extended. He found the Chinese delegation's proposal sensible and hoped that the Working Group would also consider the question of the impact and sustainability of UNDP-funded technical assistance projects.

54. Mrs. DUDIK-GAYOSO (United States of America) said that she was willing to endorse the suggestions made by the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany, Uganda and China. China's proposal regarding the study of ways in which project approval could be accelerated might well be added to the agenda after the item on the experience of the Project Approval Committee and other aspects of the review process.

55. Mr. TETTAMANTI (Argentina) considered that the Council should keep to the proposal made by the representative of Ecuador.

56. Mr. SALAZAR-SANCISI (Ecuador) suggested that, in order to reconcile all the various opinions expressed, the Council should adopt the original solution envisaged and decide to include in the agenda for its 1989 organizational session an item on the functioning of the Working Group and the calendar for its sessions, as provided for in its decision 87/20.

57. The PRESIDENT said he did not think that suggestion would create any difficulty. He none the less suggested that, before taking a decision on the matter, the Council should wait until the secretariat had drafted the text of the solution proposed by the representative of Ecuador, possibly with a few amendments to take account of the observations made by certain members of the Council.

#### Policy review

58. The PRESIDENT reminded the Council that, in accordance with paragraph 8 of decision DP/1988/L.9/Add.5, the Council had decided to devote the high-level segment of its thirty-sixth session to the role of UNDP in the 1990s.

Indicative quota for documentation

49. The PRESIDENT reminded the Council that it had been informed earlier in the session of the strenuous efforts that had been made by the Administration to ensure the timely distribution of documents for its sessions, to reduce the number of documents, to rationalize their presentation and to eliminate duplication, in accordance with decisions 79/33, 83/40, 85/45 and 87/51. The distribution and quality of documentation having unquestionably improved, he felt that the Council should encourage the Administrator to continue his efforts in that area.

50. Mrs. DUDIK-GAYOSO (United States of America) supported the President's remarks: in 1988 the distribution of documents had greatly facilitated the Council's task. She accordingly thanked the Administrator and encouraged him to keep up the good work.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.