

Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

Distr. GENERAL

DP/1989/SR.8
1 March 1989

ORGINAL: ENGLISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Organizational meeting for 1989

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 8th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 24 February 1989, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. PIBULSONGGRAM (Thailand)

CONTENTS

Matters relating to the work of the Governing Council in 1989 (continued)

Questions relating to the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole (continued)

Other matters

Closure of the organizational meeting

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Department of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

Any corrections to the records of the meetings of this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IN 1989 (continued) (DP/1989/L.3/Rev.1)

- 1. The PRESIDENT recommended that the Vice-President from Switzerland (Mr. Langenbacher) should be designated Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee; that the Vice-President from Ghana (Mr. Kufuor) should be designated Chairman of the Drafting Group; that the Vice-President from Romania (Mr. Popescu) and the Vice-President from Ecuador (Mr. Salazar-Sancisi) should be designated to conduct the consultations on other specific subjects, including the review of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole and the venue and timing of Council sessions; and that the Vice-President from Ecuador (Mr. Salazar-Sancisi) should assist in conducting the proceedings of the Council and the Committee of the Whole, as necessary.
- 2. It was so decided.
- 3. The PRESIDENT, stressing that the timetable in document DP/1989/L.3/Rev.1 should be considered provisional only and should be applied flexibly, said that if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to approve the provisional agenda as orally amended.
- 4. It was so decided.
- 5. The PRESIDENT said, in connection with the decision just adopted, that he had been informed that an understanding had been reached on how to proceed with the informal consultations with respect to the role of UNDP in the 1990s. The Bureau was being asked to convene one informal meeting, open only to government delegations, and UNDP and agency representatives, for the week of 3 April, and a second informal meeting at the end of April. The Bureau would take the necessary steps to convene those meetings.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORKING GROUP OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (continued) (DP/1989/3)

Election of members of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole

6. The PRESIDENT recalled that agreement had been reached in informal consultations that the Council would elect a new membership of the Working Group at the current organizational meeting, on the understanding that the actual tenure of the elected members would depend on the outcome of the review of the mandate of the Working Group, which would be carried out by the Council in June. The African Group had submitted the candidacies of Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia and Zaire; the Asia, Pacific and Yugoslavia Group, China, Fiji, India, Pakistan and Yugoslavia; the Latin American and Caribbean Group, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador and Peru; the Western European and other States, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Italy, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States;

(The President)

and the Eastern European Group, Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Since each of those Groups had nominated the appropriate number of candidates, he would take it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

- 7. It was so decided.
- 8. Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator), introducing document DP/1989/3, said that paragraphs 9 and 10 should be deleted, and drew special attention to paragraphs 5 to 8.
- 9. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GAOUTHE (Observer for Mauritania), Mr. GOPINATHAN (India) and Mr. KELLAND (Observer for Denmark) suggested that the consultations referred to in paragraph 8 should be conducted by the President and the Bureau, with the assistance of the Administrator, as necessary.
- 10. The PRESIDENT said he would take it that the Council wished to take note of document DP/1989/3 and to request the Administrator to proceed with the preparatory arrangements for the review of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole as outlined in that document, on the understanding that the consultations referred to in paragraph 8 would be conducted by the President and the Bureau, assisted, as necessary, by the Associate Administrator.

11. It was so decided.

OTHER MATTERS

- 12. The PRESIDENT called upon the Associate Administrator to make a statement on Namibia.
- Mr. BROWN (Associate Administrator) said that there was acute awareness within the United Nations system and the international donor community of the need for co-ordinated action to organize development assistance in an independent Namibia. It had also been agreed that for the United Nations to promote the orderly transfer of power to a new independent Government, it had to undertake studies on the financial, economic and social aspects of the arrangements for independence. and the office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Namibia had therefore agreed that UNDP would send a data collection and reconnaissance mission to Namibia to identify the financial, economic and social areas in which there was a gap in available information, to collect other information in those areas as available, and to determine what specialists were needed to assemble information to fill the gaps. The mission would seek out all available information from existing sources, and its main objective would be to provide the Government of an independent Namibia with as much information as possible to enable it to take important decisions in providing essential services and drafting a development programme.
- 14. UNDP had agreed to allocate funds for the economic review from the Namibia IPF. Its mission would be attached to the mission of the Special Representative of

DP/1989/SR.8 English Page 4

(Mr. Brown)

the Secretary-General for Namibia. It would depart for Namibia in April 1989. UNDP would keep all relevant United Nations bodies and the donor community fully informed of its intentions and how it would proceed, and would make the results of its mission available to other agencies and interested donors. It was suggested that the IPF for Namibia should be placed on the agenda of the June 1989 session.

- 15. The PRESIDENT said that if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to take note of the statement of the Associate Administrator.
- 16. It was so decided.

CLOSURE OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

17. The PRESIDENT declared the organizational meeting closed.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.