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GOVERNING COUNCIL

Thirty-seventh session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 37th MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on Wednesday, 20 June 1990, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. POPESCU (Romania)

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

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (DP/1990/L.14)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Governing Council to decide on the recommendations made by the Committee of the Whole in paragraph 8 of its report (DP/1990/L.14). In that connection, he drew the Council's attention to the fact that a draft decision on reports on mid-term reviews of country, intercountry and global programmes had been discussed by the Drafting Group and would be considered by the Council at the same time as the report of the Chairman of the Drafting Group (DP/1990/L.13/Add.13).
2. The recommendations of the Committee of the Whole were adopted.
3. Mr. PENZIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to paragraph 8, item 5 (b) (v), of document DP/1990/L.14, pointed out that the Russian text referred to the expansion, not to the extension, of the programmes of the last four countries in question.
4. The PRESIDENT assured the representative of the Soviet Union that the necessary corrections would be made to the Russian version of the document under consideration.

REPORT OF THE DRAFTING GROUP (DP/1990/L.5/Add.1 and Corr.1; DP/1990/L.13/Add.2 to Add.14)

5. The PRESIDENT invited the Governing Council to decide on the draft decisions submitted by the Drafting Group in documents DP/1990/L.5/Add.1 and Corr.1 and DP/1990/L.13/Add.2 to Add.14.

DP/1990/L.5/Add.1 and Corr.1; DP/1990/L.13/Add.2 to Add.5

6. The draft decisions contained in documents DP/1990/L.5/Add.1 and Corr.1 and DP/1990/L.13/Add.2 to Add.5 were adopted.

7. Mr. EL GHAOUTH (Mauritania) welcomed the adoption by the Council of the draft decision relating to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office. He recalled that his country and all the countries which benefited from the activities of that Office considered that it should continue to have a special place within UNDP and maintain its direct links with the Executive Office of the Administrator.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.6

8. Mr. HAMADZIRIPI (Zimbabwe), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that, in the English version of the text under consideration, the first preambular paragraph had mistakenly been placed between operative paragraphs 3 and 4. It should come at the beginning of the draft decision.

9. The draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.6, as orally amended by the Chairman of the Drafting Group, was adopted.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.7

10. Mrs. DOHERTY (United Kingdom) requested that the Council should defer its decision on the draft decision as long as the question of agency support costs was still under consideration.

11. Mr. ROHNER (Switzerland) supported the request by the United Kingdom.

12. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council decided to defer the adoption of the draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.7.

13. It was so decided.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.8

14. Mr. HAMADZIRIPI (Zimbabwe), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the informal consultations on that text had not yet been completed and proposed that its adoption should be deferred.

15. The PRESIDENT said that the Governing Council would be invited to take a decision on document DP/1990/L.13/Add.8 in plenary on 22 June.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.9

16. The draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.9 was adopted.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.10

17. Mr. CRUSE (France) pointed out that many delegations, including his own, had not yet had time to consider the Human Development Report 1990, which had only just been distributed in all working languages. That report should therefore not be referred to in the Council's decisions and he proposed that the second paragraph of the draft decision under consideration should be deleted.

18. Mr. AQUARONE (Netherlands) said that all delegations had had an opportunity to express their views on the draft decision before it had been adopted by the Drafting Group. It should therefore not be discussed again in plenary. He accordingly proposed that the Council should simply defer the final adoption of the draft decision until a solution could be found.

19. Mr. CRUSE (France) said he would like the draft decision to be referred back to the Drafting Group.

20. Mr. HAMADZIRIPI (Zimbabwe), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the Drafting Group had already approved the text by consensus. He would go along with the Council's decision.

21. Mr. CRUSE (France) said that, because the Council had had so much work at the thirty-seventh session, delegations had not been able to guarantee attendance at all meetings of each body. Moreover, other delegations which had not received the human development report in their working languages had also requested that it should not be referred to in the draft decisions to be

submitted to the Council. In view of the importance of that report, which would be given in-depth consideration, he maintained his amendment and urged that the members of the Council should consider it either in plenary or in the Drafting Group.

22. Mr. AQUARONE (Netherlands) said he feared that such a step might create a dangerous precedent. Since the draft decision had already been adopted by the Drafting Group, delegations which had objections to it would have to hold informal consultations with a view to submitting a proposal for adoption by the Council.

23. The PRESIDENT said it was his understanding that the Council wanted to wait until delegations had held consultations before deciding on a final text.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.11

24. The draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.11 was adopted.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.12

25. Mr. HAMADZIRIPI (Zimbabwe), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that, in operative paragraph 3, the words "and welcomes his decision" should be replaced by the words "and welcomes this (decision)".

26. The draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.12, as orally amended, was adopted.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.13

27. Mr. HAMADZIRIPI (Zimbabwe), Chairman of the Drafting Group, said that the draft decision had been prepared as a result of a proposal made by the delegations of Canada and the United States and had been supported by the Drafting Group.

28. Mr. ROHNER (Switzerland) said that, during the general debate on agenda item 5 (b) (i), the Administrator had said that he intended to revise the guidelines concerning mid-term reviews and his own delegation had invited the Administrator to submit the revised guidelines to the Council at one of its forthcoming sessions. Since he had not requested that account should be taken of that invitation in the draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.13 before it had been adopted by the Drafting Group, he would merely like to request the Administrator to bear it in mind.

29. The PRESIDENT said that the secretariat took note of that comment.

30. The draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.13 was adopted.

DP/1990/L.13/Add.14

31. The draft decision contained in document DP/1990/L.13/Add.14 was adopted.