

council

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conseil

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**VERBATIM RECORDS OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL
PROCES-VERBAUX DES SEANCES DU CONSEIL
ACTAS TAQUIGRAFICAS DE LAS SESIONES DEL CONSEJO**

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conseil

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

consejo

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

CL

CL 84/PV/1

Eighty-fourth Session

Quatre-vingt-quatrième session

84° período de sesiones

FIRST PLENARY MEETING PREMIERE SEANCE PLENIERE PRIMERA SESION PLENARIA

(1 November 1983)

The First Plenary Meeting was opened at 10.15 hours.
M.S. Swaminathan, Independent Chairman of the Council, presiding

La première séance plénière est ouverte à 10 h 15 sous la présidence
de M.S. Swaminathan, Président indépendant du Conseil

Se abre la primera sesión plenaria a las 10.15 horas bajo la presidencia
de M.S. Swaminathan, Presidente Independiente del Consejo

I. INTRODUCTION - PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION

I. INTRODUCTION - QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE

I. INTRODUCCION - CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Director-General, distinguished members of the Council and their associates, distinguished Observers, members of the Non-Governmental Organizations, officers of FAO, Ladies and Gentlemen: I wish to extend to you all a very warm welcome today. The weather also seems to extend this welcome with the bright sunshine which we see outside.

This Eighty-fourth Session of the Council is a very short one of three days, and we are happy this morning that the Director-General, Dr. Saouma, is with us. We realize he will be exceedingly busy these days in connexion with the preparation for the Conference, but we shall appreciate his presence whenever he can be here.

I would also like to mention that we have Mr. Henderson here who is also going to help as Assistant Secretary-General. As you may recall, last time it was Mr. Sole-Leris, and we welcome Mr. Henderson in this position.

There are no new members of this Council at this session. However, as members of the Council know, 17 members will vacate their seats at the end of the forthcoming Conference. I am also happy to inform the Council that in addition to Antigua and Barbuda and Belize, also Saint Christopher and Nevis and Vanuatu have applied for membership in the Organization, and these four applications will be voted on by the Conference next week.

Traditionally, of course, this particular session is a short one and essentially devoted to the preparation for the Conference. We shall meet for only 3 days, but as you will notice, our agenda is full, it is a rather heavy agenda, almost like our earlier ones for a two-week meeting. I therefore seek your cooperation and your understanding in ensuring that we will be able to complete the work given each day in the Order of the Day; whatever we have anticipated, if we can complete it and go one step forward, it would be very helpful for the simple reason that we cannot extend our session on Friday, because the Friday before the Conference is reserved for the Nominations Committee, so we have to complete our work on Thursday, and if sessions go on, the only possibility is to have evening or night sessions if we want to complete the work. I would now like to go on to the Order of the Day which has been circulated, and before we take up the adoption of the Agenda and Timetable, I would like to give the floor to the Director-General to add his words of welcome on behalf of the Organization.

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président. Je voudrais à mon tour souhaiter la bienvenue à tous les participants et participantes à cette quatre-vingt-quatrième session du Conseil de la FAO. Comme vous venez de le dire, votre ordre du jour est très chargé, et vous ne disposez que de trois jours seulement. Vous noterez toutefois que certains sujets seront discutés à nouveau par la Conférence.

Je voudrais me permettre d'attirer votre attention sur certains points de l'ordre du jour, par exemple le point 9 qui est certainement le plus important il s'agit du Programme de travail et budget pour 1984-85. J'espère que le Conseil pourra sur ce point faire des recommandations claires et nettes à la Conférence puisque ce sujet a déjà été discuté par le Conseil en juin. Le Comité du programme s'est penché à deux reprises, dans deux sessions, sur ce sujet et maintenant le Conseil va pour la seconde fois aussi revoir la question à la lumière du rapport du Comité du Programme et du Comité des finances. Le point 10 Examen du Programme ordinaire sera également discuté de nouveau par la Conférence.

J'attire aussi votre attention sur le point 8 qui est un point important. Il sera également discuté par la Conférence, par la Commission II, mais nous serions très contents de recevoir vos commentaires

sur l'ensemble des propositions contenues dans le rapport du Directeur général sur les ressources phytogénétiques.

Pour le point 3.2 - Election du Comité des nominations, il s'agit surtout, pour ce comité, de proposer les noms des trois vice-présidents et également des membres du bureau de la Conférence et de les recommander à celle-ci. Comme vous le savez, le Conseil a déjà recommandé le nom d'une personnalité pour la présidence de la Conférence. Il s'agit du ministre de l'agriculture des Etats-Unis. Traditionnellement, les vice-présidents sont aussi des ministres de l'agriculture. Je voudrais attirer votre attention sur le fait que la Conférence dure trois semaines et qu'il faudra qu'à n'importe quel moment il y ait soit le président soit un vice-président pour assurer la présidence.

Vous comprenez très bien qu'il n'est pas possible, pour la personne que vous avez choisie comme président, de passer trois semaines sans discontinuer à Rome. Il devra être absent pendant une certaine période et c'est pour cela que je vous recommande instamment, et recommande au Comité des nominations, de s'assurer que parmi les trois vice-présidents il y en aura au moins un qui sera présent durant la seconde semaine de la Conférence.

Je dis cela parce qu'en 1979, à l'occasion de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, le président a dû quitter la Conférence pour des raisons personnelles, c'était le président Caldera et nous nous sommes trouvés sans vice-président. Il avait dû quitter déjà la Conférence après la première semaine. J'espère que nous ne nous trouverons pas dans une situation semblable cette fois-ci et que les vice-présidents seront choisis de telle façon qu'au moins l'un des trois sera présent durant toute la seconde semaine de la Conférence.

De même pour la troisième semaine, le dernier jour en particulier, il faut qu'il y ait un vice-président présent au cas où le président devrait s'absenter.

Je n'ai plus rien à ajouter. Je vous souhaite plein succès dans vos travaux, mes collègues et moi-même restant à votre entière disposition.

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
1. Adoption de l'ordre du jour et du calendrier
1. Aprobación del programa y del calendario

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Mr. Director-General.

You have the Provisional Annotated Agenda, document CL 84/1, and the Provisional Timetable, CL 84/INF/1. I should however point out that we have to add two more items on the Agenda. First there will be a third sub-item 16.3 under item 16. There are only two sub-items now but we will add one more making three, and this is an information item and should read "Changes in Representation of Member Nations on the Programme and Finance Committees", document CL 84/INF/15.

Also under item 17, that is "Any Other Business" there will be one item 17.1. This relates to the amendments to Staff Regulations (Dependency Allowance). "Amendment to Staff Regulations (Dependency Allowance)" document CL 84/8.

You will also have noticed there are a number of Conference documents listed for us, and on behalf of the Secretariat I would like to request you to keep them for the forthcoming Conference in order to avoid a run on stocks available for distribution. The Provisional Annotated Agenda with the new sub-items 16.3 and 17.1 as well as the Provisional Timetable are now open for discussion and adoption.

Are there any comments on the Agenda and the Timetable? Well I hear no particular comments. Shall I take it we adopt the Agenda and the Timetable? Thank you very much. The Agenda and the Timetable are adopted.

2. Election of Three Vice-Chairmen, and Designation of Chairman and Members of Drafting Committee
2. Election de trois vice-présidents et nomination du président et des membres du Comité de rédaction
2. Elección de tres Vicepresidentes, y nombramiento del Presidente y los Miembros del Comité de Redacción

CHAIRMAN: First, we will go to the election of three Vice-Chairmen for this particular session of the Council.

J.R. LOPEZ PORTILLO ROMANO (México): El Grupo Latinoamericano y del Caribe se honra en presentar a la distinguida consideración de este Consejo la candidatura de Don Alfredo Pinoargote Cevallos, representante permanente del Ecuador ante la FAO, Embajador de su país ante el Gobierno italiano.

El Señor Embajador Pinoargote, como todos ustedes saben, ha participado intensamente en anteriores trabajos de este Consejo y de esta Organización, por lo cual tiene amplia experiencia y sin duda por su calidad profesional y por sus distinguidas cualidades será de enorme ayuda a usted, Señor Presidente, para conducir las labores de este Consejo.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): It gives me personally, and my delegation as well, great pleasure to endorse and second the nomination of the Ambassador of Ecuador as Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Y.A. HAMDI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): I have pleasure in seeing you here chairing our meeting, Mr Chairman, and we would like to second the proposal of Ecuador as Vice-Chairman. We are quite sure, Mr Chairman, that the personal qualifications of His Excellency the Ambassador of Ecuador will make it possible for this Session of the Council to be successful.

CHAIRMAN: Shall I take it that Mexico has proposed, and the delegates of Ethiopia and Egypt have seconded, the nomination of the Ambassador of Ecuador, His Excellency Alfredo Pinoargote Cevallos. I take it this has your approval. Thank you very much. You have the Ambassador of Ecuador as the Vice-Chairman. I now give the floor to the delegate of the United Kingdom.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): It is a great pleasure for my delegation to propose as the Second Vice-Chairman Ambassador Féquant, the Ambassador of France to FAO. France has always been a very active member of this Council and of its subsidiary bodies, and Ambassador Féquant has become very well known to us during his time here in Rome as Ambassador to the Organization. I believe the Council will share my view that he will very ably assist you, Mr Chairman, in the work of this short Council.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La Delegación de Colombia se complace muy sinceramente en apoyar la propuesta que ha hecho el distinguido representante del Reino Unido para que nuestro distinguido colega y amigo el Embajador Féquant, de Francia, sea uno de nuestros Vicepresidentes.

CHAIRMAN: The delegate of the United Kingdom has proposed and the delegate of Colombia has seconded Ambassador Féquant, Ambassador of France.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): In the spirit of good neighbourly relations I would like to support and second the nomination of the Ambassador of France, who is sitting next to me, for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Council.

CHAIRMAN: I take it this has the unanimous approval that we have Ambassador Féquant of France as the Second Vice-Chairman.

Now for the third position I am told there are still some discussions going on and we will take it up in the afternoon for the Third Vice-Chairman, so we have the First Vice-Chairman, the Ambassador of Ecuador, Alfredo Pinoargote Cevallos, and then we have Ambassador Féquant of France as Second Vice-Chairman. We will elect the third one this afternoon.

For the positions in the Drafting Committee we have so far received from the Group of 77 the following nominations: - Asia: India, Pakistan and Thailand; Africa: Congo and Ethiopia; Near East: Iraq and Egypt. Mexico and Cuba will represent Latin America. We need the names of two members from Europe.

New Zealand will represent the Southwest Pacific in the Drafting Committee and the United States of America will represent North America.

Let me read out again the names of the members of the Drafting Committee. Asia: India, Pakistan and Thailand. Africa: Congo and Ethiopia. Latin America: Mexico and Cuba. Near East: Iraq and Egypt. Southwest Pacific: New Zealand. North America: USA.

I hope the European group will give their names as soon as possible because the Drafting Committee will have to start work straight away; as you see, it is a three-day meeting and so they will have to start as soon as possible. The Chairman of the Drafting Committee will be elected by the members of the Drafting Committee.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Señor Presidente, solamente para agradecer esta honrosa designación a mis colegas del Consejo. El Ecuador es fundador de la FAO, un país de clarísima vocación agrícola, y esta designación evidentemente lo compromete a luchar con mas ahínco aun por la gran causa de la FAO: la erradicación del hambre.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. On behalf of the members of the Council and myself I should like to add my congratulations to the two Vice-Chairmen. We are looking forward to their advice and counsel in the work of this Session.

- II. ACTIVITIES OF FAO
- II. ACTIVITES DE LA FAO
- II. ACTIVIDADES DE LA FAO

- 4. Report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (Rome, 3-7 October 1983)
- 4. Rapport de la cinquante-quatrième session du Comité des produits (Rome, 3-7 octobre 1983)
- 4. Informe del 54° período de sesiones del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos (Roma, 3-7 de octubre de 1983)

CHAIRMAN: May I request the Chairman of this Committee, Mr. Carandang of the Philippines, to come to the podium? As you have seen, Mr. Carandang succeeded Mr. de Freitas as Chairman of this Committee.

H. CARANDANG (Chairman, Committee on Commodity Problems): As Chairman of this Committee I have the honour to present to you the report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems held from 3 to 7 October of this year. The meeting was attended by 72 governments, and four member nations of the Organization and the Holy See participated as observers. Twelve international organizations took part.

The Committee considered the complex problems facing the trade in agricultural commodities. It was not possible, of course, to reach consensus on the very urgent and difficult issues but I can assure you that there was a frank and free interchange of views and this has contributed to a better understanding of the concerns of various governments and has permitted the Committee on Commodity Problems to identify some of the areas of agreement and some types of action that could be taken by the Committee and those concerned. There are a number of matters that have to be brought to the attention of this Council by the Committee and they are contained in CL 84/6, I suppose it is on page (ii).

The Committee assessed the world commodity situation and pointed out that in 1981/82 there has been a distinct deterioration in the world economy, including trade in agricultural commodities. According to FAO estimates the value of world exports of agriculture, fisheries and forestries declined by about 8 percent following a smaller decline the preceding year. The Committee was particularly concerned that there was a steep fall in the developing countries' export trade and receipts from agricultural, fishery and forestry products. The returns had fallen for the second successive year in 1982 by 10 percent and hence had further aggravated their balance of payments problems. The Committee pointed out that these recent difficulties in world trade had been superimposed on the long-term trend witnessed in many agricultural commodities.

In this connexion the Committee identified three main issues, namely the slow growth in overall agricultural trade, the decline in many commodity prices in real terms and the relatively poor performance of the developing countries. The Committee agreed that the slow growth of agricultural trade had been aggravated by protectionist policies especially in many developed countries. The overall problem remained of how national policies including concern for food security could best be reconciled with international objectives in trade, particularly the aim of stimulating rapid growth of agricultural exports of developing countries.

The Committee agreed that in the light of these considerations the ultimate goal for improving the agricultural trade system continued to be a progressive and multilateral liberalization of markets with special emphasis on enhancing the purchasing power of developing countries.

In this connexion the Council may wish to note the specific suggestions that are indicated in paragraphs 19 and 23 on the possible lines of action. The Committee also reviewed the developments in protectionism in agricultural trade bearing in mind the recommendations of the Conference in resolution 2/79 on this subject. This is the second review of the Committee of this resolution. The Committee considered the policy developments during the last few years and also the action taken in the various fora.

The Committee expressed disappointment that progress had not been faster in liberalizing trade in agricultural products and in limiting the use of export subsidies and other export aids.

Concern was also expressed over the longstanding protectionist policies that were being continued but that there were some signs that new protectionist policies were being introduced and also some new restrictive measures. The Committee hoped that with the strengthening of the apparent economic recovery there would be progress in trade liberalization.

In this context it was agreed that special attention should be given to the possibilities of liberalizing trade in tropical products and stressed that intensified efforts should be made to reduce tariff escalation applied to semi-processed and processed products.

I should like also to point out that during the meeting the delegate of Thailand had proposed that FAO should convene a group of experts to develop guidelines on various protectionist measures such as national agricultural support, tariff and non-tariff barriers and export subsidies. This proposal was, supported by some delegates while some other delegates suggested that governments should consider the feasibility of developing such guidelines in the Committee on Trade in Agriculture. After some discussion the Committee agreed it would be appropriate for it to keep progress under review and if necessary to consider the Thai proposal at some future session.

The Committee decided to keep under regular review the developments in protectionism and asked the Secretariat to prepare for consideration at its next session a further review of the follow-up action to Conference resolution 2/79.

The CCP also considered the activities in its biennium of the subsidiary bodies, that is the various intergovernmental commodity groups, the nine commodity bodies and the Committee on Surplus Disposal which is based in Washington. This review is contained in sections V and VI of the report. It may be noted that the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats had a detailed discussion on the EEC Commission's proposal to impose a tax on domestic and imported oils of animal and vegetable origin except butter, to be effective on 1 January 1984. The Committee's report on this is contained in paragraphs 66-71. There you have the views of those who opposed the tax, the views of the EEC, and I should like to call your particular attention to the appeal made by the Committee as a whole regarding this, which is indicated in paragraph 71; and here, of course, as delegate of the Philippines, I would have given stronger emphasis to this but as the Chairman of the Committee I should merely like to draw attention to the agreement reached in the Committee.

The CCP also reviewed the outcome of UNCTAD VI held in June 1983 at Belgrade as well as other policy developments relating to agricultural trade issues since the Committee's Fifty-third Session in 1981. On the whole, the Committee recognized that while the results of UNCTAD VI were not fully satisfactory it was essential to continue the dialogue between developed and developing countries, especially in the field of commodities.

The Committee also expressed regret that there has been a long delay in bringing the common fund into operation and urged that governments which had not ratified the agreement do so at an early date so that it could come into operation by 1 January 1984.

The Committee also stressed the importance of ECDC and on this subject the Committee took note of the recommendations of the expert consultations on the ways to foster agricultural trade through ECDC which was convened by the Director-General in September 1983. The Committee expressed its hope that there would be an effective follow-up to this Committee's meeting.

The CCP generally supported the FAO commodities programme for 1984/85 including the proposed schedule of meetings and subsidiary bodies. It placed high priority on FAO's global commodity intelligence activities together with associated analytical work and stressed that FAO's intergovernmental commodity groups should continue to provide a valuable mechanism for intergovernmental consultation on the commodity situation and prospects as well as on policy matters to improve the conditions of trade. The Committee also underlined the practical usefulness of the assistance provided to the developing countries through the CPCL (Commodity Policy at the Country Level) programme, and agreed it should focus more on the needs of the least developed countries and on training. It noted with satisfaction that the Secretariat was able to complement and not duplicate on other organizations, although this matter has always to be kept under review.

In conclusion, the session of the Committee on Commodity Problems has provided a very good opportunity for member countries to consult with one another on the agricultural trade prospects and problems and to underline the areas where action is needed to overcome the present difficulties in agricultural trade, especially those faced by the developing countries.

The report of the CCP is before the Council and we hope that the Council will approve this report and endorse its decisions and recommendations.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. The floor is now open.

A. A. MALEK (Liban) (langue originale arabe): A propos du point 4 de l'ordre du jour: Rapport de la cinquante-quatrième session du Comité des produits, je voudrais rendre hommage aux efforts déployés par ce Comité et par la FAO pour le suivi de toutes les questions auxquelles le monde doit faire face pour la production et le commerce des produits agricoles.

Bien entendu, la FAO, ainsi que le Conseil international du blé et le Conseil international du sucre, continuent à être les seules instances qui devraient traiter des problèmes des produits au niveau mondial. Nous voulons donc rendre hommage au Comité des produits pour les efforts qu'il déploie et pour l'excellent rapport qui nous est soumis et qui résume certaines des activités entreprises par ce Comité.

Je saisisrai cette occasion pour formuler les commentaires de ma délégation sur ce rapport.

Nous constatons tout d'abord avec la plus grande préoccupation la détérioration des termes de l'échange en 1982, alors que la première moitié de 1983 a enregistré une certaine amélioration puisque la détérioration du prix de ces produits s'est quelque peu arrêtée.

En second lieu, nous sommes d'accord avec le Comité pour dire que la nouvelle notion de sécurité alimentaire, telle qu'elle a été adoptée par la FAO sur proposition du Directeur général, est étroitement liée aux questions traitées par le CPA, puisque tout ceci s'inscrit dans le domaine général de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Ma délégation regrette les pratiques de protectionnisme exercées par certains pays développés face aux exportations des pays en développement, ce qui, bien sûr, n'améliore pas la situation des pays en développement. Nous lançons donc un appel aux pays développés pour qu'ils limitent ce protectionnisme qui n'a aucune justification et ce afin de promouvoir les échanges internationaux et d'augmenter les recettes d'exportation des pays en voie de développement.

J'espère que les pays développés, en assouplissant les barrières protectionnistes, ne le font pas dans un esprit de charité mais au contraire dans le respect du droit que les autres pays ont de vivre.

Nous formulons aussi l'espoir, conformément à ce qui a été dit par le Comité des produits, que le Fonds commun entre en exercice le plus tôt possible, et nous espérons que les pays qui n'ont pas ratifié cette convention le feront au plus tôt. Nous regrettons également que la CNUCED VI n'ait pas abouti aux résultats escomptés. Nous espérons néanmoins que le dialogue entre pays développés et pays en développement se poursuive surtout dans le domaine des produits et de la Convention mondiale du blé.

Enfin, ma délégation apprécie la coopération entre la FAO et les instances internationales qui s'occupent des produits de base; je citerai la CNUCED, le Conseil international du blé et le Conseil international du sucre. Nous espérons que cette collaboration se poursuive dans l'intérêt des parties concernées.

Sra. Da. E. HERAZO DE VITI (Panamá): Antes de iniciar nuestra intervención, deseamos reconocer el buen desempeño del Sr. Carandang como Presidente del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos. Con relación al tema 4, Informe del 54 Período de Sesiones del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos, la delegación de Panamá cree conveniente formular los siguientes comentarios. En la parte II del Informe relativo a la situación mundial y las perspectivas de los productos básicos, destacamos lo dicho en el Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos, al reconocer con preocupación que, en esencia, los países en vías de desarrollo, no han registrado mejoramiento sustancial y sostenido en sus economías y comercio, así como que las perspectivas económicas, a corto plazo, de muchos de estos países, siguen estando ensombrecidas por el empeoramiento de las relaciones de intercambio y problemas persistentes de endeudamientos; unido todo esto, a restricciones constantes y severas al acceso a los mercados, y al desplazamiento de las exportaciones agrícolas de mercados tradicionales.

Así, tenemos que la relación de intercambio de los productos agrícolas se redujo en un 11% entre 1981 y final de 1982. Además de esta situación, quedó claro, en el recién pasado período de sesiones del CPPB, que el lento crecimiento agrícola se había visto agravado por políticas proteccionistas, especialmente en muchos países desarrollados, así como por la utilización de políticas de sostenimiento indeterminado, que a menudo, favorecían la colocación de la producción excedente en los mercados internacionales con la ayuda de subvenciones y otras ventajas para la exportación, reconociéndose claramente que la esencia del problema sigue siendo, por una parte, el de lograr la

conciliación del mejor modo posible, entre las políticas nacionales, incluyéndose aquí la preocupación sobre la seguridad alimentaria así como el cuestionado y negativo papel que juegan las empresas transnacionales en el comercio de productos alimentarios y agrícolas. Antecedentes ejemplares recientes sobre este aspecto, confirman esta aseveración, muy en particular, en cuanto se refiere al área geográfica al cual pertenece Panamá.

Con relación a la forma y modo en que la FAO puede contribuir a mejorar la atmósfera en que se desarrolla el comercio de productos agrícolas, esta delegación se ha pronunciado en anteriores oportunidades, y lo hace en esta, en el sentido de que los distintos grupos intergubernamentales tienen y deben jugar un rol cada vez más importante a este respecto, ya sea mediante el logro y establecimiento de acuerdos extraoficiales sobre productos, así como mediante el perfeccionamiento, actualización y aplicación de normas para la cooperación nacional e internacional, lo mismo que el redoblar esfuerzos tendientes al logro de convenios internacionales, que, como ocurre con los esfuerzos que a este respecto hacemos en el banano, se determina claramente la participación de los países, tanto exportadores como importadores, de modo que se garantice la mejor forma de ajustar la oferta a las necesidades de la demanda y mejorar, de manera estable, la situación de los precios; así como el de contemplar en un convenio de este tipo, disposiciones relativas a la liberalización del comercio, el desarrollo de nuevos mercados, el trato de proveedores, preferencias, la limitación de importaciones procedentes de países no miembros, el incentivo a la elaboración y la atención al importante aspecto que tiene que ver con la investigación y experimentación.

Por lo que concierne al proteccionismo de productos alimentarios y agrícolas, nuestra delegación considera que una simple paralización y establecimiento de las barreras comerciales por parte de los países desarrollados viene a resultar insuficiente para el logro del objetivo fijado en la Resolución 2/79 de la Conferencia.

Igualmente, creemos en la necesidad de intensificar esfuerzos que tiendan a reducir la progresividad arancelaria aplicada a productos semielaborados y elaborados. Por otra parte, creemos en la importancia que debe tener, cada vez más, la cooperación económica entre países en desarrollo en la solución de estos problemas, en general y en particular, para que se logre compensar las limitaciones comerciales en los mercados.

Por todo lo que hemos expuesto es por lo que nos pronunciamos en el sentido de que el CPPB siga examinando regularmente los nuevos acontecimientos en materia de proteccionismo que afecten o puedan afectar las perspectivas comerciales de los productos agrícolas.

Sobre el importante aspecto que tiene que ver con los principales problemas del comercio del azúcar, así como la estabilización de este producto, apoyamos la conclusión en el sentido de reconocer la necesidad de establecer políticas nacionales e internacionales coherentes en lo que respecta al azúcar y otros edulcorantes, y sostenemos que la forma más efectiva para alcanzar este objetivo, es la conservación de un convenio internacional del azúcar, convenio este sobre el cual, como ocurre con el del banano, Panamá tiene un particular interés.

A.F. MACHADO DE FREITAS (Brazil): In considering the document which contains the Report of the Committee on Commodity Problems my delegation wishes to draw the attention of the Council to a few topics which it believes are essential.

First I would like to refer to Part II of the Report, which deals with the present and future world commodity situation. The Committee clearly recognised a very disquieting picture of the world situation with regard to a number of problems which directly affect international trade of agricultural products of the developing countries, and among them the deterioration of the terms of trade of agricultural exports, a decline in prices of agricultural products, limited access to the markets of the industrialised countries and a consequent fall in export earnings.

My delegation fully endorses the agreement reached in the Committee that the key to improve the agricultural trading system is a progressive and multilateral liberalisation of markets, taking into account the special need to increase the purchasing power of the developing countries.

We need not recall at this moment that the world is living today in an unprecedented crisis with respect to foreign debt accumulated in the developing countries, particularly in Latin America. There is only one rational way of facing this problem. This is to create conditions for providing foreign exchange earnings through the lateral countries. The Committee unequivocally pointed to the right direction when it advocated greater access to the markets of the developed countries and at the same time an adequate price for the agricultural products of the developing nations. In this regard my delegation wishes to endorse again the important role reserved for FAO in the effort to improve the agricultural trade environment.

Brazil is convinced of the usefulness of the inter-governmental commodity groups and of the good results of the formal commodity arrangements and policy guidelines agreed by them.

The discussion of this part of the Report is closely connected to its next session, which refers specifically to protectionism in agricultural trade and the follow-up of Conference Resolution 2/79.

My delegation supports the view that very little progress has been obtained in liberalizing trade in agricultural products. My government sees continuing and severe restrictions on market access and it associates itself with those who expressed concern over the limited results agreed in GATT in such a fundamental matter to the developing countries, especially if account is taken of their urgent need to increase their foreign currency earnings in order not only to meet urgent obligations towards the international financial community, but also to import the goods and services required by their development needs.

My delegation is particularly worried by the fact that semi-processed and processed agricultural products of developing nations are the object of increasing restrictions in the markets of richer countries. Tariff escalations on those products have an extremely negative effect on export receipts and on the expansion of domestic industries in developing countries. My delegation pleads for that greater effort in the direction of reduced tariffs on semi-processed and processed agricultural products from developing countries.

Finally, my delegation wishes to reiterate that the promotion of agricultural trade among developing countries is an adequate field to be covered by ECDC. While recognising that much has already been accomplished in this area in the last decade, we believe that the developing countries can still achieve much better results in the years to come. In this respect I wish to thank the Director-General for the successful meeting of the export consultation on this matter that he recently convened in Rome. My delegation is convinced that such efforts are bound to produce beneficial effects on the foreign trade of the developing countries and thinks that it should be encouraged.

In conclusion, my delegation wishes to associate itself with the expression of appreciation for the work of Mr. A.G. Leeks, who is leaving our company. My delegation regrets his early departure. As a former Chairman of this Committee, and a member of the different inter-governmental bodies, I can witness to the dedication and efficiency of Mr. Leeks. My delegation wishes a happy future to him.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Al referimos a la labor del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos, la delegación de Colombia desea reconocer la importante y valiosa tarea cumplida al frente de la presidencia de ese organismo en el período pasado, por nuestro colega y amigo el Sr. A.F.M. de Freitas, del Brasil, cuya reciente declaración demuestra la competencia con que el participa en estas actividades. Estamos igualmente reconocidos al Sr. Carandang, de Filipinas, por la forma dinámica y eficaz como presidió el Comité en sus reuniones pasadas y por la excelente presentación que ha hecho esta mañana.

Como ya lo dijo la distinguida Embajadora de Panamá al estudiar este Informe, sin duda resalta el hecho de que la situación y las perspectivas de los productos básicos son inciertas; el panorama es negativo, oscuro y está afectado por hechos conocidos, como son las barreras proteccionistas, las limitaciones arancelarias o no arancelarias, los cupos a las exportaciones, las exigencias de calidades, las subvenciones y todas las formas de ayuda que han afectado artificialmente el comercio de productos básicos. Esos hechos conocidos se agravan ahora como lo dice el párrafo 16 por "las recientes dificultades del comercio mundial".

Creemos que este Consejo debe registrar en su informe con pesar el lento crecimiento del comercio agrícola que se ha agravado por las políticas proteccionistas de muchos países desarrollados, como se dice en el párrafo 17, y en esto estuvo de acuerdo todo el Comité. Esto nos lleva a la sección III del documento, para proponer también que el Consejo señale con preocupación la lentitud en la liberalización del comercio. Creemos que éste es uno de los factores negativos que influyen con mayor incidencia a la situación a que nos referimos. El párrafo 27 habla de las restricciones constantes y severas a que está sometido el acceso a los mercados de los productos de exportaciones de los países en desarrollo y el desplazamiento que han sufrido las exportaciones agrícolas de nuestros países con grave deterioro de nuestras economías.

Estamos de acuerdo con el colega de Brasil en que es necesario liberalizar mercados, facilitar el acceso de nuestros productos a esos importantes mercados para garantizar a los países en desarrollo productores de alimentos, cupos de exportación con volúmenes estables y precios remunerativos que les permitan planificar su producción.

Queremos apoyar, también, lo que dice el colega y amigo del Líbano, sobre la importancia de que la FAO continúe intensificando su cooperación con la UNCTAD, el GATT y todos los organismos que igualmente están dedicados a los estudios de los problemas de productos básicos, como lo demuestra el párrafo 124, la FAO en esas actividades no duplica las tareas que se llevan a cabo por otras organizaciones, sino que las complementa; de manera que merecen nuestro pleno apoyo.

La delegación de Colombia considera que es importante que el Consejo señale también la decepción de los países en desarrollo sobre los resultados de la UNCTAD VI, que tuvo lugar en Belgrado; en la declaración de Buenos Aires habíamos cifrado muchas esperanzas, que desafortunadamente vimos desaparecer.

Sobre el programa de la FAO en materia de productos básicos, la delegación de Colombia desea reiterar el apoyo a la manera como la Dirección de Productos Básicos y Comercio de la FAO viene realizando sus labores. Hemos registrado con complacencia una creciente efectividad en estas labores, tal como lo habíamos venido solicitando en el pasado; ahora las labores de la FAO no se limitan a análisis fríos y pasivos, sino que tratan de identificar las causas de los problemas y también de indicar las posibles soluciones de esos problemas; y esto nos parece muy adecuado en una organización como la nuestra. El Comité del Programa ya apoyó el programa de la FAO en materia de productos básicos.

Y queremos reiterar, como lo ha dicho nuestro colega del Brasil, el apoyo y el aprecio positivo que la delegación de Colombia siente por la labor de los distintos grupos intergubernamentales. Creemos que la FAO debe continuar e intensificar su labor en el campo de los productos básicos. En el párrafo 120 se destaca la utilidad práctica de la asistencia que viene ofreciendo la FAO a los países en desarrollo para formular y ejecutar sus políticas nacionales en materia de productos básicos. Deseamos, una vez más, confirmar nuestro apoyo, como lo hicimos en el Comité, a las propuestas prácticas y efectivas hechas por la delegación de Tailandia y consideramos que la FAO debe seguir presentando a las futuras reuniones del Comité nuevos análisis acerca de cómo se está cumpliendo la Resolución 2/79 de la Conferencia.

Como algunos de nuestros colegas recordarán, la delegación de Colombia ha dado siempre notable importancia a la actitud de la Comunidad Económica Europea en el campo del comercio de los productos básicos. Hemos asumido esta actitud por la importancia que ese destacado organismo tiene para nuestros países y el Gobierno de Colombia se complace en reconocer que algunos pasos en buena dirección está dando la Comunidad Económica Europea. Particularmente, en diciembre de este año, se va a firmar en Bogotá, en la capital de Colombia, un acuerdo entre la CEE y los cinco países que integran el Grupo Andino, uno de ellos es Colombia. Esperamos que los beneficios de ese acuerdo se extiendan pronto a otros países en desarrollo, no sólo en nuestra área, sino también de otras regiones del Tercer Mundo. Ojalá que otros países desarrollados, importantes también, que ahora son nuestros aliados coyunturales en la lucha contra el proteccionismo, aliados coyunturales como les llamamos en el Comité, sigan el buen ejemplo de la CEE y permitan la reivindicación de los países en desarrollo en el campo del comercio de productos básicos.

Queremos sumar nuestra voz a la del colega del Brasil para manifestar que la delegación de Colombia piensa que el Consejo debe recoger con viva simpatía el párrafo 126 del Informe del Comité, en el cual se hace un reconocimiento y se expresa la gratitud merecida al Sr. Leeks quien por treinta y un años ha servido a nuestra Organización y que se va a retirar a finales de 1983. Todos los que le conocemos apreciamos su labor positiva, particularmente en las actividades del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): We have gone through this Report with much interest. It has covered a number of important issues in the commodities sector, namely, it has reviewed the outlook for world commodities situation, protectionism in agricultural trade, selected commodity issues, viz., competition from synthetic substitutes, sugar trade, etc., and international action relating to agricultural commodities including developments in UNCTAD and GATT.

One of the disturbing developments in the world commodity economy has been the total collapse of commodity prices. This price fall has been of major proportions, driving down many prices to their lowest levels in real terms for half a century. Prices of primary commodities fell on an average by 16 percent during 1980 and 1981, and by a further 17 percent between the first three quarters of 1981 and the corresponding period in 1982. The collapse of commodity prices has left a severe impact on the earnings of the developing countries, and consequently the development of these countries and the loss in their export earnings has been very significant. It has been estimated that there was an \$8 billion decline, from 74 billion in 1980 to 66 in 1981. While the prices of commodity exports from developing countries have fallen steeply, there has been a sharp upward movement in the prices of essential imports into these countries from the developed economies with the results that the terms of trade have gone against the developing countries. The commodity terms of trade of non-oil-exporting developing countries, which worsened marginally from the 1960s to 1978, had deteriorated substantially since then, between 1978 and 1980, and by a further 12 percent in 1981.

The short-term commodity outlook is characterized by the slow industrial growth in the developed market economies and the associated stock levels. The long-term outlook is characterized by the trend towards greater self-sufficiency in foods in certain developed market economies as a result of high levels of support to domestic farm prices. There is also the trend of increasing substitution of industrial materials, a process that may well continue in the coming years. The

prognosis is that the 1980s may well be a period of considerable commodity price fluctuations, since the current period of abnormally low real prices will inevitably have adverse consequences for production capabilities in the world's primary commodity sector.

The world's commodity situation is quite gloomy and it will have implications for us. We must devise international policy measures to deal effectively with the prices in the world commodity economy. Already programme and mechanisms, such as integrated programme for commodities and the Common Fund for commodities, have been thought of and are being pursued in UNCTAD. We are giving full support to the innovative programme and mechanisms to restructure the world commodity economy.

The international community adopted the integrated programme of commodities of UNCTAD IV in 1976. This is a programme of global action to make the market structure in international trade and commodities of interest to developing countries on the basis of mutual advantage and equitable benefits, taking into account the interests of all States, particularly those of the developing countries. Under these programmes, there will be a Common Fund which will be the key and an integrated element and it serves to contribute to the financing of international stocking measures for stabilizing prices as well as to finance the commodity development measures such as research and development. Our interest lies mainly in commodity development measures. Unfortunately, the Common Fund has not come into force because it has not been ratified by the required number of countries. India has signed the agreement, and we have accepted it. Our contribution to the Fund would be of the order of \$2.4 million. We have also made a commitment to UNCTAD for making a voluntary contribution of \$5 million. India's interest is to give a push at such fora like the FAO by persuading the countries which have not so far ratified the Common Fund Agreement to do so quickly so that this Fund becomes operational without delay. Similarly, we have to think of stabilization mechanisms on a global basis.

We are also disappointed at the outcome of UNCTAD VI. We would plead for an expeditious conclusion of these international commodity agreements. Our agricultural exports occupy a significant place in our total exports, as indeed they do in the case of all developing countries. My delegation would like to place particular emphasis on increasing interdependence of developing and developed countries. The incipient process of economic recovery in some of the developed countries can only be sustained and strengthened through increase in the commodity trade of the developing countries through a process of trade liberalization and lowering of the tariffs and non-tariff barriers.

Finally, permit me to express my felicitations to the Chairman of the Committee as well as to Mr. Leeks, Director of the Commodities Division, for the excellent work produced in the Report, with which we associate ourselves wholeheartedly.

R.B. RYANGA (Kenya): I will come straight to the point. Document CL 84/6 is an extremely useful document and the CCP should be commended upon it. We also thank the CCP Chairman Dr. Carandang for his very lucid introduction. We support the major thrust of the document, and our comments are only intended to elaborate on this support.

The commodity situation as outlined in the first 15 paragraphs reflects the position which in any case has been prevailing for some time. Both groups, developed and developing, are in trouble, but the developing countries more so. It is quite obvious that urgent action is necessary, first of all to get the world economy out of the mess in which it is, but secondly, to ensure that the distortions that characterize international trade today are eliminated. Protectionist policies encourage production where it is not really advantageous to do so, and it prevents the shift of production to those places where it is more suited and also where it would do more good to more people.

Paragraph 17 argues that the slow growth in agricultural trade stems in part from already relatively high per caput consumption levels of certain commodities, such as beverages, coupled with a low or even negative population growth, that is, in the developed countries. My delegation finds this argument very interesting, primarily because one often hears about countries being exhorted to devalue their currencies in order to boost exports of the same products which consumption has already reached the saturation point.

Now, obviously there might be some other reasons, and even we can name a few, but it is equally obvious that sometimes this advice and some other advice that has been quoted in the document has not been entirely useful. It seems to us that the benefits of narrow national interest are preventing countries from looking at the picture in toto. In our view, nations must see themselves as operating within a total global framework. The thrust of paragraph 19 is generally correct, but surely multilateral liberalization of markets will include the trade of all countries and not merely the developing countries. These arguments which seek to imply that a favour is being done to developing countries must be rejected. In the long run, it is to the benefit of all countries and sometimes perhaps more so to the developed countries.

This delegation sympathizes with the scepticism of those who doubt the usefulness of the informal commodity arrangements or policy guidelines that some intergovernmental groups have established, but our view is that all this must be left open and that all avenues must be explored in our search for an equitable trade pattern.

Therefore, we support the informal arrangements because they might work. Moreover, paragraphs 81 and 85 indicate that at least some of these arrangements have been found useful.

It would appear from the document that protectionism is the main culprit as it distorts trade and prevents the free flow of such trends. Developed countries would appear to be too much on the defensive in our view. They should come out more freely to discuss and explore what could be useful proposals for the community as a whole. The interdependence referred to in paragraph 25, and which my colleague from India has also emphasized, in fact has been going on for some time but it is only in recent years that it has been stressed.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I cannot accept such dangerous arguments like the one in paragraph 26 that the state regulation of trade by socialist developed countries imposes a more severe limitation on agricultural imports than the tariffs applied by developed market economy countries. The fact is we do not want a protectionism period; it does not matter who does it. For this reason we would not be interested in the debate between EEC and the USA in paragraph 30 and 31 because protectionism, whoever does it, in our view is wrong.

The argument in paragraph 28 about the need to secure adequate livelihoods for farm families is understandable, but it must be remembered that in the developed countries the proportion of farmers is rather small, and therefore the benefit in this kind of activity actually goes to people who are not directly concerned with famine, at the expense of those who are concerned with famine in the developing countries. Moreover, the very same people who put this argument are the very people who argue that the removal of government control in agriculture in developing countries will give rise to higher incomes for farmers in those countries. Mr. Chairman, I think that we should stop paying more lip service to equitable international trade, and address ourselves to the main issues involved and make the sacrifices that are necessary.

Now look at paragraph 35. Do we really need an acceptable definition for tropical products ? Really ? And yet it is a condition before an agreement can be reached. I think this is red tape.

Mr Chairman, regarding paragraph 36 developing countries must have free access to all markets for all their products in the form in which they decide to export them. There can be no question about this. It is the only way in which these countries will be able to earn rewards commensurate with their endeavours. This is the only way that these countries are going to be able to finance their own development on a reliable and continuing basis, on the basis of their own efforts, on which they can plan.

Therefore such partial agreements, like, for example, the Lomé series and such other agreements, must be understood in their true colours as merely interim measures, not the final solution. We will not accept that.

Now it is quite clear that everybody agrees that there is protectionism, and in fact, in paragraph 41, there is no attempt there to even justify it. It merely reports it and talks about efforts to in fact monitor and analyse, so it is there. But in order to tackle the issue, we must break the barrier of fear on the part of developed countries, because they fear if they relax even a little then they will be swamped by hordes from the developing countries and swept from the face of the earth. That is why they are clinging so tenaciously to the status quo which is, of course, advantageous to them.

We are not at all happy at the results of UNCTAD VI. I must admit that I find sentence 3 of paragraph 58 somewhat amusing. When we were negotiating the abortive agreement a few years ago, the importers being referred to in this document were the exporters at that agreement, and their views regarding who should finance the holding of stocks were quite different from the ones being explained in the document. So it looks that we are merely concerned about narrow, national interests.

It is quite obvious that all nations depend on one another for eventual survival, and the current advantage enjoyed by some countries should not blind those countries from grasping this basic fact, that we all depend on each other. The developed countries with their technology are not going to be able to consume all of their production indefinitely. They cannot. They need the developing countries which are a substantial market. Therefore it is not enough merely to implicate these countries in these negotiations and in trade. These countries must be fully involved; it is not the same, they must be fully involved, and in the long run it means that barriers must go.

Mr Chairman, we also believe that the Common Fund should be brought into operation at once, and the suggestion made by the Director-General in paragraph 107 should be considered seriously because it is a useful one.

We also believe that international trade agreements seem to be the best way to ensure equitable trade at this time in spite of the invisible hand of Adam Smith. We also support that developed countries should continue to increase the trade that they have among and between themselves, and finally, Mr Chairman, we support the CCP programme for 1984/85, especially the importance being attached to this in paragraph 119.

D.R. TOUSSAINT (United States of America): Mr Chairman, the delegation of the United States would like to commend the members of the staff and the very able Chairman of the Committee on Commodity Problems for their workmanlike review of the world commodity situation and its outlook. We find ourselves in general agreement with the thrust of the report, and specifically fully join in the appreciation, tribute and best wishes for the future extended to Mr Leeks.

As many delegates know, the proposal made by the European Economic Community to impose a tax on fats and oils other than butter was the subject of considerable debate during the last meeting of the CCP. Indeed in our view it was one of the most important current commodity issues dealt with by that medium. The report before us reflects in paragraphs 66 through 71 the widespread and deep concerns raised by this proposal, concerns which have been alluded to again this morning.

The United States joins others in the Committee in expressing its concern. We continue to believe the matter is of such importance that it should come before the Conference for review and discussion there, and the United States will explain our concerns at greater length at that time.

J. BELGRAVE (New Zealand): First I would just like to place on record the appreciation of my delegation to the Chairman of the Committee on Commodity Problems for the clear and enlightening explanation he gave us this morning of the work of the Committee.

We feel that the report of the Committee is a good one. It reflects the depth of preparation by the FAO Secretariat and also the hard work which members of the Committee put into producing the document in front of us. New Zealand maintains the view that the work of the CCP remains of considerable importance, focusing as it does on what are fundamental issues and problems which face trade in agricultural products today.

I would like, Sir, to highlight one or two matters in the Committee's report which New Zealand feels need particular mention. First, the deterioration in the world economy and the state of international trade in 1981/82, including particularly the state of trade in agricultural commodities, is of considerable concern. This development, Mr Chairman, has been one of the principal factors contributing to the balance of payment problems of developing countries, and also to other countries like New Zealand which also depend on the export of a narrow range of agricultural products. We note, and this has been mentioned by earlier speakers this morning, we note with concern, that the decline in prices of agricultural commodities has been a particular factor in contributing to this fall in value of agricultural trade and its effects on the balance of payments on countries dependent on exports of commodities of this nature.

We take some heart from trends towards recent improvements in commodity prices but this does not really detract from the magnitude of the problem facing us.

The report also addresses in some depth the problems caused by agricultural protectionism. In New Zealand, a significant agricultural trader faced with an array of agricultural barriers to trade shares the concern of many countries in this room, particularly the developing countries, of the effects of agricultural protectionism. We welcome the fact that the CCP will continue to review developments aimed at a lessening of protectionism.

We hope, Sir, the world economic recovery might provide a basis for some realization of the general objectives of a liberalization of the barriers to trade in agricultural products.

New Zealand is right behind the work being done in other organizations, for example in the GATT through the Committee on Trade in Agriculture. We would certainly like to see it achieve a little more than was achieved at the GATT meeting about this time last year and we note the CCP's report at paragraph 33 in this context.

Also we note that one of the most important matters considered by the CCP was the adoption of the report of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal, the CSD. The CSD is an important vehicle in these times of surplus production and the market destabilizing effects of disposal of these surpluses on world markets. The consultative procedures and mechanisms inherent in the CSD provide the opportunity to lessen the effects of such disposals and it provides also, of course, an important forum for a necessary dialogue on this matter. As was said at the meeting of the CCP, New Zealand is concerned at the number of disposal transactions which were notified to the Committee in the period under review. We feel it shows that the basic problem of the production of surpluses is not being addressed in the countries concerned.

New Zealand gave its endorsement to the report of the CSD which was a compromise agreed to in Washington and we again confirm the CSD report, as a member of the Committee on Commodity Problems. There remain, however, many issues within the CSD which need further attention and we hope the Committee will continue to address these matters.

For our part, New Zealand will certainly continue to maintain its active participation in the CSD.

The CCP also addressed the work of the commodity groups of FAO and we should like to record the importance we attach to the work of these intergovernmental commodity groups. They provide an excellent forum for discussion of the problems for each commodity and of course enable each participant to exchange information of immediate value to them.

Therefore, to conclude, the New Zealand delegation supports the report in front of us. We continue to attach great importance to the work of the Committee on Commodity Problems and we look forward to the results of the further work programme which was agreed at its meeting. The Committee will continue to have New Zealand's full support. And finally, my delegation would just like to record our appreciation of the work of Mr Leeks and is sorry to see him go and would like to wish him well in the future.

E. SCHRODER (Germany, Federal Republic of): In view of the short time which is still available for this agenda item I will be very brief. The report of the 54th session of the CCP before us is an objective description of the work of the Committee on Commodity Problems as given at its last meeting. The report expresses the interests of member countries and the importance they attach to commodity policy problems. Like other delegations we are still of the opinion that FAO plays a central role in the field of commodities and has a central function in international cooperation. Dealing with partly different problems linked with the individual commodities, requires a maximum of knowledge and expertise as they are available in FAO.

We welcome the activities and tasks for the Secretariat as contained in the report. We support the Secretariat in its endeavours to improve international cooperation and to solve specific commodity problems. We consider the activities in the intergovernmental commodity group of special importance; they are not always as spectacular as the activities in the bodies of international commodity agreements but they are by no means less important or less effective. We advocate close cooperation with other international commodity bodies and institutions, but duplication should be avoided in this respect. We are, therefore, of the opinion, as already expressed by the EEC at the last meeting of the CCP, that FAO should not initiate any activities in the agricultural trade sector that go beyond the present framework.

In this connexion it is necessary, first, to implement the work programme of GATT as adopted by the ministerial meeting in November 1982 which finds our full support. We can agree without reservation to the adoption of the report.

P. GOSSELIN (Canada): Recently at the CCP we had a very useful discussion of the well known problems of commodity trade and protectionism. We in that committee all recognized the many problems of the past few years such as the economic fall-out on us from the recent recession, the slow-down in world trade, the sharp decline in commodity prices, reduced export earnings and the frightening debt burden facing certain developing countries. My country is a trading nation and depends to a very large extent on its commodity exports for its economic well-being. Thus, the recent performance of the commodity markets has had serious implications for certain sectors in Canada, particularly in agriculture, forestry and mining. Even apart from these short-term developments there are chronic problems in excess capacity in many sectors, high cost of production and the difficulty for governments to encourage the necessary adjustments. Support for the farming community is long-established, based on numerous economic, social, regional and political considerations. Government intervention stems from the volatility of commodity markets and the difficulties faced by individual farm operators in making investment and production decisions for the domestic and also the world market. We probably need a two-pronged approach to these problems: first, a ceiling on government guarantees for supply management; and second, measures to improve the conditions of agricultural trade.

As to the first, governments are beginning to limit the volume of production benefitting from price support but they also need to let market signals get through to the farmer. Liberalization of agricultural trade will remain difficult as long as unwanted surpluses depress the market and as long as governments offer blanket price guarantee.

Turning to agricultural trade, the shock value of the recession, market tensions and growing industrial protectionism have let us all take a sober assessment of the situation facing us in the 1980s. Canada welcomes the outcome of the GATT ministerial meeting in November of last year. The ministers agreed on a far-reaching programme which takes the GATT well beyond tariffs into further refinements of the codes and into the difficult sectors such as agriculture.

The new Committee on Trade in Agriculture has a wide mandate to consider all measures affecting trade, market access and competition and supply in agricultural products including subsidies and other forms of assistance. We believe that we in this Council should offer encouragement and support for this work.

At the UNCTAD VI which met in June, we had a wide-ranging review of commodity problems and the UNCTAD Programme is designed to help remedy the situation. We now have had seven years' experience with the integrated programme for commodities.

The international commodity agreement with economic provisions has proven difficult to negotiate or to operate. This is understandable given the conflicting interests of exporters and importers and the intrinsic problems of trying to stabilize normally volatile markets.

Further, the ICA are designed only to deal with the consequences of supplies and prices in the world markets; they are not designed to deal with the real problems of structural surpluses, high-cost producers and government support policies. Implementation of the Common Fund places further delays as the September 30 deadline passed without a sufficient number of ratifications.

Canada has ratified this Common Fund and we expect a meeting of ratifying States to be held in the new year to consider how to move the work further. Export earnings stabilization remains the focus of debate, particularly in UNCTAD. As we know, a group of experts will be organized by the Secretary-General to consider the need for an additional complementary facility. It is the Canadian view that a non-discriminatory export earning stabilization facility based on balance-of-payments requirements such as the IMF Compensatory Financing facility provides the best means of dealing with fluctuations in export earnings of primary producers. We hold that schemes linked to individual commodities can be detrimental in that they counteract market signals, distort investment patterns and can delay needed adjustments.

Finally, we wish to express our support and appreciation for the FAO work programme in commodities and trade. This is of direct benefit to the full FAO membership, both of developed and developing countries. We were pleased to endorse the planned activities for the next biennium. Those of us who attended the CCP, as was noted by my American colleague, witnessed quite a long and extensive debate on the question of the proposed EEC tax on oils and fats. We should like to add our voice to those who have already spoken and encourage members of the Community to reflect on the imposition of that tax which would be detrimental and which would have an impact more on the exports of those oils and fats to the Community than on the internal production. We believe that since the problem arises because of internal EEC pricing policies, that is where a solution should be looked for.

Ms M.L. GAVINO (Philippines): The Philippine delegation would like to call the attention of the Council to one of the commodity problems which has been of great concern to the Philippines. I am referring to the proposal of the EEC to impose tax on oils and fats to be effective 1st of January 1984. In spite of the assurances of the EEC Commission to the contrary, we believe that the net effect of the so-called discriminatory consumption tax on oils and fats other than butter would be to transfer 30 million ECUs from the potential earnings of the Philippine exports of coconut oil to the EEC subsidy fund. Since this tax would be levied at the port of entry according to draft rules, it would not be added to consumer prices but under general market conditions would be discounted by the traders from the CIF price, just like the shipping charges, insurance premiums and the existing tariffs. The tax would be discriminatory because the EEC has low self-sufficiency in oils and fats and hence the tax would fall mainly on imports. The tax would not be levied on butter and hence favour butter against margarines and other oils and fats. The specific tax would penalize the lower priced oils and would have lower incidence on the more expensive oils, particularly olive oil produced in the Community. The non-discriminatory consumption tax which would, according to the rules, be levied at the point of entry would not be added to consumer prices but discounted to exporters. It would be a dangerous precedent and could be used to raise the present level proposed once the principle is established. The reason in effect for the tax is to restore balance between olive oil produced within the Community and other oils on the one hand and the balance between butter and other oils and fats on the other. This means additional tax could be imposed on the basis of the foreseen surplus of all the oil with the enlargement of the EEC to include Spain and Portugal. Even if it were possible for the EEC to find legalistic justification for the tax under GATT, it was still morally incorrect to transfer the burden of butter subsidies to third parties, many of which were developing countries. I would like to reiterate the appeal of the

Committee, with the exception of the EEC member countries, to both the EEC Council and those individual member countries, to take full account of the feelings of deep concern and worry which had been expressed and to reject the Commission's proposal to impose a tax on oil and fats other than butter.

The Philippine delegation would also like to express its support for the proposal of Thailand that FAO convene a group of experts to develop guidelines and various protectionist methods. We believe this would help the work of the Committee in its review of Conference Resolution 2/79.

The Philippine delegation would like to express its disappointment over the delay in bringing the Common Fund into operation.

Finally, the Philippine delegation would like to express its appreciation for the work of Mr. Leeks as the Director of the FAO Commodities Division. The words of appreciation we have heard this morning on the work of the CCP and on the inter-governmental groups is in part at least due to Mr. Leeks' work.

J.R. LOPEZ PORTILLO ROMANO (México): Hemos tenido aquí una discusión exhaustiva y concluyente sobre la problemática actual de los productos básicos que nos lleva a esta delegación a apoyar sin reservas el Informe del CPPB; sin embargo, Sr. Presidente, queremos recoger aquí someramente algunos de los puntos que hemos reiteradamente expuesto en dicho Comité. El tratamiento de la comercialización a nivel mundial de productos básicos resulta tema obligado. Los documentos del Comité no lo contienen con suficiencia, incluirlo con profundidad permitiría no sólo dar cuenta de los efectos, sino también de la mecánica del proteccionismo, los castigos financieros, los problemas de balanzas de pagos, la inestabilidad deliberada de precios, la manipulación de la demanda, la concentración de capital, el monopolio de la tecnología, las prácticas dumping y la inversión extranjera.

Nunca será suficiente insistir en la importancia de racionalizar las relaciones económicas internacionales en favor de todos los pueblos bajo un nuevo Orden Económico Internacional como única condición para lograr la paz, que la entendemos no sólo como la ausencia de guerra, sino como desarrollo justo y efectivo. México reitera su apoyo a toda actividad que favorezca la concertación de convenios internacionales que contengan mecanismos económicos para la estabilización dinámica de precios internacionales de materias primas. Esto a través de la constitución de reservas internacionales según expresas Resoluciones de la UNCTAD, la 93 iv) y la 123 v). Con ello se favorecerá el reforzamiento del mercado internacional de productos básicos y se estimularán las exportaciones de los países subdesarrollados. Destacamos en particular la necesidad de un nuevo convenio internacional del azúcar.

Resulta indispensable identificar a las corporaciones agroindustriales transnacionales por el grado de control que ejercen sobre el mercado internacional. El primer paso sería señalar sus volúmenes de ventas, sus países de origen, el número de filiales y sucursales y sus actividades en países huéspedes, su diversificación económica, la composición y destino geográfico de sus inversiones, los aspectos tecnológicos de sus sistemas de producción y comercialización, la diferenciación y diversificación de sus productos, las características de la competencia entre corporaciones, las diversas formas en que operan en regiones y países, el comercio intrafirma e interfirma, sus formas de financiamiento y las utilidades encubiertas, principalmente bajo la forma de pagos por regalías y derechos de marca y asistencia técnica. Mucha de esta información se encuentra ya a disposición del Sistema de las Naciones Unidas, y ha sido sin duda materia de estudio exhaustivo por parte de los países desarrollados. Esperamos que sirvan también para tener un fondo, un zócalo para basar mejor nuestras discusiones sobre los problemas de comercio, financiamiento, etc.

Hemos insistido sobre la necesidad de establecer un mecanismo de colaboración entre países desarrollados y en vías de desarrollo para impulsar la investigación y el desarrollo de los productos básicos utilizando la tecnología que permita diversificar sus usos. Debemos incorporar un mayor valor agregado a las materias primas que exportamos y buscar nuevos mercados para los nuevos productos. Por ejemplo, el henequén-sisal, como el abacá están siendo probados como material para recubrimientos térmicos en sustitución de asbestos o en centrales nucleológicas. El sisal se usa en Brasil para hacer celulosa. Esos son los caminos que debe seguir la FAO, los países productores, los países consumidores y las empresas involucradas con el propósito de que aquellos que cuentan con la tecnología y el capital, y nosotros, que no hemos alcanzado el nivel superior de desarrollo, podamos hacer negocios justos que favorezcan a todos.

La referencia anteriormente hecha vale también para las actividades de procesamiento de productos básicos, pues la mayoría de los países en desarrollo siguen dependiendo de la exportación de productos primarios. Por ello, sería deseable favorecer la diversificación de sus exportaciones hacia productos elaborados y la apertura de mercados respectivos que han mostrado tener precios más estables.

El Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos ha ido paulatinamente, así lo sentimos; ha ido paulatinamente perdiendo algunas de sus funciones principales y se le ha inhabilitado a veces aun para analizar o eventualmente aconsejar los trabajos de otras organizaciones relacionadas con los temas que trata. Por eso solicitamos que la FAO haga una evaluación de las funciones que actualmente desempeña el CPPB a fin de optimizar su utilidad y su capacidad de cumplimiento con las metas que tiene señaladas.

Además de las mencionadas en los puntos anteriores, esta delegación propone vincular este Comité más estrechamente con el de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial, que podría así apoyar más el diseño de la política y estrategia de la producción de productos básicos y analizar su contexto y su desarrollo mientras que el CPPB se podría concentrar más en los aspectos relativos a la técnica y a aquellos operativos. Asimismo, consideramos que los Grupos Intergubernamentales deben fortalecerse a fin de convertirlos en un foro efectivo de negociación delimitados trazado por el Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial y el propio de Productos Básicos.

No quiero terminar, Sr. Presidente, sin manifestar en nombre del Grupo Latinoamericano y el Caribe su reconocimiento y agradecimiento por la labor efectiva, imparcial y progresista que el Sr. Leeks durante tantos años entregó en beneficio de la humanidad.

Sra. Doña G. SOTO CARRERO (Cuba): Nuestra delegación participó activamente en el 54º período de sesiones del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos y, por consiguiente, estuvo de acuerdo con el Informe que se presenta, al cual reiteramos nuestro apoyo. Sin embargo, quisiera hacer una breve intervención para reafirmar algunos planteamientos que se hacen en el informe que analizamos.

Con relación a las principales cuestiones relativas a la situación y perspectivas de los productos básicos, reafirmamos la opinión de que esta situación tiene raíces muy profundas y que está vinculada directamente con los problemas de la seguridad alimentaria mundial, tema en que la FAO despliega ingentes esfuerzos. Para lograr esos objetivos, como bien expresa el documento CL 84/6 y como también han expresado otros delegados, es necesario que todos los países hagan esfuerzos para no aplicar políticas proteccionistas y utilización de sus subvenciones ilimitadas a las exportaciones que perjudican a todos los países y en especial a los países en desarrollo, lo cual debe incluir poner coto a la acción de las empresas transnacionales. Necesario es, pues, también la puesta en vigor de convenios internacionales de determinados productos como es el caso del azúcar, entre otros, de los cuales se tengan en cuenta los intereses de todos los grupos de países y en especial de aquellos que dependen económicamente de la exportación de esos productos.

En el párrafo 62 del documento analizado, se explica muy claramente los objetivos de política general que deben tenerse en cuenta.

Por último, quisiéramos expresar que nuestra delegación considera que el Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos de la FAO y sus Grupos Intergubernamentales, es un órgano idóneo con mandato expreso para analizar los problemas que afectan grandemente el comercio de productos tan importantes para nuestros países y que directamente incluyen la garantía de la seguridad alimentaria mundial. En este sentido el papel que juega la FAO conjuntamente con la UNCTAD, GATT y otros órganos que se ocupan del problema, es digna de nuestro elogio y decidido apoyo de este Consejo.

F. RAZZAQUE (Bangladesh): This is an excellent work which brings out several serious issues, having given them close attention. Our delegation therefore wishes to thank FAO, the members of the Committee and Mr. Carandang. We support this good work. Already several delegations have spoken and echoed our sentiments. I shall not therefore repeat these.

However, the collapse of the agricultural commodity prices has affected all countries, but the least developed countries the most, most of whom generally depend on one or two major items of export. In this connection, therefore, the commitment of the international community made in the Paris Conference on the LDC's for special measures is recalled, and action to be taken in this regard to promote trade of the LDC's is also underlined by our delegation.

On the report we draw attention to Section V and in particular paragraphs 79 and 80 and agree that decisions on how best to support and complement the work of the International Jute Organization can be taken only after the resources available for implementing the organization's functions are better known. We underline here the basic intention given out in the report for support.

Before I conclude, my delegation would like to join the Committee in paying our tribute to Mr. Leeks.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation wishes to record its appreciation of the Report of the Committee on Commodity Problems, which we think is an excellent report which highlights the problems of commodity trade in the world and particularly the problems being faced by the developing countries.

We feel that paragraphs 8 to 15 of the report do factually bring out the situation of developing countries, where there is a steep fall in the export and trade receipts from agriculture, there is further deterioration in terms of trade of agriculture, particularly in 1982, there is piling up of the already huge deficits of the developing countries, and we feel concerned that the situation is aggravated by protectionist measures as brought out in paragraph 17.

We also share the disappointment expressed in paragraph 25 that not only has there been no progress in this regard, but on the other hand some of the longstanding protectionist policies have continued and there has been the introduction of new restrictive measures. We wish to express our strong concern at this situation and we strongly urge that this situation be rectified as soon as possible.

In this connection we wish to highlight only two aspects very briefly. One is the linkage between world food security and the commodity trade problems, particularly within the framework of broader and revised concepts of world food security as adopted by the Committee on World Food Security and endorsed by this Council. This has been highlighted in paragraph 15 and we wish this to be further highlighted in the future work of the CCP.

The second aspect we wish the CCP to address itself to in more detail in future is the one brought out in paragraph 19, technical and economic cooperation among developing countries and intra-trade between developing countries in the commodity region.

Before concluding, the Pakistan delegation wishes to commend the work being done by the CCP and the Commodities Division of FAO and in this connection we particularly wish to record our appreciation of the work done by Mr. Leeks and we wish him success and happiness.

V. ISARANKURA (Thailand): My delegation fully endorses the Report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems. However, I would like to draw the attention of this Council to paragraph 38 of this report concerning the proposal made by our delegation at the Committee meeting. It was suggested that governments should consider the feasibility of developing such guidelines in the GATT Committee on Trade in Agriculture and recommended that the Committee on Commodity Problems should consider our proposal at a future session.

In this connection, I would like to recall that besides a group of experts meeting as proposed by us, at our coming Conference we are going to consider the revision and updating of guidelines and targets for international agricultural adjustments. There is one guideline which has stated that all countries, particularly developed countries, should display the necessary political will by refraining from imposing any new tariff or non-tariff barriers on the imports of agricultural and agro-based products, particularly those from developing countries. In my opinion if the Conference unanimously adopts the revision and updating of guidelines and targets for international agricultural adjustments it will provide some hope to developing countries.

Before I close, permit me to join the previous speakers to express our appreciation and thanks to Mr. Leeks for everything he has done for us for more than thirty years and to wish him good prosperity and happiness in the future.

M. BENNIS (Maroc): Ma délégation voudrait formuler un bref commentaire sur la dégradation de l'économie mondiale enregistrée en 1981 et 1982 qui bien entendu a entraîné une chute brutale du commerce et des recettes d'exportation des produits de l'agriculture, des pêches et des forêts, notamment dans les pays en voie de développement, et même si la tendance à la reprise dans les pays industrialisés est encore timide, nous enregistrons malheureusement que les pays en voie de développement demeurent plongés dans le marasme. Or, l'économie de la quasi-totalité de ces derniers repose essentiellement sur l'agriculture. C'est dire combien le rôle de la FAO est déterminant dans la recherche de solutions à ce problème. Nous croyons fermement que les racines du mal résident dans les termes mêmes des échanges tels qu'ils sont encore appliqués. Le protectionnisme rigide et souvent inflexible d'une part, la détermination des prix qui ne répond pas toujours aux seules lois classiques du marché d'autre part sont les handicaps majeurs que rencontrent les pays en voie de développement dans l'expansion de leur commerce, et par voie de conséquence de leur production et de leur développement en général.

Bien entendu, des accords bilatéraux soulagent quelque peu certains pays, mais c'est beaucoup sur le plan international qu'il convient, à notre sens, de chercher des mesures équitables. L'adoption d'un nouvel ordre économique devient donc de plus en plus indispensable et urgente.

Il s'agit d'asseoir l'économie mondiale sur une notion de solidarité, et d'instaurer des règles morales dans les échanges internationaux. Ces règles, nous en sommes convaincus, finiront par être profitables aussi bien aux pays industrialisés qu'aux pays en voie de développement.

C'est un appel de notre Organisation que nous voudrions voir lancé en vue de l'adoption rapide du nouvel ordre économique dont l'impérative nécessité se fait de plus en plus sentir.

DATO SERI RADIN SOENARNO (Malaysia): In accepting this excellent Report of the Committee on Commodity Problems, my delegation would like to reiterate our position, as already expressed in the CCP proceedings, on the protective measures proposed by the EEC on vegetable oils and fats. We would like this Council to take note of the highlights of the debate on this issue and support the Committee's views as expressed in paragraph 71. We share the views already expressed by earlier speakers on this issue and urge the EEC Council to give serious consideration on the sentiments of developing countries.

In conclusion, we would like to express our appreciation for the good works and services rendered by Mr. Leeks and wish him all the best for the future.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): La delegación del Ecuador quiere expresamente llamar la atención del Consejo sobre la parte relacionada con el banano, página 14, literal g), numerales 88 y 89.

Como es de todos conocido, el Ecuador mantiene desde hace muchos años el liderazgo mundial en la producción y exportación de bananos, sital que solo se ha visto afectado este año por la incidencia del fenómeno de "El Niño". En todo caso, considerando la constante invariable en el mercado bananero de una creciente oferta y una lenta demanda, teniendo ademas en cuenta que los esfuerzos para establecer un convenio internacional del banano se halla en vías de desarrollo pero sin alcanzar a concretarse, el Ecuador puso énfasis especial en la Octava Reunion del Grupo Intergubernamental de la FAO sobre el banano en que se deben mantener las superficies de cultivo existentes a fin de equilibrar el mercado. El Ecuador, en demostración fehaciente de su cabal comprensión del problema, en los últimos diez años ha reducido las áreas de cultivo de 80 000 hectáreas a 60 000, manteniéndose en ese nivel desde 1979.

Queremos resaltar esta actitud positiva de nuestra parte.

Finalmente, la delegación ecuatoriana enfatiza la impostergable necesidad de liberar el mercado de obstáculos proteccionistas, que entorpecen una recuperación auténtica de la economía mundial, la cual se enfrenta a una de sus crisis más graves. De la crisis sólo se podrá salir con un esquema claro de responsabilidades equitativamente compartidas, dada la indisoluble realidad de una economía mundial estrechamente interdependiente.

Por consiguiente, apoyamos todas las iniciativas y esfuerzos de la FAO dirigidos a sensibilizar la comunidad internacional respecto a este tema trascendental de los problemas de los productos básicos, especialmente intensificando su dinámica relación con otros organismos internacionales, pues así se contribuye eficazmente a crear una conciencia internacional mucho más responsable.

A. A. KHALIL (Sudan) (original language Arabic): My delegation would like to pay tribute to the Committee on Commodity Problems and to FAO which plays an important part in the search for solutions to commodity problems and for the development of international trade. In this connexion, my delegation gives its support to the proposal concerning the links between commodity trade and food security problems and we feel that it will help to solve all these problems. As we all know, Sudan has to rely for its exports income on cotton and oilseeds, and therefore Sudan, like many Arab countries and other developing countries, feels concerned because of the proposal regarding a tax on oils and oilseeds in the EEC which is one of the most important markets for the Sudan and the Arab countries. There can be no doubt that this tax would have an influence not only on the exports of Sudan but also on the agricultural and industrial products imported from the Common Market countries, so we ask for the revision of this decision.

At the same time, Sudan is concerned about the different protectionist measures which hamper agricultural commodity trade, both with regard to meat and to fruit. We shall raise all these problems in detail in the course of the Twenty-second Session.

In conclusion, we would like to give our general support to the Report and to pay tribute to the Chairman for his introduction.

Y. A. HAMDI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): My delegation wishes to give its support to the contents of the Report and would like to congratulate the Secretariat and Mr. Carandang on the excellent work done which is reflected in this Report. We wish to express our concern concerning the application of the protectionist criteria and the customs barriers which hamper commodity trade and have a direct influence on the developing countries, especially those countries which have to count on agricultural commodities in order to cover their currency requirements. Our delegation would like the necessary measures to be taken in order to put an end to the application of this criteria.

We reaffirm the lead and important role which FAO is playing in the settling of commodity problems, and here we would like to give our support to the programme proposed for 1984-85.

In conclusion, we pay tribute to the praiseworthy efforts which have been made by Mr. Leeks in the Commodity Committee and wish him a very happy and successful future.

The meeting rose at 12.30 hours.

La seance est levée à 12 h 30.

Se levanta la sesión a las 12.30 horas.

council

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conseil

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

consejo

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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Eighty-fourth Session

Quatre-vingt-quatrième session

84° período de sesiones

SECOND PLENARY MEETING DEUXIEME SEANCE PLENIERE SEGUNDA SESION PLENARIA

(1 November 1983)

The Second Plenary Meeting was opened at 14.45 hours,
M.S. Swaminathan, Independent Chairman of the Council, presiding

La deuxième séance plénière est ouverte à 14 h 45 sous la présidence
de M.S. Swaminathan, Président indépendant du Conseil

Se abre la segunda sesión plenaria a las 14.45 horas bajo la presidencia
de M.S. Swaminathan, Presidente Independiente del Consejo

- II. ACTIVITIES OF FAO (continued)
- II. ACTIVITES DE LA FAO (suite)
- II. ACTIVIDADES DE LA FAO (continuación)

- 4. Report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (Rome, 3-7 October 1983) (continued)
- 4. Rapport de la cinquante-quatrième session du Comité des produits (Rome, 3-7 octobre 1983) (suite)
- 4. Informe del 54° periodo de sesiones del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos (Roma, 3-7 de octubre de 1983) (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: We will continue our discussion, on this item.

M. ZJALIC (Observer for Yugoslavia): My Government attaches great importance to the commodity work of FAO and particularly to the work which is managed and organized through the Commodities Division and the Committee on Commodity Problems. This Council has in front of itself a report of the last session, and the report by itself is a faithful reflection of the well-prepared and successful work done during the last session. We endorse this report of the Committee during the session but we would like to draw the attention of the Council to some points which we consider to be of interest and importance to the Council members and the member countries of this Organization.

We would like to start - briefly of course - with the problem of inter-dependence between developed and developing countries. It has been partly reflected in paragraphs 14 and 17. The problem is whether the economic recovery in some industrialized countries will have some or any impact on the economic position of developing countries, particularly their trade position, and as it was clearly stated by many Council members, particularly by delegates of Brazil, India, Kenya and Sudan, unless this principle of interdependence is recognized as a predominant principle in international economic relations, the economic position of developing countries will be stagnant or will further deteriorate.

The second point I would like to mention is the interlinkage between trade and food security issues as reflected in paragraph 15, and particularly in the second part of paragraph 17 of this report; paragraph 15 at a global level and paragraph 17 the problem of adjustment of national policies which should include concern for food security at national level.

The third point I would like to mention is our full agreement with paragraph 19 and a call for a progressive and multilateral liberalization of markets with a special emphasis on enhancing the purchasing power of developing countries, although we are fully aware that it is probably an idealistic goal, but all our efforts should be concentrated in finding at least a remedial solution in the temporary solutions in order to attain this final goal.

We fully support the approach of the Committee to the FAO role in commodity and international trade, and particularly as reflected in paragraph 20 and further elaborated in paragraphs 116 to 122.

We support also the role of FAO in promoting and supporting the developing countries to implement economic cooperation among themselves as reflected in paragraph 42 and paragraph 113.

Finally, we would like to join those delegates who have repeated paragraph 125, and we would like to express our thanks and congratulations for Mr Leeks' distinguished service and long years of work for this Organization and member countries.

J. GAZZO (Observador de Peru): Permítame hacer uso de la palabra en mi calidad de observador y miembro del CPPB. La delegación de mi país felicita, en forma muy especial, la brillante labor que tuvo mi colega y amigo Horacio Carandang en la conducción de este Comité. Mi delegación expresa su profunda preocupación por el efecto negativo que significa para los países en desarrollo, el encontrar limitaciones generadas en el comercio internacional de subproductos agrícolas, al limitarnos en el crecimiento de nuestras fronteras agrícolas.

Resulta que las aptitudes agrícolas en las zonas de la gran mayoría de los países en desarrollo guardan estrecha relación con sus respectivas ecologías, cuyas características les colocan dentro de las categorías de países tropicales y subtropicales; posición geográfica que les permite producir con significativas ventajas económicas comparativas, diversas materias primas de origen agrícola como son el azúcar, algodón, café, oleaginosas tropicales, yute, banano y otros que eran justamente los que les permitían, cuando sus precios de exportación eran razonablemente justos, en relación con sus costos de producción, el obtener un volumen de divisas que les permitían a su vez, importar los

productos alimenticios producidos principalmente en países desarrollados de clima templado y de ecologías apropiadas para su producción eficiente y económica. Pero resulta, en cambio, que muchos de estos países desarrollados no se han contentado con esas ventajas ecológicas que les dió la naturaleza sobre los de nuestros países en desarrollo; sino que, además, se esfuerzan vehementemente y con altas tecnologías en producir productos sustitutorios y/o sintéticos que nos están limitando en el crecimiento de nuestras únicas posibilidades agrícolas posibles.

Tal es el caso, por ejemplo, de la producción de azúcar, de beterraga y el uso de fructuosas producidas a base de variedades de maíces adoptadas a sus ecologías, estando ultimamente en pleno apogeo, el uso de variedades azucareras de sorgo. Igualmente, cuando los países en desarrollo produjeron abundantes proteínas animales de origen marino, fueron rápidamente sustituidas por proteínas de origen vegetal que ellos no producían, sin importarles el aporte de ciertos aminoácidos esenciales que tienen las proteínas de origen animal y que en cambio, no poseen las proteínas de origen vegetal. Estas tendencias al uso de sustitutos y sintéticos son una de las grandes contradicciones al espíritu del nuevo concepto de seguridad alimentaria enunciado por nuestro Director General que se ha hecho dogma en el mundo moderno.

En cambio, en los ambientes de alta investigación que manejan los países desarrollados se ha hecho muy poco por ejemplo, para encarar con carácter técnico, económico y social el desarrollo de la agricultura de temporal y/o secano, que tantos problemas causan en los países en desarrollo. Aun después de tantas décadas no se ha desarrollado todavía una variedad de trigo tropical tipo low energy, y se ha logrado enriquecer el valor proteico de nuestros tubérculos y raíces; es necesario remarcar que las únicas áreas de cultivo que aun se pueden ganar están principalmente en los países en desarrollo; por consiguiente, es necesario hacer una invitación a través de la FAO y de nosotros mismos a los países desarrollados para que limiten el uso de sucedáneos y/o sintéticos que desalojen nuestras actuales áreas de cultivo y nos obliguen, por consecuencia, a usarlas en la producción de otros cultivos, inclusive alimenticios, para los cuales no tienen aptitudes nuestras ecologías y con las consecuencias que erosionan los bajos rendimientos que no hacen competitivas estas producciones fuera de sus áreas ecológicas.

Muchas veces la demanda de determinados productos por parte de los países desarrollados nos ha hecho hacer un desarrollo de infraestructura especial y costosa que después queda obsoleta, muchos millones de dólares han sido gastados por nuestros países con aprobación y préstamo de los organismos de crédito internacionales para la producción e industrialización de varios productos tropicales y subtropicales, cuya caja de precio en los mercados mundiales han producido profundas brechas en nuestra balanza de pagos por fuerte endeudamiento contraído para tales fines.

Si se piensa, finalmente, que hace veinte años adquirí un tractor con la venta de 20 toneladas de azúcar y, en cambio, hoy si se quiere vender para el mismo tractor de 70 a 80 toneladas esto nos indica que el valor agregado de los productos industriales se ha mantenido, sin duda alguna, en base al desmedro del valor agregado de las materias primas de origen agrícola.

G. DESESQUELLES (Observateur pour la Communauté économique européenne): La Communauté économique européenne considère que le document CL 84/6 est un rapport satisfaisant résumant parfaitement les débats du récent Comité des produits. A cet égard, la CEE et ses Etats membres rappellent, notamment en ce qui concerne le protectionnisme agricole, que la CEE est de loin le meilleur importateur mondial de produits agricoles et qu'elle a accompli des efforts importants pour favoriser les importations originaires des pays en voie de développement soit dans le cadre de la convention de LOME soit dans le cadre du système des préférences généralisées ou d'accords tel celui entre la CEE et le Pacte andin cité ce matin par M. l'Ambassadeur Bula Hoyos.

Par ailleurs, tout en considérant que les enceintes de la FAO peuvent discuter librement des questions relatives au commerce agricole, la CEE et ses Etats membres rappellent que les propositions pour des mesures concrètes relèvent d'enceintes spécialisées telles que le GATT. A cet égard, il nous paraît inutile de constituer un groupe d'experts chargé de mettre au point des lignes d'orientation comme suggéré par le représentant de la Thaïlande car cela ferait double emploi avec les travaux actuellement en cours dans le cadre du GATT.

En ce qui concerne les accords internationaux des produits de base, la CEE rappelle son attachement aux arrangements visant à assurer la stabilisation des marchés. C'est pourquoi elle souhaite qu'on reprenne instamment les discussions sur un nouvel accord international sur les céréales en tenant compte des intérêts des pays en voie de développement comme il a été indiqué dans la résolution 154 de la sixième CNUCED; de même elle espère que les conversations qui se poursuivent pour un nouvel accord sur le sucre permettront d'aboutir lors de la troisième session de février 1984.

En ce qui concerne les résultats de la CNUCED VI, la CEE se félicite de la nouvelle impulsion donnée à la mise en place du fonds commun et à la réalisation du programme intégré. Elle relance son appel pour que les gouvernements qui n'ont pas encore signé et ratifié cet accord le fassent sans délai. La CEE pour sa part s'est engagée à financer la cotisation au capital du fonds commun de certains pays en développement parmi les plus démunis.

J'en viens maintenant au sujet qui semble passionner certaines délégations, à savoir l'introduction d'une éventuelle taxe sur les matières grasses autres que le beurre. Je ne voudrais pas rouvrir le débat qui s'était instauré lors du Comité des produits et qui est excellemment résumé aux paragraphes 66 à 71 du document CL 84/6. Je rappellerai simplement qu'à ce stade ce n'est qu'une proposition de la Commission des communautés européennes. Cette taxe serait conforme aux règles du GATT et elle traduit la volonté politique d'améliorer l'équilibre global du marché des matières grasses sans préjudice des produits importés.

A un moment où la CEE demande des sacrifices à ses propres producteurs, notamment par des taxes de coresponsabilité pour les produits laitiers tels que le beurre, la Commission des CEE estime qu'elle ne peut plus laisser entrer n'importe quoi dans la communauté sans risque de réduire à néant les efforts entrepris.

En ce qui concerne la demande des Etats-Unis d'Amérique de traiter cette question lors de la Conférence, la CEE considère que cela est prématuré car aucune décision n'a encore été prise. En outre, des sujets beaucoup plus importants pour le tiers monde, comme les vicissitudes des cours des produits de base agricoles et la dégradation de la situation alimentaire des pays en développement, notamment en Afrique, mériteront une attention particulière. Toutefois, si les Etats-Unis d'Amérique en font une question de principe, la CEE suppose que nos amis américains marqueront également leur accord pour que l'on discute, lors de la Conférence, des récentes ventes agricoles par les Etats-Unis à des conditions de "dumping" au mépris des règles du GATT.

La CEE estime que nos travaux doivent être constructifs pour aboutir à des résultats raisonnables. C'est dans cet esprit que la CEE est pour un dialogue permanent basé sur la coresponsabilité, sur un plan interne comme sur un plan externe. Nous souhaitons que tout ce que nous faisons par contributions successives serve d'exemple et de référence pour toute progression dans le domaine de l'amélioration de la sécurité alimentaire.

D. R. GREGORY (Observer for Australia): At this stage and as an observer, I would not wish to enter into the debate, but after listening to the last observation I must admit that one is somewhat tempted. However, I think that the important matter has been raised in paragraph 43 that suggests that we will have a further opportunity to raise this matter during Conference and I notice that Council members have referred to that and we fully support those proposals as well as many of the arguments that have been made in that situation.

In relation to the proposals by the delegate of Thailand, since it was just mentioned, I think perhaps in the light of recent events it might be enough just to say that one has cause for being somewhat doubtful about the intentions and resolve of some member nations to achieve within the GATT what that body was established to achieve. Perhaps those proposals that the delegate for Thailand raised at the meeting of the Committee on Commodity Problems reflect some of the frustration that possibly those experiences in other bodies bring to mind.

I would just take this opportunity to compliment generally the work done by the Commodities Division within FAO. I think that work contributes very much to the achievement to some transparency in international commodity markets and for Australia's part, we find that a reflection of the sort of policies that we try to achieve in our own domestic situation.

I would also finally not like to let the opportunity pass to express Australia's appreciation, indeed, its sincere appreciation and deep thanks to Mr. Leeks for his help to Australia over the years and we wish him well in the future.

CHAIRMAN: I think we are behind time so I shall avoid the temptation of saying anything except to add my words of congratulations to the chairman and members of this Committee for the excellent job they have done, for the issues which have been discussed. Twenty-one members of the Council and four observers have taken part in this debate. I am glad that there was such a widespread discussion because the issues are essential to the whole question of ushering in a desirable form of economic order. So I would like to thank Mr. Carandang for introducing the topic and all the members of the Committee. I would also like to add my own words of gratitude and the Council's gratitude to Mr. A. G. Leeks for his most outstanding services during the last 31 years. We would like to wish him well and all I want to say is, may his tribe increase, we want more people with such dedication and such ability.

I. INTRODUCTION - PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION

(continued)

I. INTRODUCTION - QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE (suite)

I. INTRODUCCION - CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO (continuación)

2. Election of Three Vice-Chairmen, and Designation of the Chairman and Members of the Drafting Committee (continued)

2. Election de trois vice-présidents et nomination du président et des membres du Comité de rédaction (suite)

2. Elección de tres Vicepresidentes, y nombramiento del Presidente y los Miembros del Comité de Redacción (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I have now the complete list of the Drafting Committee and I can read them out: Congo, Cuba, Mexico, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, India, Iraq, New Zealand, Norway, Thailand, and the United States of America. The Committee will elect its chairman. They will meet, according to the Secretary General, tomorrow.

Now I have one more vice chairman. This morning we elected His Excellency Alfredo Pinoargote Cevallos of Ecuador first Vice Chairman, and His Excellency Albert Fequant representative of France to FAO as the second Vice Chairman. We now have to elect the third Vice Chairman.

SJARIFUDIN BAHARSJAH (Indonesia): Recognizing the role of the government of Pakistan in the affairs of this organization, my delegation would like to propose the election of Pakistan to the Vice Chairmanship of this Council.

CHAIRMAN: The delegate of Indonesia has proposed Mr. Qureshi of Pakistan to be the third Vice Chairman.

J. BELGRAVE (New Zealand): On behalf of my delegation, it gives me great pleasure to second the nomination of Mr. Qureshi which of course reflects very much the detailed, extensive and significant involvement of the government of Pakistan in FAO and this Council in particular.

Sra. Da A. CAVERO (España): España quiere apoyar la propuesta del Sr. Qureshi, de Pakistán, para esta Vicepresidencia.

CHAIRMAN: I gather the election of Mr. Qureshi is unanimous and I would like to congratulate him on your behalf on the election. I am very happy to have three such very distinguished colleagues.

A. M. QURESHI (Pakistan): I would like to express my deep gratitude for the confidence which this august house has laid in Pakistan. I assure you that we will continue to work along with all the member States to further our common interests in line with the objectives of this Organization. I thank you very much and I thank the members for this confidence that they have placed in Pakistan.

II. ACTIVITIES OF FAO (continued)

II. ACTIVITES DE LA FAO (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES DE LA FAO (continuación)

5. Report of the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (Rome, 10-19 October 1983)

5. Rapport de la quinzième session du Comité des pêches (Rome, 10-19 octobre 1983)

5. Informe del 15° período de sesiones del Comité de Pesca (Rome, 10-19 de octubre de 1983)

J.E. CARROZ (Subdirector General, Departamento de Pesca): El decimoquinto período de sesiones del Comité de Pesca ha concluido sus labores hace pocos días. Las sesiones han tenido lugar del 10 al 19 de octubre bajo la presidencia del Almirante Abu Rahman, Director General de Pesca de Indonesia.

Este ha sido un período de sesiones muy especial del Comité, ya que representó además la fase técnica de la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca de la FAO sobre ordenación y desarrollo pesqueros. Asistieron a la reunión más de 350 delegados y observadores de más de 120 países y de 20 organizaciones internacionales, es decir un número muy superior al de años anteriores.

Al cumplir con sus obligaciones reglamentarias de examinar el trabajo de la FAO en materia de pesca, el Comité dio su total apoyo a las propuestas del Director General para el próximo bienio. Expresó también su satisfacción por la estrecha integración existente entre el programa regular y el programa de terreno. El Comité apoyó además decididamente la continuación del programa especial de asistencia a los países costeros en desarrollo del Director General para el desarrollo y ordenación de las pesquerías en las zonas económicas exclusivas, tanto en lo concerniente al envío de misiones solicitadas por los países, como en lo que atañe a estudios a largo plazo.

En su papel de fase técnica de la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca, el Comité llevó a cabo debates muy importantes sobre cuestiones fundamentales relacionadas con la ordenación y desarrollo de las pesquerías. En esa oportunidad el Comité recalcó, tal como se había ya señalado en anteriores reuniones del Consejo, que debía evitarse absolutamente la discusión de cuestiones ya resueltas en la Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Derecho del Mar. Igualmente, la gran mayoría de las delegaciones destacaron la importancia prioritaria del concepto de derechos soberanos de los Estados Ribereños en lo que concierne a la explotación, preservación y ordenación de los recursos vivos en las respectivas zonas económicas exclusivas. Debo agregar que el Comité se ocupó en sus discusiones no sólo de las pesquerías marinas, sino también de la de agua dulce y de la acuicultura.

Las principales cuestiones discutidas fueron los objetivos y políticas nacionales para el desarrollo pesquero, los principios y técnicas de ordenación pesquera, los problemas especiales que presentan las pesquerías en pequeña escala y de aquellas de los pequeños estados insulares en desarrollo, el comercio internacional de pescado y de productos pesqueros, y la colaboración internacional en materia de investigaciones pesqueras, así como de ordenación y desarrollos pesqueros, con especial referencia al papel jugado por los organismos regionales pesqueros de la FAO y de sus respectivos Comités Subregionales. Como ustedes ya habrán podido notar, hay un breve resumen de los principales puntos propuestos por el Comité, en la sección que precede el Informe del mismo, y que lleva por título "Cuestiones que requieren la atención del Consejo".

En lo que hace a la fase política de la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca, que tendrá lugar el año próximo, el Comité recibió con satisfacción la recomendación efectuada por el Consejo en su último período de sesiones, de elaborar un proyecto de Estrategia de ordenación y desarrollo pesqueros. El Comité aprobó una serie de elementos básicos sobre los cuales la FAO deberá formular orientaciones y principios. Al hacerlo, el Secretariado deberá por supuesto tomar bien en cuenta las discusiones llevadas a cabo por el Comité sobre las cuestiones fundamentales relacionadas con la ordenación y el desarrollo pesqueros. El acento de esta Estrategia deberá ser dado al aumento de la contribución de las pesquerías a los objetivos nacionales en materia económica, social y alimentaria, y por lo tanto a las disponibilidades mundiales de alimentos así como a una mayor autosuficiencia de los países en desarrollo en materia de ordenación y desarrollo pesqueros.

El Comité trató en detalle también el tipo de programas de acción que deberían asociarse con la Estrategia y sobre los cuales la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca debería buscar un acuerdo. Teniendo en cuenta las sugerencias efectuadas por el Secretariado y por un gran número de delegaciones, en particular las de Noruega y de Canadá, el Comité recomendó que las siguientes cinco propuestas para Programas de Acción sean sometidas a la Conferencia: un Programa de Acción sobre ordenación y desarrollo pesqueros (que cubra tanto las pesquerías marinas como de agua dulce); uno sobre el desarrollo de las pesquerías en pequeña escala; uno sobre la acuicultura; uno sobre el comercio del pescado y de los productos pesqueros; uno para fomentar el papel de las pesquerías en la lucha contra la malnutrición.

El Comité recibió con agrado la recomendación efectuada por el Consejo en el mes de junio, de que se realicen otras consultas con los gobiernos antes de presentar a la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca propuestas detalladas sobre la Estrategia y los Programas de Acción. A este respecto el Comité hizo una serie de sugerencias específicas, que ustedes podrán encontrar en el párrafo 207 de su informe, y que se refieren a las medidas que podrían ser adoptadas por el Director General.

El Comité invitó también al Director General a contactar donantes e instituciones de financiamiento, dado que su participación activa y su apoyo concreto resultarán indispensables para convertir las intenciones en una realidad práctica. Tengo la satisfacción de informarles que ya algunos gobiernos y organizaciones han indicado su intención de contribuir a la ejecución de los Programas de Acción.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for bringing out the highlights of the meeting, which was held only recently.

I would again like to draw the attention of Council members to the fact that under 'Matters requiring attention by the Council' there is no particular matter for decision, the points are for information.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I would just like to say that the Philippines delegation endorses the Report and welcomes its conclusions on the key issues for Fisheries Management and Development and the work of FAO in Fisheries.

In particular we would like to welcome the conclusions of the Committee on the five Programmes of Action proposed, to wit: (i) Action programme on fisheries management and development (covering both marine and inland fisheries); (ii) Action programme for the development of small-scale fisheries; (iii) Action programme on aquaculture; (iv) Action programme on trade in fish and fish products; (v) Action programme to promote the role of fisheries in alleviating undernutrition.

With regard to the first Action Programme, we understand this to include planning. This is but logical, since before anybody can manage and develop fisheries he has to plan. In fact this has already been indicated in paragraphs 188 and 189, and I quote:

"In this period of change, the challenge was to promote the self reliance of developing countries in the rational planning and management and the optimum utilization of their fish resources, "

Then the last sentence:

"In this respect, the Committee emphasised that the reorientation of strategies and policies for fisheries planning management and development should take due account..." etc.

There the word planning is also indicated. Then in paragraph 189:

"The Committee therefore welcomed the proposal that the World Fisheries Conference should elaborate a Strategy for fisheries planning management and development, comprising guidelines and principles for the reference of governments and international organizations as they consider ..." etc.

With regard to the steps recommended by the Committee, we welcome those steps as indicated in paragraph 207, wherein the following steps are foreseen:

"The Committee agreed that fuller, revised drafts for the Strategy and the five Action Programmes would be prepared by the Secretariat, in the light of the Committee's views and recommendations, and would be circulated to all governments, agencies and concerned organizations preferably before the end of December 1983. Written comments would be requested before the end of February 1984. FAO would then convene in March 1984 an ad hoc consultation of government experts to review the drafts and the comments received."

We particularly like the sentence that follows:

"For practical purposes, the number of such participating experts would have to be limited but, in order to ensure proper regional representation, invitations would be extended by the Director-General after seeking the advice of the Chairman of the Regional Groupings."

This I think would ensure that there would be a balanced representation in this consultation of Government experts. Finally, the third step would be:

"Following the consultation, the Director-General would finalise the draft proposals for the Strategy and Action Programmes for circulation to all governments, agencies and organisations which would be invited to participate in the policy phase of the World Fisheries Conference to be held from 27 June to 6 July 1984."

SJARIFUDIN BAHARSJAH (Indonesia): The Indonesian delegation would like to thank the Assistant Director-General for Fisheries for his excellent introduction to the Report of the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries. Needless to say, the Indonesian delegation endorses the Report and the results of the undertaking of the Committee.

There is, however, one item that we would very much like to emphasize. Throughout the Report it has been brought up many times that the field of fisheries also has great potentials for regional and international cooperation and collaboration. One such cooperation and collaboration is in the field of research.

Turning now to the Action Programme as formulated in paragraph 199, we would like very much to add to the five Action Programmes something that will mean that these Action Programmes will benefit from the international and regional collaboration in research in fisheries,

J.R. LOPEZ PORTILLO ROMANO (México): Deseo aclarar que esta declaración, la hacemos a nombre del grupo latinoamericano y del Caribe, y por tanto también a nombre de la delegación mexicana, para los efectos a que dé lugar en el Comité de Redacción y en el informe de este Consejo.

En primer lugar, deseamos felicitar y agradecer al Sr. Carroz su estupenda presentación y destacar, en particular, el que lo ha hecho en español, lo que consideramos es un obsequio a nuestro idioma; muchas gracias.

La Conferencia Mundial para la Ordenación y Desarrollo Pesqueros, a celebrarse en junio de 1984, tuvo en la 15a. sesión de COFI su fase técnica para analizar los problemas y mecanismos que serán necesarios adoptar para que el Nuevo Orden Jurídico del Mar tenga una vigencia plena.

Como base para los debates, la Secretaría preparo una serie de documentos, varios de los cuales fue-ron calificados por gran parte de las delegaciones de países en desarrollo, como deliberadamente pesimistas respecto a la posibilidad de hacer uso eficiente de los recursos pesqueros en sus nuevas zonas económicas exclusivas. El pronunciamiento del Director General de FAO en su discurso inicial, que las delegaciones solicitaron fuese considerado documento de trabajo, permitió dar un marco ponderado y abrió posibilidades que, junto con la presentación adicional de los temas, permitió un debate fuerte y constructivo.

Los países de la región latinoamericana asistieron a COFI con un trabajo preparatorio materializado en un mandato resultante de la reunión de Ministros de Pesca celebrada en Panamá, en el seno del Comité de Productos del Mar y de Agua Dulce del SELA y apoyados por el trabajo de las delegaciones de los países latinoamericanos dentro del GRULAC (Grupo Latinoamericano y el Caribe).

El trabajo coordinado aunado a la relevancia que los países de América Latina tienen en la producción y comercio mundial de los productos pesqueros y al hecho de que tres de las áreas de mayor potencial de producción se encuentran en la región, constituyen un elemento importante en esta reunión. La posición de los países latinoamericanos está estrictamente vinculada al espíritu de CONDEMAR, por lo que están resueltos a defender el derecho que asiste a sus estados para la libre y soberana disposición de todos los recursos pesqueros mientras se encuentren en sus aguas jurisdiccionales.

Asimismo, existe la conciencia de la necesidad de defender la autosuficiencia y reforzarla a través de las asociaciones a nivel regional, por lo que se ha decidido la creación y puesta en marcha de la Organización Latinoamericana de Desarrollo Pesquero (OLDEPESCA), como medio para lograr la utilización plena de las potencialidades internas de la región, así como la eficiente canalización de la cooperación internacional en armonía con las necesidades regionales.

Apoyamos la afirmación del COFI en el sentido de que debe reconocerse claramente el derecho soberano de cada Estado para determinar la política más adecuada para su desarrollo pesquero y explotación de sus recursos, y que no es aplicable adoptar un unico modelo para el desarrollo pesquero.

Se manifestó de particular trascendencia y sensibilidad, el tema de condiciones y control del acceso a los recursos pesqueros en las zonas económicas exclusivas, habiéndose impugnado el documento preparado por la Secretaría aunque se aceptó la discusión del tema. Apoyamos la afirmación del Comité, que hizo hincapié en que debe darse primordial importancia al objetivo de desarrollar las pesquerías del propio país y las capacidades nacionales de captura en las zonas económicas exclusivas, y que propuso que la FAO ayude a los Estados ribereños en desarrollo a crear su capacidad nacional, facilitándoles información sobre disponibilidad de recursos y el desarrollo de tecnologías y capacidad de gestión en general.

Insistimos ahora en el espíritu del artículo 300 de CONDEMAR relativo a la buena fe con que deben cumplir los Estados firmantes las obligaciones contraídas de conformidad con la Convención, y en el ejercicio de los derechos, competencias y libertades reconocidas en ellas, de manera que no constituyan un abuso de derecho.

Recalamos que las pesquerías de pequeña escala, párrafo 69 del Informe, también constituyen una de las esferas prioritarias en el contexto del desarrollo y ordenación pesqueros, y que ello debe reflejarse en la estrategia respectiva. Por lo tanto, pensamos que la Conferencia presenta una oportunidad para destacar su importancia. Apoyamos la Estrategia y los Programas de Acción sugeridos por el COFI, especialmente los párrafos 189, 190 y 192 de la Estrategia, y los elementos del Programa de Acción propuestos en el párrafo 199 y 203.

Consideramos que las estrategias y los programas de acción se deben centrar en que la FAO y los organismos internacionales enfoquen su asistencia en áreas técnicas necesarias, como son información, capacitación, tecnología de captura, procesamiento y mercadeo, y en los aspectos sensibles, y que deben actuar por solicitud expresa de los países o las regiones sin duplicar esfuerzos ni recursos.

Enfatizamos que en la estrategia se incluya el tema de financiamiento a la pesca, para lo cual solicitamos nuevamente que la FAO coordine una reunión con los representantes de las fuentes financieras a fin de establecer las necesidades de financiamiento del sector, políticas y mecánicas de financiamiento y asistencia en la formulación de proyectos, tal y como fue aceptado por el Banco Mundial en el párrafo 210 del informe del COFI.

Finalmente, apoyamos y colaboraremos en todos los trabajos de preparación de la Conferencia, especialmente en la consulta de expertos gubernamentales que consideramos de gran importancia.

Para los efectos a que tenga lugar, me voy a permitir entregar a la Secretaría, por escrito, esta declaración de manera que pueda ser adecuadamente traducida y se corrijan algunos posibles errores que haya habido en la traducción.

A.A. MALEK (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Pour commenter le rapport établi par le Comité des pêches à sa quinzisième session, la délégation de mon pays voudrait faire les remarques suivantes.

Tout d'abord, nous nous félicitons du fait que le COFI s'est fait l'écho de la résolution adoptée en juin 1983 par le Conseil de la FAO au sujet de la consultation qui doit se faire au niveau des experts gouvernementaux en vue d'établir une stratégie et un programme de travail pour le développement des pêcheries pour 1984. Nous concordons avec la proposition faite par le Comité, à savoir qu'une consultation spéciale doit se tenir avant octobre 1983, c'est-à-dire avant la Conférence mondiale qui aura lieu elle-même en 1984. Nous attendons avec intérêt les résolutions qui seront adoptées lors de la Conférence mondiale et nous espérons qu'elles seront conformes à la stratégie ainsi qu'au programme d'action proposés par l'Organisation.

Nous devons également nous intéresser au développement des pêcheries en eaux douces tout autant qu'au développement des pêcheries en haute mer. De nombreux pays, parmi lesquels le Liban, estiment qu'il est nécessaire de développer cette ressource en produits halieutiques, et nous souhaitons que l'Organisation offre une assistance dans ce domaine.

Il faut aussi coopérer dans toute la mesure du possible avec les organisations et institutions régionales qui s'occupent de recherche à propos des pêches et des produits halieutiques. La FAO doit coordonner les efforts de ces institutions et doit aussi être encouragée à créer un projet méditerranéen dont le siège sera à Tunis. Nous espérons que ce projet arrivera à bon port, car il offre beaucoup d'intérêt pour les pays du tiers monde dans la mesure où il démontre l'efficacité de la coopération entre les pays en voie de développement dans le domaine du développement et de l'aménagement des pêcheries. Nous espérons donc que l'Organisation poursuivra son aide à ce projet que nous appuyons totalement.

La délégation de mon pays se félicite également de toute coopération régionale pour le développement et l'aménagement des pêcheries, la coordination des législations aux niveaux régional et sous-régional. A ce sujet, nous espérons que toutes possibilités nous seront données pour que nous puissions exercer notre souveraineté sur nos zones économiques exclusives. Ces droits doivent être renforcés afin que les ressources halieutiques puissent être exploitées dans l'intérêt national.

Nous estimons que tout ceci ne peut être mis en oeuvre sans un aménagement efficace et rationnel des pêcheries. C'est une opération inséparable du développement en général. A cet effet, nous appuyons le paragraphe 31 concernant la nécessité d'analyser et de diffuser les informations et de former les compétences nationales. J'estime que l'OAA a la compétence et les experts nécessaires pour remplir ce rôle. Il est hors de doute que les problèmes auxquels font face les petites pêcheries dans les pays en voie de développement sont très importants en raison des situations économiques et sociales qu'elles représentent et des ressources en protéines qui en découlent. Nous reconnaissons tous que les systèmes traditionnels suivis par les petites pêcheries ont besoin d'être rénovés pour développer l'industrie halieutique. A ce sujet, nous appuyons tout ce qui est contenu dans les paragraphes 79 à 85 du rapport du COFI.

A. FEQUANT (France): La délégation française appuie les conclusions du rapport du Comité des pêches, particulièrement claires, précises et pleines d'enseignement pour nos différents pays. Ces recommandations sont fort utiles à la phase politique de la Conférence mondiale sur le développement et l'aménagement des pêches, qui se tiendra l'an prochain aux mois de juin et de juillet.

Compte tenu de l'intérêt manifesté par la Communauté économique européenne, mais aussi en tant que pays méditerranéen, nous approuvons les dispositions prises par la FAO en vue de mettre en place le projet régional de développement et d'aménagement des pêches dans la Méditerranée, tel qu'indiqué au paragraphe 132 du rapport. L'importance de cette initiative mérite d'être soulignée.

Mrs. J. WALLACE (United States of America): The United States was one of many governments and organizations represented at the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries. We considered that meeting a success both in terms of the normal COFI business as well as in considering technical issues of fisheries management and development in preparation for the policy level of the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development to be held next year.

My delegation would particularly like to endorse the five action plans as foci for the discussion of the 1984 World Conference. We also want to express our support for the procedure the Secretariat is using in making the final preparations for the World Conference. We believe the Secretariat has been flexible in shaping the basic elements for discussion. They were particularly receptive to points raised on the floor at the technical phase. The result has been a great improvement over earlier proposals. Likewise the Secretariat has commendably strived to keep our governments adequately informed and involved in the final preparations.

In sum, my delegation believes that the discussions at the World Conference will largely reflect the hard work, sensitivity and cooperation that the Secretariat has displayed today.

Let me conclude by congratulating Mr. Carroz both for the excellent work he and his staff have done, and for his recent elevation to the helm of the Fisheries Department as Assistant Director-General.

ABDUL WAHID JALIL (Malaysia): The Malaysian delegation would like to congratulate the FAO and the Committee on Fisheries for the very successful completion of the technical phase of the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development. We find in the report of the Committee a complete and comprehensive discussion of the technical aspects relating to fishery management and development, particularly those relating and having significance to the developing countries. We congratulate the Committee for being able to agree on global fisheries strategies and the associated action programmes. We generally endorse the conclusions and recommendations as contained in the report.

Mr Chairman, my delegation welcomes the strategies and action programmes agreed by the Committee, and feels that they would subsequently lead to the development of new policies and approaches to effectively use and manage the available and newly created fishery resources for the purpose of providing better scope to the social and economic conditions of the small-scale and other artisanal fishermen in particular, and those in the nations in general.

My delegation also hopes that the committee could further develop an appropriate conceptual framework for a systematic approach to planning and policy management. We should take into consideration all aspects of the proposed strategies and action programme. By doing so we feel many developing countries would be able to develop a well-conceived long range national policy as against the uncoordinated fishery policies commonly used now to overcome the problems and obstacles that may hinder an effective management and development of the fishery resources

The cooperation from developed countries and other international organizations having expertise and resources in this field cannot be over-emphasized. Since many developing countries have themselves developed expertise and have gained expertise in certain aspects of fishery development and management, the concept of TCDC and ECDC in the fishery sector should be strengthened.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I can be very brief on the agenda item before us. My delegation welcomes the report of the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries which represents in our opinion a very good working paper for the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development.

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany took an active part in the preparatory phase of the World Fisheries Conference at the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries last month. I shall refrain therefore from dwelling on details. Let me just say that we welcome the important role attributed to the work of the regional fisheries bodies.

To make the forthcoming conference a success we feel the prerequisites for this must be clearly outlined strategies and action programmes on fishery management and development. As regards implementation of such strategies and programmes we are of the opinion that their formulation should be based on realistic assessments of the possibilities for financing them.

To conclude, I would like to point out that my country is also prepared to cooperate constructively in the forthcoming consultations on the formulation of programmes of action and strategy.

J. BELGRAVE (New Zealand): First my delegation welcomes the report of the Committee on Fisheries and we feel it reflects very well the extensive discussions that took place only a week or so ago. Also we would like to record our thanks to Assistant Director-General Carroz and his staff for the work they did in advance of the COFI meeting, and indeed, so I am told, for the work they put in at the time of the meeting.

New Zealand is in general agreement with the proposed strategy and action programmes to be submitted to the policy phase of the World Fisheries Conference next year. In particular the procedure by which revised strategy drafts and revised drafts for the action programme are to be circulated to all concerned for further comments in advance of the policy phase of the conference is, we feel, to be commended and this will continue the thorough preparation which has characterised this exercise thus far.

Secondly, I do not propose to go through all the wealth of information and detail in the report. I would just like to flag one or two areas of particular importance in the South-West Pacific. Firstly, fisheries to the Member States of this Organization and their neighbours in the South-West Pacific are assuming considerable importance. Many of these countries suffer from the particular problems of small island states, for example very small size, remoteness, and the associated problems of transport and communications. For a number of these countries the opportunities afforded by the declaration of economic zones provide one of the few possibilities of securing additional resources for development. The establishment of the South Pacific Foreign Fisheries Agency in Honiara in the Solomon Islands was the result of a collective realization of the importance of fishing cooperation to these countries, cooperation of course not only among themselves but also with distant water fishing nations operating in their waters. The New Zealand delegation is glad to see that the report makes specific mention of the work of the FFA. The FFA, the Foreign Fisheries Agency, is providing considerable help to its members not only in production but increasingly in marketing. It is still a young institution but it should be recorded that FAO is providing support for the Foreign Fisheries Agency, but of course it is not only the Foreign Fisheries Agency which needs support but the Committee on Fisheries. Many of the developing countries spoke of the specific needs they had for assistance in the developing field of fisheries.

I hope, that as this report goes forward to the Conference and to next year's ministerial meeting on fisheries, adequate account will be taken of the need for future arrangements to be supported but also to be flexible enough to answer to the varying needs of different regions of the world, and to be able to strengthen and encourage groupings which have been established in response to the needs of particular regions.

A. BOTHNER (Norway): I would like to make a few comments on the report of the recent session of the Committee on Fisheries. These comments will on the whole also reflect the views of the other Nordic countries. In the view of our authorities the Fifteenth Session of COFI was a very good one and a useful one. It served the dual purpose of a more regular examination of world fisheries problems and particularly of the preparations for the World Conference on Fisheries Development and Management to take place next year.

Commenting more specifically on the report, I would like to submit the following views. I am trying to concentrate on matters of future relevance, particularly on the action programmes of which we approve. The action programme on fisheries management could become an important element in the endeavours to ensure that the stocks are harvested in a sensible manner. We have stressed the need for coastal states who share the same stocks to administer these stocks in such a way that overfishing is avoided.

The action programme on trade receives our full support. Norway is particularly interested in the removing of formal and institutional barriers to obtain fish. Action Programme No. 5 on the role of fisheries in alleviating undernutrition was, as it is known, proposed by ourselves on the basis of expert consultations held in my country earlier this year. We are indeed convinced that fish constitutes an important health element in a diet that often mainly consists of cereals. It is also our opinion that there is a need to merge part of fisheries policies with the objective and strategies of food and nutrition policies.

In conclusion, our authorities try to take an active part in the remaining preparations to the conference as well as the conference itself.

J.L. MESEGUER (España): Permítame, Sr. Presidente, felicitar como lo han hecho otras delegaciones al Dr. Carroz, Director General Adjunto para el Departamento de Pesca, por la magnífica presentación que ha efectuado del Informe que aprobó el Comité de Pesca en su 15 período de sesiones celebrado el pasado mes de octubre.

Mi delegación muestra su conformidad con el Informe, toda vez que el mismo recoge de manera equilibrada las distintas y encontradas posiciones expuestas en el Comité en todos los temas sometidos a debate y debe constituir este Informe un buen punto de partida para valorar las distintas documentaciones que sirvan de base para la discusión de la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca. En efecto, el Comité de Pesca ha tenido en cuenta tanto la creación de las Zonas Económicas Exclusivas de 200 millas y el régimen que las comportan como la obligación de dar acceso a las flotas de otros Estados en los supuestos previstos en la Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre Derecho del Mar, acceso que podría condicionarse a una eficaz cooperación económica, técnica y científica tendente a favorecer el integral desarrollo pesquero de los países ribereños en desarrollo.

Por último, mi delegación quiere destacar dos aspectos positivos en este Informe. En primer lugar el tratamiento que el Comité ha dado a los recursos situados dentro y fuera de las 200 millas en una adyacente a las zonas económicas exclusivas; tratamiento que, como no podría ser de otra manera, se ha ajustado a lo dispuesto en la Convención sobre Derecho del Mar respecto a estos recursos compartidos.

En segundo lugar, sin perjuicio de las consideraciones favorables a la apertura de mercados y de mejoramiento de las redes de comercialización en los países en desarrollo, el Comité ha tenido el acierto de resaltar la vinculación existente entre el acceso de pesca y el acceso a los mercados pesqueros.

Finalmente, el Informe destaca la gran importancia que el Comité concedió a la cooperación entre las organizaciones internacionales, habiéndose destacado especialmente la necesidad de que la FAO refuerce su colaboración con la Comisión Oceanográfica Internacional en beneficio de la potenciación integral de la investigación científica pesquera. También mi delegación quiere manifestar su apoyo y simpatía sobre el posible establecimiento de un proyecto regional para el desarrollo y ordenación de la pesca en el Mediterráneo.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): Development of fishery resources is vital to the maritime states, as it is a renewable resource and yields a lot of benefits. Similar is the case with the inland fisheries, though the scale and nature of operations for its exploitation are different. The social and economic aspects of fisheries are amongst the dominant forces in the economies of the maritime countries. The recent treaty under the aegis of the United Nations on the Law of the Seas has added a new and path-breaking dimension to the development of fishery resources. The declaration of the EEZ has suddenly endowed the maritime nations and landlocked nations as well, with an enormous resource which they will have to exploit in a rational manner so that it does not cause any irreparable damage.

It is not mere formality when I say that the report of the 15th Session of the Committee on Fisheries is comprehensive and well written. Practically all the aspects of fishery development - both marine and inland - have been considered and included in the report. The Chairman and members of the Drafting Committee deserve our compliments. But this report has its importance from another angle too. It represents the preparatory phase for that epoch-making World Conference on Fisheries to be held next year, only a few months away from now. Just as the 1974 World Food Conference was an epoch-making conference in the field of food and agriculture which led to worldwide awareness of the scourge of hunger and privation, which led to the urgent examination of the various issues connected with world food security and how it quickened the pace of work in a number of world bodies like UNCTAD, the International Wheat Council, the World Food Council etc., with FAO playing the role of a catalyst, so it is going to be with the World Conference on Fisheries. It is in that status and role that we look to this conference and the labours of the 15th Session of the Committee which has done this preparatory work.

We would like to highlight briefly a couple of points which should, in our opinion, receive paramount consideration in drawing up the strategy for fishery development in future.

One, development of national capability for the exploitation of resources in the EEZ: we support the recommendations of the Committee on this point, that chartering of foreign fleets can at best be a temporary and stopgap arrangement. Ultimately it is the nationally owned fleets which must be built up. All policy and action programmes should be based on this basic hypothesis.

Two, harmonization of interests between the large mechanized fleets and the traditional sector: this is acutely a human and social problem and it would be a poor testimony to us if in the craze for development and exploitation of resources, we allowed the tensions, conflicts and inequality of opportunity to become accentuated.

Three, place of aquaculture in the development of fishery resources: this is a relatively neglected sector, perhaps because the technology is not well established, perhaps because the economics of the operations are not very favourable; and perhaps also because the people who have to do it are too poor to make the initial investment. Nevertheless, it is a sector full of promise and would also contribute a supporting plank for conservation efforts. It must receive its due place in any future development programme.

Four, in my country the traditional fishermen, whether in the marine sector or inland, constitute the poorest of the poor sections of the community; in the scale of social values, education and other physical amenities they are very backward, they need the support of the society at large to improve their lot. Their economic exploitation by middlemen has to be stopped and some ways have to be found to enable them to receive a fair price for their catch.

Lastly, a word about poaching. In the annals of maritime history, going back in point of time in the ancient law of the sea, poaching is an ancient game; but then the law of the sea did not obtain with the same force and validity as it does today. This menace must be curbed and finally stopped. I was very happy to learn that in the deliberations of the Committee Canada made a very sound and sensible suggestion that responsibility for poaching should lie as much on the flag States as on the countries whose wealth is being poached. India supports this proposal fully and would suggest that it should be given the sanctity of law.

With these brief observations we endorse the suggestions and recommendations contained in this excellent report.

KONG CANDONG (China) (original language Chinese): The Chinese delegation would like to thank Mr. Carroz, ADG of the Fishery Department, who has just briefed us on the 15th Session of the Committee on Fisheries. We endorse the report of the Committee as contained in document CL 84/7.

As the 15th Session of COFI constituted the technical phase of the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Development and Management to be held in June 1984, it bears a special importance and significance. All through the Session the delegates from various countries fully expressed their views and exchanged experiences and in so doing deepened their understanding of the related problems in the field of fisheries, and finally reached consensus on some major issues. Its report reflects the views and positions of governments on the items voiced during the Session. This, we believe, has surely formed a good basis for the coming World Fisheries Conference.

We think the 15th Session of COFI was a success and we look forward to seeing the success of the World Fisheries Conference to be convened in Rome next year. We hereby wish to assure delegates that the Chinese Government will continue its endeavours and collaboration with FAO and strive to achieve the principal objectives of the Conference, that is, better utilization of fishery resources, promotion of self-reliance on the part of the developing countries in the development and management of their fisheries and improved international cooperation; a greater contribution to national self-sufficiency in food and world food security. Parallely we shall also make our modest contribution in pursuing to formulate the strategy for the development and management of world fisheries as well as the programme of action.

F. RAZZAQUE (Bangladesh): My delegation read with great interest the document CL 84/7 and expresses its appreciation for its excellent quality and high standard. We place on record our deep appreciation for the Committee and the Assistant Director-General. In deference to your wishes, we shall keep our intervention brief and touch upon only a few issues.

Bangladesh attaches a great deal of importance to development of TCDC fisheries management skills and we therefore support the proposal that FAO should prepare an inventory of regional skills and facilities as well as a basis for TCDC programmes between neighbouring countries.

In many countries, including Bangladesh, small scale fisheries and small fishing communities account for a substantial part - in some cases the majority - of the total produce. Social and economic aspects of these small communities are of great importance. Development of small fisheries in an integrated manner therefore calls for appropriate policy formulation. FAO can meaningfully assist us, the developing countries, in formulating the appropriate policies.

Finally, we do support the Committee's view that fuller and revised drafts for the strategies and the five action programmes would be prepared by the Secretariat in the light of the Committee's views and recommendations and these would be circulated to all governments for comments.

Sra. E. HERAZO DE VITI (Panamá): Además de los señalamientos indicados por el distinguido representante de México en su declaración, sobre los cuales coinciden los países del grupo latinoamericano y el Caribe (GRULAC), nuestra delegación desea manifestarse en relación al informe del decimoquinto periodo de sesiones del Comité de Pesca, COFI, destacando la premisa fundamental del derecho soberano de cada estado para determinar la política más adecuada para su desarrollo pesquero y para el aprovechamiento de estos recursos y poder adoptar, en consecuencia con la Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Derecho del Mar, las decisiones relativas a la explotación, ordenación y aprovechamiento de los recursos ícticos en las zonas económicas exclusivas que se derivan de estos derechos soberanos.

Además de este principio fundamental, señalamos otros hechos de indispensable importancia para el desarrollo de las pesquerías en los países en vías de desarrollo, como lo son la conservación y ordenación racional de estos recursos dentro de una cuidadosa planificación que esté en función y responda a los objetivos económicos, sociales, nutricionales, de investigación y de capacitación de nuestros países, al igual que fortalecer cada vez más la colaboración tanto internacional, regional y subregional a través de organismos intergubernamentales como el Sistema Económico Latinoamericano, (SELA), a través de su Comité de Acción sobre producción del mar y de agua dulce, que en reciente declaración ministerial dada en la ciudad de Panamá formuló objetivos en torno al desarrollo pesquero que incluyen importantes aspectos, tales como los del incremento y la diversificación pesquera alimentaria, la mejora en los sistemas de comercialización de esos productos y la atención adecuada a la investigación y desarrollo tanto de la pesca artesanal como de la acuicultura.

Nuestra delegación aprecia la calidad de la documentación de la FAO en materia de pesca y muy en especial aquella que va dirigida a la oportuna información de los Estados Miembros, como aquella que en forma efectiva transmite conocimientos y tecnología.

Siempre hemos considerado que la FAO, a través de su Departamento de Pesca, no debe disminuir ni desligarse de la atención de este importante aspecto; además destacamos y reconocemos el importante papel desempeñado con los recursos de los cuales dispone en materia de asistencia pesquera.

Consideramos que se debe afinar y perfeccionar esta asistencia para que atienda aspectos específicos como el de la necesidad de que se conciba la acuicultura como parte integrante de programas de desarrollo rural. Sobre este tema somos partidarios de la idea de que en un próximo futuro se celebre el Año Internacional de la Acuicultura, con el propósito de centrar la atención mundial sobre este importante aspecto que tiene que ver con la cría artificial de peces, tanto en aguas continentales como marinas.

Nos manifestamos de acuerdo con la propuesta del COFI en el sentido de que se prepare para la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca un documento de estudio sobre el posible mandato y las repercusiones financieras y de otra índole que pudiera tener la creación de un Grupo Intergubernamental de la FAO sobre productos pesqueros.

Por último, mi delegación apoya los elementos para la formulación de una estrategia sobre la ordenación y desarrollo pesquero, de la cual nos habla el párrafo 190, e igualmente aprobamos la propuesta relativa a los cinco programas de acción que, finalmente, será presentada a la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca de junio de 1984 y de la cual nos habla el párrafo 197 del informe en discusión.

P. GOSSELIN (Canada): As my delegation participated fully in the recent technical phase of the meeting on fisheries, we do not intend at this point to revisit that debate. We are certainly heartened by the work of the technical phase of the Conference and we endorse the report, its conclusions and its recommendations, especially those with regard to the development of the five action programmes. In this context we would like to lend our support to the proposals contained in paragraph 207 leading to the preparation of revised drafts of the action plans and their eventual consideration by a group of experts in March 1984 before their presentation to the policy phase of the World Fisheries Conference.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): La délégation de mon pays a, le mois dernier, pris activement part aux travaux de la 15ème session du Comité des pêches siégeant également en phase technique de la Conférence mondiale des pêches, aussi voudrions-nous apporter tout notre appui à l'excellent rapport qui nous est soumis, et notamment aux recommandations qui y sont faites sur les conditions des activités de la pêche, ainsi qu'aux mesures proposées pour l'améliorer.

La République populaire du Congo, l'instar de bien d'autres pays côtiers en développement, est désireuse de voir les activités de pêche maritime et continentale permettre de combler le déficit en protéines animales de nos pays. L'accroissement des activités dans ce domaine est clairement exprimé dans notre plan quinquennal de développement économique et social et se caractérise par un besoin évident d'expansion progressive de la capacité nationale des pêches. Cependant, nous sommes d'avis qu'en attendant il est nécessaire de mettre au point une stratégie de développement de la pêche qui tienne compte du contexte actuel. En effet, devant l'insuffisance marquée des ressources

à investir pour accroître notre propre capacité de capture, en ce moment, il importe de négocier des accords bilatéraux avec les pays possédant la technologie et les ressources financières, pour mettre en place une coopération fructueuse, mutuellement avantageuse, et qui tienne compte du droit inaliénable des pays côtiers sur les ressources biologiques de leurs ZEE.

Les vues du Comité à ce sujet rencontrent donc notre assentiment. De même, nous partageons l'avis exprimé par le Comité au paragraphe 11, pour insister sur la nécessité pour chaque Etat d'intégrer dans sa planification des objectifs nationaux le développement de l'important secteur des pêches à partir duquel nombre de ruraux tirent le maximum de leur revenu. Malheureusement, au stade actuel, dans de nombreux pays, ces revenus restent encore très faibles, malgré la volonté exprimée par les gouvernants.

Nous reconnaissons également que l'absence de données sur les ressources halieutiques des zones économiques exclusives est un handicap pour les pays en développement qui, de ce fait, disposent de peu d'atouts dans des négociations éventuelles avec les flottilles étrangères pouvant être autorisées à pêcher dans les ZEE.

C'est pourquoi l'accent mis sur la recherche et la nécessité d'une évaluation approfondie du type, de l'importance et de l'état des stocks de poissons, revêtent pour ma délégation une importance capitale. Mais nous reconnaissons que l'accès des flottilles étrangères ne change pas fondamentalement la situation d'avant l'adoption de la nouvelle convention sur les droits de la mer. C'est pourquoi notre politique vise à accroître notre propre capacité de pêche, tout en acceptant la création d'entreprises mixtes, en attendant de disposer de la technologie et de plus de ressources tant financières qu'humaines, et ici autant qu'ailleurs le concours actif de la FAO est plus que jamais requis.

Au stade actuel de développement de nos pêcheries, notre gouvernement tient à apporter son concours aux petits pêcheurs, en les organisant en groupements, et en leur permettant d'accroître tant soit peu leurs moyens de capture, de conservation et de commercialisation, en vue d'augmenter leurs revenus et de faire reculer la pauvreté qui caractérise les populations pratiquant cette activité. Cependant, des efforts encore plus importants sont faits en vue d'acquérir des moyens d'exploitation modernes seuls susceptibles d'assurer un approvisionnement suffisant et régulier en poissons à l'intérieur de notre pays et de permettre la fourniture de cette denrée à nos voisins sans littoral. Mais cette dernière ambition pourrait être favorisée par une coopération sous-régionale dans le domaine de la pêche.

Signalons que dans notre pays la pêche continentale est assez largement pratiquée en raison des cours d'eau suffisamment poissonneux. Aussi, le gouvernement a décidé d'encadrer ces petits pêcheurs par une structure nationale susceptible de favoriser l'expansion de cette activité, dans le but de créer des emplois et de permettre à ces petits pêcheurs d'obtenir des revenus plus conséquents. Voilà pourquoi notre délégation voudrait appuyer la place réservée dans le rapport du Comité sur la pêche continentale ainsi que l'aquaculture.

Enfin, le gouvernement de mon pays, qui tend à prendre une part active aux travaux de la phase politique de la Conférence mondiale sur les pêches, apporte son appui aux propositions détaillées relatives à la stratégie, notamment les points soulignés au paragraphe 192. Nous appuyons également la mise en place de 5 programmes d'action contenus dans le paragraphe 199, car leur mise en oeuvre est susceptible d'apporter les améliorations sensibles à la situation prévalant actuellement dans les pays en développement.

W.E. ADERO (Kenya): Kenya participated at the proceedings of the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries. My delegation therefore generally supports the report tabled before us on the reference CL 84/7. We particularly support the observations and recommendations of paras. 69 to 85 under which special problems of small-scale fisheries are discussed and paras. 95 to 109 under which special problems of inland fisheries and aquaculture are discussed. My delegation also welcomes and endorses the Committee's proposals of the five action programmes as contained in para. 119 of the Report and action to be taken on them as at para. 207 before they are submitted to the World Fisheries Conference in June of next year.

TESSENA NEGASH (Ethiopia): Considering the time constraint I shall refrain from making an extensive analysis of the document before us. However, my delegation feels duty bound to point out one point of great concern - which incidentally has just been referred to by the delegate of Kenya who spoke before me - a point of great concern to the African region. While giving due attention and importance to the exclusive economic zone declarations, equally more consideration needs to be given to the small-scale inland fisheries. A great many countries in Africa are either landlocked or have very little access to the sea. For such countries large-scale fisheries have little meaning. With this in mind we endorse and welcome the last line of paragraph 96 and paragraphs 101 and 102, which call for special attention to the role of inland fisheries. Lastly, we endorse the Report of the Committee in its entirety.

A.M. QURESHI (Pakistan): Most of my friends have already spoken at length on the subject, so I would like to be brief.

First, I would like to congratulate the Assistant Director-General on the excellent document CL 84/7 which succinctly highlights the key issues relating to fisheries management and its development. It also brings into focus the commendable efforts of FAO in promoting a well-conceived global strategy for fisheries development and its management. The Report before the Council this afternoon marks the culmination of the technical phase of the forthcoming World Fisheries Conference to be held in 1984.

We fully endorse the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee on Fisheries. It fully reflects the aspirations of the developing countries for the management and better utilization of fisheries resources and the promotion of their national self-reliance for the exploitation of this valuable renewable resource. We eagerly look forward to the policy phase - that is, the World Conference on Fisheries.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia escucho con atención la presentación que de este tema hizo el Sr. Carroz, a quien reiteramos nuestra felicitación por su merecida designación como Subdirector General Jefe del Departamento de Pesca. Igualmente nos complació oír al Sr. Carroz hablar en la linda lengua castellana, lo cual puede contribuir al equilibrio lingüístico que venimos propugnando.

La delegación de Colombia apoya plenamente las declaraciones anteriores de los distinguidos embajadores de México, quien habló en nombre del grupo latinoamericano y el Caribe, la distinguida embajadora de Panamá y el distinguido amigo y colega del Congo quienes al hacer estos apoyos de orden general, facilitan nuestra intervención que estará limitada a manifestar nuestro aprecio positivo por que la reunión del COFI que venimos comentando, haya cumplido adecuadamente su cometido de fase técnica de la Conferencia Mundial de Pesca que vamos a celebrar en el año entrante. Consideramos que los preparativos para ese gran acontecimiento avanzan en forma adecuada, que sin duda, nos permitirá obtener los mejores resultados.

Sobre este tema, la delegación de Colombia piensa que la FAO debe seguir apoyando, por todos los medios posibles, las posibilidades de que los países en desarrollo hagan el mejor, más racional y más productivo uso del nuevo derecho del mar surgido de la Convención recientemente suscrita. Reconocemos que la FAO ha demostrado interés especial por estas actividades. Desde cuando la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas y los Derechos del Mar celebraban sus prolongados períodos de sesiones, ya nuestra Organización se ha preocupado por elaborar programas especiales para las zonas económicas exclusivas. Todo ello, sin duda, habrá de conducir a que, en la FAO, en todas esas actividades prevalezcan esencialmente los derechos, las aspiraciones y las necesidades de los países en desarrollo.

En la reunión del Comité de Pesca, nuestro distinguido colega y amigo Sr. Moskovits de Malta, uno de los más antiguos y competentes representantes de gobiernos ante la FAO, expresó algunas ideas que aparecen reflejadas en el párrafo 132 del Comité de Pesca. Se trata de establecer un proyecto regional para el desarrollo y ordenación de la pesca en el Mediterráneo. Desearíamos que el Consejo transmitiera el apoyo a esta iniciativa a la Conferencia a fin de que se haga realidad.

F. BREWSTER (Barbados): My delegation endorses the Report contained in CL 84/7 and congratulates the Committee on Fisheries on its most comprehensive work. I also wish to endorse the statement made by Mexico on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean group, supported by the delegate of Panama.

My delegation appreciates the emphasis which has been placed on the special problems of small developing island states in the management and development of fisheries. These problems are well articulated in paragraph 87. They relate to scarcity of trained manpower, difficulty in obtaining resource information, among other things. We feel that these problems are well known to island states, as mentioned by the delegate of New Zealand.

My delegation endorses the Action Programme set out in paragraph 189. We feel that apart from the area of regional cooperation there is a vast area of bilateral cooperation in the matter of development of fisheries in small island states and we trust that our conference when it comes to this will give some attention here as well.

We look forward to the forthcoming Conference in June 1984.

N. DIMITRIU (Roumanie): La délégation roumaine a examiné très attentivement le rapport de la quinzième session du Comité des pêches. Elle se déclare d'accord en particulier pour ce qui concerne les questions clefs en matière d'aménagement et de développement des pêches pour les activités de la FAO dans le domaine des pêches en 1984-1985. Elle approuve aussi la stratégie préliminaire d'aménagement et de développement des pêches et le Programme d'action spécifique proposé par le Directeur général.

Ma délégation approuve tout à fait le paragraphe 132 et félicite la FAO pour sa décision de mettre en place un projet régional de développement des pêches en Méditerranée. Elle félicite également la CEE qui a exprimé son intérêt pour ce projet.

E.P. PALLEYNE (Observer for Trinidad and Tobago): My delegation, and it speaks as an observer, has read with much interest and appreciation the most valuable report on the discussion. It focusses neatly and precisely on the major problems in fisheries management and development and is particularly to the point in its observations on the special difficulties of small island developing countries, as the delegate from Barbados who spoke a few minutes ago also made reference to.

The general views of the Latin American and Caribbean Group have been ably expressed by our Group Chairman from Mexico. Our brief intervention at this time, however, relates to concern which is very relevant to all aspects of fisheries development and indeed to the other areas pertaining to the protection and exploitation of natural resources with particular reference to food production.

I do not think it is open to dispute that one cannot sensibly speak of fisheries management and development unless one is assured of water quality, be it in marine areas or inland areas. For purposes of aquaculture particularly water quality is of the first importance and of the first magnitude in the developmental process.

As will have been readily understood, I am speaking of the essential requirements that the environment, the condition of our land, our forests, our water, our air, be suitable for the production of our food of whatever kind and from whatever source.

My delegation therefore wishes to stress the need for the Organization to pay even closer attention in its fisheries programme as well as its programmes in general to the need to ensure the protection and the improvement of the environment in which its programmes will be implemented. Naturally, the closest consultation on this issue with country and regional organizations, and especially organizations concerned with the environment, is necessary. I would suggest that FAO might find it desirable to take even greater initiative with governments and regional bodies in this most critical area, for after all nothing truly significant can come of planning and programming, no matter how carefully and how perceptively done, if it is done against a background of an environment which for the most part is being steadily degraded. It is not necessary to say in simple language that references to Action Programmes will be meaningless if there are no or few fish, and may we also add that we can only speak of fish as being a renewable resource if we ensure that there is an environment in which it can be renewed.

Finally, the frightening implications of continuing degradation must properly inform our action.

CHAIRMAN: That brings my list to a close. I want to thank the 24 speakers, the 23 Council members and one Observer, who have made comments during the last 11 hours. I am glad that in 1½ hours so many could speak on this important topic.

I wish to associate myself with the well deserved tributes made first to the Chairman, Admiral Abdu Rachman of Indonesia and all the members of the Committee on Fisheries, and to Dr Carroz and his very able staff for the outstanding report as well as for the detailed preparations that they are making for the World Conference on Fisheries.

In relation to the five major Action Programmes which members have rightly supported I would like to make three points. They are well known but I think they are worth repetition. It is rightly stated in the document that training underlies all the five Programmes of Action. But I do hope that, particularly in new fields like aquaculture, that priority attention will be paid to the training of women particularly women in Third World countries belonging to landless labour families. If explicit attention is not given to them, they will be bypassed by the new technologies programme. I hope that when the Conference develops, women's training will receive particular attention.

Secondly, in relation to the aspect of aquaculture and nutrition, which the delegate of Norway rightly emphasized, here there is a very great opportunity to combine aquaculture with horticulture, because there is water along the banks of ponds and rivers. Depending on the nutritional requirements of an area one can add specific fruit trees and also combine agriculture and aquaculture. Of course fish and chips are well known as a food combination. Rice and fish are also grown and eaten together widely. But interestingly enough these combinations are also nutritionally excellent. Not only do people like to eat them but there is a beautiful complementation in terms of nutritional quality.

Integrated attention to agriculture and aquaculture could really trigger a movement for integrated pest management. I think here is an opportunity which we should not miss.

Finally, as emphasised by the last speaker there is need for a systems approach in fisheries starting with production and ending in consumption. Quite frequently I have seen aquaculture projects where there is emphasis only on production since the expert helping in the project is only a production expert. Post-harvest problems are not attended to properly, as a result of which Salmonella and other infection causes serious health hazards. Hence, emphasis should be placed on the total system of production, processing, marketing and consumption.

I thank you all very much once again and I wish to thank Mr. Carroz once again; I wish him and all his colleagues well in organizing the World Conference which, as the delegate of India said, is likely to be similar in its significance as the Rome World Food Conference. I am sure the Conference on Fisheries is going to be a very important landmark.

- 6. Inter-Agency Relations and Consultations on Questions of Common Interest, including:
- 6. Relations et consultations interinstitutions sur les questions d'intérêt commun, notamment:
- 6. Relaciones y Consultas con otros organismos sobre asuntos de interés común en particular:

- 6.1 Recent Developments in the United Nations System of Interest to FAO
- 6.1 Faits nouveaux récents survenus dans le système des Nations Unies qui intéressent la FAO
- 6.1 Novedades recientes en el sistema de las Naciones Unidas de interés para la FAO

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): C'est pour moi un plaisir d'introduire, au nom du Directeur général, le point de votre ordre du jour relatif aux faits nouveaux survenus dans le système des Nations Unies intéressant la FAO. Deux documents sont à votre disposition. Le premier vous a déjà été présenté lors de votre quatre-vingt-troisième session, le C 83/19. Je me limiterai donc aujourd'hui à introduire le second, C 83/19-Sup.1 qui fait état des développements survenus depuis votre dernier Conseil jusqu'au début du mois de septembre. Depuis lors, comme vous le savez, le développement principal a été l'ouverture de l'Assemblée générale dont il est trop tôt pour parler présentement.

Je me permets d'autre part de rappeler que la Conférence considérera ces mêmes documents dans quelques jours, ce qui pourrait peut-être dispenser le Conseil d'un examen approfondi à ce stade. Pour ma part, je me bornerai à attirer l'attention sur quelques-uns seulement des points principaux contenus dans ce dernier document.

En premier lieu, je citerai l'examen intersectoriel que le Conseil économique et social a effectué au cours de sa session de juillet dernier, des activités et des programmes figurant dans les plans à moyen terme des organisations du système des Nations Unies et de l'agriculture d'une part, et la population d'autre part. Ce fut pour la FAO l'occasion de rappeler le rôle prééminent qui lui est imparti dans le secteur agricole et alimentaire et de décrire brièvement son action et ses programmes à cet effet.

Vous noterez que la résolution adoptée par l'ECOSOC au terme de ses débats, qui se trouve en annexe au document C 83/19-Sup.1, souligne le besoin d'une assistance extérieure accrue à l'agriculture en particulier à travers les canaux multilatéraux, et demande au système des Nations Unies de prendre les mesures nécessaires pour donner effet au concept élargi de sécurité alimentaire mondiale, tel que votre Conseil lui-même l'a approuvé.

J'ajouterai d'ailleurs que ce concept élargi de sécurité alimentaire mondiale a reçu le plein appui tant du Conseil mondial de l'alimentation en juin que de l'ECOSOC en juillet, qui ont tous deux demandé à la communauté internationale de le mettre en oeuvre le plus largement possible.

En ce qui concerne le renforcement de la capacité du système des Nations Unies de répondre aux situations d'urgence, comme vous vous en souviendrez, le Secrétaire général avait été requis de soumettre un rapport à l'ECOSOC. Ce rapport a été considéré et a reçu de ce dernier un accueil favorable. L'ECOSOC a, en particulier, reconnu qu'un système fiable était maintenant en place, permettant de promouvoir et de coordonner les actions de secours au sein du système des Nations Unies, en collaboration avec les gouvernements et les organisations volontaires. Confor-mément aux vœux de l'ECOSOC, le Secrétaire général soumettra à la prochaine session de l'Assemblée générale, en 1984, des propositions précises pour donner suite aux conclusions et aux problèmes identifiés dans ce même rapport.

En ce qui concerne la CNUCED VI, le paragraphe 45 du document vous indique les éventuelles implications pour la FAO des décisions prises à Belgrade. Vous en avez déjà débattu ce matin; je n'y reviendrai donc pas.

La coopération économique et technique entre pays en voie de développement, paragraphes 46 à 53 du document, a été débattue lors de la réunion conjointe du Comité du programme et de la coordination des Nations Unies et du Comité administratif de coordination. Ce fut l'occasion pour le Directeur général de réaffirmer l'importance que la FAO accorde à cette question et qu'elle lui accordera également dans le cadre du budget et du biennium 84/85. Cette question a également fait l'objet d'un premier échange de vues au sein du Comité administratif de coordination, la semaine dernière, en vue de la préparation d'un rapport substantiel qui sera présenté au CPC l'année prochaine.

Les paragraphes 65 à 70 du document concernent la coopération internationale dans le domaine des établissements humains et traitent, d'une part, de l'année internationale pour les sans-abri qui sera proclamée en 1987 et, d'autre part, du programme intersectoriel sur les établissements humains qui sera soumis au CPC en mai 1984.

Enfin, les paragraphes 107 à 113 traitent des relations entre la FAO et la Commission économique et sociale pour l'Asie et le Pacifique, notamment en ce qui concerne la coopération et la coordination des programmes des deux organisations dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture. Je souhaite, à cet égard, appeler votre attention sur la déclaration conjointe du Directeur général et du Secrétaire exécutif de la Commission de mai 1983 ainsi que sur l'extrait du rapport du CPC en juin dernier sur ce sujet, en annexes D et E. Ces informations vous sont soumises pour tout commentaire que le Conseil et la Conférence ultérieurement souhaiteraient faire.

Pour terminer, je voudrais signaler que le document C 83/19-Sup.I fait également rapport sur le rôle de la FAO dans les préparatifs ou les suites à donner concernant diverses conférences mondiales organisées dans le cadre des Nations Unies, en particulier la deuxième conférence internationale sur l'assistance aux réfugiés en Afrique qui se tiendra au mois de mai 1984 à Genève; la conférence internationale sur la population prévue également en 1984; le suivi de la conférence des Nations Unies sur la science et les techniques; l'année internationale des communications, etc.

Je ne voudrais pas prendre davantage du temps de votre conseil pour détailler ces mesures; elles sont indiquées dans le document qui vous est soumis. Bien entendu, je me tiens à votre disposition pour toute clarification ultérieure que vous souhaiteriez avoir sur ce point comme sur tout autre contenu dans les documents soumis à la considération du Conseil.

6.2 UN International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade

6.2 Stratégie internationale de développement pour la troisième Décennie des Nations Unies pour le développement

6.2 Estrategia internacional del desarrollo de las Naciones Unidas para el Tercer Decenio del Desarrollo

CHAIRMAN: I would, if members agree, suggest we have item 6.2 also introduced by Mr. Shah so that on these two items, if any members would like to make comments, they can make them together. If this is agreeable to you, may I ask Mr. Shah to introduce item 6.2, UN International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade.

V.J. SHAH (Director, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): It is a privilege to have been instructed to introduce this document, C 83/26 on the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. The International Development Strategy, as the Council will recall, was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its Thirty-Fifth Session in 1980, and it was drawn to the attention of the FAO Council at its Seventy-Ninth Session and to the attention of the Conference at its last Twenty-First Session in November 1981.

Both the Council and the Conference recognized the importance of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy being achieved and the key role of food and agriculture in improving the quality of life and raising the economic growth of developing countries.

At its last session, the Conference also recognized that it would have the opportunity to consider how FAO might best contribute to the United Nations' review and appraisal of the Strategy which is scheduled for next year, 1984. The Conference noted that since the International Development Strategy was a guide for action, it would be appropriate for the Organization to give its views to the United Nations on the reason for successes and failures in reaching the objective of the Strategy. The arrangements for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategy were decided upon by the General Assembly through its Resolution 37/202 which was adopted in December 1982 and which forms Appendix A of the document just introduced by my colleague Mr. Regnier. By this Resolution, the General Assembly established a Committee of Universal Membership, that is to say a committee of the General Assembly itself to carry out the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategy in 1984. The Committee is expected to meet from May 1984 onwards, and it will report to the General Assembly at its session next year through the Economic and Social Council.

While this Resolution gives a complete picture of the arrangements made, I draw your attention to one paragraph in particular, and that is operative Paragraph 6 of the Resolution, which I would quote: "Calls upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to report on the results achieved in their respective sectors in applying the International Development Strategy as the policy framework in the formulation and implementation of their programme of work and medium-term plans."

Accordingly the Director-General submits for the consideration of the Council and then to the forthcoming Conference the document before you which aims to illustrate how the international development strategy, and more particularly the policy measures contained therein, have served as a framework for FAO programmes in the early 1980s and in its medium-term plans. The major constraints encountered in programme implementation so far are also indicated inasmuch as they affect the realization of the goals of the strategy.

I would point out that the structure of this document follows closely the text of the international development strategy itself, and it reflects the main headings of Section 3 of the strategy which deals with policy measures. For reasons of clarity and space, consideration is given mainly to those sectoral areas or cross sectoral areas where FAO has a fundamental interest and where significant action and sizeable activities have been undertaken. I explained this in order to indicate, Sir, that it is not only the section of the strategy dealing with food and agriculture which is relevant to our Organization but also the policy measures such as international trade, financial resources for development, science and technology for development, and others where FAO has a direct link through its activities with the objective of the strategy.

The Director-General considers it important not only to convey his views to the United Nations Committee on Review and Appraisal but to convey the views of the Conference. In so doing he proposes to submit to the Committee on Review and Appraisal of the General Assembly the document you have before you, such views as the Conference may express upon it, and also the views of the Conference on the key policy subjects it will consider, among which I would mention the state of food and agriculture, the progress report on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and the World Food Security, all of which relate to the objectives of the international development strategy.

The thrust of the policy measures recommended in the international development strategy, particularly as regards food and agriculture, is considered by the Director-General to be as valid as ever, as is the need for FAO's programmes. These needs have been carefully reflected in the Director-General's proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 1984/85. The Director-General hopes that the Conference will recognize and reaffirm the essential role to be played by FAO's programme in order to achieve the objectives of the international development strategy, and in this connexion the Director-General also hopes that the Council will draw to the attention of the Conference its own views on the measures which it considers of particular importance.

CHAIRMAN: We will now have a joint consideration of these two documents, C 83/19 Supplement 1 and C 83/26. You may recall C 83/19 was considered at the June meeting of the Council.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia ha apreciado muy positivamente las presentaciones hechas por los colegas y amigos Regnier y Shah, presentación muy adecuada e ilustrativa.

Sobre el primer tema, el 6.1, como lo dijo el Sr. Regnier, consta de dos documentos uno de los cuales el C 83/19 ya lo consideramos en la pasada reunión del Consejo en junio de este año. El

Suplemento 1 actualiza la situación. Cada vez que la delegación de Colombia ha intervenido sobre este tema en las últimas reuniones del Consejo y de la Conferencia, hemos expresado nuestra preocupación por el retardo en que se inician las negociaciones globales relacionadas con la cooperación económica internacional para el desarrollo. En el primero de los documentos se dice que no ha habido ningún progreso sobre esas negociaciones globales, y esto tiene fecha de abril de 1983; ahora en el Suplemento 1 ni siquiera se habla de esas negociaciones. Quisiéramos preguntar al Sr. Regnier qué ha pasado, cuáles son los obstáculos que siguen impidiendo la iniciación de esas negociaciones y si habría alguna posibilidad de que empiecen siquiera en el año 2000.

Quisiéramos saber también si la actual Asamblea General en curso se va a ocupar del comienzo de las negociaciones, en las cuales habíamos cifrado tantas esperanzas.

Antes de entrar en unos pocos detalles sobre los documentos a nuestra consideración, la delegación de Colombia cree que este Consejo en la parte respectiva de este tema debe destacar dos aspectos de importancia general. El primero de ellos, a nuestro juicio, debe ser la señalación positiva del Consejo de la preocupación que ha venido demostrando el Director de la FAO por los problemas alimentarios y agrícolas del África. Una rápida lectura de todo lo que está pasando en el sistema de las Naciones Unidas indica que cada vez se hace más perentorio el deseo y más decidida la voluntad de que se consagren los recursos y las actividades de la comunidad internacional en favor de África; y el Director General de la FAO, como todos lo sabemos, ha realizado recientemente una reunión con 22 países de los más afectados en África y se propone intensificar esas actividades.

La delegación de Colombia piensa que este Consejo debe señalar ese hecho positivo, no sólo a nuestra propia Conferencia próxima a iniciarse sino a los demás organismos de las Naciones Unidas para que se compruebe cómo en el seno de nuestra Organización se trata de hacer realidad la preocupación por el continente africano, que desgraciadamente muchas veces no es tenida en cuenta con la atención necesaria.

Otro punto de orden general, señor Presidente, distinguidos colegas, que creemos debe ser igualmente señalado es la satisfacción que nos causa el hecho de que en todos los organismos del sistema de las Naciones Unidas haya sido acogido favorablemente el concepto nuevo y ampliado de la seguridad alimentaria mundial que en buena hora ha presentado el Director General de la FAO. Creo que estos son hechos positivos que destacan, una vez más, la acción positiva de nuestra Organización y todo el contexto de las Naciones Unidas.

Estamos muy complacidos de que en la parte referente a los exámenes intersectoriales que llevó a cabo el ECOSOC se haya considerado el aspecto de la alimentación y de la agricultura, y es muy satisfactorio registrar el hecho, como se dice en el párrafo 8, que el Director General de la FAO hizo una declaración mediante la cual se presentaron las actividades de nuestra Organización, e igualmente se distribuyeron adecuados e importantes documentos al respecto. La delegación de Colombia piensa que corresponde a este Consejo apoyar el concepto fundamental de la Resolución que aparece en el apéndice A instando a la comunidad internacional a que otorgue la máxima prioridad a la agricultura y a la alimentación, especialmente por conductos multilaterales. Creemos que es oportuno que este Consejo haga hincapié en el concepto multilateral por razones bien conocidas, y particularmente en este momento cuando una serie de acontecimientos en todo el sistema de las Naciones Unidas parece indicar que está en curso una conspiración notoria y dirigida contra la asistencia multilateral.

El párrafo 12 hace referencia a la evaluación analítica que se va a realizar en el contexto de las Naciones Unidas sobre algunas de las agencias especializadas del sistema. Nosotros queremos compartir la expresión que aparece en el párrafo 12 atribuida a una de esas agencias, creemos que fue la Unesco, en el sentido de que esa evaluación analítica sobre cada una de las organizaciones sólo puede llevarse a cabo en la propia y respectiva organización. Es cada una de las agencias de las Naciones Unidas la que está capacitada, a través de sus órganos rectores, para llevar a cabo esos análisis. Creemos que es conveniente que en cuanto a la FAO destaquemos esto en nuestro informe para que el ECOSOC lo tenga en cuenta.

Sobre la situación de emergencia nos complace también lo que dice el párrafo 28. Creo que convendría señalar el hecho de que todo está funcionando adecuadamente, de que hay una clara delimitación de las funciones de cada organismo y de que conviene continuar esa cooperación y mejorarla en cuanto sea posible.

Los párrafos 34 y 35, siempre en Suplemento 1, se refieren al Fondo Común. Ya nuestro distinguido colega y amigo el señor Gosselin del Canadá, se refirió esta mañana a ese Fondo Común. Quisiéramos preguntar si después de la publicación del Suplemento 1 en septiembre pasado ha disminuido la cifra del 29 por ciento adicional que faltaba para que el Fondo Común empiece a operar el 1 de enero de 1984, y en caso de que no se logre ese porcentaje qué va a pasar sobre el Fondo Común, qué piensan en la UNCTAD; ¿se va a prolongar una vez más el plazo que ya fue prolongado en ocasión anterior? Ojalá que se nos pudiera responder a este respecto, señor Presidente.

Volviendo a la función misma de la FAO en el sistema de Naciones Unidas, la delegación de Colombia le atribuye gran importancia a la atención prioritaria que en la FAO se está ofreciendo a la cooperación económica y a la cooperación técnica entre los países en desarrollo.

Apoyamos los párrafos 46 al 54.

Nos complace mucho que la FAO se preocupe cada vez más por apoyar el programa de acción de Caracas sobre la cooperación económica entre los países en desarrollo que ha estado activando el Grupo de los 77.

Estamos igualmente satisfechos con lo que dice el párrafo 49, en el sentido de que la FAO va a realizar en 1985 otra consulta técnica sobre esa cooperación económica entre países en desarrollo; esto lo consideramos adecuado para revisar lo que se ha hecho hasta ahora y continuar esa acción benéfica.

Estamos igualmente complacidos de que la FAO haya participado en septiembre pasado en la reunión que se llevó a cabo en Túnez del Comité Intergubernamental de Seguimiento y Coordinación del Grupo de los 77.

Esperamos que la FAO participe también en febrero del año próximo en la reunión global del Grupo de los 77 sobre cooperación entre países en vías de desarrollo que va a celebrarse en Bucarest, Rumania, en febrero de 1984, repetimos, y que igualmente, desde luego, la FAO se prepare desde ahora a participar en otra reunión del Comité de Seguimiento y Coordinación que tendrá lugar en Cartagena, Colombia, nuestro país en el otoño de 1984.

Creemos que la presencia de la FAO en estas actividades es conveniente y bien recibida por todos los gobiernos.

Hemos entendido muy bien las razones reiteradas que nos ha expuesto el señor Regnier en cada ocasión que discutimos este tema, porque el FIDA, el Fondo de Desarrollo Agrícola, no hace parte de estos informes; sin embargo notamos que se incluye aquí el informe del noveno período de sesiones del Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación celebrado en Nueva York, y en el cual participamos. En ese informe el CMA hace un llamado a todos los países para que cumplan sus compromisos sobre la primera reposición del FIDA y se preparen a participar con positiva voluntad política en la segunda reposición. Creemos que este Consejo debe acoger ese llamado y transmitirlo una vez más a la Conferencia.

No queremos entrar en detalles, pero la situación del FIDA es grave, está en peligro la subsistencia de ese importante organismo. El programa de trabajo para 1983 debió reducirse en un 30 por ciento; en 1984 sufrirá una reducción aún superior y no podemos asistir impasibles a la muerte por inanición de este importante instrumento del desarrollo, que fue creado particularmente para beneficiar a los pequeños países, a los estados pobres con bajos ingresos y déficit; de alimentos. Esperamos que el Consejo todo comparta esta llamada que creemos necesaria, sin entrar en polémicas para no molestar a otros colegas que conocen nuestra posición al respecto y que saben cuán enérgica ha sido la posición de Colombia frente a esos hechos lamentables .

Si me permite, señor Presidente, tres minutos más para el 6.2 del C 83/26 que fue presentado por el señor Shah, creemos que la FAO está cumpliendo de manera muy adecuada lo que se estipuló en la Resolución 37/202 de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas. Este informe dará ocasión a este Consejo, pero desde luego ampliamente a la Conferencia, a que se exprese nuestra opinión sobre cómo avanza en el seno de la FAO el cumplimiento de la estrategia internacional del desarrollo, naturalmente en cuanto hace relación a los componentes de la agricultura y la alimentación, y desgraciadamente en el campo específico y que esencialmente nos interesa, en el de la producción alimentaria, deberemos registrar el hecho de que no se ha cumplido la meta del 4 por ciento que se había previsto en la EID y que, como dice el párrafo 37, apenas se ha llegado escasamente al 3 por ciento.

La delegación de Colombia quiere compartir el concepto social y humano que aparece en el párrafo 35 sobre la necesidad de que la producción alimentaria en sí misma no debe ser considerada como elemento de recuperación para los países en desarrollo, si no va acompañada de una distribución justa y adecuada de los beneficios de esta producción que le permita hacer llegar todos los beneficios posibles a los grupos más vulnerables de la población de cada uno de nuestros países.

Estamos muy satisfechos de que la FAO siga llevando a cabo el liderazgo que le corresponde en el campo de la reforma agraria y desarrollo rural y nuestra Organización debe seguir participando en las misiones que visitan a los países para que analicen las políticas y los programas de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural; todo ello con un profundo respeto por la soberanía de cada uno de los gobiernos.

P. GOSSELIN (Canada): La délégation du Canada remercie le Secrétariat pour la production de ce rapport qui fournit une bonne illustration de la multiplicité des liens entre la FAO et le système du développement des Nations Unies. Compte tenu du grand nombre d'organisations, de programmes et d'agences en présence, ce rapport démontre bien la complexité inhérente à ce réseau. Il permet également de faire ressortir le dynamisme de la FAO et le rôle précieux qu'elle joue dans son champ d'activité.

Cette multiplicité d'interactions fait qu'il n'est pas chose facile pour chacune des parties intéressées d'avoir une bonne vue d'ensemble de ce système, mais qu'il est au contraire plutôt difficile d'en posséder le détail et de s'assurer qu'il se dirige dans la bonne voie. Il est donc essentiel de garder toujours en perspective la finalité des systèmes, c'est-à-dire le développement même des pays qui reçoivent l'assistance. En ce sens, une approche coordonnée, basée sur les besoins et problèmes exprimés par les pays en développement paraît être le meilleur usage.

La délégation canadienne considère que le système multilatéral actuellement en place a contribué à renforcer la coopération économique internationale et a permis de monter une meilleure attaque sur les problèmes persistants auxquels nos sociétés doivent faire face. Comme le déclarait le Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires extérieures devant l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies, à New York, le 27 septembre dernier, le système en place dispose d'un grand potentiel qui doit cependant être exploité encore plus. Dans cette perspective il s'agit de s'assurer qu'une action cohérente soit réalisée, et cela par la poursuite d'une direction et de buts communs en faveur d'une coopération pratique entre le Nord et le Sud.

Au paragraphe 33 du rapport C 83/19, on mentionne pertinemment que la FAO est pleinement consciente du fait que la coordination offre un meilleur moyen de réduire un gaspillage de ressources. Nous sommes très heureux de cette position, et nous encourageons la FAO à poursuivre et renforcer son effort entrepris en ce sens.

L'étude détaillée sur les activités opérationnelles des Nations Unies donne une description intéressante de la façon dont fonctionne ce système. A la session d'été d'ECOSOC, en compagnie de plusieurs autres délégations, nous avons déploré que le rapport présenté n'ait pas proposé ou tenté d'orienter l'évolution du système vers une plus grande cohérence. Peut-être un premier pas sera l'étude mentionnée à l'alinéa 10 de la résolution de l'ECOSOC.

Finalement, nous sommes d'avis qu'il reste encore beaucoup de chemin à parcourir et nous encourageons la FAO ainsi que les autres parties impliquées à continuer d'oeuvrer à la mise en place complète et efficace des chapitres consacrés à cette question de la résolution 32/197 de l'Assemblée générale.

H.CARANDANG (Philippines): The Philippine delegation would like to address itself to item 6.2, United Nations International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade, as contained in document C 83/26. In this document in C, Food and Agriculture, we see that in paragraph 34 it is stated that:

"The eradication of hunger and malnutrition cannot take place, as emphasized in the IDS, without accelerated and sustained growth in food and agricultural production in developing countries, for which the IDS sets a target of average annual growth rate at least 4 percent through the Eighties."

In paragraph 35, however, this document points out that "The solution of the world food problem cannot however be reduced to dramatic increases in agricultural and food production." It rightly states that "Concomitant action is necessary to ensure that food is available in adequate quantity and quality to those who need it most." In addition, therefore, to programmes for increased food production, measures must be taken to improve access to food by the poorest segment of the population.

In paragraph 38 it is stated that FAO's assistance is centered on its efforts to increase food production, and I read:

"Multidisciplinary assistance to food production efforts has been the central focus of FAO's activities for many years and remains the mainstay of its programmes."

Indeed, FAO's efforts to increase food production are very well described beginning at paragraph 40 under the heading Planning Assistance, up to paragraph 46 of the report. Turning to direct support to food production, beginning at paragraph 55, as well as its efforts to help forestry and fisheries development, we do not see from the document how FAO mobilizes its expertise to achieve the objective indicated in paragraph 35 which is indeed the wider concept of food security.

The Philippine delegation wonders how a more integrated approach towards the achievement of the international development strategy objective and the food security objective in relation to FAO's activities and programmes is going to be achieved, and this applies to FAO's Programme in general at the Headquarters and regional level and also at the country level. I merely point this out. Of course, it is indicated here in the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which addresses itself to the problem of equity and greater people's participation in rural development with special emphasis on rural poverty and alleviation and equal access to inputs, etc. But this seems to me to be a sort of compartmentalized approach to the problem. We want to see how the FAO mobilizes its expertise to realize the integrated approach which has been fully endorsed not only in this paper but in the food security paper which, as indicated, accepted the wider concept of food security.

D.R. TOUSSAINT (United States of America): I too would like to address item 6.2 only briefly. The document before the Council C 83/26 has been prepared for submission to the Conference. The United States believes the report is a good one and is one we can largely support as it relates to FAO activities designed to fulfill the international development strategy. Moreover, the United States fully agrees this document should be referred to the Conference so that, and here I quote from para. 2 of the introduction "The views of the Conference can be submitted to the General Assembly."

The United States joined in endorsing the ideas in 1980 not without question, nor without reservation, which were expressed at length at that time. It should come as no surprise therefore that while we fully support reference of this document to the Conference, we do not do so without some questions, nor without some reservations related to its contents. Since the report is meant for full discussion in the Conference it would not seem fitting to enter into the details of the kinds of reservations in our minds but I hope you would permit me at this point to indicate the subjects to which our questions and reservations relate: the need for liberalization of all agricultural trade and the most appropriate and effective forum for the negotiation of such liberalization; the role which can be played by the private sector including transnational corporations in the development process; and we have, thirdly, some thoughts and concerns both substantive and institutional related to the Director-General's report on world food security and to the new concept on world food security; the need for continued improvement in the coordination of all developmental agencies involved in food and agriculture; the problems which we see, some inherent, in food reserve proposals and the implications of these problems for future FAO activities; and finally the future of food aid and how it should be related to national policies leading to self reliance.

In conclusion let me just say it again, our general approval of this report and our desire to have it referred to the Conference for further discussion. Our interest and our approval are accompanied by questions which we expect to have elaborated more fully in the discussion at the Conference.

A.M. QURESHI (Pakistan): Allow me first of all to commend the Secretariat for a very clear and detailed exposition which is contained in the document C 83/26, bearing on the application of the International Development Strategies for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the formulation and implementation of the Programme of Work and medium term plans of the FAO. The document comprehensively highlights the constraints faced by the developing countries and their struggle against poverty, hunger and malnutrition. We fully share the concern expressed in the document that hunger and malnutrition cannot be eliminated without accelerated and sustained growth in agricultural and food production in the developing countries. It is indeed a matter of grave concern that nearly 500 million people are afflicted with hunger and malnutrition, which is both a moral and human problem and needs to be tackled with all the urgency which it deserves. We agree with the contents of para. 35 of the document under review that besides stepping up food production measures must be adopted to improve the accessibility of food for millions of malnourished people which no doubt is their basic human right.

Rising agricultural production in the developing countries has been severely constrained by the lack of financial resources. Their available resources are diverted towards importing food grains rather than exploiting their own potentials. The Asian Pacific region succeeded in attaining a growth rate of 3.1 percent in cereal production during the decade of 1971-81. I am happy to report that Pakistan achieved a higher growth rate of 3.9 percent during this decade and is playing a positive role to improve the overall world food situation by annually exporting on the average one million tons of rice. Recently we have also started exporting modest quantities of wheat and sugar, besides building sizable reserves for national food security. Despite this, a lot needs to be done to sustain the increasing tempo of food production. The emphasis is now being laid on increasing productivity rather than the area under the crops.

Although food and agriculture and rural development have made substantial progress in the developing countries as a group during the last 20 years, yet the increase has been extremely uneven. The situation in Africa is indeed precarious and deserves world attention. The global economic recession continuing through the third development decade has adversely affected the efforts of the developing countries, especially the low income countries, to enhance their food production and develop their agriculture to play a more vital role in their overall economic growth. My delegation would like therefore to emphasize that there is a crying need for increased flow of concessionary development assistance to food deficit countries to assist them in their efforts to augment food production, besides the removal of unnecessary blockages and embargoes and trade barriers erected by the developed countries to help such developing countries which have the potential to make headway. It is an interdependent world which we live in today. The developed and developing countries must join hands together in order to banish the scourge of poverty, hunger and malnutrition from the face of this earth as early as possible and certainly by the year 2000. We fully and wholeheartedly support the policy measures enunciated in the International Development Strategy, particularly the food and agricultural component.

R.C. GUPTA (India): My delegation would like to confine its comments to item 6.2, namely the international development strategies in the third development decade. We have carefully gone through document C 83/26. In our estimation the various aspects of the International Development Strategy cover such a wide field, particularly in the realms of food and agriculture, that to encompass all these activities for an organization is a tremendous task. We have to view the role of FAO in the nature of a forum which persuades, prods the various member countries to follow or modify policies which lead to the desired results. It should be able to assist the member countries in critical areas, whether they be of technology, whether they be in research and training, whether they be in the field of rural development, extension or whatever, all gamut of things, because with the very limited resources that the organization has it certainly could not be expected to intervene in a major way in carrying out this international development strategy.

Now, coming to the various aspects of the strategy, while the most important aspect is international trade in food and agricultural items. While basically the subject of trade, international trade, is covered by UNCTAD and GATT, this organization has been contributing towards increasing and liberalizing the trade of these commodities in a meaningful manner. Its activities through the intergovernment groups on various commodities are useful fora for exchanging information, for removing various bottlenecks and for preparing the ground for meaningful commodity agreements and to that extent FAO has played an admirable role. Certainly FAO has been providing technical assistance to UNCTAD in its various negotiations to reach commodity agreements.

In the field of industrialization the organization has been repeatedly and consistently emphasizing that this aspect is important for increasing rural employment and by adding values to the raw materials we have seen in experience that it is easy to push these items in international trade and fetch better prices. The terms of trade in manufacturing items have been consistently better than for agricultural raw materials and to the extent FAO has played a meaningful role. In a recent consultation on ECDC trade in agricultural products, we found that lack of production is the biggest bottleneck and that developing countries do not have the right kind of surpluses of the right qualities to increase their agricultural trade and to that extent FAO can contribute to increasing food production of these countries, it is contributing in a meaningful manner to this field. Of particular interest to us is the FAO activity in the field of technical cooperation among developing countries and economic cooperation among developing countries. I would not like to take much time but conclude by referring to the follow-up of the WCARRD Programme of Action, the document presented for the Conference, if I am not anticipating that discussion, is an extremely useful document. It makes a serious attempt at conceptualizing and quantifying certain aspects of real poverty, of malnutrition, of under-employment, and of women's problems which are of particular interest to us.

In general we would like to support the activities of FAO in the field of promotion and fulfillment of international development strategy in the third development decade.

S.A.E. SULIMAN (Observer for the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development) (Original language Arabic): I would like to make one comment on C 83/19, paragraph 41. Here we talk about Resolution 37/17 of the United Nations about the Arab countries and the organizations of Arab countries and their cooperation with the FAO. There was a meeting on the 28th June of this year. More than 65 agencies and organizations took part at this meeting. A great many recommendations were passed, twenty of which concerned food and agriculture. I would have liked to have seen a reference to this meeting in this document, particularly because the recommendations in questions will be the subject of a report. At the 22nd Session of the Conference, 21 Ministers of Agriculture and one Head of State will be present and then will naturally want to know something about the new developments in FAO cooperation with the Region. Indeed the following paragraph 42 speaks about the cooperation between FAO and the Arab League, but reference is made to the 1959 Agreement, while new developments have occurred as recently as last June and they are not mentioned. We believe that there should be an updating to include the recent developments in this cooperation.

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): Je voudrais remercier les distingués délégués qui ont pris la parole sur le point 6 de notre ordre du jour. Je suis persuadé que M. Shah répondra concernant le point 6/2. Je voudrais les remercier pour les remarques positives qu'ils ont bien voulu faire concernant les documents 19 et 19-Sup.1.

Je voudrais répondre aux questions qui m'ont été posées par le distingué représentant de la Colombie et faire quelques commentaires additionnels.

Le distingué délégué de la Colombie a demandé pourquoi, dans le document C 83/19-Sup.1, aucune mention n'avait été faite des négociations globales. Il s'agit d'un document mettant à jour les informations contenues dans le document soumis à votre session de juin; comme aucun développement n'est intervenu depuis lors, il n'y avait donc pas de base pour une nouvelle mention de ce sujet. J'ajouterai que, selon nos plus récentes informations, il n'est pas encore clair si l'Assemblée générale maintenant en cours discutera ou non du lancement éventuel des négociations globales. Bien entendu, si nous étions mis au courant de quelque développement, avant le débat de ce même point de l'ordre du jour à la Conférence, je ne manquerais pas de tenir celle-ci informée.

Le distingué représentant de la Colombie a également demandé quels avaient été les développements concernant le Fonds commun des produits de base depuis la préparation de ce document et si, à la fin du mois de septembre, qui était la date limite prévue par la résolution de la CNUCED VI, le nombre de ratifications avait été atteint, et sinon quelles étapes ultérieures étaient prévues. Je confirme qu'à la fin du mois de septembre, le nombre de ratifications n'était pas atteint pour l'ouverture du Fonds commun. L'étape ultérieure, c'est la CNUCED et les Etats Membres qui en décideront, y compris éventuellement la tenue d'une conférence entre les pays qui ont ratifié le Fonds pour arrêter la marche à suivre.

Le distingué représentant de la Colombie a également souligné que le Conseil devrait prendre à son compte la préoccupation exprimée par le Directeur général concernant la situation en Afrique et en faire état dans les autres instances des Nations Unies. A titre d'information, je voudrais signaler qu'allant dans ce sens, le Directeur général de la FAO, est intervenu jeudi dernier devant la seconde Commission de l'Assemblée générale, pour lancer un nouvel appel à la communauté internationale en faveur des Etats africains menacés par la famine. Le Directeur général déploie ainsi tous ses efforts pour sensibiliser l'opinion publique à cette situation dramatique qui se développe en Afrique.

Je voudrais enfin faire un court commentaire concernant l'intervention du représentant du Canada. J'ai eu plaisir à écouter ses commentaires positifs sur le rôle de la FAO et ses relations positives avec l'ensemble du système des Nations Unies. J'ai pris note de la citation qu'il a faite d'une phrase au paragraphe 33 du document C 83/19 sur la coordination et l'utilisation des ressources. Je voudrais, pour l'information générale, signaler que ce paragraphe se réfère à une section du document concernant les opérations d'urgence et que la phrase en question est suivie de la suivante: que la FAO "est convaincue que leur utilisation optimale et l'efficacité maximum des secours en cas de catastrophes supposent aussi que soient pleinement reconnus le mandat et la compétence des institutions spécialisées..." C'est certainement ainsi que la coordination acquiert tout son sens, s'agissant d'appuyer, de promouvoir et de compléter les actions entreprises, selon leurs mandats, par les organisations spécialisées. Le système des Nations Unies peut ainsi appuyer leur action, les aider à mobiliser les ressources nécessaires et ainsi maximiser l'impact de leurs interventions surtout lorsqu'il s'agit d'opérations de secours qui supposent des actions rapides dès que survient une catastrophe. Je pense qu'il était bon de replacer cette phrase dans son contexte tel qu'il avait été discuté lors de la session du Conseil en juin dernier.

En ce qui concerne le point 6.1 je dois avoir couvert les points soulevés par les divers représentants.

V.J. SHAH (Director, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): May I echo the appreciation which has just been voiced by Mr. Regnier, in my case as regards document C 83/26 under item 6.2. The document can in no way be a substitute for the Programme of Work and Budget of FAO. I need hardly emphasise that. If the General Assembly's Committee on Review and Appraisal of the International Development Strategy wishes to be informed of the entire gamut of FAO programmes we can do no better than submit to them a Programme of Work and Budget for a biennium as may be approved by the Conference. However, it is to assist them in their task to see how FAO programmes are responsive to the policy of the strategy that this document was submitted to you and will go before the Conference.

I am very gratified to note all the views expressed on this debate, which show that this document seems to have been helpful to the Council and we hope that the views of the Council will also assist the Conference in elaborating further.

The delegate of the Philippines raised a particular question about how FAO programmes geared to increasing food production are related to programmes having to do with social improvement, social conditions, the follow-up to WCARRD generally and issues of world food security. This ties in with my first explanation that these interrelationships in FAO programmes are of course pertinent to the FAO Programme of Work and Budget. No additional attempt has been made in this brief document to explain these interrelationships further as we have felt it preferable to dwell upon and to draw attention only to the policy issues of the Strategy itself.

The delegate of the United States of America also refers to some issues on which he feels it necessary to have further discussion in the Conference, and here I would point out that while this document will be considered in Commission II of the Conference, in Commission I there will be ample opportunity to comment on the different policy issues he mentioned with the views of the Conference then aimed for transmission to the Committee on Review and Appraisal.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I have just one brief comment. Reference was made in document C 83/19-Sup.1 to paragraph 12 and the organization concerned was correctly identified as UNESCO. I just wanted to say that the Director-General has sympathy with the position of UNESCO and furthermore thinks that quite apart from jurisdictional responsibility there is a real practical problem in another Secretariat trying to make an analytical assessment of the work of a large specialized agency with a regular programme and a field programme. So if any problem should arise he will certainly refer the matter to FAO's governing bodies.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you for that clarification.

6.3 Joint Inspection Unit Reports:

6.3 Rapports du Corps commun d'inspection:

6.3 Informes de la Dependencia Común de Inspección:

(a) Work Programme of the Joint Inspection Unit for 1983

a) Programme de travail du Corps commun d'inspection pour 1983

a) Programa de Trabajo de la Dependencia Común de Inspección para 1983

(b) Contribution of the UN System to the Conservation and Management of Latin American Cultural and Natural Heritage

b) Contribution des organismes des Nations Unies à la préservation et à la gestion du patrimoine culturel et naturel de l'Amérique latine

b) Contribución del sistema de las Naciones Unidas a la Conservación y Ordenación del Patrimonio Cultural y Natural de América Latina

(c) Progress Report on the Implementation of Recommendations on Regional Programmes in the Conservation and Management of African Wildlife

c) Rapport intérimaire sur la mise en oeuvre des recommandations relatives aux programmes régionaux de conservation et d'aménagement de la faune africaine et de son habitat

c) Informe sobre los progresos realizados en la aplicación de las recomendaciones relativas a los Programas Regionales de Conservación y Ordenación de la Fauna y la Flora Silvestre en África

CHAIRMAN: These Reports were considered in great detail both by the Programme Committee and the Finance Committee. We have the Chairman of the Programme Committee as well as the Chairman of the Finance Committee with us.

M. TRKULJA (Chairman, Programme Committee): You are quite right, Mr. Chairman, the two Committees separately studied the JIU Reports that you mentioned, but given the fact that our views fully converged I have been asked by my friend and colleague to introduce the JIU Reports on behalf of both Committees.

In view of the late hour I should and I could be very brief. May I start with a small personal note of satisfaction, that the Inspectors of the Joint Inspection Unit fully agreed with the request of the FAO Council in June to submit and attach to each future report a very brief summary highlighting the main findings and giving the gist of their recommendations. I think it is a sign of sincere cooperation on the part of the JIU and I feel personally that now the decision of the Council taken in June could be fully implemented in regard to the procedures for dealing with the JIU.

Coming to the three Reports, the first Report is the Work Programme of the Joint Inspection Unit. I do not need to say more than one sentence. The Committee only took note of that.

The second was a Report on the Contribution of the UN System to the Conservation and Management of Latin American Cultural and Natural Heritage. The Committees very much welcomed the JIU Report and found it very useful. They fully share the basic assessment of the JIU that the Latin American countries have already developed their whole framework of national and sub-regional institutions dealing with this area and in that context the problem of complementarity and cooperation was a very urgent one. In that regard the Committee noted with satisfaction that FAO had really maintained the high level of activities in the area of cultural and natural heritage in Latin America despite the downturn trend in extra budgetary resources in that context and particularly in the UNDP financial crisis.

On the issue of FAO's role in the preparation of the activities in the Latin American region, we also felt quite strongly that there was no need, in fact, to create new intergovernmental bodies. We took full note of the fact that within FAO, this Committee on National Parks and Wildlife is composed of high officials responsible in the Latin American countries for the management and conservation of the cultural and natural heritage, and we only wanted to highlight to the Council that the JIU seemed to overlook this very simple fact, and I may only add that especially members of the Committee for Latin America were very vocal in expressing their positions to the suggestion of the JIU.

Now coming to the third report, the Implementation of the Recommendations on Regional Programmes in Conservation and Management of African Wildlife, we first of all concentrated fully on the activities of FAO in that field. We fully realized quite simply that FAO action is largely dependent on extra budgetary resources and that FAO had indeed done whatever was possible within quite obvious limits. In that regard we in a way disagreed with the inspector's assessment of the FAO role in the implementation of the regional programme.

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Chairman, Finance Committee): Actually, I have very little to add to what has already been said by the Chairman of the Programme Committee. Your attention is drawn to paragraphs 3.86 to 3.88 in our Report. You will find that those three paragraphs of the report are brief. What I wish to say is that the question of implementing the recommendations of these two very important reports depends entirely on the availability of financial resources. In the case of FAO, these priorities naturally will be different, in the sense that FAO gives priority to food and agriculture. So depending on the availability of funds, each country will decide what is important in regard to their country. I think if there are extrabudgetary funds available, many of the recommendations made by the JIU could be implemented.

Besides this I have very little to say because the financial implications of the two reports are quite negligible.

Sra. A. SALGADO DOS SANTOS (Brazil): My delegation would like to refer to document CL 84/INF/11, which contains the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the contribution of the UN system to the Conservation and Management of Latin American Cultural and Natural Heritage. Though praising the usefulness and interest of the Report, my delegation would like to make comments on aspects of the report, taking into consideration the Brazilian position on matters dealing with the environment and its participation in the United Nations Environment Programme.

Concerning paragraph 136, my delegation believes that it is not accurate to say there is no mechanism or forum which commands enough authority to ensure consistent application of conservation-oriented development policies. The United Nations Environment Programme holds annually an Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean in which governments adopt sub-regional and regional programmes on such matters based on guidelines approved by the meeting.

As to the final part of paragraph 136, my delegation believes that the coordination of all conservation programmes of the region is within the competence and responsibility of UNEP's regional office in Mexico City. My delegation does not think advisable at the moment the creation of a regional coordination unit, and also believes that the role of coordinator belongs to UNEP instead of ECLA.

As to paragraph 137, my delegation favours the utilization of mechanisms already existing and the strengthening of UNEP's role rather than the establishment of new intergovernmental regional committees on environment. My delegation is not in a position to accept the proposition contained in paragraph 148 to transfer the substantive responsibilities from either the UNEP Regional Office, presently in Mexico City, or from UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi to ECLA.

Recommendation 1 considers the creation of a single regional intergovernmental forum, under ECLA auspices, to discuss and agree on common approaches to conservation-oriented development with a view to formulating a comprehensive regional strategy and a Plan of Action. My delegation believes that the creation of such a forum would duplicate the fora and mechanisms already in existence. In this sense, my delegation finds the Latin American and Caribbean Intergovernmental Meeting on Environment which congregates in UNEP's member countries of the region is the appropriate forum for such discussions. This meeting follows the guidelines approved by governments to formulate periodically regional and sub-regional environment programmes. Those guidelines are, in our view, flexible and dynamic enough and they do not seem to require the establishment of a formal Plan of Action.

My delegation sees with satisfaction that this point of view concerning Recommendation 1 was endorsed by the Forty-Fifth Session of the Programme Committee, which included in its report, Document CL 84/4, a reference to the need to avoid overlappings and duplications of efforts.

As to Recommendation 2, my delegation cannot agree with the establishment of a new joint UNEP/ECLA Coordination Unit, considering that it would mean another bureaucratic body overlapping the already existing interagency cooperation.

As to reference made in paragraph 147 to a UNEP/ECLA horizontal cooperation project, if it refers to a project on types of development and environment, the Brazilian delegation would like to point out that this project derives informal coordination and direct contact between the two organizations being not submitted to the governments concerned.

Finally, my delegation would like to express its full support for the recommendations of the Director-General expressed in his comments on the document.

CHAIRMAN: I think this brings us to the close of today's agenda. I am very grateful to you for your cooperation.

The meeting rose at 18.15 hours.

La séance est levée à 18 h 15.

Se levanta la sesión a las 18.15 horas.

council

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conseil

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

consejo

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

CL

CL 84/PV/3

Eighty-fourth Session

Quatre-vingt-quatrième session

84° período de sesiones

THIRD PLENARY MEETING TROISIEME SEANCE PLENIERE TERCERA SESION PLENARIA

(2 November 1983)

The Third Plenary Meeting was opened at 09.45 hours,
M.S. Swaminathan, Independent Chairman of the Council, presiding

La troisième séance plénière est ouverte à 9 h 45 sous la présidence
de M.S. Swaminathan, Président indépendant du Conseil

Se abre la tercera sesión plenaria a las 09.45 horas bajo la presidencia
de M.S. Swaminathan, Presidente Independiente del Consejo

III. PROGRAMME, BUDGETARY, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

III. QUESTIONS CONCERNANT LE PROGRAMME, LE BUDGET, LES FINANCES ET L'ADMINISTRATION

III. ASUNTOS DEL PROGRAMA Y ASUNTOS PRESUPUESTARIOS, FINANCIEROS Y ADMINISTRATIVOS

- 9. Programme of Work and Budget 1984-85 and Medium-Term Objectives
- 9. Programme de travail et budget 1984-85 et objectifs à moyen terme
- 9. Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1984-85 y objetivos a plazo medio

CHAIRMAN: The various documents which you will have to consult are indicated in the Order of the Day. I would only like to briefly remind Council Members that at our 83rd Session held in June this year we concluded as indicated in the Report of the meeting, and I would like to quote "The Council reached a consensus in which it fully supported the Director-General's approach and his choice of priorities, and unanimously requested him to prepare the full Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 on the basis of the proposals he had submitted in the Summary Programme of Work and Budget".

We are now considering the full Programme. The Programme Committee and Finance Committee considered these documents in great detail and I had the privilege of attending part of their meeting. I would like to thank and express gratitude to them and to the members of the Programme and Finance Committees and officers of FAO for the very great detail in which they were able to examine these documents; you will hear the report of the Chairman of the Programme Committee as well as the Chairman of the Finance Committee on the deliberations of these two committees.

M. TRKULJA (Chairman, Programme Committee): First of all I am grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for quoting the consensus reached by the Council in June and I think in the light of the consensus, I would report first on behalf of the two committees and then perhaps on behalf of the Programme Committee.

Speaking on behalf of the two committees now, I shall not remind the Council of the documents concerned. I think the Council is fully aware of the documents. First of all regarding the format of the Programme of Work and Budget document, we felt the Director-General fully followed the suggestions made by the committees and the Council and we indeed felt that the changes in format have proved to be very useful; I am referring in particular to the insertion of the Medium-Term Objectives into the Programme of Work and Budget.

The Committee also expressed its satisfaction with regard to the much improved presentation of the material in the document and we feel the document for the next biennium is really very comprehensive and indicating clearly not necessarily only objectives and an overall approach but in detail methods that the FAO Secretariat would apply in implementing the objectives proposed. The committees fully agreed with the Director-General's assessment of the world food and agriculture situation as contained in the introduction to the Programme of Work and Budget. We fully shared his perception of the continued and increasing requirements of developing countries, particularly in times of deep economic crisis. The Committees quite naturally realized that the efforts of developing countries were severely hampered by the current shortages of very much needed external resources for development and stressed concern again with regard to the level of the official development assistance and, in that context, in particular with regard to the downward trend in extra-budgetary resources available to FAO. The committees reiterated their full endorsement of the strategies and priorities proposed by the Director-General for the next biennium. We felt that the Director-General had really fully followed the recommendations of the Council, the Council's standing committees, regional conferences, the messages coming from the UN system, in particular those recommended by the General Assembly. And on the whole we felt that his choice was, given all circumstances, really fully worthy of our approval.

The committees in particular appreciated the judgment of the Director-General and indeed his efforts to reconcile on the one hand the increasing needs of developing countries and on the other the difficult situation that now prevails in all countries, and in particular in developing countries, with regard to their capacity to meet their foreign obligations. Again we reiterate our position from our last session and we commend the Director-General for being able to propose a quite appreciable real-term growth of basic FAO programmes, an increase of 3.6 percent. This was possible by further cuts in administrative and support services.

The committees in conclusion fully agreed to recommend to the Council to give its full support to the Director-General's proposed Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium and we expressed a sincere hope that

the same sentiment of consensus would prevail in the Conference. We felt that this would be a very encouraging message to the international community.

Now very briefly on one issue: the committees were informed of the action taken by the United States Senate and in particular of the amendment to the State Department Authorization Bill. I am not going to go into detail; the amendment is quoted and it is quite clear. Very briefly it contains three main messages. First that the United States contribution to the United Nations proper and to the four biggest specialized agencies should be immediately reduced to the level of the United States assessed contribution in 1980 and the amount paid in 1980 should be subsequently reduced so that in 1985, 1986 and 1987 the 1980 contribution should be subsequently reduced to 90, 80 and 70 percent respectively.

The third point is that no payment should be made whatever unless the governing bodies of these organizations accept that the US reduced contribution is payment in full of the contributions of the United States. In the very next paragraph you see the first attempt to assess the impact of this decision, if it were allowed to stand, on FAO. It is quite natural that the committees expressed considerable concern with regard to this action but at the same time we realized that it was only the first step in a fairly complicated and long procedure in the United States Senate and administration.

Coming now to the views of the Programme Committee, I shall not repeat what I have said already on the format and the presentation because they are more or less the same - the views in the Committee -as expressed in the joint committees.

Coming now to the introduction and the Programme framework, we started with a recommendation of the Council - it was our point of departure - and in that light we considered the introduction and the Programme framework. We felt that the Director-General's introduction was objective, forthright and factual. There was general support in the Committee with regard to his views of the overall world situation and general policy implications, more or less geared to the FAO's Programme of Work and Budget for the coming biennium. We fully concurred with his views with regard to the world food and agriculture situation, including the immediate prospects. We realized and stressed again unevenness in production and growth in a number of developing countries and whole regions, instabilities - to put it very elegantly - in international commodity trade and persistent shortages of needs of developing countries for resources, especially external resources. We commended the prominence given by the Director-General in his introduction to the issue of world food security, but since this will be a topic for debate in the Council and Conference, I will not go into any detail.

The Committee again reiterated its full support of the strategies and priorities proposed by the Director-General for the next biennium. We felt they were fully in line with the policy guidelines by the Conference and the Council. The Committee was equally satisfied with the means of action proposed by the Director-General to tackle the issues in the next biennium. In that context we in particular emphasized training, investment, support and promotion of technical and economic operations among developing countries as the most prominent components of the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium.

As for the Programme framework, we are first of all appreciative of the conciseness and clarity of that part of the document and we paid special attention, as always, to the Special Action Programmes. Here again there is nothing new to be reported to you. The common element in all Special Action Programmes is lack of resources. You will certainly recall that the Programme Committee recommended very strongly to the Council to make an appeal to all potential donors to increase their contributions and thus reverse this unfortunate trend. We are just reiterating again this recommendation.

Coming now to the overall Programme and consequently the budget level, I have to say first that some members of the committees, though fully aware of the difficult and indeed delicate choices that confronted the Director-General in framing his proposals for the next biennium, nevertheless expressed some regret with regard to the low additionality in Regular Programme resources. However, the Committee reiterated its full appreciation that notwithstanding a small net increase of only 0.5 percent the so-called technical activities would increase quite substantially, by as much as 3.6 percent, of course at the expense of a cut in administrative and support services.

I also must say that the Programme Committee - in fact the two committees - expressed very strongly the view that this tendency, i.e. increasing technical programmes at the expense of administrative and support services, should not continue indefinitely. It was possible and we compliment the Director-General for being able to propose this in the next biennium but as I referred to in June, in the Programme Committee we were particularly concerned with the quantity and quality of FAO support services and we felt that this process should not be allowed to continue.

In conclusion, I will just repeat more or less what we concluded in our joint Committee. The Committee recommended the Council to give this full support and hoped very much that the Conference will reach a full unanimity in supporting the Director-General's proposal.

I could not go into detail with programmes, sub-programmes. As you said you spent a whole week with us and you know the Programme Committee very thoroughly reviewed again all programmes and sub-programmes, now with a much broader information base, we took full advantage of all the documents, including two performance reports and our own views expressed in our programme reviewing exercise, and so on and so forth. Of course, I stand ready to clarify any points or answer any questions the Members of the Council may wish me to.

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Chairman, Finance Committee): In dealing with this item I would like to draw the attention of the Council to Part III of document CL 84/4. You will find there are only ten small paragraphs under this heading in our report. It does not mean insufficient attention was given to this item, rather it is a reflection of the full comprehensive and thorough debate that we had on the Summary Programme of Work and Budget we discussed during the June Session which made it unnecessary to spend more time than required when we discussed the full Programme of Work and Budget.

You will recall that during the last Session of the Council our report of the Fifty-First Session dealt at length on the Summary Programme of Work and Budget for 1984/85 but the Council agreed with the Committee that the Director-General's assessment of the world economic and political situation which formed the background to his proposal and the important role FAO has to play as an international organization dealing with all food and agricultural problems was in conformity with what the Member Nations then assessed as appropriate. It also agreed that there was a need to provide the necessary resources to meet the challenges posed by the world community of nations. At the end of the debate the Council fully endorsed the programmes and strategies proposed by the Director-General. I do not propose to go into these details at this stage as we have covered all this in our June discussion when we endorsed the Summary Programme of Work and Budget. However, since the Committee at its Fifty-Second Session considered the full Programme of Work and Budget a few remarks to reinforce what we said earlier would not be inappropriate.

During the presentation of this item the Secretariat provided further information in the form of additional programmes and charts and provided many points which needed further clarification, particularly in answer to questions on biennialization in cost increases. The Committee was reviewing critically Chapters 1, 5, 6 and 8. The members had every opportunity to seek further information on the contents of these chapters. The written and oral examinations, together with graphs and charts provided on these chapters made our understanding of the cost increases more clear. The Committee was fully satisfied with the answers provided by the Secretariat and was able fully to support the full Programme of Work and Budget.

Before I conclude my comments on the Programme of Work and Budget I wish to draw the attention of the Council to paragraph 3.8 relating to the budget level. The hypothetical budget levels of four different rates are shown here to enable members of the Council to have an idea of what the budget level would be at different rates of exchange. The budget level of \$451.6 million is derived from the different rate of exchange between the dollar and the lira which applied at the previous session of the Conference. The rate to be applied for the 1984/85 biennium would be the one that would be adopted by the Conference to be held later this month. The Conference will be provided with the necessary updated information on exchange rates and to enable it to provide an appropriate rate for the biennium. The Director-General therefore made the necessary adjustments in the budget appropriations in the light of the Conference decision.

These are the only comments I have to make on our discussion. If there are any clarifications that Council Members need we will be prepared to answer them.

O. AWOYEMI (Nigeria): First of all I congratulate the Chairmen of both the Programme and Finance Committees for the excellent work they have done in the review of the Programme of Work and Budget 1984/85 and, of course, the medium-term objectives. The Nigerian delegation would like to commend also the Director-General for the quality of presentation of the Programme of Work and Budget and particularly the integration of the medium-term objectives into the main document. The new format which presents the problems of each region, the programmes designed to solve such problems, provide a rational basis for the whole exercise. The annexes, especially annex 2, which summarises the Budget by organizational unit and compares changes in the current biennium with the incoming, put the Programme and Budget in proper perspective. So also does the introduction of the Director-General to the whole document.

Coming to the content of the Programme of Work and Budget itself, my delegation is of the view that due account has been taken of the major problems facing agriculture in most regions of the world and particularly in Africa and that potentially available resources have been spread fairly over the various programmes and sub-programmes. Two areas which recent developments compel us to re-examine are water resources development and conservation, crop and animal pest and disease control. The incidence of drought which pushed many countries of Africa into the club of the food-deficit countries a decade ago is recurring just as signs of recovery were about to be apparent. Starting from last year precipitation has for two years fallen below average in many countries, including Nigeria. The prolonged dry season brought with it extensive destruction of tree crops and forests by fire. Cassava, plantains and grains which were not harvested in time were also destroyed by fire. This year has also witnessed widespread incidence of the cassava mealybug and rinderpest with substantial losses of livestock. The Director-General is already aware of these situations and has already risen to the situation on an emergency basis for which we are very appreciative. However, the plight of millions of farmers in Africa will be improved when the problem of drought is contained through the development and conservation of water resources and the use of short-term duration varieties of seed.

Since the Programme of Work and Budget is still going to be discussed in full during the Conference I would only say at this stage that my delegation is fully in support of the Programme and the level of the Budget and recommend that the draft resolution on page 45 of document C 83/3 be presented to the Conference for adoption. From the report of the Joint Session of the Programme and Finance Committees it would appear that the revenue of the Organization is likely to fall in the years ahead if the largest contributor finally decides to cut back on the contribution as revealed in document CL 84/4. If this Council considers it appropriate a draft resolution could be submitted to the Conference in which the Conference would appeal to the Government of the United States of America not to carry through the proposal to cut back its contribution, not only because of its adverse effect on the programmes of the FAO world wide but also because of the probable band-wagon effect on other major contributors. In addition, the Director-General should continue to explore ways of expanding sources of extra-budgetary funds. Much as we would prefer multilateral sources of funds circumstances may compel the Organization to encourage also bilateral donors.

Finally, I would like to commend the Director-General for the excellent work of the Organization in the area of publications and documentation. The list of publications and documents contained in C 83/3 Supp. 1 provides excellent sources of material for information and training in member countries, and should be circulated as and when they are ready for distribution. I believe some savings could be effected by reducing the number of Conference papers sent to member countries. Sometimes twenty copies of the same document are sent where a few would suffice.

N. DIMITRIU (Roumanie): La delegation roumaine a examiné attentivement le projet de Programme de travail et budget de la FAO pour la période 1984/1985 parce qu'il synthétise les directions d'action et d'assistance technique de notre organisation pour le suivant biennium. En ce qui concerne ce document, la délégation roumaine désire soumettre à votre attention quelques considérations se basant sur l'étude des documents élaborés par le Secrétariat.

Dès le début nous aimerions souligner que l'esprit et la conception dans lesquels a été élaboré le projet de Programme de travail et budget correspondent aux tâches qui incombent à la FAO dans le cadre de la troisième Décennie des Nations Unies pour le développement concernant la promotion de la production vivrière dans le but d'accroître la sécurité alimentaire de la population mondiale.

Il est nécessaire de mettre en évidence et d'appuyer aussi à l'avenir la contribution de notre organisation à l'assurance de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. La récente Conférence du Club de Rome qui s'est tenue à Budapest à la fin du mois de septembre 1983, lors de laquelle la FAO a apporté une contribution méritoire, a démontré d'une façon très claire que la perspective selon laquelle notre planète serait habitée par 6 milliards d'habitants pose des problèmes très importants du point de vue alimentaire et que l'impératif venant en premier dans l'ordre des priorités est celui de la conversion de la production des armes en production alimentaire.

La FAO doit jouer un rôle actif dans ce domaine tout en mettant au premier plan de ses activités futures la permanence des préoccupations en vue d'accroître la production alimentaire et la garantie de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Les priorités choisies dans le Programme de travail représentent les domaines d'action les plus importants vers lesquels on doit concentrer les efforts de l'organisation pour les deux années à venir en vue d'assurer l'assurance technique nécessaire au développement de la production alimentaire et à la solution des problèmes alimentaires et agricoles avec lesquels se confrontent les pays en voie de développement.

Il nous fait plaisir aussi de relever la préoccupation du Directeur général de rationaliser de façon permanente les activités de l'organisation, de diminuer les coûts de l'administration et d'accroître l'efficacité de l'organisation. Cette préoccupation est reflétée d'une façon évidente dans les propositions présentées, propositions qui nous donnent l'espoir d'augmenter l'efficacité des actions de l'organisation.

Le remaniement majeur des priorités du Programme, l'écartement des activités moins importantes et surtout la convergence des efforts matériels, financiers et humains centrés sur les programmes techniques et économiques qui vont jouir d'un supplément important de ressources pour l'exercice prochain représentent une orientation saine répondant aux intérêts des pays membres et surtout aux intérêts des pays en développement.

Nous retenons que les propositions faites par le Directeur général concernant le Programme de travail et budget de l'organisation pour les deux années, représentant une contribution positive au renversement du rôle de notre organisation dans l'ensemble des efforts internationaux pour le développement de la coopération économique, technique et scientifique en vue de promouvoir un esprit de coopération internationale et de paix, constituent en même temps une contribution à l'instauration du nouvel ordre économique international.

La délégation roumaine est d'accord avec le Programme de travail et budget proposé et nous vous demandons la permission d'adresser nos félicitations au Directeur général et à ses collaborateurs pour les efforts déployés en vue de l'élaboration et de la présentation de ces documents.

P. O'DONOGHUE (Ireland): The delegate of Nigeria made all the general remarks that I had intended to make, so I can be very brief. I will just say that we are very gratified with both the contents and the presentation of the Programme of Work and Budget for the coming biennium. We share the general economic assessment on which the Director-General has based his priorities and his strategy for the coming two years.

We would also like in particular to congratulate the Chairmen of the Programme Committee and the Finance Committee. They have done tremendous work and helped to bring about the situation in which we have a very clear-cut document in front of us here now on which to take decisions at the Conference. I would of course also like to congratulate the Director-General and his staff on doing such a good job.

Dra. D. SANCHEZ (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia reitera su más pleno apoyo al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1984-85. Considera nuestra delegación, Sr. Presidente, que este importante documento contiene notables mejoras en su presentación y corresponde a las prioridades definidas de los órganos rectores, así como a una seria y adecuada evaluación de la situación de la alimentación y la agricultura en el mundo. La delegación de Colombia piensa que el Consejo debe destacar ante la Conferencia los esfuerzos realizados por el Director General para presentar un Programa de Labores y Presupuesto equilibrado que representa el mínimo posible.

Apoyamos esta propuesta en el entendido de que en los bienios futuros la FAO deberá contar con todos los recursos necesarios para llevar a cabo sus importantes labores y que no será posible aceptar la imposición del lamentable crecimiento cero. Afortunadamente el Director General actúa con criterio realista y pragmático logrando hacer reducciones en los sectores administrativos para dedicar más recursos a los programas técnicos y económicos. La delegación de Colombia opina que tan acertada actitud de la FAO y la posición transaccional de los representantes de gobiernos que seguimos apoyando más amplios recursos para la FAO deberán merecer la aprobación unánime de la Conferencia y pedimos que así lo solicite este Consejo.

XIANG ZHONGYANG (China): First of all, in the name of the Chinese delegation, I wish to express our appreciation to the Chairmen of the Programme and Finance Committees for their introduction of this agenda item. This year, the Programme of Work and Budget 1984-1985 proposed by the Director-General to be submitted to the 22nd Session of the FAO Conference has been repeatedly discussed at the 83rd Session of the Council as well as at the sessions of its subsidiary committees concerned. We consider that the Programme of Work and Budget, as it stands, reflects in general the viewpoints voiced at the above-mentioned occasions in terms of the objectives and strategies, priorities and the level of budget. In this connexion, we suggest that the Council endorse it for submission to the Conference for in-depth discussions and final approval. Our delegation will in due course offer detailed comments when the question is brought up at the Conference.

A. F. MACHADO de FREITAS (Brazil): As a member of the Programme Committee I have already had the opportunity to express my government's views on the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 and medium-term objectives as contained in the documents now under consideration. This fact allows me now to be very brief.

I wish to reiterate my appreciation of the Director-General's introduction and programme framework and express my delegation's agreement with his analysis and with the conceptual foundation on which he built his proposals. I also agree with the proposed strategies and the priorities which result directly from suggestions and recommendations of other bodies of FAO.

I wish to express the recognition of my delegation for the improvement in the format of the document which now incorporates to each different chapter the texts of the medium-term objectives. The other changes in the traditional presentation of different parts of the document have greatly contributed to an easier reading and understanding of this otherwise complex matter.

With respect to the central question of the overall level of the proposed resources my government fully appreciates the efforts of the Director-General to reduce administrative expenditures so as to be able to allocate a greater proportion of funds to the technical and economic programmes which constitute the core activities of the Organization. The overall result is a proposal with a minimum

net programme increase and at the same time a reasonable expansion in the technical and economic programmes. In times of general financial restrictions and of concrete difficulties faced by an unusual number of Member States this is certainly a remarkable achievement which deserves the respect and approval of the Council.

My delegation has no difficulty in supporting each and every one of the different chapters of document C 83/3. It is particularly pleased with the proposed Chapter 2 which contains the technical and economic programmes. I wish to single out and welcome the changes introduced in paragraph 2.1.4, research and technical development.

My delegation believes that the consolidation of the four existing units into a new research and development division is a correct step in the direction of greater cooperation of FAO with the Member Nations in this fundamental area of the agricultural development in the countries which need to increase their food programmes and agriculture productivity.

In concluding I wish to express the hope that the present proposal may be accepted by the Council so that the activities that FAO has been promoting in compliance with the mandate received from the member countries may fruitfully continue.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): As in the case of the delegate of Brazil we also, as a member of the Programme Committee, have had an opportunity of reflecting our country's views in depth in the Programme Committee and we also hope to do so during the Conference, so we will restrict ourselves to some general remarks.

The Pakistan delegation wholeheartedly supports the strategies and priorities which have been reflected in this Programme of Work and Budget. Speaking of the format, we appreciate the improvements which have been brought about, particularly the merger of the medium-term objectives, which heightens the efficiency of the document.

We also appreciate that within the document the Programme framework brings out in a very concise and clear manner the whole thrust of the Programme of Work and Budget. We feel it is a great improvement in the presentation and anticipate that this can become a continued part of the Programme of Work and Budget.

We feel that the Director-General's introduction to the document has been most objective and factual and we agree with his assessment of the world situation.

In this connexion we particularly appreciate the emphasis being placed on world security in the Director-General's introduction. We speak of the strategies and priorities and are appreciative of the fact that these reflect the guidance and views expressed in regional conferences and other committees of FAO and the Council. We also appreciate the fact that the Director-General had difficult choices facing him when preparing his proposal for the Programme of Work and Budget and, as the Chairman of the Programme Committee mentioned earlier, Pakistan is one of those countries which regrets the modest additionality of resources as proposed in the Programme of Work and Budget, particularly in view of the fact that the developing countries of the world are going through a very difficult situation and unless there are additional resources for an organization like FAO these problems cannot be solved. We do appreciate that the reserves have been shifted from the general and administration sectors to the technical programmes, and there is a 3.6 percent expansion in the core role of the programme of FAO activities. We appreciate that, but we are again one of those members who caution as far as maintaining or reducing the overhead expenses so far as administration is concerned without affecting the delivery of FAO activities.

In conclusion, we fully support the budget, its level, its priorities and strategies, and we are looking forward to its being approved by consensus in the Conference.

A. BOTHNER (Norway): I would like briefly to comment on this issue, realizing that further debate will take place during the Conference. Firstly, on the question of the level of the budget, I would like to commend the Director-General on his realistic and pragmatic approach, taking into account the present international situation.

For the sake of good order, let me further say that it is not the general policy of the Government of Norway in the UN system to aim at zero growth. Our point of departure is, on the contrary, the needs that the organization in question are charged to take care of on the basis of their constitutions. This also applies to FAO.

With regard to priorities, I would like again at this stage only to give some indications in shorthand terms that do in short reflect some priorities of my government, and I would like at this stage to list them. They are WCARRD, nutrition, the role of women, Africa, food security, fishery development, forestry development and general policy advice. All of these deserve in-depth consideration and will also deserve such discussion next week. I hope at that stage that we will together be able to solve this difficulty and these delicate choices that were referred to this morning by Mr. Trkulja.

M. BENNIS (Maroc): La délégation du Maroc voudrait d'abord féliciter le Président du Comité du Programme et le Président du Comité financier pour le travail précieux que leurs comités respectifs ont entrepris. Nous voudrions féliciter également le Directeur général pour la qualité du document sur le Programme de travail et budget dans sa nouvelle présentation, nouvelle présentation claire et facilement assimilable.

L'examen du Programme de travail et budget de notre Organisation pour le biennium prochain offre à la délégation du Maroc l'occasion non seulement de formuler son sentiment sur les perspectives d'action de la FAO dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture, ainsi que sur le volume des moyens mis en oeuvre pour atteindre ces objectifs, mais cette circonstance nous permet également de nous prononcer sur la manière dont ces moyens peuvent être utilisés.

S'agissant tout d'abord du Programme de travail et budget, il est indéniable que l'analyse claire et objective de la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture présentée par le Directeur général justifie pleinement les actions d'orientation de la FAO, actions de la FAO notamment en faveur des pays en voie de développement qui demeurent malheureusement confrontés aux tensions économiques et sociales sans cesse croissantes.

Ma délégation se félicite des stratégies et priorités adoptées par le Directeur général en particulier pour l'impulsion nouvelle accordée aux programmes techniques et économiques. Nous relevons également avec non moins d'intérêt l'attention particulière et accrue portée par la FAO aux secteurs de la recherche et de la technologie, qui sont les fondements essentiels de l'amélioration de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture. Comme nous approuvons, M. le Président, et encourageons les efforts que la FAO a entrepris en faveur du développement, et notamment ceux engagés dans les cadres du Programme de coopération technique, guidée dans ses appréciations sur les projets par le critère prioritaire de l'intégration des projets dans les plans d'ensemble de développement économique et social.

En ce qui concerne les moyens à mettre en oeuvre, vus sur le plan quantitatif, l'accroissement quasiment nul du budget de fonctionnement d'une institution comme la FAO pourrait être sinon compensé du moins corrigé par une judicieuse répartition interne des crédits retenus. Tel est, pensons-nous, le cas du budget qui nous est présenté. L'esprit de rigueur et le sens de réalisme qui le caractérisent d'une part, la recherche d'économie par la réduction des coûts administratifs alliée à la croissance des programmes techniques et économiques d'autre part sont, pensons-nous des clefs de base qui augurent d'une bonne efficacité de la FAO.

Dans cet ensemble il est légitime que l'Afrique en particulier puisse aspirer à plus de soutien en vue d'accélérer le processus de son développement. La part et l'attention toujours particulière accordée par la FAO à ce continent sont louables parce que bien méritées.

D'une manière générale, à travers ce Programme de travail et budget apparaissent nettement la clairvoyance, l'adresse et la volonté du Directeur général d'agir efficacement. Nous voulons lui adresser nos vives félicitations et l'assurer de l'appui de notre délégation au Programme de travail et budget qu'il propose pour 1984-85. Nous avons toujours cru, et à juste titre, en l'intérêt de la FAO pour l'amélioration de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture dans le monde, et pour le développement économique et social de nombreuses populations, et nous voulons croire encore en l'utilité d'une telle organisation pour le bien-être de l'homme en général. C'est pourquoi ma délégation rejoint les préoccupations formulées par le Comité du programme et le Comité financier devant les risques de réduction de contribution de certains pays qui peuvent menacer sérieusement l'avenir de la FAO. Nous formulons le souhait que ces pays puissent éviter de s'engager sur cette voie combien néfaste à ceux des hommes qui ont encore besoin du soutien de la communauté internationale. Nous espérons que le sentiment humanitaire l'emportera sur toute autre considération, afin que la FAO poursuive sa noble mission dans des conditions satisfaisantes.

Sra. Doña E.HERAZO de VITI (Panamá): Nuestra delegación considera que el documento del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1984/85 es, en cuanto a estructura y presentación, muy superior al de los dos anteriores bienios.

Por otra parte, en cumplimiento de sus funciones, tanto separadamente como en reuniones conjuntas, los Comités del Programa y Finanzas han realizado una buena labor en torno al análisis del presente Programa de Labores y Presupuesto.

Subrayamos lo expresado por el señor Director General en su excelente introducción al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto, cuando expresa que es tradicional que la mayoría de los estados miembros desarrollados pidan moderación presupuestaria, pero paralelamente se está produciendo un aumento del bilateralismo frente al multilateralismo, así como de las limitaciones a las asignaciones para ayuda. Creemos muy valederos los objetivos en los cuales se basó el Director General para formular su propuesta, como lo son el tratar de limitar la carga financiera para los estados miembros, la reducción de puestos de plantillas, así como la realización de transferencias de recursos desde algunos servicios administrativos de apoyo hacia programas técnicos y económicos substanciales, lo mismo que las prioridades a ellos asignadas, tales como el fomento a la investigación y la tecnología, recursos naturales, cultivos, políticas alimentarias y agrícolas, ganadería, pesca y montes.

Este hecho, a nuestro juicio, permitirá en gran parte el logro de los objetivos propuestos, además del logro de economía, eficiencia y una mejor administración de los recursos disponibles.

Con relación al Programa de Cooperación técnica, en verdad no se necesitan más pruebas que las que se han aportado para demostrar la necesidad del mismo por parte de los países en vías de desarrollo.

Sobre las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, CMRADR, subrayamos la validez del programa de acción de esta Conferencia y el impacto que sus orientaciones deben tener por todo este tiempo en los programas de esta Organización.

Consideramos y vemos en los programas de desarrollo rural integrado esfuerzos que si bien son fatigosos y complejos son igualmente positivos para llegar efectivamente a los grupos objetivos de nuestras áreas rurales. Es por esto por lo que apoyamos toda ampliación de las actividades que tiendan a encarar realmente los problemas del desarrollo rural, tanto desde su punto de vista técnico como económico y social.

Y para finalizar, deseamos expresar que en base a estas consideraciones es que la delegación de Panamá se manifiesta dispuesta a apoyar el nivel presupuestario propuesto como el mínimo aceptable y contamos con que este Consejo acoja esta propuesta presupuestaria y la proponga a la próxima Conferencia.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): Let me say straight away that we are happy with the Programme of Work and Budget presented to the Council. It is imbued with strategies and priorities which are most salutary and therefore welcome. They are guided by four principle aims: (1) promotion of food production, (2) increase in food security, (3) impact at the field level and (4) enhancing economic and technical cooperation among the developing countries. We support these goals wholly.

The Programme is based not only on an equitable view as to how FAO has fared under the regular as well as field programmes during the last biennium, but also on a futuristic appraisal both in the long term and medium term. The goals which the world as a whole and the individual countries should set before them for the end of the century were kept in view on the basis of the FAO's study "Agriculture Towards 2000". In the medium term a prospective of ten years has been kept in view. It was also noted that the thrust of FAO activities continue to be on the concrete action orientated projects relevant to the needs and aspirations of developing countries.

Mr. Chairman, FAO activities have over the years shown tremendous flexibility and have adjusted themselves to the changing global situations in the field of food and agriculture. Special emphasis has been given to Africa in view of the largest number of food deficit countries in that continent which we fully support.

The support that the Technical Cooperation Programme has received and there is some increase in its allocation over the current biennium, is another welcome feature of the Programme of Work and Budget. These activities play a valuable role in complementing the activities of this Organization through extra-budgetary funds. Further strengthening of special action programmes - and I find they are in twelve fields - gets our full support.

FAO has also started a very fruitful collaboration with the Host Government for the utilization of \$500 million development assistance, mostly for Africa. They have to be commended for this.

We have read with some disappointment of the negative trend in the UNDP source of availability for the FAO, and sincerely hope that this trend will be reversed soon. At the same time increase in the trust fund availability has given us satisfaction.

In conclusion we are happy with this Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1984/85. My delegation would like to compliment the Director-General for producing this Budget which is balanced, which cuts down the overheads to an appreciable extent, which has a slight developmental growth too, and which continues to focus attention on the problems of the developing and least developed countries in the field of food and agriculture.

My delegation associates itself with the views given by the Director-General in his introductory remarks to the document. Indeed there is no nobler or more compelling aim, as he says, than alleviating hunger and want. It is our sincere hope that this Programme of Work and Budget will prove an effective tool for the betterment of the poor and needy countries and for the common well.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): As you know, Mr. Chairman, the United Kingdom delegation is rather sparing in the compliments it pays in this forum, hence the sincerity with which I would like to join those who have complimented the Secretariat on the changes in the format of the Programme of Work and Budget as contained in document C 83/3, which not only makes a much more readable document but also gives a far clearer account of the objectives of programmes and sub-programmes, and more importantly of how those objectives will be pursued during the next biennium. As I said, I join very strongly with those who commend this new presentation.

I would also like to reiterate what my delegation said at the last Council in June, that we are mostly grateful to the Director-General for his efforts to limit real growth and improve the efficiency of the Organization, especially in a period when there continue to be competing claims on available development resources and while at the same time the demands for FAO's services are increasing. We are therefore particularly grateful that the increases proposed in the technical and economic programmes have very largely been offset by savings in support and common services.

Concerning the general strategies and priorities as reflected in the Programme for the coming biennium we note that steps have been taken to phase out obsolete activities, and to reassign resources so released to activities which demonstrably have real impact on the problems of food and agriculture in developing countries. This is very much in line with our views on how budgeting in times of financial restraint should be conducted and we hope this process will be reinforced during the coming biennium.

My delegation will wish to comment of course in more detail on certain aspects of the programmes during the Conference, but at this stage I can say that the United Kingdom delegation has no difficulty in endorsing the recommendation of the Joint Session of the Programme and Finance Committees that the Council remits the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984/85 to Conference with its full support.

DATO SERI RADIN SOENARNO (Malaysia): Mr. Chairman, during the last Council session my delegation expressed our general agreement on the proposed Summary Programme of Work and Budget including the strategies and priorities of the Organization for the next biennium. We did so because we felt that the Director-General had taken due consideration of the current difficult world situation and the need for restraint. At the same time the Director-General was faced with a difficult task to respond to the many priority requests from the governments of the developing countries. We felt under these circumstances that the Director-General had prepared a balanced and acceptable proposal for the Council's consideration.

The situation since the last Council has not changed much. The full Programme of Work and Budget now before us generally seems to reflect the discussion we had at that Council. My delegation would therefore like to reiterate our endorsement to the proposed level of the Budget, and the strategies and priorities for the coming biennium for the same reasons that we have supported the Summary Programme of Work and Budget.

Notwithstanding the difficult economic situation the effort to increase food security and to obtain self-sufficiency in food products must continue if we are to avoid the experience of the early 70's. While national governments of developing countries have increasingly undertaken the task to improve the food situation in their countries, FAO being the major international organization dealing with food and agricultural development must also increasingly bear the biggest share in the responsibility to provide all help and assistance to complement and to enhance the efforts of the national governments.

Since increasing food productivity is the principal means for food security, the relevant increase in the technical and economic programmes and those programmes have a direct role in increasing food production over other programmes in agriculture and rural development is essentially correct and acceptable. Similarly the focus on Africa reflects the need to counter the deteriorating situation vis-a-vis food production in that continent. We only hope that effective means will

be developed to match this intent in the hope that target groups will benefit from our efforts. The present unsatisfactory economic situation has affected all countries in the world. Many countries had to undertake drastic structural adjustment, in some cases postponing many of the already on-going projects, while others have to face a concrete cutdown in the development programme.

Unfortunately international agencies on which so many of us are dependent for assistance are not spared either. We wish very much that this is not the case so that these institutions can continue to carry out their task assisting the developing countries, but being so affected, these agencies cannot but take certain measures to re-think and reorganize the strategies and priorities. We are satisfied to note that these measures are fully reflected in the preparation of the Programme of Work and Budget. There have been some cutbacks and there has also been reallocation of resources. These are excellent examples of the Organization's efforts in meeting the challenges and undertaking its ever increasing responsibilities within the limited resources available.

On the basis of the above remarks my delegation would like to express our agreement on the level of budget and the Programme of Work.

M. MOMBOULI (Congo): Au nom de la délégation de notre pays, nous aimerions d'abord adresser nos remerciements et nos félicitations respectivement au Président, pour l'efficacité avec laquelle il dirige nos débats, au Directeur général de la FAO ainsi qu'aux membres du Comité financier et du Comité du programme pour la clarté des documents principaux et leurs annexes.

Nous avons noté que les documents qui nous sont actuellement soumis feront l'objet d'un examen plus approfondi au cours de la Conférence, aussi pour le moment n'allons-nous intervenir que de manière générale.

Nous avons lu avec une attention toute particulière le Programme de travail et budget pour 1984-85, les objectifs à moyen terme de l'Organisation de la FAO ainsi que les rapports distincts et conjoints des Comités financier et du programme. Nous ne sommes pas des spécialistes en matière de budget et de programme et, en pareilles circonstances, la solution est le recours à la consultation des spécialistes qui sont, dans l'état précis, nos deux Comités, le Comité financier et le Comité du programme. Or, des rapports de ces deux comités, il ressort que le Directeur général de la FAO a observé les consignes dégagées par les deux comités spécialisés en vue de l'amélioration de la présentation des documents. Les deux Comités ont approuvé les stratégies et priorités adoptées par le Directeur général, ainsi que la nouvelle impulsion imprimée par lui aux programmes techniques et économiques de l'Organisation et ont recommandé que le Programme de travail et budget pour la période 1984-85 soit approuvé.

Pour ces raisons, qui rencontrent également notre assentiment, nous appuyons sans faille ces deux éléments et invitons toutes les délégations à y adhérer.

Toutefois, nous voulons saisir cette occasion pour dire à l'Assemblée combien nous sommes préoccupés par les réductions croissantes dont font l'objet les programmes et budgets de l'Organisation en raison de tergiversations de certains Etats Membres, soit à verser leurs contributions, soit à les réduire au nom d'une soi-disant fidélité au principe de la croissance zéro, tout à fait inacceptable au regard des besoins de plus en plus croissants des pays en déficit alimentaire toujours plus secoués par la crise économique mondiale.

Notre préoccupation est d'autant plus grande que, nonobstant toutes les allégations présentées, des sommes colossales sont dépensées chaque année pour l'armement qui n'a d'autre issue que la menace de la paix mondiale.

Nous lançons un appel vibrant à tous les contributeurs aux ressources de l'Organisation pour qu'au nom de la solidarité internationale, du respect du droit de tous à la nourriture, de plus en plus de fonds soient dégagés au bénéfice de toutes les institutions qui oeuvrent pour lutter contre la faim et la misère dans le monde, en particulier la FAO, le PAM, le FIDA, etc. Sans fonds suffisants, les efforts de ces institutions resteront limités quelles que soient les mesures d'austérité qu'ils pourront envisager, car si l'on insiste trop sur l'austérité leur efficacité pourrait en être affectée.

Une fois de plus, nous appuyons le Programme de travail et budget pour la période 1984-85 présenté par le Directeur général de la FAO.

SJARIFUDIN BAHARSJAH (Indonesia): My delegation has carefully studied the Programme of Work and Budget as made available and presented in this joint session. We found that in this difficult and delicate situation FAO adopted the proper strategies and priorities. In particular we welcome the proposed reallocation of the budget which permits emphasis on the technical and economic programmes.

We also welcome the creation of the united Research and Technology Development Division with the main focus being the application of research results at the national level. We do hope that by doing so the new Division will also help in strengthening the national research establishments.

The Indonesian delegation fully endorses the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 and hopes that the coming Conference will also endorse it. In conclusion my delegation would also like to join the other delegations in congratulating the Director-General and the Chairmen of the Programme and Finance Committees for the content and excellent presentation of the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85,

J. MAJCHER (Poland): During the last session of our Council my delegation submitted our observations and comments on the proposed Programme of Work and Budget, endorsing them. This time we should like to limit our intervention to some observations related to the report of the Programme Committee.

First of all I should like to congratulate Mr Trkulja, Chairman of the Programme Committee and Mr Abeyagoonasekera, Chairman of the Finance Committee for their introduction of this topic of our agenda. We support the Programme Committee in stressing the need for improved functional links between research and extension and its emphasizing the importance of taking into account the socio-economic aspects in research development to ensure the relevance of research results to small farmers. We note with satisfaction and we commend the active FAO involvement in the work of the CGIAR and its support to its technical advisory committee. We were glad to see that the forthcoming regional conferences will be regularly provided with information on the progress made in international agricultural research.

My delegation is in full agreement with the Programme Committee's support to the emphasis given to price statistics and the proposed work on agricultural trade matters, and we fully share the opinion expressed in paragraph 2.1.1.1 that these activities should not be limited to developing countries only. We share the Programme Committee's regret concerning resources to support field programmes, in particular the negative trend in external multilateral resources, mainly UNDP, since this limits field activities. We have noted that in contrast there is an increase in the trust fund activities.

We have also noted that the Programme Committee welcomed this although it was recognized that this fact did not fully compensate for the shortfall in UNDP support. In our opinion it is necessary to underline the difference between UNDP and trust fund financing. The UNDP financing is of a multilateral character providing the recipient countries with the possibility of choice by themselves of purposes to be financed. The trust fund financing is rather of a bilateral character with direct influence of the financing countries on the purposes to be financed. For this reason we are of the opinion that trust fund financing cannot replace the UNDP financing of field activities.

P. GOSSELIN (Canada): As there will be ample opportunity during the Conference to review and comment on the details of the Programme of Work and Budget, we will restrict ourselves to a few general comments. We would, however, not like to let this opportunity pass without expressing our appreciation for the documents that we have before us which we believe go some distance towards achieving the clarity and transparency that we all need to be able to better assess the content and value of these many complex programmes.

In this context we would like to request that future documents contain a clear indication of which activities and programmes are being reduced or phased out to accommodate new initiatives. We are aware of the difficult choices that the budgetary constraints that are reflected in these documents have imposed on the Director-General and his staff in balancing and prioritizing the various programmes. We are fully appreciative of these efforts and endorse the decisions taken and especially those that emphasize the operational programmes at the expense of the administrative support programmes.

Finally, we would like to endorse the recommendations of the Programme and Finance Committees and commend the documents under review to the Conference for approval with our and this Council's support.

Sra. Doña A. CAVERO (España): Queríamos muy brevemente felicitar a los presidentes del Comité del Programa y de Finanzas y al Director General por el documento C 83/3 en su nueva presentación. Apoyamos el programa propuesto y las prioridades adoptadas. Reconocemos los esfuerzos hechos en la reducción de servicios a favor de una mayor efectividad en otros sectores técnicos y operacionales.

Mi delegación considera oportuno que el Consejo remita, con su pleno apoyo, el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto a la Conferencia, donde trataremos en profundidad todos los temas, y donde nos reservamos poder hablar a nivel profundo de cada uno de los apartados del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto.

Para terminar, queremos citar los suplementos 1 y 2 del documento C 83/3 y reconocer el esfuerzo que se está haciendo para alcanzar un mayor equilibrio en el uso de los distintos idiomas de trabajo, a fin de que todos los países recibamos unos servicios iguales de esta Organización.

P.M. AMÜKOA (Kenya): We have very limited time at this Council Session and find it difficult to make all the comments we would have liked to make on the Programme of Work and Budget. We shall therefore make our detailed comments later in the next few weeks during the Conference. For now we support Nigeria, India and many others in their positive comments which they made on the strategies and priorities proposed in the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 and their concern for the limited resources available to FAO in order to carry out the necessary activities. We from Africa are particularly happy to see the focus being placed on our continent, this being the continent with the most serious problems.

In this connexion we fully endorse the current FAO focus on areas such as training in Africa, especially high level manpower development, research, institutional development and development of the delivery systems and other areas that are relevant to us.

While supporting the Director-General's level of the budget and while regretting that this level is very low, my delegation would like to urge for an increase in all FAO's extra-budgetary resources and we would like to appeal to donors very kindly to do so. Lastly we thank the Programme and Finance Committees for the excellent work they did in preparing these reports.

J. BELGRAVE (New Zealand): Firstly, the New Zealand delegation would like to place on record its appreciation of the work both of the Chairmen and of the Members of the Programme and Finance Committees and also for the introduction that was given this morning under the heading of Document CL 84/4. We appreciate also the change in the format provided by the Director-General and his staff since the Eighty-third Session of the Council which is manifested in document C 83/3 that we are now considering. It seems to us that the way the document is now structured does make it much simpler to assess the probable impact of the strategies contained therein. New Zealand feels that the proposals now before us based in the earlier draft Programme of Work and Budget which we considered in June do take very full account indeed of concern expressed as far back as 1981 and subsequently. New Zealand is able to give its general support to its overall strategies and priorities now developed for us in document C 83/3. We will nevertheless reserve our comments on the details of the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984/85 until it is discussed in the forthcoming weeks at the Conference. We agree nevertheless that the approach now before us does amount to a significant shift of resources in favour of the most urgent priorities with the most appropriate means aimed at the highest impact which we believe is the kind of way in which priorities need to be reordered generally in an approach we have taken to budgetary matters in the United Nations system. We are looking forward to being able to discuss positively the Programme of Work and Budget during the forthcoming weeks.

Finally, the New Zealand delegation endorses the recommendation of the Joint Session of the Programme and Finance Committees, the recommendation that this Council supports fully the Director-General's proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 1984/85.

L. ARIZA HIDALGO (Cuba): Nuestra delegación quiere unirse a las felicitaciones expresadas a los Presidentes del Comité del Programa y de Finanzas por su arduo y eficiente trabajo que consideramos conclusivo. Asimismo queremos manifestar nuestro saludo especial al Director General y a la Secretaría por la calidad y profundidad del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto presentado. En este sentido queremos resaltar calidad y profundidad que deben prevalecer sobre la forma y presentación. Nuestro país apoya en todas sus partes el enfoque y las prioridades que se proponen y consideramos un ejemplo la señalización de los recursos en favor de los programas contra los ilimitados gastos administrativos. El equilibrio razonable en la presentación del Programa, teniendo en cuenta las múltiples solicitudes que tiene la FAO en materia de asistencia técnica, es digno de elogio realmente.

Queremos apoyar también de la misma manera la importancia concedida a las necesidades presentes de países menos adelantados, particularmente Africa. Reiteradamente nuestra delegación ha expresado su preocupación por el porcentaje simbólico del crecimiento real de ese Programa de Labores y Presupuesto 1984-85, el cual creo que se ha dicho unas cuantas veces es sólo del 0,5 lo que en la práctica significa un crecimiento cero. Sentiría nuestra delegación cualquier intención de reducir esto, ya que sería una pretensión de obstaculizar el mandato que la Comunidad Internacional le ha dado a la FAO en favor de su lucha por la seguridad alimentaria y el desarrollo de la agricultura. Considera nuestra delegación que este Consejo debe pedir unánimemente a la Conferencia la aprobación del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto.

S. J. KAO (Lesotho): I would like to start by congratulating the Committees for the good work done to prepare this clear and valuable document. The world is now faced with a number of situations which require emergency attention. For instance, the current drought that is facing a greater part of Africa and the rinderpest outbreak sweeping through the same continent and the refugee situation throughout the world. When nations are faced with these the rate of hunger and malnutrition increases and thus a pressure is brought upon FAO to assist soonest. Thus the increase on TCP funds to enable FAO to respond to these calls and thus increase flexibility or facility. For these reasons we support that aspect of the Budget. The rationalization of FAO started with the setting up of regional offices and then the FAO representatives. This creation of actual presence of FAO at the scene of events was done with a good purpose. This should not be lost sight of even during these hard, harsh financial times. Steps to stake and to streamline expenditure which resulted in the 3.6 percent increase in technical and economic programmes with only a 0.5 net increase in expenditure is appreciated and supported. In the same spirit a call is made to redistribute resources and such with additional responsibility and/or authority given to regional offices to implement and coordinate programmes in the region. Further, in the African region steps should be taken to rationalize and evaluate the need for regional organizations with a view to improved division of responsibility and definition of roles and thus eliminate possible duplication. Over the years production of food has declined despite the efforts to increase food production. The revised definition of food security is most appreciated and should be used to focus the efforts of this Organization and thus the Budget and the Programme should be recast to reflect the emphasis. In this manner the effectiveness of the Organization would be better evaluated.

Yesterday, under agricultural commodity problems mention was made of the intervention of governments in marketing of agricultural products in developing countries. Lesotho wishes to bring to the attention of the meeting that this is a world-wide practice and is the main, if not the sole, reason why farming as a profession continues. There is no reason why developing countries should be the exception. Rather than ask the developing countries to refrain from intervention efforts should be made to enable them to make the interventions more effectively and efficiently utilized. Farmers' incentives is a means to promote production which is advocated persistently. If such incentives are not provided through marketing how best should they be done? My delegation maintains that such interventions are part of the management and direction of the economy as a whole and this is the responsibility of governments. Both the Committee on Commodity Problems and Sub-Programme 2.5 should be used to promote this view. Lesotho maintains that final success on programme will be determined by the ability of the recipient countries to utilize the assistance provided by FAO and other donor agencies. The ability and capacity is however limited by availability of trained manpower at high professional levels, particularly in Africa. It is for this reason that a call is hereby made for reinforcement of training programmes.

Lastly, with these remarks Lesotho here expresses its acceptance of the Programme of Work and Budget and urges the Council to adopt the report of the Programme Committee and the Finance Committee and to recommend these for adoption. Further, my delegation looks forward to the unanimous approval by the Conference so that the world can get over the trying time of hunger and disaster soonest.

P. PONGPAET (Thailand): The Council may recall that my delegation at the last Session supported the Proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 1984/85 and here again we would like to reiterate our support for this budget.

Concerning the document, my delegation would like to congratulate the Director-General, the Secretariat and the Chairmen of both Programme and Finance Committees for their lucid and reasonable presentation of this document.

Just one point, my delegation would like to bring to the Council's attention due to the upper trend in economy improvement, particularly from within the developed countries and hopefully the better economic improvement also for developing countries, my delegation believes that all members of FAO Council and also the members of this Organization will unanimously lend their support for this minimal increase in the Proposed Programme of Work and Budget for the coming biennium.

K.M. EJAZUL HUQ (Bangladesh): We join the others before us to congratulate the Chairmen and the members of the Programme and Finance Committees for the presentation of their report in the new format given. The Bangladesh delegation has carefully studied the Programme of Work and Budget for the 1984/85 biennium and the medium term objectives proposed by the Director-General in document C 83/3 and supplements 1 and 2 together with CL 84/4. My delegation would like to congratulate the Director-General for presenting such a well-conceived action-oriented and realistic budget. The budget also amply demonstrates the wisdom and the judgement that the Director-General has recognized in reconciling difficult and conflicting situations, for the need of FAO programmes in developing countries who face economic constraints.

Some of the salient features of the Programme of Work and Budget are, one, overall net programme increase of only 0.5 percent over the previous biennium. This will involve an increase of US\$1 278 000 per annum for the largest contributor and US\$111 per annum for the smallest contributor. To my delegation this is a very modest increase indeed in relation to the magnitude of the needs of developing countries for increasing food production and agricultural development.

Two, stringent cuts in programmes of relatively low priorities, drastic reductions in administrative and support costs, containment of the general policy and direction expenses by 1.4 percent, and those of development support programmes by about 1 percent.

Three, the resources thus saved have been proposed to be channelled through the technical and economic programmes together with a net increase of about 0.5 percent of budgetary increase. In this way the resources proposed to be allocated to the technical and economic programmes will be increased by US\$7.5 million, or about 3.6 percent over the current level.

Although my delegation fully appreciates the Director-General's measures of economies and drastic cuts in the administrative and support services and for improving the efficiency of the Organization, at the same time we strongly feel that there is a limit to such cuts in the administrative costs without adversely affecting the efficiency of the Organization adequately to meet its obligations to the Member Nations. We would therefore urge upon the Director-General to keep this point in view while preparing the Programme of Work and Budget in future. We know we are placing a tall demand on the Director-General but we have faith in his abilities.

My delegation also notes and supports the strategies and priorities followed by the Director-General in preparing the Programme of Work and Budget for the 1984-85 biennium, which has taken into account the directives of the Conference and the recommendations of the Council, the Regional Conferences, the Programme and Finance Committees, and other technical bodies including the UN General Assembly, ECOSOC and other international organizations with which FAO collaborates. My delegation therefore strongly feels that the proposed Programme of Work and Budget will respond to the needs and the requirements of the developing countries, and ensure the promotion of a production increase in the world food security field level of activities, ECDC, TCDC etc.

My delegation also fully agrees with the assessment of the world food and agricultural situation made by the Director-General in his introduction of the Programme of Work and Budget. In this connexion it may be mentioned that the food situation, especially in the low-income food-deficit countries is very acute. In many of these countries the rate of growth of food production is lower than the rate of population growth; therefore there is greater need for accelerated growth of food and agricultural production to improve the nutritional standards and to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in these countries. The international community is also committed to the alleviation of hunger and malnutrition as early as possible, definitely by the end of this century.

The international development strategy of the UN Development Decade also envisages a minimum 4 percent increase in food production by the developing countries and also recognizes the need for adequate external assistance, multilateral and bilateral.

In view of this situation a 0.5 percent increase in the level of the resources of the FAO in the 1984-85 biennium will be inadequate to fulfil its responsibility in this regard. Therefore such a meagre increase in the level of resources in the Programme of Work and Budget should not be a precedent for the future.

FAO under the dynamic and able leadership of the Director-General has all the expertise and dedication to fulfil its mandate for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition from the world. It only needs the encouragement and support of the Member Nations. My delegation therefore fully supports the Director-General's proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85.

As one of the last speakers on the subject my delegation had the advantage of listening to the interventions by many other delegates. We have heard what we had hoped to hear. What we have heard is strong support for the budget, and we are delighted about it.

W. A. F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany notes with satisfaction that the Director-General has taken into account the position of the 83rd Council Session when preparing and presenting his draft Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85. The sharpening of priorities, the proposed increases in technical programmes, offset mainly by cutting administrative costs and a number of posts, is in our view in the interest of all Member States.

My delegation appreciates the improvements in the presentation of the document before us. The proposal contained in document C 83/3 will be discussed in detail in Commission II at the forthcoming 22nd Session of the Conference. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany will then comment on individual items which are of special concern to it and will voice at that stage the final position of our government.

I therefore would like to confine myself to one point. Contrary to the assurance given by the Secretariat at the 83rd Session of the Council, the tables on established posts given in Appendix B of document C 83/3 before us do not give the posts of country representatives and their staff by grades. Appendix B of document CL 84/4 - that is to say, the reports of the Programme and Finance Committees' last session - gives us the total number of these posts broken down by Professional and above and to General Service. But we miss that small additional column in the tables which I have already mentioned in document C 83/3 giving all grades of the country representatives and their staff, information which is in our view necessary for the overall assessment of staffing of the Organization. Therefore we would be grateful to the Secretariat if they could give us this information still before the beginning of the 22nd Session of the Conference.

A. NAGA (Japan): I would like on behalf of my delegation to make some general remarks on the Programme of Work and Budget 1984-85 and medium-term objectives. We feel that the proposed budget shows a certain improvement as compared with the 1982-83 budget.

My delegation appreciates the FAO Secretariat's efforts to reduce the real programme growth to nearly zero, taking into full consideration the extremely difficult financial situation of each Member Nation.

We also appreciate the fact that the Secretariat has transferred its limited resources from low-priority areas to high-priority areas such as technical and economic programmes.

Now I would like to comment on the Technical Cooperation Programme. We appreciate the objective of TCP which is to speedily cope with the urgent needs of the developing countries. Control of rinderpest in Africa may be a good example that the TCP plays an important role.

We can understand that the TCP budget should be an unprogrammed budget in order to ensure the above objective.

However, at the same time, we feel that the share of unprogrammed budget should be limited and should not be a major part of the budget.

Of course we are fully aware that the FAO Secretariat receives a number of requests for TCP projects and that these requests are examined carefully before approval. However, we also feel that the degree of emergency differs from project to project. In this connexion we believe that less urgent projects should be accommodated not with the TCP budget but with other resources, for example technical and economic programmes, so that they can be well coordinated with other relevant activities of technical and economic programmes.

Y. HAMDI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): We would like to commend the Chairmen of the Finance and Programme Committees for the excellent work undertaken by them as portrayed in the two reports of the Committees. We would like also to commend the efforts exerted by the Director-General to reduce the proposed budget as far as possible without detracting from the level of performance in technical programmes. These programmes aim basically at improving the state of food and agriculture.

Once again our delegation would like to reiterate its support for the priorities and strategies featuring in the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85.

M. FRANCISCI DI BASCHI (Italie): J'exprime également mes félicitations pour la présentation et le contenu du Programme de travail et budget pour les années 1984-85. Nous approuvons pleinement les stratégies et les priorités qui se dégagent du Programme. Nous félicitons également le Président du Comité du programme et celui du Comité financier pour leur excellent travail.

Je pense que nous aurons l'occasion de nous étendre sur le détail du budget et programme à l'occasion de la Conférence. Je voudrais souligner que pour l'Italie les priorités, les stratégies à moyen terme sont centrées naturellement sur la sécurité alimentaire et l'autosuffisance, sur la situation particulièrement critique de l'Afrique ainsi que sur la recherche et la technologie.

A.G. LAKANWAL (Afghanistan): I will be brief, because many delegates have expressed their views on the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85. My delegation fully supports the recommendations of the Director-General on the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85. We are convinced that the strategies, priorities and means of action proposed by the Director-General in the Programme of Work and Budget will make great efforts to the upgrading of agricultural production and will play a very important role in food security. We fully share the view of the Director-General for a reduction of

administrative expenses to the benefit of the technical and economic programmes. I know how hard it will be for the Director-General to reduce some of the administrative posts in his office, but I would like to congratulate him for this. We therefore endorse the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85.

In conclusion, I would like to congratulate the Director-General and the Chairmen of the Programme and Finance Committees for the excellent document which they presented to the Council. I believe it will be endorsed in the Conference.

F. BREWSTER (Barbados): The Barbados delegation wishes to congratulate the Chairmen of the Programme and Finance Committees for the work in their report. I also wish to congratulate the Director-General and his staff for their most effective response in presenting to the Council and Conference the documents under consideration. My delegation agrees with other members that the presentation is clear and the new format very attractive for study by delegations. My delegation likes the valuable assessment of the current economic position which the document provides. It also likes the direct manner in which the document presented the reality of the problems and difficulties which the FAO faces in delivering a high level of technical services at minimum cost and at almost zero budget growth. The Director-General's efforts in containing and reducing administrative growth is to be commended. My delegation heartily appreciates the efforts of the Director-General in placing his limited resources in areas and activities which can have a catalytic effect on national programmes.

The Barbados delegation is consistent in its belief that FAO is among the most effective in the UN system in delivery of services to developing countries. It therefore hopes that at the earliest opportunity the flow of multilateral funds to the Organization will be given high priority.

Finally, my delegation fully supports the Programme of Work and Budget at its level, with its objectives and activities outlined.

T.F. RODRIGUES DE ALMEIDA (Angola): Nous avons étudié avec une attention particulière le Programme de travail et budget et nous profitons de cette occasion pour adresser nos vives félicitations au Directeur général ainsi qu'aux présidents du Comité du programme et Comité financier pour l'excellent travail qu'ils nous ont présenté. L'introduction du Directeur général est très objective et nous appuyons son diagnostic de la situation de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation dans le monde.

A cet effet, ma délégation réitère une fois de plus son appui au Programme de travail et budget pour 1984-1985.

C. VIDALLI CARBAJAL (México): Antes que nada felicitar la labor de los Comités del Programa y de Finanzas por los documentos que nos han presentado. Asimismo, felicitar al Director General por la presentación clara y precisa de los documentos, de los objetivos y las premisas de los mismos.

A pesar de la restricción presupuestaria a la que se constriño a la FAO, se ha logrado imprimir al Programa de labores y Presupuesto el dinamismo necesario para que la FAO siga en posesión del liderazgo en la comunidad internacional en materias de su competencia.

Nos sumamos a lo expresado, por tanto, por otras delegaciones y en especial por los distinguidos delegados de Brasil, Pakistán y Panamá, y en la Conferencia expresaremos mayores comentarios en esta materia. Por tanto, pensamos que el Consejo debe remitir con nuestro apoyo las recomendaciones de los Comités referidos.

Compartimos la preocupación de los Comités de Programa y de Finanzas expresadas en los párrafos 1.10 y 1.12 del documento CL 84/4 en el sentido de que algunos países piensan reducir sus contribuciones a la FAO en los próximos años, aduciendo la política del crecimiento cero en las Organizaciones internacionales.

Nos sumamos al llamamiento de la distinguida delegación de Marruecos para que esta tendencia de los países donadores sea revisada y no se vuelva permanente en el futuro, puesto que significaría un grave retroceso en la labor de lograr la seguridad alimentaria y el desarrollo rural efectivo en el mundo.

Registramos el hecho positivo que a otros organismos del sector alimentario se les acaba de aprobar aumentos reales sustanciales a su presupuesto, apoyados por los donadores en pleno. Esperamos que este hecho sea el indicio de un cambio generalizado real que finalice la política de crecimiento cero propugnada hasta ahora por diversos países desarrollados.

Finalmente, queremos enfatizar que para los países en desarrollo las Oficinas Regionales y los representantes en nuestros países representan una gran ayuda para canalizar eficazmente la colaboración de FAO con nuestros gobiernos.

M. TATIETA (Haute-Volta): La délégation de Haute-Volta comme les délégations qui l'ont précédée, tient à féliciter les deux Présidents de comités qui ont présenté un excellent travail permettant une meilleure compréhension des documents.

Ma délégation, comme elle l'a fait au mois de juin lors du Conseil, approuve le Programme de travail et budget pour 1984-85. Elle marque sa pleine approbation aux différentes stratégies présentées par le Directeur général en matière de sécurité alimentaire, de développement des productions vivrières, de remaniement du budget au profit des programmes techniques. Notre délégation regrette les faibles augmentations du budget en dépit des efforts faits par le Directeur général de la FAO. Une telle baisse va à l'évidence réduire les interventions multiples de la FAO en faveur des pays en voie de développement au moment où ceux-ci ont des besoins énormes pour mener à bien leur politique de développement.

La Haute-Volta, pays situé dans la zone sahélienne de l'Afrique au sud du Sahara, est confrontée aux effets cumulés de la sécheresse. Le pays, tout en utilisant de façon rationnelle tous ses moyens pour la réalisation des activités socio-économiques, compte sur l'aide de la FAO pour l'exécution d'un certain nombre de projets.

Pour terminer, la délégation de Haute-Volta adresse sa reconnaissance au Directeur général de la FAO pour l'assistance fort appréciée apportée à notre pays. Notre délégation réitère son soutien au Programme de travail et budget.

F.G. POULIDES(Cyprus): The Cyprus delegation wishes to congratulate the Director-General and his staff for the faithful application of zero-base budgeting, particularly in reviewing the programmes from the bottom up and not just at the margin and at the same time in increasing the efficiency of the Organization.

We wish to stress the point that FAO is exceptional in submitting to its governing bodies such comprehensive documents on past programme implementation as the two reviews of regular and field programmes. It is, however, to be noted that our delegation does not support the principle of zero growth increase because we believe that an organization such as the FAO should have the necessary means to face the everyday increase of the poor and needy and in general the welfare of humanity. It would be ironic if when FAO becomes so active in serving the strata of population needing help to survive, its reserves were to be limited.

We also wish to express our warm congratulations and thanks to both Chairmen of the Finance and Programme Committees for their continuous efforts as the priority of the documents presented.

After hearing all the previous speakers, we prefer not to enter into details, as we reserve ourselves to comment during the discussion of this same subject in the Conference. We conclude therefore by stating that the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium as proposed by the Director-General has our full support, and we express the wish and hope that the Conference will endorse the budget Resolution by a unanimous vote.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): La delegación del Ecuador, de manera especial, quiere resaltar su complacencia por lo expresado en los párrafos 1.7 y 1.8 del documento CL 84/4, que corresponden al informe de la reunión conjunta de los Comités del Programa y Finanzas, puesto que constituye un verdadero mérito la consecución de un índice de crecimiento del 3.6 respecto al nivel actual en lo que concierne a los programas técnicos y económicos, y más aún cuando ese crecimiento se obtiene en medio de la grave situación financiera en que se debate la Institución.

Este logro se debe, en definitiva, a lo que el informe de la reunión conjunta llama "los incansables esfuerzos del Director General por dar una mayor eficiencia a la FAO", manteniendo al mismo tiempo su capacidad de ejecutar y realizar programas aprobados de acuerdo con las expectativas legítimas de los Estados Miembros. Nuestra felicitación y apoyo al Sr. Director General por esta meritoria gestión.

La delegación del Ecuador se adhiere y respalda la recomendación de los Comités en el sentido de que se apoye plenamente el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1984/85. Finalmente, manifiesta su viva preocupación por la información contenida en los párrafos 1.10, 1.11 y 1.12 referentes a una enmienda a la ley de autorización de créditos de 1984 para el Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos de América. Si bien es cierto que sobre este tópico, los Comités se limitan a informar absteniéndose de formular recomendaciones al Consejo, la delegación del Ecuador considera que este Consejo debe trasladar expresamente esta preocupación a la Conferencia insinuando una acción oficiosa dirigida a obtener que dicha enmienda no alcance vigor, en vista de que causaría una situación muy difícil no sólo a la FAO sino, en general, a todo el sistema de las Naciones Unidas. Creemos que el Consejo debe pronunciarse sobre este tema, ya que la misión de la FAO, en su noble objetivo de luchar contra el hambre, merece y necesita mejor apoyo de los países desarrollados y ahora ocurre que no estamos frente al crecimiento cero sino a un crecimiento del menos treinta, menos veinte, etc. Pienso que esto es algo que nos debe preocupar seriamente.

S.A.E. SULIMAN (Observer for the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development) (original language Arabic): Ambassador Amir Abdallah Khalil who was called back to his Embassy, has asked me to step in at this time and report his full support and the support of Sudan for the Programme of Work and Budget. He asked me also to express full support for the wise approach which has been adopted with respect to this subject, i.e. the economic and technical activities of the Organization have received much greater stress and very laudable savings have been made over administrative and service expenditure.

In the light of the world food situation, given the prolonged drought and given the drop in food yields throughout the developing countries, together and in association with an increase in population, mean that the FAO has an increasingly important role to play, even more important than it ever has had in the past, forty years ago. We are convinced that all those who have extended their support to the Organization will continue such support.

Mrs. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I would like to speak, since it has been brought up this morning once or twice, to the question of the Kassebaum Amendment. I can understand the concern of those who have expressed concern and I wish that I could say that the whole thing had failed and was finished, but I can say that it is receiving the most clear, firm opposition of the Administration, that the House is opposed, that the composition of the Senate House Conference which is considering this amendment is such that we can expect a happy conclusion. They were meeting yesterday and we have not yet received the notice of what was concluded at that Conference but very often they go on until 2 o'clock in the morning and for many days, so it is not something that we can expect to be finished in a short time. These Senate House Conferences - and I have served on them - are indeed trials of strength very often, and endurance, but it is not something that the Administration sees lightly, and I can say to any delegation that no stronger opposition could be expressed than that of the President himself in a letter to the Chairmen of the relevant committees and sub-committees of the House and Senate. He strongly opposes it, he is against it and has urged them to eliminate it. I do not think that there could be a stronger voice that could be raised, and of course I have added my own far-away voice but I do not think it is going to be as effective as the President.

I would like to go on now, not to talk too long but to associate myself with the remarks of those who have so heartily commended our Director-General. We can see what has happened here, we have two schools of thought - those who say my country is in terrible deficit, we have mounting deficits, we cannot meet our own social services in our own country and we cannot continue larger increases in the international sphere. Then we know what is facing some of the countries of this world, and those of us with any heart are particularly concerned with the figures that show up for Africa. The tragic suggestion that the continuing drought, the rising curve of population, the falling food available per capita, what does this add up to if not a series of disasters, and I think that the Budget reflects the heart in that there is increase, and the intellect in that there is an effort to deal with this in such a way as to not diminish our capacity to help those who suffer.

I think this Budget as it is now presented to us should, and I hope will, receive the hearty support of the Conference, but I cannot stop without a word about our Programme Committee on which we served so happily under one of the finest Chairmen I have ever known. We were a happy hardworking group: he was very tough with us but very fair and we did our job as best we could, doing our duty as we could best find it, and the Chairman was a wonderful guide in that effort. I say that not diminishing the Finance Committee but we had so little chance; we had one meeting with the Finance Committee. But all of it has been a wonderfully happy association here and I think the Director-General is most heartily to be commended.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I am sure the Council Members will join me in expressing our gratitude to you for this very positive and encouraging statement.

A. A. MALEK (Liban) (langue originale arabe): En ce qui concerne le point 9 de l'ordre du jour, c'est-à-dire le rapport conjoint du Comité du programme et du Comité financier, la délégation de mon pays voudrait formuler les observations suivantes.

Tout d'abord, la méthodologie adoptée pour la préparation et la présentation du programme de travail et de budget 1984-1985 ne peuvent que susciter notre satisfaction. Nous estimons que les deux Comités ont agi en parfaite harmonie avec le Directeur général pour traiter ces problèmes importants. En effet, les besoins urgents de la population mondiale ont été pris en considération dans la mise au point de ce programme de travail, qui tient compte également des requêtes des Etats membres ainsi que des exigences du développement de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture telles que définies par l'Organisation. Le Comité a tenu compte de la situation financière de l'Organisation et n'a pas omis la nécessité de réduire au maximum les dépenses. Cela a été traité d'une façon très raisonnable et judicieuse puisque l'augmentation nette des allocations pour les programmes techniques et économiques n'a pas dépassé les 3, 6 % après les réductions importantes des frais de soutien administratifs. Ainsi, l'augmentation du budget ne dépasse pas 0, 5 %.

En second lieu, les stratégies et priorités contenues dans le programme de travail et budget ont été étudiées avec la plus grande attention par les deux Comités. Elles sont tout à fait compatibles avec les résolutions du Conseil. Nous sommes tout à fait d'accord avec le contenu de ce document tendant à consolider les programmes techniques et économiques de l'Organisation, de même que les mesures adoptées pour améliorer l'efficacité de l'Organisation dans ses activités administratives et techniques. Le rapport est tout à fait clair et précis. Il est conforme aux recommandations du Directeur général.

Nous sommes donc tout à fait d'accord avec les propositions présentées par les deux Comités. Nous sommes également d'accord avec le programme de travail et budget 1984-1985.

Nous espérons que tous les pays membres du Conseil se joindront à l'unanimité à nous pour approuver ce programme et le recommander à la Conférence.

Avant de terminer, la délégation de mon pays voudrait féliciter notre compatriote, M. Edouard Saouma, Directeur général de l'Organisation qui a effectué un travail méritoire. Je suis très fier que le Directeur général ait trouvé l'appui de tous les membres de ce Conseil, ou presque. Nous lui souhaitons plein succès dans sa tâche pour réaliser le bien-être dans le monde entier, et de façon particulière dans les pays en voie de développement.

J.M. YOLLOT (Observateur pour la République Centrafricaine): Bien qu'étant observateur, notre délégation a cru devoir prendre la parole parce que son silence ne se justifierait pas vis-à-vis des documents C 83/3 et CL 84/4 soumis au Conseil. Nous prenons la parole pour dire que notre délégation accepte pleinement les propositions avancées dans ces documents qui se caractérisent par leur excellence et leur concision. Nous soutenons en conséquence ces documents dans leur ensemble pour encourager le Directeur général de la FAO à persévérer dans le chemin qu'il a choisi pour mener à bien la mission qui lui est confiée.

Notre délégation serait incomplète et inconséquente avec elle-même si elle ne présentait pas aussi ses vives félicitations au président du Comité du programme et au président du Comité financier pour leur apport dans la présentation des documents qui nous sont soumis. Notre délégation souhaite également que le Comité examine comme il se doit les documents qui lui sont soumis et que la Conférence adoptera dans son ensemble le Programme de travail et budget pour 1984/85.

LI HYOK CHOL (Observer for Democratic People's Republic of Korea): As an Observer, the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would like to associate itself with other delegations in fully supporting the Programme of Work and Budget for the coming biennium proposed by the Director-General. As many Council members mentioned, our delegation is also of the view that the Programme of Work and Budget should be considered as a most commendable work under present circumstances. We are quite satisfied, particularly with the considerable increase in the technical and economic programmes within the limits of available resources. We have also noted with satisfaction that the Programme of Work and Budget could more efficiently respond to the need for the agricultural and the rural development of the developing countries.

At the same time we share the view of those delegations who expressed their concern about the zero-growth concept. We hope that the Programme of Work and Budget in its present form and level could be approved by the Conference, and in conclusion I pay compliments to the Director-General and the Chairmen of the Programme and Finance Committees for their excellent work.

CHAIRMAN: This brings us to the close of the interventions. Thirty-eight Council members and two observers have spoken. I am grateful to them and I now request the Director-General to address the meeting.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I am very grateful for the overwhelming support expressed by the members of the Council for the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85. I see that we have had speakers, members of the Council and two observers; with the exception of two only, all have given their full support to the level of the budget and to the priorities and also to the format. Many have praised the presentation of the document and I am grateful to them on behalf of my colleagues.

My colleagues and myself have worked very hard to achieve this consensus but we have been guided and assisted in this regard by the Chairmen and members of the Programme and Finance Committees. We are very grateful to them and it is an opportunity for me to express our thanks to those two committees.

I also take this opportunity to say how much my colleagues and myself have benefited from the excellent work carried out by the Committee of Agriculture, the Committee of Fisheries, the Committee of Forestry. The Programme of Work and Budget has been inspired to a large extent by the work of these three important committees of the Council.

After having heard Ambassador Fenwick, I have every reason to believe that the Conference will overwhelmingly endorse your recommendation and approve the draft resolution for adoption of the Programme of Work and Budget which is included in the document, as page 45 in the English text.

Of course, it was a general discussion but it has already indicated the agreement of the Council. We shall continue the discussion in detail at the Conference, as was suggested, and answer to questions which might be raised in Commission II, which will be chaired by the distinguished Ambassador of Lesotho.

CHAIRMAN: The Director-General himself has eloquently summarized and endorsed the recommendations of the Programme and Finance Committees and the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85, with this Council's unanimous and enthusiastic support. I also want to add our thanks to the Director-General and his staff for the work they have done within such a short period since the June Council meeting. I also wish to add my words of gratitude to the Chairmen and members of both the Programme and Finance Committees. One has to attend these committees to see how much detail they go into in all matters relating to the Programme of Work and Budget; and merely two weeks of intensive discussions by these two committees have produced these reports. I am grateful to all those members - Council members and observers - who took part. With this we endorse the recommendations of the Programme and Finance Committees and remit the document to the Conference.

It is always nice to be sitting in this position where everybody agrees with everybody else, so I am very grateful: within about three hours all of you have spoken so well on your respective viewpoints and this is possible because of the excellent documentation. I would like to add my own words, my sincere gratitude and commendation on the excellence of this format. As somebody has said it is lucid, clear, precise, and "transparent" according to one speaker; it is an outstanding piece of work and we are grateful to the Secretariat for this effort.

This completes this item of the Agenda

The meeting rose at 12.15 hours

La séance est levée à 12 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 12.15 horas

council

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ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

consejo

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FOURTH PLENARY MEETING QUATRIEME SEANCE PLENIERE CUARTA SESION PLENARIA

(2 November 1983)

The Fourth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14.45 hours,
M.S. Swaminathan, Independent Chairman of the Council, presiding

La quatrième séance plénière est ouverte à 14 h 45 sous la présidence
de M.S. Swaminathan, Président indépendant du Conseil

Se abre la cuarta sesión plenaria a las 14.45 horas bajo la presidencia
de M.S. Swaminathan, Presidente independiente del Consejo

III. PROGRAMME, BUDGETARY, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (continued)

III. QUESTIONS CONCERNANT LE PROGRAMME, LE BUDGET, LES FINANCES ET L'ADMINISTRATION (suite)

III. ASUNTOS DEL PROGRAMA Y ASUNTOS PRESUPUESTARIOS, FINANCIEROS Y ADMINISTRATIVOS (continuación)

10. Review of the Regular Programme 1982-83

10. Examen du Programme ordinaire 1982-83

10. Examen del Programa Ordinario para 1982-83

11. Review of Field Programmes 1982-83

11. Examen des programmes de terrain 1982-83

11. Examen de los programas de campo para 1982-83

CHAIRMAN: You all have the documentation referred to in the Order of the Day. I suggest that we take these two items together. They have been gone into in great detail by both the Programme Committee and the Finance Committee, so I will give the floor first to Professor Trkulja, Chairman of the Programme Committee, and then to Mr. Abeyagoonasekera, Chairman of the Finance Committee. They will introduce these two papers and then we will have a joint discussion. I now give the floor to Professor Trkulja, Chairman of the Programme Committee, to which Madame Fenwick has rightly paid high tribute this morning.

M. TRKULJA (Chairman, Programme Committee): It was nice music for our ears but I think a number of Council members, and especially Madame Fenwick, rather exaggerated our roles, and particularly my own.

I could not help but recall the words of the late Sir Winston Churchill when the Tory Party lost the first elections after the war. His close associates suggested that the Tories should oppose constructively in the Parliament. After listening for a while he said, "Nonsense, the business of the Opposition is to oppose and to oppose as strongly as possible". The very nature of our business in the Programme Committee is to put on very heavy glasses and try to see defects, even small defects, in the documents prepared by FAO, especially those which are related to the future work. You have to blame the Director-General and his close colleagues for giving us too little to satisfy our very natural instincts. But here again I have only words of praise to use on behalf of the Programme Committee with regard to the Review of the Regular Programme. We consider that the document was one of the pillar components of the whole process of monitoring, as fully approved by the Conference four years ago. It is the view of the Committee that this represents a treasury of information and analysis that should be fully used by member governments and in particular by the Programme Committee, not necessarily only in connexion with the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium but in future biennia as well. The Programme Committee stresses that it should make full use of the document in the next biennium and especially in reviewing that exercise.

We value the output and impact and the issues and outlook parts of the Regular Programme Review. In all frankness we felt that the document represented a very appreciable improvement as compared with the last one. Indeed it fully follows the suggestions made by the governing bodies. We felt that a proper balance was already reached between general systematic review, which now occupies only one-third in quantitative terms and that, as we strongly urge FAO, two-thirds are now devoted to the in-depth review evaluation of the level of subprogrammes and even below that level. We have been using the phrase 'programme elements'. It is not that strictly speaking, but anyhow it is below the subprogramme level. We recommend to the Council that this balance between systematic and in-depth reviews should be maintained in the future. We especially complimented Mr. Shah and his colleagues for being able to shorten appreciably the general part of the systematic review without visible loss in content.

Needless to say, the Programme Committee particularly welcomed in-depth reviews of subprogrammes and, as especially emphasized, below subprogramme levels. I am referring here to four activities which were analyzed in depth below subprogramme level.

With regard to the future content of the Review of the Regular Programme, we suggested that the research activities across the board might be a suitable topic for examination in the future. We found - and this is the last point on the format and presentation - the summary attached at the end of the document very useful but we felt it could perhaps be a bit extended and placed at the beginning of the document. We emphasized a number of detailed review activities. I will not go into details because there will be much more time next week in the Conference to discuss details.

Lastly, on the Review of the Regular Programme we welcome very much the review of selected regional office activities, support from the Regional Offices. However, we felt that in the future such reviews should be much more specific and describe in detail the role of the Regional Offices in supporting first of all the regional activities of FAO. In our view it must be done in much more concrete terms showing quite clearly interrelationships between regional, headquarters' and country level support.

Coming to the Review of Field Programmes, we again felt that to say the least the already high standard of quality was maintained. The programme of extrabudgetary resources will be discussed on all occasions and in particular with the Programme of Work and Budget document itself. But the Programme Committee felt that the Review of Field Programmes was the best possibility to go into details with regard to the extra-budgetary resources and in particular the problem of UNDP funded activities. I do not need to be very specific at this juncture because I think the UNDP resources is quite well known to Council members. Instead of the increase as agreed in the governing council of 40 percent annually we have been faced for quite some time now with a quite substantial decrease in UNDP resources, even in monetary terms.

In that regard we also stressed the role of TCP, in particular the role of TCP in compensating some negative impacts that would have been otherwise inevitable with regard to the sharp downward turn in UNDP resources.

The members of the Committee commend very much the objectivity and frankness of the chapter on field project assessments and in particular we stressed the essential role that the FAO Representatives should play in that process. We also give a word of caution with regard to the potential future impact of the FAO Representatives' role in assessing as objectively as possible field projects.

The Committee very much emphasized the need for greater flexibility in both design and implementation of projects.

On Food Security I will not go into any detail because that is a topic that will be discussed by the Conference and was already discussed at the CFS and the Council.

Finally, in the last part of the Review, the one that dealt with new dimensions or new frontiers as some might prefer to say, we are fully aware that FAO has been traditionally in the forefront in the UN system in applying agreed basic policy guidelines, and indeed the members of the Committee expressed their satisfaction with the progress already made and urged the Director-General to pursue the same line in the future.

Training was particularly emphasized and the need to involve as closely as possible national institutions of developing countries.

It has been a traditional point in the Programme Committee to urge FAO to increase all possible assistance to TCDC and ECDC activities and we regard it as a very important catalytic role in that regard.

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Chairman, Finance Committee): In the Committee's assessment of FAO's Review of the Regular Programme and Review of Field Programmes for 1982-83 it was noted that both presentations besides being informative and analytical contained several improvements in their documentation. It noted with appreciation the in-depth analysis of topics, particularly the programmes which are being implemented by the Regional Offices. The Committee noted that the full impact of the field programmes depended on the availability of extra-budgetary resources. Concern was expressed in regard to the declining resources of the UNDP, which is a major source of extra-budgetary funding for the Programme of the FAO. As against this decline the Committee will count the increase that had taken place in Trust Fund activities. The Committee repeated its support for the Technical Cooperation Programme of the FAO, the special workload currently being handled by the Investment Centre, and felt that more use could be made of the Investment Centre by funding agencies in future.

The Committee also emphasized the key role played by FAO Representatives in their assessment of field projects and generally felt that they had a major role to play.

For the Committees' comments on both reports, I would refer your attention to paragraphs 3.89, 3.90 and paras 3.91 to 3.96.

CHAIRMAN: Now, both these items are open for discussion. I would like to take down the names of members of the Council who would like to make contributions. No volunteers? We have time, so if there is anyone - Lesotho has the floor.

S.J. KAO (Lesotho): Once more thank you, Mr. Chairman. I only want to make a brief comment on this item of the agenda. My delegation once more wishes to reiterate its support of the Director-General's proposal to set up the Food Security Action Programme within FAO with the proposed terms of reference as described in para. 3.18 on page 63 of document C 83/4.

There is no doubt that FAO activities therein are doing good work, but to consolidate and coordinate their efforts will be so much better. Food security will be achieved only by the efforts of the peasant farming community of a given nation. National and international efforts can only be supportive. To this end the assistance "in formulation of national Food Security Programmes" is seen as the first most positive step that can be taken by an outside body in this regard. The second is assistance in implementing that programme in the strategy commensurate with the capacity of the farming community of the specific country. To this end, financial support today to a food security action programme is called for.

CHAIRMAN: Any other comments or intervention? Otherwise we thank the Chairmen and members of the Programme and Finance Committees for going into the documents in detail.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): En primer lugar, sobre el tema 10, la delegación de Colombia considera que este tercer examen que se nos presenta ahora, refleja muy bien las necesidades y las prioridades que hemos venido definiendo a través de los órganos rectores, los representantes de los gobiernos y que, como lo ha dicho el Sr. Trkulja, Presidente del Comité del Programa, la mejora que se ha introducido en la estructura del examen es muy bien recibida.

En el párrafo 2.167 del informe del Comité del Programa, encontramos muy adecuada la referencia a algunos aspectos sobresalientes e importantes, pero desafortunadamente, al igual que lo afirmaran los Presidentes del Comité de Finanzas, el Comité del Programa, pone de presente que es necesario reconocer con preocupación que esas y otras actividades dependerán de los recursos extrapresupuestarios a cuya disminución vamos a referirnos en el tema 11 siguiente.

En relación con el examen del Programa Ordinario, queremos referirnos al capítulo 10, a las actividades seleccionadas en las Oficinas Regionales. Creemos que es muy acertada esa participación de las Oficinas Regionales en los programas con el apoyo técnico de la Sede porque esa acción conjunta conforma la integración entre el Programa Ordinario y el Programa de Campo, integración que hemos venido propugnando siempre.

Sin embargo, nos llama un poco la atención el párrafo 2.169 en relación con la afirmación de que el Comité estimó que en el futuro deberían indicarse más explícitamente las contribuciones específicas de las Oficinas Regionales; afirmación ésta que fue reiterada por el Sr. Trkulja. No sabemos si se trata de una crítica a esa acción conjunta de las Oficinas Regionales, porque suponemos que ya en el Comité del Programa, los funcionarios de la Organización debieron dar las explicaciones necesarias sobre esta forma más explícita cómo participan las Oficinas Regionales en la planificación y ejecución de esos programas. Ojalá el Sr. Trkulja nos ampliara, si es posible, el alcance de esa afirmación del Comité del Programa que, si fuese negativa, nosotros lo lamentaríamos porque consideramos importante que continúe esa acción integrada de las Oficinas Regionales y la Sede, y que las Oficinas Regionales sigan apoyando a los representantes de la FAO en los países.

Sobre el tema 11, queremos apoyar las recomendaciones que hacen ambos Comités, Comité del Programa y Comité de Finanzas, sobre la necesidad y conveniencia de que se haga cada vez más, mayor uso del personal nacional en los proyectos, e inclusive, que se designe a nacionales de los países directores de proyectos. Creemos que esto es importante y que tiene significación en la preparación y en la capacitación del personal nacional de los países en desarrollo.

Sobre el tema 11, queremos limitar nuestras observaciones ahora a los recursos del PNUD, a la disminución de los recursos del PNUD. Esto lo señala el Comité del Programa en el párrafo 2.171, y también lo reitera el Comité de Finanzas en el párrafo 3.92, con la aclaración adecuada del Comité de Finanzas de que no sólo están disminuyendo en su totalidad los recursos del PNUD, sino que igualmente están decreciendo las asignaciones a cargo de la FAO como principal agencia de ejecución del PNUD.

Creemos que, sin duda, esto hace parte de lo que habíamos dicho ayer acerca de la tendencia que existe en la comunidad internacional en contra de la asistencia multilateral. Creemos que, como lo dijo el Sr. Trkulja, existe esa tendencia que es desafortunada, como la llamó el Sr. Trkulja. Nosotros creemos que esa tendencia es indiscutible, que es notoria, que es lamentable y que es creciente. Pensamos que este Consejo, que es el organismo eminentemente político de la FAO, ante la existencia de esa tendencia que es incontrovertida, tiene la obligación de expresar en su informe, y así lo proponemos formalmente, la preocupación que nos causa esa tendencia contra la asistencia multilateral que la desplaza en favor de la asistencia bilateral, a través de la cual se pueden escoger los países beneficiarios con criterios discriminatorios, y por lo tanto, produce dividendos políticos. Creemos que corresponde a nosotros señalar la seria preocupación porque esa situación no puede seguir de manera incontrolada.

W. MAJOR (Canada): I think perhaps this Council would be derelict in its duty if it did not recognize specifically that these are informative, analytical and constructive Reports. The reviews have become progressively more results-oriented, and documented evidence of progress and success is always welcome. This can only have a positive effect on the formulation of objectives of future programmes. The Director-General refers in his introduction to the importance of a continuous process of assessment leading to the progressive improvement of the Organization's work.

Finally, we have also taken good note of the comments of the Chairman of the Programme Committee on the room for improvement in reporting for the Regional Offices.

CHAIRMAN: I am sure Council members will fully endorse what you said about the quality of the documentation and its utility. I am glad you pointed it out.

M. TRKULJA (Chairman, Programme Committee): Mr. Chairman, you certainly recall that years ago after very extensive debate the Council fully agreed to ask the Secretariat to insert the next Review of the Field Programme apart which would then go into detail explaining the role of the Regional Offices in selected activities of FAO. We did not ask for a systematic review. It would not be possible in a document of even double the size of this one, but we encouraged the Secretariat to go into detail and show clearly in one sample of programmes and sub-programmes what support was provided through Regional Offices and how it was interrelated with the overall attempts and efforts of FAO, I mean first of all from headquarters, and indeed here you see four and in fact five activities of the Regional Offices, and the description is very, very comprehensive and very good in general, but you can find really very little reference to the Regional Offices and their role and their support and their inputs provided by the Regional Offices in that regard. So that is the only reason.

Of course, in our debate, the Committee really gave us a lot of information, so we realize that in all these five activities, the Regional Offices played quite a role and that the distribution of efforts between regions and headquarters was a very pertinent one, but still, we encourage FAO to be much more specific in the future and give us many more details with regard to the role of the Regional Offices especially as far as regional activities are concerned. That is what we actually recommended the Council to pay attention to.

12. Reports of the Forty-fifth Session of the Programme Committee; the Fifty-second Session of the Finance Committee, and their Joint Session (Rome, 19-30 September 1983), including:
12. Rapports de la quarante-cinquième session du Comité du programme, de la cinquante-deuxième session du Comité financier et de leur session conjointe (Rome, 19-30 septembre 1983), notamment:
12. Informes del 45º período de sesiones del Comité del Programa; del 52º período de sesiones del Comité de Finanzas y su período de sesiones conjunto (Roma, 19-30 de septiembre de 1983), en particular:
- 12.1 Financial Position of the Organization
(CL 84/4, paras 3.16-3.32; CL 84/LIM/1)
- 12.1 Situation financière de l'Organisation
(CL 84/4, par. 3.16-3.32; CL 84/LIM/1)
- 12.1 Situación financiera de la Organización
(CL 84/4, párrs. 3.16-3.32; CL 84/LIM/1)
- 12.2 Headquarters Accommodation
(CL 84/4, paras 3.69-3.75)
- 12.2 Locaux du Siège
(CL 84/4, par. 3.69-3.75)
- 12.2 Locales de oficina en la Sede
(CL 84/4, párrs. 3.69-3.75)
- 12.3 Actuarial Review of Compensation Plan Reserve Fund
(CL 84/4, paras 3.43-3.50)
- 12.3 Examen actuariel du Fonds de réserve du plan d'indemnisation du personnel
(CL 84/4, par. 3.43-3.50)
- 12.3 Examen actuarial del Fondo de Reserva del Plan de Compensación
(CL 84/4, párrs. 3.43-3.50)

- 12.4 Allowances for Chairman of the Appeals Committee
(CL 84/4, para 3.65)
- 12.4 Indemnité du Président du Comité de recours
(CL 84/4, par. 3.65)
- 12.4 Asignaciones para el Presidente del Comité de Apelación
(CL 84/4, párr. 3.65)
- 12.5 Amendment to External Audit Certificates
(CL 84/4, paras 3.97-3.99)
- 12.5 Amendement des attestations de vérification extérieure des comptes
(CL 84/4, par. 3.97-3.99)
- 12.5 Enmienda a los Certificados de Auditoría Externa
(CL 84/4, párrs. 3.97-3.99)

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Chairman, Finance Committee): I would wish to recall the attention of the Council to the procedure we followed in the last Council where the Chairman was expected to give a brief review on all items connected with the Financial Report, and if you do not mind I will touch on Item 12, sub-items 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4 and 12.5 so that all aspects will be covered in the introduction I will be making.

Mr Chairman, under Financial Matters, particularly regarding the position of the Organization relating to financial matters, your attention is drawn to paragraphs 3.16 to 3.20 in our Report and to the LIM document CL 84/LIM/1 which has been circulated today which gives the latest financial position of the Organization. Since we last met there have been a few national payments so that the Secretariat would, I think, update the information over and above what has been given in the LIM document. However, you will note from paragraph 4 of the LIM document that 75.15 percent of the assessments for 1983 had been received by October this year. The situation, although it is better than the situation prevailing during the same month for the years 1980 and 1981, is still below the level achieved in 1980.

Now as to the position of respective Member Nations on the payment of their contributions, your attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of the LIM document. Any improvements regarding payments, partial payments, as I mentioned earlier, would be reported to by the Secretariat when this item is taken up for discussion again.

The situation regarding the payment of contributions is also tied up with the voting rights problem. Regarding voting rights problems, the situation as reported to the Council at the June session this year, remains unchanged with nine Member Nations facing the possibility of losing voting rights at the Conference. The Committee has repeated its recommendations to the Council that it appeals to all Member Nations with outstanding arrears to make every effort to pay their overdue instalments without delay. In this connection, Mr. Chairman, your attention is drawn to paragraphs 3.21 to 3.24 of the Committee's Report.

Under Item 12.2 we discussed the question of Headquarters accommodation. Here I wish to just stress three aspects of the Headquarters accommodation problem. Firstly, there has been some progress which has been made regarding the construction of the 70 rooms on top of Building D, and the Committee has suggested ways of expediting work to enable completion of the work by 1985. The second aspect is that no progress at all has been recorded regarding the new wing to be constructed adjacent to Building C. Thirdly, no meeting has taken place as yet between the President of the Council of Ministers of the Government of Italy, the host country, and the Working Party which had been appointed by the Conference. We have once again stressed the need for the Director-General to intensify his efforts to make this meeting a reality. If there had been any further progress beyond what I have reported now, I think the Secretariat would report the current position.

Now as regards Item 12.3, an important item which was discussed by the Committee under Financial Matters again, relates to the Compensation Plan Reserve Fund. This has been referred to under "Actuarial Review of Compensation Plan Reserve Fund" under Item 12.3. The Committee was informed of the recommendations made by the Actuary who examined the situation of the Fund as at 31st December 1982. The fund had shown a deficit in funds resulting from a higher draw-off of payments. Taking into consideration the views of the Actuary, the Director-General has recommended to the Committee a proposal for an increase in the funding rate on an interim basis in respect of the payroll for field staff and Headquarters staff. The Committee agreed with the proposals and recommends to the Council its proposal.

The Committee also recommends to Council that an actuarial review in full be carried out every two years instead of four years as at present. For the Committee's views on this aspect your attention is drawn to paragraphs 3.43 to 3.49 in our Report.

Under Item 12.4, the item listed here is "Allowances for the Chairman of the Appeals Committee". The documents which are listed are given here under brackets. Here of course there are two aspects really, and I would like to draw your attention to paragraphs 3.53 to 3.65 where the Council's approval is sought for the following: (a) to amend FAO's staff regulations in order to accommodate the change in the Education Grant recommended by the International Civil Service Commission which is expected to be approved by the United Nations General Assembly. The Council's approval to implement these recommendations is necessary; (b) to increase the yearly allowance of the Chairman of the Appeals Committee in addition to the payment of travel costs, which are paid once per year.

Going on to Item 12.5 in our Agenda, the Council's attention is drawn to paragraphs 3.97 to 3.99 in our Report concerning proposals made by the panel of External Auditors of the United Nations and specialized agencies when they reviewed the Additional Terms of Reference at its meetings held in 1981 and 1982. The panel considered that the present External Audit Certificates should be amended to reflect modern auditing standards and harmonize practices within the UN system. Accordingly it proposed certain amendments to the Additional Terms of Reference governing External Audit which is annexed to the Financial Regulations. The Finance Committee reviewed these proposals and was able to endorse them. Your attention is drawn to the document, particularly to Appendix C, where the changes are given for your information.

Since our meeting in September I have been informed that these proposals were discussed in the Fifth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. That Committee could also support the proposals. However, it felt that two additional sentences should be inserted in paragraph 5 to reflect the scope of the Audit. They also considered that as the intention of paragraph 5 was to allow auditors to cover either some or all of the four subjects in individual opinions, this would be more clearly reflected by the insertion of, and I quote within brackets "(as appropriate)" in the third line of paragraph 5. These proposals were discussed with the External Auditor of FAO who agrees that they are an improvement.

If the Council agrees, the proposed amendments at the beginning of paragraph 5 of the Additional . Terms of Reference governing the External Audit as outlined in Appendix C of document CL 84/4 would read as follows - "The External Auditor shall express and sign an opinion on the financial statements in the following terms: ("I have examined the following appended financial statements, numbered to---, properly identified, and relevant schedules of the Organization for the financial period ended 31 December 19.... My examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of the accounting records and other supporting evidence as I considered necessary in the circumstances") and which states, as appropriate," The draft resolution for submission to the Conference along these lines will be included in the Council Report.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I wish to refer to a discussion and a division which took place in the joint session of the Programme Committee and the Finance Committee which relates to the biennial award made by this Organization under the A.H. Boerma and B.R. Sen Awards. The latter, the B.R. Sen Award, in recognition of the high quality work done by the FAO staff in research and extension, and the former, that is the A.H. Boerma Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions in the form of publication, documentary films by individuals and organizations on subject matters "likely to increase public interest in and support for measures leading to solutions of the world food problem".

Since the members of the Selection Board who have approved these Awards, including you, Mr. Chairman, and the two Chairmen of the Committees, felt that there was a big disparity in the amount allocated to the two Awards, in order to narrow the gap they recommended the level of the B.R. Sen Award be increased to \$ 5000 from its present level of \$3000. The Committee was able to give its unanimous agreement to this proposal which was also endorsed by the Programme and Finance Committees as reported in the Joint Session Report. Now this touches on the aspects of the items which have been listed under Item 12.

Before I conclude, Mr. Chairman, I would wish to convey to you our deep appreciation of the assistance and cooperation extended to the Committee by the Director-General and the Secretariat during the four sessions held during the biennium. This enabled us to examine, review and understand to a great extent the intricacies of the many issues facing the financial, administrative and management problems of this institution. In the performance of our task we hope sincerely Mr. Chairman, that we have been able to fulfil our mandate to the satisfaction of the distinguished members of this Council.

D.K. CROWTHER (Assistant Director-General, Administration and Finance Department): First let me say with regard to the contributions that it is the responsibility of each Member Nation to make payments of their contributions within 30 days after receipt of the communication from the Director-General which usually occurs in January of each year. In the LIM document that you have before you, as you will have already observed, the status of contributions at the 31st October 1983 was

significantly improved against the same date of 1982. However, 1982 was the worst record for receipt of contributions in the history of the Organization so that it is not that good a comparison. On the other hand as at the 31st October more than \$51 million remained outstanding from some 73 Member Nations. This figure represents almost one-third of the budgeted contribution income for 1983.

I would also like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that the overall position of Member Nation payments as at the end of October is detailed in paragraph 5 of the LIM document and it has deteriorated as compared with the same date in 1981, the previous Conference year. 39 Member Nations had made no payment against their 1983 assessment, while only 79 had paid their 1983 assessments in full. The Member Nations with arrears outstanding has doubled over the last two years from 22 to 44. We have been receiving a number of payments during the last few days and we would like to update the information provided to you in the LIM document. I have been informed that the third largest contributor, the Federal Republic of Germany, has remitted payment in full of its 1983 assessment. An amount of \$182 063 has also been received from the Government of Israel to be applied against its outstanding arrears for 1982.

In addition \$1 260 904 has been received from India representing payment in full of the balance of its 1983 contribution.

Bulgaria has remitted \$170 010.50 representing payment in full of the balance of contribution for 1983; and in addition \$124 989.50 has been paid by Nigeria, representing partial payment of its 1983 assessment.

Libya has paid \$388 532 against its outstanding arrears. Despite our efforts to collect outstanding contributions from the nine member nations in danger of losing their voting rights at this session of the Conference, as noted in paragraph 6 of the LIM document, no amounts have been received from those nine member nations to date.

Finally, I would take the opportunity to draw your attention to appendix A of the LIM document which sets out the contribution positions of all Member Nations at 31 October 1983.

I would also like to update the information that is shown there by saying that on the 1983 line, instead of 79 Member Nations having paid in full, there are now 82 Member Nations that have paid in full. In addition, there are only 33 that have part payment assessments and there are now only 37 that have made no payment, for a total of 152 Member Nations. Also it reduces the number in arrears from 44 to 43, based on the payments that I have just listed, so the payments we have received in the last few days have certainly assisted greatly. And that is the latest information we have.

CHAI?vMAN: I hope this trend will continue in the next week or so, so that we will have a better picture to give when the Conference meets. We will take up all these points for discussion together and I give the floor to the Ambassador of Italy on the headquarters accommodation.

M. FRANCISCI di BASCHI (Italie): Je vous remercie M. le Président de m'avoir donné la parole sur ce thème traditionnel pour la délégation italienne. J'ai lu le rapport, le document CL 84/4, précisément les paragraphes de 369 à 375. La situation qui est décrite ici est exacte. A mon avis elle est un peu plus positive, dans le sens que nous pouvons considérer que toutes les procédures pour la construction du huitième étage ont été expédiées avec succès, et que nous sommes maintenant à la phase de l'offre pour l'exécution des travaux. J'estime donc qu'on pourrait être aussi un peu plus optimiste sur la date d'achèvement de ces travaux et je pense que si tout va bien, comme je l'espère, le huitième étage pourrait être terminé vers la moitié de 1985.

Quant à la nouvelle aile qui doit être construite auprès des autres bâtiments principaux de la FAO, je pense qu'il y a également eu des progrès dans le sens qu'on a été à même de trouver le financement pour le développement des fouilles. Elles se sont effectivement développées d'une façon, à mon avis, impressionnante, puisqu'on a fait des fouilles jusqu'à 8 mètres. Je ne suis pas à même de vous donner le résultat de ces fouilles, mais je pense qu'avant la fin de l'année la Direction de l'archéologie de la ville de Rome sera à même de nous donner un premier avis sur la possibilité de construire cette nouvelle aile.

Je peux donner deux autres nouvelles au Conseil, dans le sens que la délégation italienne a adressé au Directeur général, M. Saouma, une lettre contenant la composition de la délégation italienne qui devrait négocier l'interprétation et l'application de l'accord de siège. Nous sommes donc prêts à commencer les négociations, même à partir d'aujourd'hui, et nous sommes dans l'attente d'une réponse du Directeur général sur la nomination de la part de l'Organisation d'une délégation pour faire démarrer les négociations.

D'autre part, je pense également important de mentionner que le Directeur général a eu une rencontre avec notre Ministre des Affaires étrangères le 13 octobre, et que tous les arguments décrits dans ce rapport ont été traités par M. Saouma et M. Andreotti. Je pense que s'ils le veulent bien il appartient à M. Saouma et à M. West de parler des résultats et des perspectives de cette rencontre. Ce serait plus correct

J'ajouterai une proposition. Considérant que ces négociations pour l'interprétation et l'application de l'accord relatif au siège sont appelées à commencer dans un avenir très proche, je me demande si cet argument relatif au problème logistique du siège ne pourrait pas être transféré à la compétence du Comité juridique qui s'occupe déjà du problème des immunités. Je laisse au Conseil le soin de considérer cette proposition qui me semble logique et fonctionnelle.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I thank the distinguished delegate of the host country for his statement. I do not think it would be proper for me to give you an account of the interview which the Director-General and I had with the Minister of Foreign Affairs; I think the Director-General might prefer to do that himself. I would only stress that the Director-General did raise with Sig. Andreotti various problems and in particular the fact that the Committee appointed by the Conference has not yet been given the opportunity to meet with the Foreign Minister or Prime Minister about the accommodation problem. I could not go further than say that Sig. Andreotti indicated sympathetic interest.

The Director-General made one positive proposal to which the Minister seemed to agree, for monitoring the results of the meetings which we hope will soon begin to take place with the delegation mentioned by the distinguished delegate, and we shall see if and how that happens, and report to you in due course. But the basic problems remain, as reported by the Chairman of the Finance Committee, so I think it is right that the Council should take note of that situation.

As regards the suggestion just made, the word in English 'logistics' does not seem to be far away from legalistics but I do not think it is within the terms of reference of the CCLM to consider logistics. I think it is more within the mandate of the Committee where it is being dealt with at the moment, the Finance Committee which, although it is called the Finance Committee, in fact does review all the administrative problems of FAO.

So I will try to convince the Italian Ambassador of this outside the room; I do not think it need figure in our discussions here.

A.G. GEORGIADIS (Director, Administrative Services Division): Just to supplement this information on the latest developments regarding headquarters accommodation only, not the headquarters agreement, as we see it from our side, from the FAO side. But before I give any information on these latest developments, may I take this opportunity to highlight, for the benefit of the Council, some aspects of the problem which we repeated here before, but it is advantageous, we think.

As the Director-General announced in the past this is a major crisis afflicting the Organization, one which requires persistent efforts with a view to arriving at a permanent solution; and that permanent solution can only be the bringing together of all headquarters units in one location.

Despite a practically zero growth in headquarters staff in recent bienna and again in the next biennium, total office space is not adequate and it will almost certainly be necessary to rent additional space when major repairs will have to be undertaken in the prefabricated Building E. In addition we were obliged to request the World Food Council which is occupying more than 20 rooms in this building to vacate that space because of the current needs of the Organization.

The construction of 70 rooms on the 8th floor of Building D would provide some relief and this would be very welcome but it cannot constitute a permanent solution to the problem, since these rooms would represent a space required for less than 1 percent of the total staff. Therefore the only permanent solution consists in the construction of a new wing adjacent to the main buildings. The host government has kindly arranged for the first step in this direction and that is requesting the clearance of the Department of Archeology. To obtain that clearance, archeological excavations had been initiated in the area in September of last year, 1982, initially at the expense of the Organization and later continued under the financing of the Department of Archeology itself. Excavation progressed even more than what the delegate of Italy announced: they went down to 10 metres depth but that had just been suspended, only on 31 October, and there is uncertainty therefore as to what the Department's opinion will be and whether that opinion will be given by the end of December next, as originally announced. We shall keep you informed.

Regarding the latest developments on the construction of the 70 rooms on Building D, the Director-General's request for the adoption of the urgency procedure in the process of awarding the contracts is currently under consideration, as the Ambassador has kindly said, and a decision is expected sometime this month.

Finally, to give some additional information on this working party appointed by the Conference, it will be recalled that on the recommendation of the Council at its 80th Session in November 1981, a working party was appointed by the Conference in that same year, made up of seven Member Nations representing all FAO regions, with a view to meeting with the Italian authorities at the highest level and requesting the adoption of measures leading to a permanent solution to the accommodation problem. The relevant Conference Resolution requests that the working party should report to the Council and Conference, but the working party has not yet been able to meet with the President of the Council of Ministers. As Mr West has said, the Director-General has written to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on this subject and submitted to him an *aide-mémoire*. In addition he drew the attention of the Minister, when this was discussed at the last meeting he had with him a few weeks ago.

These are the latest developments which the Director-General would like to report.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): La délégation de mon pays voudrait féliciter le président du Comité financier pour la présentation brillante qu'il nous a faite des points soumis à l'ordre du jour.

Nous n'avons pas grand-chose à dire en ce qui concerne le point 12.1, étant entendu que le Congo figure parmi les pays qui se sont complètement acquittés de leurs obligations, et notre vœu est de voir les autres pays en faire autant, surtout ceux qui en ont les moyens.

Pour en venir au point 2, je voudrais rappeler que le Congo figure parmi les sept pays membres de notre Organisation qui avaient été désignés par la Conférence pour faire partie du groupe chargé de régler avec le gouvernement hôte les problèmes liés aux locaux de notre Organisation. Pendant deux ans nous avons vainement attendu la rencontre prévue dans le cadre de la résolution de la Conférence. Nous avons noté dans ce rapport les efforts faits jusqu'ici par le Directeur général pour tenter d'amener le gouvernement hôte à recevoir la délégation telle qu'elle avait été composée par notre Conférence, mais nous sommes un peu déçus de constater que, de l'autre côté, aucun signe apparent ne nous indique que le gouvernement hôte est disposé à recevoir cette délégation. Comme vous le savez, les sept pays qui avaient été désignés pendant la Conférence appartiennent pour la plupart aux différentes régions, et nous avons, à ce niveau, des comptes à rendre à nos régions respectives. Sur cette affaire que nous ne suivons pas personnellement nous avons été informés d'une lettre que le Directeur général avait écrite pour demander justement cette rencontre avec le Président du Conseil italien, ensuite nous n'avons pas eu de documents concernant l'évolution de cette affaire; nous sommes informés comme tout le monde au niveau du Conseil de son évolution. Nous pensons pour notre part que les membres de ce comité devraient être tenus au courant avant même que le Conseil soit saisi de l'évolution de l'affaire, et nous déplorons que les informations n'aient pas circulé correctement entre le Directeur général et nous-mêmes.

Nous savons, à travers le document qui nous est présenté, que le Directeur général a fait tous les efforts pour obtenir cette rencontre. Mais je pense que le Conseil qui a tous pouvoirs en l'absence de la Conférence pendant l'intersession, devra réitérer. La Conférence se tient dans quelques jours. Si aujourd'hui aucune note ne nous indique que le Président du Conseil italien va nous recevoir, nous sommes certains d'aller devant la Conférence avec un résultat négatif.

Nous pensons que le Conseil doit pouvoir dégager toutes les responsabilités et les attribuer entièrement au Gouvernement italien. Nous voulons aller devant la Conférence avec la certitude d'avoir tenté d'accomplir la mission qui nous a été confiée, mais on ne nous a pas mis dans les conditions de pouvoir l'accomplir correctement.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Al igual que el Congo, Colombia es uno de los países elegidos por la Conferencia pasada como miembro del grupo de trabajo que debía entrevistarse con las altas autoridades italianas. Por ello, creemos compartir plenamente lo que ha dicho nuestro distinguido colega, amigo y vecino del Congo. En realidad, en esta ocasión, el Congo ya no es nuestro vecino; ha sido una influencia del subconsciente; siempre éramos vecinos en las pasadas reuniones del Consejo.

En el párrafo 3.72, el Comité de Finanzas dice que observo que ese Grupo no había podido reunirse con las autoridades italianas. Nos habría gustado más que el Comité de Finanzas no se hubiera limitado a observar, sino que hubiera lamentado que esa reunión no se haya producido.

Luego, en el párrafo 3.74, creemos con todo respeto por el distinguido Presidente del Comité de Finanzas y los miembros de ese importante organismo, que hay bastante optimismo al pensar que todavía se puede alentar al Director General a que se produzca esa reunión, cuando hoy es 2 de noviembre y quedan solamente los dos días de mañana y pasado antes de que se inicie el próximo 5 la Conferencia, ante la cual, como ha dicho el Embajador del Congo, nosotros debemos rendir cuentas del mandato que se nos confió.

Creemos que, no obstante la buena voluntad y la gran simpatía de nuestro colega el Embajador di FRANCISCI de Italia, no va a ser posible que estos dos días logremos ver nosotros al distinguido Sr. Primer Ministro. Nos conformamos con mucha complacencia de haber visto aquí, en la FAO, con motivo del Día Mundial de la Alimentación, al Sr. Andreotti, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores; pero hasta allí, ha llegado nuestra posibilidad de realizar el encargo que nos confió la Conferencia. Creemos que el Consejo debe entender la difícil situación en que nos encontramos los representantes de gobiernos que recibimos ese encargo de parte del máximo organismo de la FAO; y por lo tanto, pedimos que en el informe del Consejo se consigne el hecho de que se lamenta que ese grupo de trabajo no haya tenido ocasión de encontrarse con las altas autoridades italianas, no obstante que los representantes de los gobiernos integrantes de este grupo, manifestaron aquí reiteradamente, la plena disposición en que se encontraban para cumplir el mandato de la Conferencia.

Creemos que es oportuno que se deje esa declaración en nuestro informe, porque entendemos que virtualmente el mandato que recibimos, concluye ahora en la Conferencia que se inicia el sábado próximo. Hemos escuchado con atención la propuesta que hizo el distinguido Embajador de Italia sobre transferir al Comité de Asuntos Constitucionales y Jurídicos las cuestiones legales en relación con el acuerdo de Sede. Nosotros pensamos que será conveniente y necesario de todas maneras, que en estas reuniones del Consejo, como está previsto, estudiemos el tema 15; al estudiar el tema 15, emergerán -así lo esperamos- asuntos administrativos y financieros que, como lo ha dicho el Sr. WEST, podrán ser encomendados al Comité de Finanzas y los aspectos legales al CACJ, porque el CACJ no puede ocuparse del fondo de los asuntos sino de la forma. De manera que creo que, de todas maneras, el tema 15 debe discutirse, y naturalmente consideramos constructiva la propuesta del Embajador de Italia, pero a la luz de esas consideraciones fundamentales.

Hemos intervenido en este punto con algunas limitaciones y con cierta timidez que nos causan los nexos afectivos y de amistad que tenemos y que sentimos vivamente hacia el país hospedante, pero consideramos que corresponde a nuestra posición de representantes de gobiernos miembros de ese grupo de trabajo, expresar nuestra posición.

M.D. METELITS (United States of America): I have a question that I would like to address to the Chairman of the Finance Committee, if I may. And that is as follows, the representative of Italy has raised a thought that perhaps the Finance Committee, which does, of course, deal with administrative and financial matters, may on questions of some headquarters accommodation issues and immunity from legal process issues, or the Director-General, may wish to refer these issues to the CCLM. My question is this, was there any discussion during the meeting of the Finance Committee as to whether some of these issues were more or less appropriate to the Finance Committee itself?

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Chairman, Finance Committee): I am glad that the delegate from the United States of America raised this question. I think in our deliberations during the last Session, as well as the previous Session and even the one before, when this issue came up our entire interest in this question is to assess to what extent these problems were a financial constraint on the FAO. For instance, if by being asked to vacate Building F, if it has been given legal sanction that FAO has to vacate, then a whole load of questions as to whether the FAO can accommodate staff, whether an additional building is needed, which means additional funds are needed. So any matters relating to the Headquarters accommodation in relation to the legal process that is taking place, all those matters have financial bearing on the Organization and therefore the Committee discussed them but they were relevant to that question only.

M.D. METELITS (United States of America): One final question, again to the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the question is: To date has any of these issues had actual financial implication?

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Chairman, Finance Committee): Yes. For instance, the excavations in the land adjoining Building C, which were mentioned to you at the last meeting; \$40, 000 were spent from the budget. But that is a financial constraint.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I think the question should also be addressed to the Director-General because there seems to be a feeling by one member of the CCLM that he has been deprived of a voice in this matter. We had been to the CCLM when we were discussing the legal aspects of the problem.

Since then we have reported to the Finance Committee on developments which have a financial impact on the Organization where judgements have been rendered in involving possible expenditures by the Organization. We have not paid anything yet to the landlords of Building F, but we might have to, or the Italian Government might have to - I do not know. But we have not reopened any legal issues with anybody. If there were any legal issues to reopen we would consult the CCLM. But I repeat, I do not see what the subject of archaeological excavations has to do with the CCLM.

A. PINOARGOTE (Ecuador): Este asunto es delicado porque hemos escuchado a un delegado miembro de la Comisión quejarse incluso de falta de información respecto a lo que se está haciendo, y nos ha dicho aquí el delegado del Congo que se entera por los informes que se nos presentan a nosotros. Entonces yo, con toda sinceridad, debo decir que es un asunto lamentable porque se inicia la Conferencia y va a ocurrir que, efectivamente, la Comisión no ha hecho nada. Entonces, de alguna manera, queda flotando al interior, por lo menos mío, de que si bien es cierto por un lado, hay una parte que no se quiere entender en el problema o no quiere recibir a la Comisión; y de otra parte, hay una Comisión que, según uno de sus miembros, no ha hecho nada porque de alguna manera no se le informa con oportunidad. Y es que, a lo mejor, entonces hay una responsabilidad de todos en este sentido, incluso responsabilidad nuestra en el Consejo porque estamos oyendo esta noticia y prácticamente ninguno dice nada ni opone nada, y nos vamos a contentar con dejar esto para que la Conferencia lo resuelva, y seguirá siempre igual. Es decir, que todos somos responsables dentro de esta historia que es ya un poco larga.

A veces observo que se hacen ciertas bromas respecto a esto de las excavaciones. Entonces, yo he escuchado hace un momento al Sr. Director de los Servicios Administrativos decir que las excavaciones no fueron de nueve metros, sino de diez metros, y que se han suspendido el 31 de octubre, hace 48 horas. Esto es un asunto que puede parecer un dato pequeño e insignificante, pero dada la seriedad como se deben llevar las cosas en el Consejo, quisiera preguntar si esta suspensión de trabajos es definitiva; si se conoce a ciencia cierta a qué se debe; si hay una comunicación oficial de cuánto tiempo se han suspendido. Porque informarnos de la fecha se puede interpretar de muchas maneras; porque el primero de noviembre no se trabaja en Italia, por lo que no sabemos si se reanudaron hoy, si será después de una semana o después de un mes. Yo rogaría que en este asunto, se tenga más cuidado, porque todos tenemos una responsabilidad en esto, y estamos ante la Conferencia presentando una información de que, en definitiva, no hemos conseguido nada.

A. BOTHNER (Norway): I apologize for coming in at such a late stage of the deliberations on this issue, of which frankly I know very little. I would however like to make one point. In my view this is essentially an administrative matter and ought therefore as such to be left within the hands of the very competent Director-General and his very able officials, and therefore the governing bodies of FAO should not be involved in this issue.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I had no intention of intervening on the subject before us - it is just one point. I was rather surprised to hear from Mr. Georgiadis that the World Food Council had been asked to vacate the building.

My question is, has there been any assessment of the possible consequences of such a measure? The reason for asking that is that if my recollection is correct, when the World Food Conference proposed the setting up of the World Food Council I think it was explicitly spelled out also that this World Food Council small secretariat should base its work on what is being done in FAO and this of course would mean a completely new setting, a completely new situation, also for another organ. So perhaps we could get some information on that.

A.G. GEORGIADIS (Director, Administrative Services Division): First to answer the question raised by the delegate of Ecuador, the suspension of the excavations the other day is we hope temporary. We were told that it is for lack of funds. Presumably additional funds have been requested and excavations will be resumed. The Department of Archaeology told us that they expect to give us a report by the end of December. We still hope that they will be able to maintain that date and this is what they are saying. I have only said before that there is some uncertainty because of this suspension. Work might be resumed within the next few days. There are still two months to go before the end of the year. There is just this uncertainty.

On the financial aspects of the whole problem I would like to bring to the attention of the Council that in its last report of the June session this year, the financial aspects of the problem were given in the form of cost of duplicating certain services because we are split in two locations, the high cost of renting accommodation in the other location and the cost of staff time spent travelling between the two buildings. A rough estimate put this at about \$200, 000 a month. So this is why it is perhaps a more appropriate subject to be dealt with by the Finance Committee.

Regarding the question raised by the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, the implications of the World Food Council having to leave its present location are not such as to affect our cooperation with the Council. It is hoped this will continue as before because we do not expect them to leave Rome. They will probably be a few kilometers away in their new accommodation, the same as the other departments are. I do not think there are any serious consequences regarding the cooperation and the work they will be doing in contradiction to the resolution by the World Food Conference when it established the Council.

A. FRANCISCI di BASCHI (Italie): Je regrette d'intervenir encore une fois mais je voudrais apporter deux arguments.

Tout d'abord la déception du groupe de travail de sept pays membres. Il ne s'agit pas d'une exclusion. Il s'agit d'un cas de force majeure pour lequel le Président du Conseil responsable à l'époque n'a pas pu recevoir le Groupe. Dans la rencontre entre M. Saouma et M. Andreotti, j'ai eu la conviction que M. Andreotti s'engageait à réaliser cette rencontre. Naturellement, il est exclu que cette rencontre puisse avoir lieu dans les deux jours qui viennent, mais je pense que le Groupe pourrait être reconfirmé par la prochaine Conférence et que cette rencontre pourrait avoir lieu dans un avenir très proche.

Je dis cela parce que j'ai eu plus que l'impression que M. Andreotti s'est engagé dans cette voie de la nécessité d'avoir des rencontres périodiques à haut niveau avec le sommet du Secrétariat général. Pour cela il s'est déclaré d'accord. Donc, je pense que la situation est positive.

A propos des fouilles, il faut accepter le fait qu'il s'agit de fouilles archéologiques qui sont de la compétence du Département d'archéologie de Rome, qui doit mener ces fouilles avec toute la circonspection nécessaire. Je n'accepte pas que l'on fasse de l'ironie sur ces fouilles. Nous nous sommes engagés à donner l'avis du Département d'archéologie avant la fin de l'année, et c'est tout.

CHAIRMAN: I think the Council has expressed in the past and I think we are far more concerned about the slow pace of progress, but with the assurance given by the Ambassador and also what Mr. West said, the Director-General is pursuing it at the highest level. We endorse what the delegate of Norway said, that we leave it in the very competent hands of the Director-General to pursue the matter with the host country. We hope that before long the working party will have the opportunity to meet with the highest officials and get the problem solved. I thank you very much for your contribution.

II. ACTIVITIES OF FAO (continued)

II. ACTIVITES DE LA FAO (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES DE LA FAO (continuación)

8. Proposals for the Establishment of an International Genebank and the Preparation of a Draft International Convention for Plant Genetic Resources

8. Proposition concernant la création d'une banque internationale de gènes et la préparation d'un projet de convention internationale pour les ressources phytogénétiques

8. Propuestas para el Establecimiento de un Banco Internacional de Genes y Preparación de un Proyecto de Convenio Internacional sobre Recursos Fitogenéticos

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department): As you know, the 21st Session of the FAO Conference adopted Resolution 6/81 on plant genetic resources, which requested the Director-General to examine and prepare the elements of a draft international convention and prepare a study on the establishment of an international bank on plant genetic resources under the auspices of FAO. The Conference further requested the Director-General to present proposals based on the studies to the Seventh Session of the Committee on Agriculture which was to report to the Council. The Committee on Agriculture discussed this matter in March 1983 on the basis of document COAG 83/10, which document is studies carried out in response to the Conference resolution.

In the course of an intensive debate it emerged that many members wished to have more detailed information. Furthermore, divergent opinions were expressed as to the necessity for an international convention to guarantee the free exchange of plant genetic resources and the establishment of an international genebank.

Taking into consideration the various views expressed the Committee concluded that the Director-General should be assisted by a working party of Member Nations in the preparation of this report to the 84th Session of the Council so that the latter could elaborate on the proposals to be submitted to the 22nd Session of the FAO Conference.

The Director-General convened this working party composed of representatives of thirteen selected Member Nations, which met in June and July and provided very valuable advice for the formulation, scope and content of the Director-General's report.

In the interim the 83rd Session of the Council provided additional advice when discussing the report of the 7th Session of the Committee on Agriculture. After very careful consideration of all the various views, information and comments rendered to him in the course of these deliberations, the Director-General formulated his report on plant genetic resources, which is before you as document C 83/25. This document attempts to provide in six main chapters a comprehensive review of Plant Genetic Resources and of the need for their exploration, collection, conservation and evaluation.

It offers solutions to ensure the free availability of Plant Genetic Resources for plant breeding for all countries and proposes measures to strengthen plant breeding capabilities in developing countries.

In chapter 2 the document outlines the principles and objectives relevant to Plant Genetic Resources generally, and in chapter 3, the purpose, form and content of a possible International Agreement.

In considering various options for such an Agreement, account has been taken of the need for a wide acceptability by all nations, of minimizing bureaucratic procedures and of rapid entry into effect of its principles.

Chapter 4 reviews the existing arrangements in the field of Plant Genetic Resources, and chapter 5 outlines measures that could be adopted in the light of the basic principles, objectives and requirements.

The concluding chapter summarizes the results of the review and outlines the Director-General's proposals. His proposals for an International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources is outlined in Appendix A following the request of Conference Resolution 6/81, as elaborated by the Council and discussed by the working party.

At the heart of the International Undertaking is the concept of the International Gene Bank in the form of an internationally coordinated network of national, regional and international centres which have assumed the responsibility to hold base collections of Plant Genetic Resources developing in accordance with the scientific advice of the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources. Governments and institutions responsible for such base collections and which agreed to participate in the network would notify the Director-General of their wish to form part of the International Gene Bank under the auspices of FAO.

Furthermore, it is proposed to establish an Intergovernmental Committee as a subsidiary body to the FAO Committee on Agriculture in order to keep the International Gene Bank and Plant Genetic Resources activities in general under regular intergovernmental review. The proposals are worded in such a way as to try to ensure on the one hand the continuation and strengthening of ongoing efforts in the field of Plant Genetic Resources, and on the other, to provide for commitments and involvements of governments in safeguarding and reviewing the basic material of Plant Genetic Resources and their free availability.

The Director-General, being aware of the great importance and complexity of the subject, has formulated proposals with a view to achieving a consensus and the widest possible participation of Member Nations. He trusts that the Council will support and commend the Report accordingly to the Conference.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for this clear explanation of the problem.

Council members, this is a very important issue and so we will welcome all your comments and additions.

J.R. LOPEZ PORTILLO ROMANO (México): A nombre del Grupo Latinoamericano y del Caribe y de la propia delegación de México agradecemos al Sr. Bommer su presentación y felicitamos al Sr. Director General por el Informe sobre Recursos Fitogenéticos que presenta a este Consejo. Indudablemente es un Informe que nos acerca a una situación más justa y equilibrada en esta materia, por lo que lo apoyamos en lo general y sin duda será considerado con mayor detenimiento en la Conferencia.

Es necesario, Sr. Presidente, ratificar en este Consejo nuestro apego a los principios fundamentales que dieron origen a la Resolución 6/81; a saber: que los recursos fitogenéticos son un patrimonio de la humanidad y que en consecuencia deberá haber en todo momento y lugar libre disponibilidad del fitogermoplasma para fines de investigación. El reconocimiento de estos principios lleva al Director General en su Informe al establecimiento de un sistema internacional que permita asegurar la operación de estos principios. Es éste hoy un importante aspecto que debe recibir el apoyo de todo nuestro Consejo.

Coincidimos con el Informe cuando señala claramente la indudable ventaja que reportaría al sistema en su conjunto la adopción de las medidas propuestas. Destacamos: primero, la aceptación de un compromiso internacional que establezca la actividad y tratamiento de las diversas categorías de recursos fitogenéticos existentes para asegurar su uso con sentido de justicia y utilidad para toda la humanidad. Segundo, el establecimiento de una red de colección base de recursos fitogenéticos bajo la administración de la FAO complementado por un sistema de información. Tercero, el fortalecimiento de la capacidad nacional del mejoramiento fitogenético de los países en desarrollo. Cuarto, la propuesta de incorporar plena y efectivamente a los países en la total decisión y establecimiento de prioridades en materia de recursos fitogenéticos y podría pensarse seriamente en incluir a países que no siendo miembros de la FAO podrían hacer importantes aportaciones.

El Grupo Latinoamericano y del Caribe considera que el Director General debe recibir apoyo a estas propuestas.

A.A. MALEK (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Je ne voudrais pas entrer dans les aspects techniques de la question et je n'aborderai pas la question de la mise en oeuvre d'une banque de gènes qui figure dans le rapport du Directeur général. En effet, nous aborderons cette question lors de la Conférence générale au niveau du Comité mais, dans le cadre de ma délégation, je voudrais qu'on note notre reconnaissance à l'égard du Directeur général pour les progrès réalisés depuis la dernière session du Comité de l'agriculture et depuis la dernière session du Conseil.

En effet, le Directeur général a réussi à concilier les opinions divergentes sur ce point et il nous présente des solutions qui vont dans la bonne voie grâce à une approche intégrée. Nous avons ainsi davantage de possibilités de collaboration entre les pays et les institutions spécialisées pour ce qui est de la mise en oeuvre d'une banque de gènes internationale sans qu'il y ait distorsion dans le cadre de ces associations.

Ce rapport est une excellente base et sera un excellent ouvrage de référence pour la Conférence générale quand il s'agira de discuter de la mise sur pied d'une banque de gènes internationale sans extrémisme quel qu'il soit. Le sujet est en effet très important et il en est de même pour les perspectives. La délégation de mon pays a souligné qu'il n'est pas besoin d'entreprendre des études complémentaires puisqu'en fait la question a été examinée de façon fouillée et elle peut maintenant être présentée à la Conférence générale.

Suite aux discussions que nous aurons à la Conférence générale, il y aura davantage de possibilités de collaboration entre tous les intéressés dans ce domaine. Ma délégation apporte son plein soutien aux propositions du Directeur général qui sont contenues dans son rapport.

R.C. SERSALE di CERISANO (Argentina): En primer lugar, quisiéramos expresar nuestra satisfacción por la eficacia, celeridad y amplitud con que el Director General ha preparado su informe; el mismo es un verdadero avance en la búsqueda de soluciones, máxime si tenemos en cuenta la difícil situación de equilibrio a la que se había llegado en el último Comité de Agricultura.

Mi delegación quiere ratificar su apoyo a los principios fundamentales que han dado origen a la Resolución 6/81, esto es, que los recursos fitogenéticos son patrimonio común de la humanidad y que debe existir la libre disponibilidad e intercambio de estos recursos para fines de investigación.

Es en este contexto que entendemos que las tareas indicadas en el documento C 83/25, en los párrafos 190 a 195, y en particular en el 195, son acordes con estos principios y, por lo tanto, cuentan con todo nuestro apoyo.

Nos preocupan los problemas enunciados en los párrafos 108 a 113. Es cierto que ellos existen y que expresan un límite, pero lo que queremos es que de estos debates, en particular de los de la

Conferencia, salgan soluciones y que estos factores no sean, finalmente, utilizados para marginarnos a nosotros, a los países en desarrollo en la utilización de estos recursos.

J.M. BOLIVAR SALCEDO (España): Agradecemos al doctor Bommer su precisa documentación y deseamos sumamos a la felicitación al Director General por el excelente informe que nos presenta sobre recursos fitogenéticos que España, como miembro del grupo de trabajo, cree que recoge de forma muy completa las diferentes opiniones que en él se manifestaron.

Apoyamos el informe en sus principios fundamentales y manifestamos el gran interés de España porque estos recursos sean considerados de un modo efectivo patrimonio de la humanidad.

Si bien consideramos que será en la Conferencia donde deberemos entrar en profundidad en el análisis del tema, éste, como vemos en el documento, presenta aspectos distintos aunque interrelacionados que pensamos convendría deslindar para facilitar los debates.

A.M. QURESHI (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation would first of all like to pay warm and sincere tribute to the Director-General for his most comprehensive, constructive and soundly prepared report contained in the document C 83/25. We would also like to commend Dr. Bonner for introducing this excellent report. We have read the report with great interest. We endorse the views expressed by Mexico, Lebanon, Argentina and Spain. The report takes full account of the achievements so far made in international cooperation and highlights the major tasks that lie ahead in order to ensure the exploration, collection, conservation, documentation, evaluation, availability and utilization of Plant Genetic Resources. Chapter 4 of the report identifies major constraints which are being faced in the context of present international arrangements.

Mr Chairman, we appreciate the most constructive role played by the Director-General in raising the awareness of the world community to the pressing need for collection and conservation of Crop Genetic Resources, and the equally imperative need for setting up an International Genebank in collaboration with IBPGR and national gene pools.

The main task of Plant Genetic Resources is to ensure the exploration, collection, conservation, documentation and evaluation of cultivated varieties, of obsolete cultivars, primitive cultivars, variegated seed species and special genetic stock. There is presently no international agreement for ensuring the conservation, maintenance and free exchange of genetic resources of agricultural interest contained in existing gene plasm banks.

We are in full agreement with the measures proposed in this report to improve the situation which includes the adoption of an international undertaking on plant genetic resources, establishment of a network of base collections of plant genetic resources, encouragement of governmental participation at regional, sub-regional and national levels with the means of strengthening financial security, and establishment of a global information system under the auspices of FAO/IBPGR.

It is indeed important that the capabilities of developing countries are strengthened where appropriate on a sub-regional basis with respect to plant genetic resource activities including plant breeding, seed multiplication, distribution and plant exploration. This measure we are confident will enable all countries to make full use of plant genetic resources for the benefit of their agricultural development.

Our delegation fervently hopes that the member countries will proceed to unanimously adopt the international undertaking on plant genetic resources at the forthcoming session of the Conference so that the plant genetic resources which are the common heritage of mankind are freely available to all countries.

Z. GROCHOWSKI (Poland): Mr Chairman in the past several years considerable progress was made in the expansion of the network and capacity of the collections in gene banks in many countries in the regions. That was possible owing to a better understanding for the importers of the banks for plant breeding, for the establishment of new research stations which can carry on those works, and also owing to a wider cooperation of governments as well as the initiative and assistance of international organizations, FAO, COAG and others. This progress, however, gave rise to many problems, difficulties and needs which have to be solved, for example lack of uniform systems of collection, functioning, rules for evaluation of material and documentation, conditions for the exchange of resources, etc. Analysis of this state is well presented in the report prepared by the Secretariat and offers a proper basis for the system of improving plant genetic resources. We are evaluating favourably those suggestions and we are declaring ourselves for their acceptance.

We support the unification of the rules of operation for plant collections and genebanks. Secondly, in our opinion FAO should coordinate those works. Thirdly, we are in favour of the agreement between countries, not necessarily in the forms of the Convention which is more difficult to be approved by many countries in view of their procedures and limitation of independence of national collections. Fourthly, rules of financial contributions should be agreed on separately. Fifthly, we believe that breeding strains cannot be a subject for exchange before they are registered as varieties.

Mr Chairman, we highly appreciate the Enwell Report of the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources. However, with regret we have to point out that the maps included in the above report are not updated. The borders of some European countries, including Poland, are not correctly indicated and even one European state is missing on these maps. We note there is a reservation made on behalf of FAO that maps included in the report do not imply the expression of an opinion on the part of FAO, but nevertheless FAO is indicated as co-author of the publication. We hope that FAO will undertake the necessary steps in order to avoid such performance in the future since the borders of states in Europe were already established almost forty years ago.

F.G. POULIDES (Cyprus): Document C 83/25 describes the national significance of plant genetic resources and stresses the need for their collection, conservation and evaluation, and especially their free and unconditional availability as a heritage of mankind. It further explains the precepts underlying resolution 6/81 as the activities relating to plant genetic resources but we are struck by the two distinct positions, namely the developing countries wish to have guarantees that plant genetic resources, PGR, are freely available, and they are pressing for the establishment of an international genebank. On the other side the developed countries with plant breeders' rights argue that such guarantees would not be competitive with existing national legislation and, as I understand, they resist any change in establishment. In the middle of the road, FAO considers that the proposed international undertaking and form of genebank meets the interest of both groups and would be acceptable as an immediate solution. Considering therefore the various differences and their practical position, we consider that the only viable solution would be by concession. We support therefore the proposals made by the Director-General as set out in 195, sections (a) to (f) of document C 83/25 of course by consensus.

P. ELMANOWSKI (France): Tout d'abord, après avoir remercié M. Bommer pour son intervention et les précisions qu'il nous a apportées, et également témoigné de l'intérêt que nous avons porté au rapport du Directeur général sur les ressources phytogénétiques, ma délégation tient à préciser qu'en intervenant maintenant elle n'entend pas prendre une position définitive sur les suggestions qui nous sont formulées. En effet, de nombreux points doivent être examinés et présentés par des techniciens. C'est d'ailleurs dans ce sens que nous avons demandé à l'un de nos experts de venir à la Conférence au moment où cette question sera discutée. Donc, ici, au Conseil c'est une attitude d'expectative et de prudence, et nous aimerions qu'elle soit partagée par les uns et les autres. Toutefois, il y a deux ou trois remarques que je voudrais faire et qui, en quelque sorte, préoccupent notre délégation.

Tout d'abord, peut-être est-ce une mauvaise lecture de notre part, mais il ne semble pas qu'on ait mentionné dans le corps du rapport l'existence d'une convention internationale sur les créations variétales et en particulier elle devrait être rappelée dans l'engagement international en parallèle avec la convention sur la protection des végétaux.

Il y a aussi une chose importante - et vous comprendrez que c'est peut-être pour nous une raison supplémentaire d'attendre - c'est que, en ce moment même, dans les jours qui viennent, se réunit à Washington le GCRAI et son conseil technique, qui discutent également de cette question. Leur avis sera évidemment très important pour prendre une position, et il nous semble donc prudent d'attendre, avant de formuler immédiatement une remarque.

Et, troisième point, et là peut-être nous donnera-t-on des explications complémentaires, il nous semble que dans le projet de convention qui nous est soumis, la tutelle qui serait, et je suis modeste en utilisant le mot "tutelle", exercée par l'EOA sur le Conseil international de ressources phytogénétiques plus facilement connu sous le nom de CIRPG, serait extrême, et il nous semble qu'il faut tout de même ne pas vouloir "empiéter" (je ne trouve pas un mot moins méchant), mais enfin ne pas vouloir faire prévaloir son point de vue sur des instances qui sont plus particulièrement qualifiées.

Alors, M. le Président, après ces brèves remarques qui seront certainement approfondies par notre représentant à la Conférence, je souhaiterais que le Conseil dès à présent ne prenne pas une position définitive.

R.C. GUPTA (India): We had the privilege of keenly following this subject in the last meeting of the Committee on Agriculture and thereafter had the opportunity of participating in the two sessions of the working party which the Director-General had convened to advise on this subject. We are happy to note that the document presented to the Council is a balanced document which gives the history of this concept and the work which is being done by the existing network under the aegis of the CGIAR. We are very happy about this document and about the excellent and concise presentation by Dr. Bommer. It perhaps does not need any emphasis that plant genetic resources are a heritage of mankind and must be preserved and be freely available for use, for scientific use as well as for breeding. We realize that the land resources are in serious danger of extinction on account of increasing pressure on land in developing countries and of the extension of agricultural frontiers and grazing and so forth; and it is time that the international community take far-reaching measures to ensure that this heritage will not be lost to us.

I must hasten to acknowledge the excellent work done by the CGIAR system and by the IBPGR for exploration, for documentation, for reservation of plant genetic resources. However, as the Council is aware, the existing arrangements are no less informal. The CGIAR is at most an informal association of countries, international organization and private breeders. It has no legal status, it has no long-term security of its funds and it is for consideration whether we could leave such an important subject in the hands of such a kind of arrangement which is not permanent. We do not have any long-term commitment of funds.

Another consideration which would weigh with my delegation is that most of these resources or basic materials have been found in the developing countries, and again the developing countries have the least capabilities of exploration of plants, of documentation and of making effective use of this material.

A very attractive feature of the proposal which has been put across to the Council is that the proposed set-up would avoid duplication, would build up on the existing network, would try to extend it and to strengthen the capability of developing countries to take care of these resources to the extent possible by themselves, and thereby to preserve them. We therefore feel that the proposed draft resolution on page 32 of this document and the draft on plant genetic resources may be commended to the Conference for careful consideration and acceptance.

Mrs. J. WALLACE (United States of America): The United States strongly supports the concept of free exchange of germplasm for scientific and development work and the importance of improved seeds for increased production in developing countries. The United States actively participated in the discussions on the subject during the Committee on Agriculture and in the ad hoc working party that was convened last July, but there was no consensus on the Secretariat's draft proposals submitted then. We appreciate the great deal of work that the FAO Secretariat has put in its report on plant genetic resources and its proposal for a new international undertaking in this area under the FAO auspices. The understanding proposed has many wide-ranging implications involving consideration of an economic, operational and juridical nature. These raise many questions which need to be considered with care.

The United States is a major contributor to the CGIAR network of international research centres and the associated international plant germplasm system. We believe that they are doing valuable work FAO's help, as a Secretariat. However, we do not see what benefits there would be to superimpose another authority for this work. Moreover, some of the provisions of the Secretariat's proposal may be in conflict with some plant variety and patent laws in the United States and other Member Governments of the FAO.

The subject deserves far more attention and study than is possible here in the Council and we hope to discuss this further at the Conference. We have also asked our experts to attend for discussion and we hope there will be time to get answers to the questions troubling us and to study them before even a tentative decision is made on whether or not to proceed with such an undertaking.

A. BOTHNER (Norway): On this occasion, I have the pleasure to speak on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Norway. Our delegations welcome the Director-General's report on plant genetic resources which has been prepared on the basis of Conference Resolution 6/81 and the discussions in the last COAG meeting. At that meeting the Director-General presented a proposal for the establishment of an international genebank and the preparation of a draft convention for plant genetic resources. However, the Committee was not able to reach a consensus on this proposal.

In the light of these discussions it was suggested, as we know, that the Director-General should be assisted by a working party of Member Nations to advise him on the preparation of a new report to this Council for submission to the Twenty-second Conference. Our delegations feel that the

present report as contained in document C 83/25 gives a comprehensive and valuable survey of the issues and problems relevant to the question of plant genetic resources. We support the general principles in the report regarding free exchange and conservation of plant genetic resources.

With regard to measures that could be adopted in the light of the basis principles, objectives and requirements as presented in the report, our delegations would like to revert to these matters in more detail when discussed in depth at the Conference.

However, we should like to state already at this point that we have difficulties in approving some of the provisions in the proposed international undertaking on plant genetic resources. Our delegations look forward to having fruitful and constructive deliberations at the Conference on this subject to which we attach great importance.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany wishes to commend the Secretariat on Document C 83/25. This document shows the full complex of questions in connexion with the preservation of plant genetic resources and provides a useful basis for discussion. The document describes in particular possibilities for solving various problems to which my delegation has already drawn attention at the session of the Committee on Agriculture last March. I welcome the fact that the working party which was established has been dealing so intensively with these problems and I also wish to thank on this occasion the members of the working party for their commitment.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has for long attached great importance to the collection and preservation of plant genetic resources. Since its existence, the Federal Republic of Germany has been protecting quite a number of sites with plant species threatened with extinction. For more than 10 years my country has worked on the establishment of a genebank with which it takes an active part in the work of the International Board on Plant Genetic Resources. It also cooperates in the European Cooperative Programme for the Conservation and Exchange of Crop Genetic Resources. The Federal Government is prepared, as in the past, to exchange the material stored in the national genebank on the basis of reciprocity or on the basis of a reflux of evaluation data obtained.

As we are looking forward to a thorough discussion on the issue before us at the forthcoming Conference, I merely wish to take up some points. Several speakers today mentioned again the setting up of an international genebank. Our understanding of the proposed undertaking is that the proposal before us aims at improving and, whenever necessary, complementing the work of the already existing network of national genebanks. I hope that this is our common understanding.

Now, with regard to the draft resolution before us, we feel that some further discussion is necessary, as well as some further clarification. In our view the text would need some amendments on which my delegation will voice its position at the forthcoming Conference. One example is Article 2.1 (a) (v) where it says that the free exchange would have to include also "elite and current breeders' lines and mutants". This would be in contradiction to the work of plant breeders and reference has already been made to that point by several speakers before me.

With regard to possible financial and administrative implications, we assume that if such an undertaking were to be launched, the possible expenses during the forthcoming biennium would be covered by the budget as already proposed.

As regards the setting up of a subsidiary of COAG, my delegation feels that it would be rather premature to give a recommendation on such a proposal here and now. Perhaps we ought to wait and see whether or not COAG itself can deal and cope with that work also in future, as it has done in the past.

W. MAJOR (Canada): There are a number of issues which delegations to the Conference may wish to take up in more detail than is possible here. Although the working party was unable to reach a consensus we would wish to thank them for their work. The present document describes the IBPGR conservation network comprising national and regional institutions and IARC base collections, its work in promotion of coordination and its assistance to individual collections to improve their implementation systems, including computerization.

Much is made in the reference document of the lack of institutionalization of the CGIAR but in fact the success of the research centre system over the two decades is one of the bright spots in the world food equation. The document does acknowledge in paragraphs 134 and 135 that the financing of IBPGR seems reasonably well assured. My country is happy to have been an active participant and supporter.

We have not yet been convinced of the need to adopt a new and apparently costlier system when the existing system is working well and when alleged hindrances to access remain unsubstantiated. In short we still have some concerns about the present formulation about the proposal and these are its attractiveness to potential adherents, especially those with the most significant collection, its universality is alluded to in paragraph 174, and finally its relative efficiency compared to arrangements that had evolved to date.

S. GOTO (Japan): I would like to thank the Director-General for the informative and analytical report on the plant genetic resources. In the light of the importance of this issue this report is now under careful and serious study by my Government with the participation of the experts of the relevant research institutions involved. Therefore my delegation would like to reserve its position on this issue at this Council.

A. W. JALIL (Malaysia): The report before us is comprehensive in its treatment of how best plant genetic resources of agricultural interest could be preserved and used for the benefit of human beings now and for the future without restrictive practices that limit their availability. The Director-General has taken into consideration every aspect of the present situation and the present weakness in the activities of various institutes and governments of plant genetic resources. He had proposed various measures for which it is hoped an expanded conceptual framework for the preservation of plant genetic resources could be achieved. My delegation is satisfied with the report and would like to commend the Director-General in his efforts in the search for a satisfactory resolution to this work in the field of agricultural development. The report indicates that the search for a comprehensive global system of plant genetic resources needs to take into account a wide range of activities demanding substantial inputs, including human, physical, financial and research. It requires full international cooperation and genuine commitment on the part of national governments and relevant institutions. There is need to establish a global mechanism and other global framework through which activities in plant genetic resources could be coordinated.

For developing countries to fully benefit from any form of arrangement on the activities of plant genetic resources the need to concentrate on strengthening the national capabilities in this field cannot be overemphasized for without such capabilities any such arrangement would be ineffective.

While expressing my delegation's general agreement on the measures and proposals put forward by the Director-General we might want to consider it as an initial step towards ensuring long term benefit and effectiveness of the measures taken in the field of plant genetic resources.

J. BELGRAVE (New Zealand): As has been said by other delegates, the New Zealand delegations would like to record that the document in front of us does focus very well on all the issues surrounding this very important subject of genetic resources and we would like to record our appreciation for the work of the Director-General and indeed for the efforts put in by the working party in recent date. New Zealand indeed does provide freely germplasm to many overseas countries and some of the measures suggested do have our general agreement, but again like other delegations mentioned today we do have some problems with one or two of the elements of the proposed international undertaking on plant genetic resources. For example, the position of plant breeders' rights legislation in the context of the proposed undertaking is one element which we think needs to be examined in more detail along with others. Therefore the New Zealand delegations would look forward to a full discussion at the Conference on the implications of this important issue and the document we have provided, I think, a very good base for such a discussion in the Conference next week and the weeks that follow and we also will have with our delegation people who are expert in this field and hopefully we will be able to contribute to the deliberations on the matter generally and it may be that coming out of the Conference will be a resolution on a number of the issues that have been raised this afternoon. So we appreciate what has been done very much, a lot of what is said we are in support of but we do have some problems with some of the elements of the undertaking on the plant genetic resources in particular.

L. MOHAPELOA (Lesotho): We do not intend to make any substantial comments on the issue at this point as we will be taking the floor during the Conference. However, my delegation has two brief points to make. Firstly we wish at this stage to urge that the matter be brought up in the Conference in the manner as suggested by the Latin American and Caribbean countries. Certainly we wish to express a hope that we will be particularly openminded in our approach to the issue to enable us to find a common ground and to come out with a framework for the fulfilment of the basic principle to give all countries access to the genetic resources which we should agree are the common heritage of all mankind.

J. GAZZO F.D. (Observador de Peru): Aunque ya el Presidente del GRALUC habló por nosotros, yo me veo obligado a reforzar, un poco digamos, la posición nuestra a este respecto. Tengo que felicitar muy sinceramente al Director General y al grupo que ha realizado este documento porque no ha tenido el infeliz destino que tuvo en mi biblioteca el documento anterior, que no era un documento justo ni un documento balanceado como éste.

Tengo entendido que no hay documento mal escrito, sino mal entendido. Algunos de los oradores parece, o que no han leído el documento en su profundidad, o quizás lo han leído un poco superficialmente y encuentran en él ciertas acciones de duplicación que en ningún momento se van a hacer. Tengo entendido que el problema de los recursos fitogenéticos tiene dos aspectos. El aspecto técnico y el aspecto político del uso de los recursos fitogenéticos que no lo puede manejar una entidad que no tiene carácter, digamos, mundial, sino solamente están representados algunos países y no todos.

Y esto no es una lucha de grupos, porque también tenemos muchos países en vías de desarrollo que hemos negado nuestro material a países desarrollados, sencillamente porque no hay reglas de juego muy claras. Tenemos casos en café, en pimienta negra, en piretro, y así hay una serie de países en vías de desarrollo que no van a entregar su material precioso para que tome una nacionalidad equis y se pierda la identidad universal. De manera que esto no es una lucha de los países en desarrollo contra los países desarrollados; no, es una cuestión de sentido común.

Yo creo que en esta reunión los superexpertos no van a tener mucho que ver, ya que es una reunión de política de manejo de los recursos fitogenéticos. Este es un magnífico documento que nos habla de todos los pasos que podrían darse, y no quiere decirse que vamos a dar los cuatro pasos; pero sí podríamos dar el primero.

Nadie puede negar que existen ciertas interferencias en la libre circulación del material. Yo tengo pruebas de países que han dicho: a este país no le doy porque no es amigo; a este país no le doy porque en este momento tiene un régimen dictatorial. Lo que nosotros queremos es que esto no suceda.

Se dice que debe haber duplicados ya que pueden producirse catástrofes mundiales de terremotos o incendio y desaparecer este material. La sensación que recojo aquí es que hay un deseo de superar a otros países; pero lo que nosotros debemos establecer son reglas de juego para que el material fitogenético circule sin interferencias de tipo político, ya que lo que queremos y lo que hemos perseguido siempre es que haya equidad y una política justa en la distribución de estos recursos.

Manifiestamos, por consiguiente, como lo hemos hecho todos, que estamos plenamente de acuerdo con la clarísima exposición del Presidente del GRULAC, en que cualquier debate es ocioso en el Consejo. Esto debe pasar a la Conferencia y allí esgrimiremos los argumentos; pero lo que sí quisiera es que en ningún momento se piense hacer nada en lugar de otro, sino complementar algunos aspectos que no pueden hacerse porque no tienen personalidad para hacerlo.

Y. HAMDI (Egypt)(original language Arabic): Allow me first of all to congratulate the Director-General on the excellent document prepared by him. After the consultations held between the Director-General and the members of the working group and after examining the various views expressed in the Committee on Agriculture he has prepared a very well-founded document. We welcome this report and wish to express our delegation's full support for the proposal made by the Director-General concerning genetic resources, which are considered the universal heritage of mankind. This subject will be taken up in detail during the Conference.

W.E. ADERO (Kenya): My delegation thanks the Director-General for producing this very comprehensive and balanced report on plant genetic resources. The report has indeed covered the most important elements in the International Genebank.

We generally support the proposals contained in this report. Since the report is going to be discussed further at the Conference we intend to make our detailed interventions at the Conference.

H.F. NAJEB (Iraq) (original language Arabic): We would like in turn to express our support and our views on this document. We support this comprehensive report which contains proposals for the ideal manner which would enable us to conserve plant genetic resources and the best method to make all countries benefit from these vital resources.

We would also like to express our support and appreciation to the Director-General especially, as he has sought to find that common basis between all parties concerned on this subject. This common basis, thanks to future and continuous efforts, should enable us further to improve the existing structures in this field. We have been accustomed to a careful follow-up and concern on the part of the Director-General on all matters relating to agriculture and nutrition to safeguard the

interests of developing countries. I would therefore like to say that this common basis does provide a sound basis for future improvements and the appropriate proposal for discussion and further development of the subject in the interests of one and all.

Finally, we would like to address an appeal to all member countries to adopt this report which will be submitted to us once again in the Conference.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): Nous prenons assez tard la parole sur ce sujet qui, à notre avis, est d'un intérêt capital pour tous les pays du monde. Il a d'ailleurs fait l'objet d'un débat assez animé au Comité de l'agriculture et nous avons exprimé l'espoir qu'au niveau du groupe qui avait été constitué on aboutirait à des conclusions que l'on pourrait facilement adopter au niveau de ce Conseil et surtout de la Conférence.

Nous sommes heureux de constater que le Directeur général nous a présenté un rapport excellent, rapport excellent parce qu'il constitue à notre avis une synthèse fort réussie des opinions diverses qui avaient été exprimées lors des débats.

Nous voudrions rendre ici hommage au Directeur général qui, malgré le manque de consensus au niveau de ce groupe, a manifesté un certain courage afin de nous présenter ce document qui, à notre avis, constitue une excellente base de discussion pour la Conférence.

K.M. EJAZUL HUQ (Bangladesh): We would like to express our full endorsement of the proposals contained in the Director General's most comprehensive report, and we urge upon all members to lend full support at the Conference.

M. TATIETA (Haute-Volta): La délégation de Haute-Volta accorde une grande importance à la création d'une banque internationale de gènes et à la préparation d'un projet de convention internationale pour les ressources phytogénétiques. Notre délégation pense que l'existence d'une telle banque est de nature à promouvoir la recherche, plus spécialement dans les pays en voie de développement, qui ne disposent pas toujours des structures et du personnel adéquats. Nous marquons notre accord sur le contenu du rapport et appuyons la création de structures régionales. Cela demande évidemment une accélération de la formation des chercheurs dans les pays qui en sont dépourvus afin de permettre à chaque pays membre de bénéficier de cette oeuvre commune.

Notre délégation reste persuadée qu'une telle banque favorisera une coopération efficiente en matière de recherche. Par conséquent, notre délégation apporte sa caution à cette initiative.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, I have listened with great interest to the comments made by 23 delegates and one important observer, who made a very significant contribution.

I want to stress that this report is not intended at all to weaken the IBPGR or to increase the cost of international work on plant genetic resources - on the contrary. After all, FAO is very closely associated with CGIAR under the aegis of which IBPGR is placed. FAO is one of 3 sponsors of CGIAR, along with UNDP and the World Bank. The IBPGR Secretariat is in FAO. They meet here. The Chairman of IBPGR is nominated and appointed in consultation with the Director-General of FAO. We finance the largest part of the cost of the Secretariat here. The Secretary of IBPGR is an FAO staff member, a senior officer of the organization, and he has under him other FAO officers who are paid for by you as member countries. We are therefore in very close association with IBPGR.

I know that a more detailed discussion will take place in the Conference, but I do not think we can spend days in the Conference discussing the subject. Also specialists from France and other countries will come to deal with this item, which is very important.

During the Conference, it would be no good saying, for instance, that this undertaking, because of one or two articles, has to be refused as a whole. We can certainly assist in the consideration of any amendment of any articles of the undertaking, and it would be a pity if, because of one article or another or one word, the whole text were just rejected. I am very conscious that no international undertaking could ever be implemented unless adopted by a consensus, and no doubt my proposals would have to be accepted first of all by the important countries; otherwise they are meaningless. But I would like to assure those countries who are concerned with the whole issue, because they are financing IBPGR, that all of us can certainly try to accommodate their concerns by rewording, by proposing to delete some words or to put something in. I am referring, for instance, to the intervention of the delegate of New Zealand, who says that there are maybe some articles which they do not like. It would be very interesting and useful if we could know in advance, before the consideration of the item in Commission II what is the paragraph of, the article which bothers you and others. The whole undertaking is for discussion by yourselves, and can be changed by editing, deleting, etc.

The same applies to the other issues, the International Gene Bank etc. If it is discussed with a constructive spirit, telling us frankly what you don't like, what bothers you, we will try to find some wording or at least we may have draft amendments which later on can be improved, but please do not reject the whole proposal entirely because there is some aspect which you do not like. This is all a proposal. It is all flexible. The same applies to the Committee of the COAG or COAG itself dealing with the subject once every two years.

I want to stress this: we in FAO would appreciate receiving direction and orientation from our governing bodies, as far as our dealings with IBPGR are concerned. COAG could very usefully study the Report of IBPGR, advise the FAO Director-General how to deal with it and, what to convey to IBPGR. At present I have no governing body to advise me on this, so I think COAG could at no cost have an item on its agenda or have a sub-committee to this effect.

I am just giving you an example why some changes are needed. As I think Peru said, for 10 years we have had the same mechanism. I am very relaxed about all my proposals. I think that there are new initiatives; I am looking at the future. I think no one of them can be implemented unless it is approved by consensus. This is why I hope there will be more dialogue in Commission II and not just "this is unacceptable" and "this is acceptable".

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be following with my colleagues the debate in Commission II with great interest. I hope we can reach agreement on some of my proposals. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Director-General.

I think the Director-General has explained the position in a very clear way. I think he has shown that what we are asking for is not a cut and dried answer, yes or no, but what we want is progress in this very important field. I would like to again add my words of appreciation for the Director-General's document. As one who has spent a large part of my professional life in genetic resources conservation and utilization, I must compliment the Director-General and his staff on preparing a document which can help us to make progress. There will naturally not be agreement on every letter of it, but I think it is a document which provides opportunity for progress. The progress we are seeking is not just for our lifetime but for the 21st century, 22nd century and beyond. Therefore on this occasion we must express our gratitude to the Mexican delegation which originally started the ball rolling in the last Conference and contributed to the subsequent progress made, to the working party members and the Director-General who himself chaired the working party and to Dr. Bommer and his able colleagues.

I hope the Conference will develop a consensus with which all are agreed. What is important here is not just a resolution but a commitment to action, and that commitment can come whenever everyone is agreed that there is a certain thing which they all feel ought to be done. I am happy that the document provides a mechanism whereby not only members of FAO but even those who are not at present members of FAO can join in the action plan. A very significant recommendation in the document is the fact that there are some countries, for example there are two countries which have been mentioned, the USSR, which has a very large collection of plant species, and the German Democratic Republic. In the previous Council meeting I mentioned about Vavilov, who initiated the whole concept of centres of origin of crop plants and of centres of genetic diversity. There is a very large collection in Gatersleben in the German Democratic Republic. The document rightly provides a mechanism by which as the Ambassador of Peru said, both developed and developing countries can together try to conserve and utilize plant genetic resources which constitute a common human blessing and heritage. So I would like to thank the Director-General for this document, and I hope the various experts who will be coming here next week from Member Nations will examine the document carefully and in a spirit of achieving something for an important cause. I think the cause is greater than all of us. I mentioned last time that while we humans are mortals, genes can be immortal. That is where I think sometimes a great cause can evoke a kind of response which transcends immediate human understanding. We therefore will remit it to the Conference for the consideration of Commission II. After listening to all the delegates, I am confident that something very constructive is going to happen as a result of this important initiative. I want to thank all the Council members for their participation.

The meeting rose at 17.45 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas

council

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conseil

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

consejo

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

CL

CL 84/PV/5

Eighty-fourth Session

Quatre-vingt-quatrième session

84° período de sesiones

FIFTH PLENARY MEETING CINQUIEME SEANCE PLENIERE QUINTA SESION PLENARIA

(3 November 1983)

The Fifth Plenary Meeting was opened at 10.15 hours.

M.S. Swaminathan, Independent Chairman of the Council, presiding

La cinquième séance plénière est ouverte à 10 h 15 sous la présidence
de M. S. Swaminathan, Président indépendant du Conseil

Se abre la quinta sesión plenaria a las 10.15 horas bajo la presidencia
de M.S. Swaminathan, Presidente Independiente del Consejo

- II. ACTIVITIES OF FAO (continued)
- II. ACTIVITES DE LA FAO (suite)
- II. ACTIVIDADES DE LA FAO (continuación)

3. Preparation for the Twenty-second Session of the FAO Conference, including:

3. Preparation de la vingt-deuxième session de la Conférence de la FAO, notamment:

3. Preparativos para el 22 período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO, en especial:

- 3.1 Nomination of the Chairman of the Conference, and of the Chairmen of the Commissions of the Conference (Recommendation to the Conference)
- 3.1 Propositions de candidatures aux postes de président de la Conférence et de présidents des commissions de la Conférence (recommandation à la Conférence)
- 3.1 Propuestas de candidaturas para la presidencia de la Conferencia y de las Comisiones de la Conferencia (Recomendación para la Conferencia)

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Vous vous souvenez qu'à la 83ème session du Conseil, vous avez eu à examiner le document CL 83/11 qui portait sur l'organisation de la vingt-deuxième session de la Conférence. Dans ce document sont prévues la nomination du Président de la Conférence et celle des présidents des trois Commissions de la Conférence.

Au cours d'une réunion informelle des chefs de délégation, il a été convenu que le Ministère de l'agriculture des Etats-Unis d'Amérique serait proposé pour l'élection au poste de Président de la vingt-deuxième session de la Conférence.

On a également proposé au cours de cette réunion informelle les candidatures de M. José Ramón Lopez Portillo Romano, Représentant permanent du Mexique auprès de la FAO, comme Président de la Commission I. Comme Président de la Commission II, on a proposé le nom de S. Exc. M. Chaka Ntsane, Représentant permanent du Lesotho auprès de la FAO. Comme Président de la Commission III, on a présenté le nom de M. Theodor Glaser, Représentant permanent de la Suisse auprès de la FAO. Le Conseil a été informé des résultats de cette réunion informelle des chefs de délégation à la quatre-vingt-troisième session du Conseil, laquelle a pris note de ces propositions. Il a été convenu que le Directeur général contacterait les gouvernements des pays des différents candidats pour s'assurer que les personnes ainsi proposées seraient disponibles pour occuper les fonctions pour lesquelles elles ont été proposées.

Le Directeur général a reçu des réponses positives à ces candidatures et il est maintenant demandé au Conseil de les examiner, de les entériner officiellement, et de les proposer à la Conférence.

C'est tout ce que j'ai à dire à ce sujet pour le moment et ensuite nous passerons, si vous le voulez bien, à l'élection des membres du Comité des nominations.

CHAIRMAN: Heads of delegation who attended the last session of the Council might recall that in our informal meeting we had proposed these names and I am sure Council members will be happy to hear that the Director-General has received the acceptance of all these very distinguished persons.

S.J. KAO (Lesotho): My delegation wishes to record its appreciation for the trust placed in it by this Council in the nomination of the Ambassador of Lesotho to FAO as Chairman of Commission II. Further we take the opportunity to assure this meeting, as well as the Conférence, of our preparedness to carry out the responsibility so entrusted in us.

CHAIRMAN: If there is no other intervention may I express our happiness on behalf of the Council that the Hon. Mr. John Block has been able to accept to be the Chairman of the Conférence and His Excellency José Ramon Lopez Portillo Romano and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico to FAO, whom we have the privilege of having in our midst here, as Chairman of Commission I, and His Excellency Chaka Ntsane, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Lesotho as Chairman of Commission II, and Mr. Theodor Glaser as Chairman of Commission III. We would like to wish them all well in their very important tasks in the coming weeks.

- 3.2 Election of the Nominations Committee
3.2 Election des membres de la Commission des candidatures
3.2 Elección del Comité de Candidaturas

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Conformément aux dispositions pertinentes des Textes fondamentaux de l'Organisation, il est prévu que le Conseil, au cours de sa session précédant immédiatement la Conférence, propose les candidats qui doivent être désignés au Comité des nominations. Une consultation a eu lieu entre les pays des différents groupes géographiques et la liste suivante, Monsieur le président, vous est donc soumise pour être portée à la connaissance des membres du Conseil, liste comportant les candidats qui sont envisagés pour être élus membres du Comité des nominations. Je vais donc en donner lecture avec votre permission:

L'Afrique a deux postes dans ce comité, il est proposé qu'ils soient occupés par le Ghana et Madagascar; l'Asie a deux postes également, il est proposé qu'ils soient occupés par l'Indonésie et le Japon; l'Amérique latine a également deux postes, qui sont proposés pour l'Argentine et la Colombie; le Proche-Orient a un poste, qui est proposé pour l'Arabie Saoudite; l'Amérique du Nord a un candidat, qui est proposé pour les Etats-Unis d'Amérique; le Pacifique du Sud-Ouest, une candidature est proposée en faveur de la Nouvelle-Zélande.

CHAIRMAN: So we welcome Ghana, Madagascar, Indonesia, Japan, Argentina, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, United States of America, New Zealand as members of the Nominations Committee. We now have the names of the European representatives on the Nominations Committee. The representatives from Europe will be the Netherlands and Poland. So the Nominations Committee is now complete. The members are: Ghana, Madagascar, Indonesia, Japan, Argentina, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, the USA, the Netherlands, Poland and New Zealand.

- 3.3 Nomination of the Chairman of the Informal Meeting of Observers of Non-Governmental Organizations
3.3 Propositions de candidatures à la présidence de la réunion officieuse des observateurs des, organisations non gouvernementales
3.3 Propuestas de candidaturas para el cargo de Presidente de la reunión oficiosa de observadores de organizaciones no gubernamentales

CHAIRMAN: You will notice that it reads Nomination of the Chairman of the Informal Meeting of Observers of Non-Governmental Organizations and I had a discussion with the Director-General and the non-governmental organizations would like to elect their own Chairman. It is not proper for us to nominate a Chairman on their behalf and the suggestion is they will elect a Chairman of their own.

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): Je voudrais tout simplement confirmer ce que vous venez de dire. En réalité, comme vous le savez, lors de chaque session de la Conférence, il y a une réunion informelle tenue avec les représentants des organisations non gouvernementales. Cette année-ci elle aura lieu le 8 novembre. C'est basé sur l'intérêt qu'il y a à renforcer les relations entre la FAO et les ONG. Au cours d'ailleurs du biennium qui vient de s'écouler, basé sur les recommandations de la Conférence tenue il y a deux ans, le Directeur général a revu avec les organisations non gouvernementales comment renforcer cette coopération. Au cours des réunions qui ont eu lieu, une des demandes des ONG a été de pouvoir désigner elles-mêmes le président de cette réunion informelle en consultation bien sûr avec le Directeur général. Ceci permet, selon les ONG, de sélectionner leur président bien à l'avance sans attendre le Conseil juste au moment de la Conférence et par ailleurs d'assurer une suite à cette réunion. Le Directeur général a agréé cette suggestion et cette demande des ONG ce qui signifie donc qu'à l'avenir les ONG désigneront leur président en consultation avec le Directeur général, sans en référer au Conseil, puisqu'il ne s'agit pas d'une disposition fondamentale mais d'une simple pratique.

Je voulais donc simplement vous signaler que, pour la réunion du 8 novembre, Mme Pela, de la FIPA, qui est présidente du groupe, à Rome, des ONG, présidera cette réunion informelle. Je crois que c'est à la fois un élément d'information que je vous donne et pour l'avenir je pense que c'est une pratique très correcte, me semble-t-il, de laisser à ces ONG le soin de décider elles-mêmes de leur président en consultation avec le Directeur général.

CHAIRMAN: I am sure the Council members would support the idea that the NGOs would elect their own Chairperson in consultation with the Director-General. If you so approve we will record it in our report so that this item does not come in the future meetings of the Council. Is that agreeable? I see no comments to the contrary. So we approve it and we will see that the Drafting Committee includes this in the report.

IV. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

IV. QUESTIONS CONSTITUTIONNELLES ET JURIDIQUES

IV. ASUNTOS CONSTITUCIONALES Y JURIDICOS

14. Report of the Forty-third Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (Rome, 3-7 October 1983)

14. Rapport de la quarante-troisième session du Comité des questions constitutionnelles et juridiques (Rome 3-7 octobre 1983)

14. Informe del 43º período de sesiones del Comité de Asuntos Constitucionales y Jurídicos (Roma, 3-7 de octubre de 1983)

CHAIRMAN: We are now on item 14, the Report of the Forty-third Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (Rome, 3-7 October 1983). May I request Mr. Glaser, the Chairman of the CCLM, to come to the podium, please. We welcome Mr. Glaser, who is also going to be the Chairman of Commission III at the forthcoming Conference.

T. GLASER (Président du Comité des questions constitutionnelles et juridiques): Si vous le permettez, je vais m'écarter de l'ordre du jour en saisissant cette occasion de remercier le Conseil pour la confiance qu'il a témoignée envers mon pays et moi-même en me nommant président de la Commission III pour la Conférence. C'est un grand honneur pour moi de pouvoir ainsi servir la FAO.

Maintenant je vais vous faire rapport sur la 43ème session du CQCJ. Le Comité a été saisi de deux questions: premièrement, un amendement à l'article XXXIX.3 du Règlement général de l'Organisation. Il s'agit de l'exécution d'une décision que le Conseil a prise il y a un an. Le Directeur général doit être autorisé à appliquer immédiatement les recommandations de la Commission de la fonction publique internationale approuvées par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies. Le but est donc d'assurer que la FAO ne s'écarte pas du régime commun des Nations Unies dans sa politique de personnel. Avec l'amendement ainsi proposé on ne crée tout de même pas un automatisme. Si le Directeur général juge qu'une recommandation de la CFPI ne correspond pas aux intérêts de la FAO, il reste libre de suspendre son application et d'en saisir le Conseil ou un de ses comités.

Le CQCJ a aussi constaté que l'amendement proposé n'entraîne pas de conséquences financières directes. Les conséquences financières indirectes qui pourraient en résulter seront examinées par le Comité financier et le Conseil lorsque le Directeur général y rendrait compte de la promulgation d'amendements au Statut du personnel.

Le CQCJ a examiné les projets d'amendement du Règlement général et du Statut du personnel qui seraient nécessaires pour donner effet à la décision du Conseil. Notant que l'amendement du Règlement général exigerait l'approbation de la Conférence, il a soumis à l'examen du Conseil le projet de résolution que vous trouverez dans le document CL 84/5 sous point 7. Vous voyez là le texte qui commence avec des considérants, puis il y a un titre I - Amendement de l'article XXXIX.3 du Règlement général de l'Organisation. Ensuite il y a le titre II pour amender corrélativement l'article 301.122 du Statut du personnel.

Le deuxième point dont le Comité a été saisi concerne l'amendement à l'Accord sur la protection des végétaux dans la région de l'Asie du Sud-Est et du Pacifique. Il s'agit là de deux amendements qui ont été demandés et appuyés par la Commission phytosanitaire pour l'Asie et le Pacifique et qui, pour entrer en vigueur, doivent être approuvés par le Conseil.

Par le premier amendement, les membres de la Commission s'engagent à verser des contributions obligatoires au budget. Puisque cela entraîne de nouvelles obligations, cet amendement n'entrera en vigueur qu'à l'égard des gouvernements qui l'auront effectivement accepté.

Le deuxième amendement modifie la définition de la région pour y inclure la Chine.

Le CQCJ estime que ces amendements sont compatibles avec les Textes fondamentaux de la FAO et recommande au Conseil de les approuver en adoptant la résolution que vous trouverez au sous-point 15 du document CL 84/5.

Finalement le CQCJ a été informé des derniers développements de la question de l'immunité de juridiction de la FAO en Italie. A ce sujet il n'y avait pas de décision à prendre.

En conclusion, le Conseil est donc invité à approuver les deux résolutions mentionnées.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I would like to make a brief intervention on this item and I trust you will not feel it necessary to rule me out of order on this matter. I would like to refer back to the discussions that took place under Item 12.2 yesterday, in which our Italian colleague made a suggestion which involved questions concerning the responsibilities of the Finance Committee and the CCLM. My American colleague asked some questions and was answered by the Chairman of the Finance Committee. At the same time the Deputy Director-General took the floor and expressed his view about the proposal, in the course of which he made a comment to our United States delegate to the effect that did he feel deprived as a member of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters. The United Kingdom is also a member of this committee. From my point of view it is not a question of deprivation but I think there is a question of whether the CCLM is used as an organ of this Organization to its maximum extent. I do not intend to try to reopen the debate on the issue raised yesterday but I would suggest that the proposal made by our colleague from Italy merits further thought and I do hope there will be an opportunity for the proposals he has made to be considered in relation to the remit and the work of the CCLM.

CHAIRMAN: Document CL 84/2, FAO's Immunity from Legal Process in Italy, is coming up next. If members would refer to the Resolution which we adopted at the June meeting of our Council, it clearly states: "Request the Director-General to continue to keep the matter under review and to report thereon to its next session, if appropriate, through the Finance Committee or the CCLM." As I understand, there are two aspects to this issue: there are these legal aspects, there are financial aspects. That is why in our last Resolution we refer to both Committees, whichever is appropriate. So as long as it stands this is our Resolution and it is for the Organization to decide through which Committee they take it up.

ZHONG SHUKONG (China): Regarding document CL 84/5, I have very tentative comments to make at this moment. The document came to our notice only this morning and there is a background to it. To make a long story short, the document which is before us was originally entitled "Plant Protection Agreement for Southeast Asia." Last March at the ESCAP meeting proposals were made that the title be changed to the present one so that China could be included. At that meeting our colleagues from China were agreeable to this suggestion. That is the background to this amendment. Tentatively we feel that paragraph (a) and the definition should be reworded in such a way that the word 'border' be replaced by 'boundary'. As can be seen from the context 'border' can mean a line, it can mean an area, whereas 'boundary' seems to be more accurate. Those are the tentative comments that I wish to submit. I reserve my rights for future comments.

T. GLASER (Chairman, Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters): I have no objections to 'border' or 'boundary'. It is a subject which has not been discussed in the Committee. The whole wording may seem a little bit bizarre, but we just tried to change as little as possible of the previous text with the aim of making sure that China can be included.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: If I may, I would like to reply to comments of the United Kingdom. It may be that I misunderstood the proposal of Italy. I think we need to be clear in any case what we are talking about. My comments were not addressed to the question of the immunity from legal process but to the proposition which I thought had been made that matters such as the progress of negotiations with the building authorities about the construction of the eighth floor, progress with other authorities about the possible construction of a new building on the side of FAO and discussions about the progress of archeological excavations towards that end should be dealt with in the future in the CCLM instead of or as well as in the Finance Committee, and my comment was to the effect that I saw no logical or legal reason for assigning such responsibilities to the Legal Committee. They are matters purely of administration, building, equipment and so forth. If and when such matters reach the stage at which questions of law contract arise, then of course we would place the matter before the CCLM, but before then, I really cannot see how the CCLM could have a useful role to play, and I think one might even get into the situation in which one was obliged to consider amendment of the Basic Texts, the General Rules defining the functions of the CCLM in order to enable them to so, but I really could not understand the proposal, if that was what it was, and that was what I was addressing myself to, not to depriving the CCLM of any of its legitimate functions as defined in the Basic Texts.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. If I do not hear that there is any other Council Member wanting to take the floor on these two Resolutions, one, Mr Glaser has pointed out that your comments on these two amendments the Draft Conference Resolution, paragraph 7, amendment to Rule XXXIX-3 of the General Rules of the Organization, and the next one is amendments to the Plant Protection Agreement for the Asia and Pacific Region in paragraph 15. Here China has proposed the substitution of the word "boundary" for "border", and the Chairman of the CCLM has supported it.

R.C. GUPTA (India): We are not very clear about the connotation of the two terms and would be grateful to have the views of either the Chairman of the CCLM or of the legal expert of the FAO as to what are the connotations of the two words and how the substitution of "boundary" for "border" would change the meaning or modify the meaning of this.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I completely agree with the Deputy Director-General in regard to his comment that administrative matters should not be referred to the CCLM. However, I believe that there are still a good number of legal matters arising from FAO's immunity from legal process and in connexion with the progress of the negotiations with the Italian Government as to the steps to be taken so that this matter would be resolved to the advantage of the Organization, and I believe that this matter should still be referred to the CCLM, as indicated in the Resolution before us, 3/83 and I know that this matter is not going to be resolved tomorrow.

LEGAL COUNSEL: On the question which would be the better word to use, "border" in English or "boundary", I think I would choose, although the meaning is exactly the same and the intention is that they should be synonymous, I think I would share the opinion expressed by China that "boundary" is perhaps more descriptive and I think more accurate.

The reason why the CCLM did not change that word was largely because we wished to remain as close to the existing terminology as was previously used, but I think that in this definition, the use of the word "border" could very well be and to advantage substituted by the word in English "boundary".

Just to refer briefly to another observation made by China regarding the question of whether the Agreement and the Commission is for South-East Asia, I think there must be a mistake in the Chinese version, because the amendments which have previously been recommended by the CCLM and approved by the Council some time ago have entered into force, and now both the title of the Agreement and the name of the Commission established under the Agreement are for Asia and the Pacific Region.

R.C. GUPTA (India): In view of the clarification of the Legal Counsel of the Organization that the two words "border" and "boundary" are synonymous and convey the same sense here, we agree to the suggestion of China.

D.R. GREGORY (Observer for Australia): I did not wish to address that issue, but I did with regard to the matter that has been raised wish to come back to that question about the consideration of various issues within the CCLM or within the Finance Committee, and I really wanted to, at this stage, and I think it is appropriate to reiterate the view that has been expressed in the Finance Committee that some of the matters relating to Headquarters and other aspects being addressed at length in that Committee when many of the issues there are probably tangential to the real interests of that Committee.

I realize that it is difficult to know how to deal with this, and I appreciate Mr West's comment, but surely, as specific legal issues arise or as specific financial issues arise from these particular arrangements, they can be brought to the attention of either of these committees in relation to the nature of the item itself, and I think that is probably all I have to say on the matter at this stage.

CHAIRMAN: Shall we then adopt the two Resolutions as proposed and with that modification of substitution of "boundary" for "border"? I hear no one wants to speak, so I take it we have adopted the two Resolutions. I want to thank the Chairman of the CCLM and the Members of the Committee for their outstanding contribution. Thank you very much.

- 15 - FAO's Immunity from Legal Process
- 15 - Immunità di giurisdizione di la FAO en Italie
- 15 - Immunidad de procedimiento judicial de la FAO

LEGAL COUNSEL: The Council will recall that this item was on its agenda at its Eighty-second Session in November-December 1982 and also at its Eighty-third Session in June of this year. At both of these sessions, the Council adopted a Resolution in which, *inter alia*, it urged the Host Government to take action to remedy the serious situation which has been created as the result of the Corte di Cassazione's disregard for the Organization's immunity from legal process provided for in Section 16 of the Headquarters Agreement. At this session the Council has before it document CL 84/2 which in fact reproduces a paper that was submitted to the Finance Committee and which informs that Committee of developments that have taken place up to September 1983 and which may have administrative or financial implications for the Organization.

The Council also has before it paragraphs 3.82 to 3.85 of document CL 84/4 which contains the Finance Committee's views on the question of the Organization's immunity from legal process in Italy.

Now, the Council will note in particular that the Finance Committee expressed its disappointment at the apparent lack of any measures taken by the Host Government to give effect to Council Resolution 3/83. This disappointment is of course shared by the Director-General, since very nearly a year has now elapsed since the Council's Eighty-second Session, and the Host Government has apparently made no progress at all in finding a solution to the dispute with the landlords of Building F without further recourse to the Italian courts or shall we say the general problem of taking measures to ensure that the Organization's immunity from legal process, which is provided for in this Agreement, would be adequately safeguarded in the future.

The Council will also remember that in June, the Director-General reported a deteriorating situation. Further cases have been brought against the Organization in the Italian court and there have been further proceedings in those courts despite the fact that the Organization had not waived its immunity. At its last Session, the Council expressed serious concern at this situation.

I am afraid in the meantime the situation has not improved. In particular, judgement was rendered in favour of the landlords of the Commissary warehouse ordering the Organization's eviction. Fortunately, however, the notice of this eviction has not been transmitted officially to the Organization.

I think the Council will also be interested to know that on 18 October, there was a final hearing in the action brought against the Organization by the landlords of Building F in which they were claiming very substantial retroactive increases in the rent payable under the lease. Unfortunately, from information that we have received, the judgement and its contents will not become available until a few months hence, but this is an important development.

In conclusion, I should mention the Director-General wrote to the new Minister of Foreign Affairs in early September and he has also met him, as we have already been informed, at the Farnesina.

It is therefore the Director-General's hope, which I am certain Council will share, that these latest contacts will lead to positive results as regards giving effect to Council Resolutions 1/82 and 3/83.

F. FRANCISCI di BASCHI (Italie): Sur ce sujet, il y a deux faits nouveaux d'une certaine importance qui ont eu lieu tout récemment à propos de la discussion que nous avons eue hier sur les locaux du Siège. Il y a eu la rencontre entre le Directeur général et le Ministre des affaires étrangères d'Italie. La question de l'immunité de la FAO a été discutée. Il y a également une lettre que ma délégation a adressée au Directeur général à propos des consultations sur l'accord de siège, y compris le problème de l'immunité. Donc, nous sommes prêts à avoir des consultations dès aujourd'hui avec le Secrétariat général et le Bureau juridique de l'Organisation à propos de ce problème.

Sur le plan pratique, il y a toujours cette menace de mesures d'exécution. Mais ces mesures d'exécution n'existent pas encore. On nous dit qu'il y a une décision d'éviction, mais elle n'a pas été consignée à l'Organisation. Nous n'en savons absolument rien. On dit toujours que la situation se détériore. Je ne trouve pas qu'elle se détériore, elle est simplement immobile.

Je confirme ce qu'a déjà dit le représentant de l'Italie au Conseil: le Gouvernement italien est convaincu de l'immunité de l'Organisation. S'il y aura des mesures d'exécution, le Gouvernement italien est prêt à agir pour bloquer ces mesures lorsqu'elles auront lieu. Je ne peux pas en dire plus pour le moment.

A long terme, je peux dire que le Gouvernement italien est en train d'étudier des modifications de la législation italienne à propos des relations avec les Etats étrangers et les organisations internationales, pour avoir des instruments plus aptes à faire face à certaines situations. Je n'ai rien d'autre actuellement à ajouter sur ce problème.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Ambassador, for this very helpful statement. Is there any other Council member who wishes to speak on this topic, otherwise we have noted the situation and we do hope that progress will be made, and we have noted the assurance of the Ambassador of Italy with gratitude.

- II. ACTIVITIES OF FAO (continued)
- II. ACTIVITES DE LA FAO (suite)
- II. ACTIVIDADES DE LA FAO (continuación)

7 - Progress Report on the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign

7 - Rapport intérimaire sur la campagne panafricaine contre la peste bovine

7 - Informe sobre los progresos realizados en la campana africana de lucha contra la peste bovina

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department): Mr. Chairman, I am speaking here in response to the request of the last Council for a report on the achievements in rinderpest control with special reference to the representation made in this session. It was decided that FAO's support for the proposed Pan-African rinderpest campaign should cover not only technical assistance for the Organization of African Unity, its Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR) but should also include responsibility for the backstopping and monitoring of the programme of the campaign as well as the coordination of the various substantial bilateral and multilateral donor interests that were needed.

An ad hoc meeting will be held at FAO headquarters next week on the 7th and 8th November with representatives of the EEC, OAU and OIE to arrive at clear decisions on the division of responsibilities between these bodies and FAO. The relationships with bilateral and other multilateral agencies will also be reviewed. This is essential for a programme which will be of very considerable magnitude and duration.

Let me now turn to the disease position itself. Here I am able to report an encouraging decrease in the incidence of outbreaks since the situation was described to you in June last. This is due to fervent efforts made by African governments themselves, supported by substantial financial and technical assistance for emergency actions which have been provided largely by FAO, by the EEC, and to some extent by a few bilateral donor agencies.

The assistance provided already by FAO through the TCPs since 1982 amounts to more than \$ 4 million. However I wish to stress that the emergency is not yet over and that the success achieved is only partial. Sporadic outbreaks continue and the threats of further serious episodic outbreaks remain in a number of countries. This demands continuing vaccination as well as the rehabilitation of vaccine production centres which are seriously deficient in equipment and other supplies because of foreign exchange difficulties regarding their purchase. FAO is continuing to take action on these emergency aspects.

In order however to consolidate gains and in order to avoid repeated breakdowns in control of the disease, the launching of the proposed longer-term multidonor funded Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign remains essential. Let me repeat that its purpose is to continue vaccination programmes on a large scale, to monitor disease incidence and to search out residual foci until eradication can be achieved.

The problem to which we are now addressing ourselves is to find the funds required from external sources amounting to some hundred million dollars for the longer-term campaign which is foreseen for the duration of some ten years.

You will recall that a donor meeting was convened in Brussels in June 1983 but no long-term pledges were made by any of the participants who represented both bilateral and multilateral agencies, notwithstanding the clear statements of both the EEC and FAO support of the campaign. We are now studying the modalities open to us to mobilize the financial resources required, and we sincerely hope that at the ad hoc meeting on rinderpest next week agreement will be reached in recognizing FAO's lead role in this aspect in line with your strong recommendations of June 1983.

CHAIRMAN: I have Congo, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, Malawi, Upper Volta. Is there any other delegation that wants to speak? Cameroon Observer.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): Ma délégation a examiné avec beaucoup d'intérêt le document CL 84/INF/13 soumis à notre attention, et tient à adresser ses félicitations au Secrétariat de la FAO pour l'excellente présentation des faits contenus dans ce rapport intérimaire sur la campagne panafricaine contre la peste bovine.

Nous voudrions profiter de cette occasion pour exprimer notre satisfaction quant aux efforts déployés par le Directeur général dans sa ferme volonté d'éradiquer cette maladie dont l'état endémique contribue à inquiéter l'Afrique entière.

Le concours international dont a bénéficié jusqu'à présent l'Afrique est à cet égard encourageant, et nous nous en félicitons. Cependant, nous pensons que les gouvernements intéressés devraient se sentir plus concernés par les mesures prises par la communauté internationale. Il importe en conséquence que, dans les efforts actuellement déployés pour combattre ce fléau, les gouvernements de cette région soient intimement associés dans la prise des mesures susceptibles d'être mises en oeuvre. En effet, toutes ces initiatives, auxquelles ma délégation adhère, ont avantage à privilégier les concertations entre les organisations internationales et ces gouvernements. Nous pensons que la FAO a tout à gagner à présenter aux éventuels donateurs un programme concerté, résultant d'un échange d'idées entre notre Organisation et les gouvernements intéressés. Il faudra éviter de donner la fâcheuse impression que tout cela est fait pour eux, mais sans eux.

Le conseil peut donc recommander à la FAO d'instaurer ce dialogue et cette concertation, qui, à nos yeux, est l'un des gages de succès de l'opération d'éradication entreprise au même titre que les besoins en ressources financières.

Nous sommes certains que, de cette façon, les organisations internationales seront épaulées dans leurs efforts visant à mobiliser les ressources auprès des gouvernements donateurs, avec l'espoir que le Conseil recommandera une telle démarche qui pourrait amener le Directeur général à convoquer, de concert avec l'OUA, une réunion gouvernementale sur le sujet, réunion qui pourrait proposer des recommandations susceptibles d'être soumises à la prochaine conférence régionale de la FAO pour l'Afrique qui a lieu l'an prochain à Harare.

Nous tenons à apporter notre appui aux actions menées par la FAO, et plus singulièrement par le Directeur général, de concert avec d'autres organisations auxquelles je tiens à rendre également hommage.

De même, ma délégation apporte son soutien aux actions proposées dans le document au chapitre 5.

Enfin, la délégation de mon pays qui relève dans le rapport que plusieurs tentatives qui ont eu lieu dans le passé pour essayer d'éradiquer la maladie ont échoué, émet l'espoir qu'il en sera autrement cette fois-ci. A cet égard, il faut craindre les risques de propagation de la maladie dans les pays avoisinants, ceux cités dans le document. C'est pourquoi la création des zones tampons dans ces pays préconisée dans le document, constitue à nos yeux une réponse à cette inquiétude. Nous nous en réjouissons.

Ma délégation est de l'avis qu'un effort soutenu pour intensifier la lutte afin de parvenir à l'éradication complète de la peste bovine est nécessaire, et la communauté internationale doit être invitée à y participer activement, grâce à l'octroi des inputs financiers qui font actuellement défaut aux pays concernés et aux organisations chargées de mener cette campagne.

Dans ce contexte, nous pensons qu'un tel document ne peut être soumis à une instance comme la nôtre pour information, mais plutôt comme action, car la situation à nos yeux le commande.

En conclusion, nous accueillons avec plaisir la réunion de coordination de la campagne africaine de lutte contre la peste bovine qui sera organisée au Siège de la FAO les 7 et 8 novembre de cette année, afin d'examiner la question de la répartition des responsabilités.

Notre vœu est de voir les pays concernés être consultés afin de les responsabiliser davantage. De même, il convient de les associer à l'élaboration des projets dont ils ont la charge de les approuver, sans oublier qu'ils devront également prendre une part active dans la recherche du financement et de l'assistance technique auprès des organismes donateurs. Ces propositions n'ont pour but que d'éviter la passivité des gouvernements intéressés qui devront veiller au succès des opérations qui sont ou seront engagées dans leurs pays respectifs.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): My delegation wishes to extend its appreciation to FAO for the Report on the Pan-African rinderpest campaign, document CL 84/INF/13. This is an excellent document as information material and at the same time the information contained therein is very alarming, demanding even greater action. It highlights the present situation as well as some of the steps taken by the infected countries of Africa, the OAU, FAO, OIE, IBAR and the EEC. We sincerely appreciate such joint efforts in dealing with the spread of the disease threatening livestock production throughout the country.

It is clear from the Report that piecemeal and fragmented efforts here and there cannot produce permanent solutions. The cost component needed to bring about the total eradication of rinderpest from the surface of the Continent is immense and necessitates more coordinated efforts and actions at the international level.

My delegation therefore wishes to reiterate here the proposal made by the Ambassador of the Congo, which is also in line with the steps and the modalities undertaken by FAO, in requesting FAO, first, to organize intergovernmental consultations on problems of infected countries and such other countries threatened by the spread of rinderpest, regional organizations such as OAU and IBAE and chart out workable plans of action to eradicate the disease. Such a consultative group could be constituted on a permanent basis and meet at least once a year to review the situation until the Continent has been declared free from the disease. Parallel to this, organize donors' meetings involving governments, NGOs as well as international organizations and potential donors. Three, report the steps taken and results achieved to the next FAO regional meeting to be held in HARARE in July 1984.

Meanwhile, appreciating wholeheartedly past FAO efforts and actions, my delegation requests the continuation of the use of TCP funds, at least at the present level until this proposal brings positive results.

O. AWOYEMI (Nigeria): The Nigerian delegation would like to commend FAO for its activities in the rinderpest campaign in Africa. The fast action taken to assist countries which were afflicted with fresh outbreaks of the disease in the past year is greatly appreciated. Nigeria was one of those countries. From the Report before us, it would appear that a good working relationship has been established between the FAO and the OAU and IBAR. One wonders, however, if this relationship is as strong at the level of individual Member countries of the OAU.

The eradication of rinderpest requires the cooperation of all countries in a sub-region. My delegation would therefore suggest that all consultations be held at the sub-regional level so as to ensure that the campaign is carried out with some measure of collaboration among countries in the sub-region. Efforts at mobilizing resources from donor agencies are also welcome but my delegation is of the opinion that countries most seriously affected should be invited to participate at these meetings of donors so that they can put their case to the donors more convincingly. This does not detract from the effectiveness of the OAU/IBAR but merely strengthens their efforts. It will also make programmes to be developed more reflective of the needs of the countries.

Finally, my delegation implores the FAO to continue to use TCP and other available resources to fight the disease until donor resources become available to expand the Programme.

P.M. AMUKOA (Kenya): The seriousness of the rinderpest problem in Africa is on record and we do not wish to elaborate on it but to comment on the approaches being made in order that our Continent be freed from this persistent problem. We recognize the important role FAO is playing in assisting us to eradicate this problem and we wish to place on record our appreciation. We also compliment donors and of course also the affected countries themselves for their contributions in this task. We request that this spirit to assist be continued and even strengthened further.

We see in this document that there is a Pan-African rinderpest campaign programme in which FAO is seriously involved. We welcome this programme very much. However, paras. 9 and 10 do not seem to give - in fact nowhere in the document is there any evidence of - the serious involvement of these countries and also of course others that may be faced with this danger as a group. There is evidence of the Secretariats of the organizations mentioned there, working out this Programme with individual countries but not with countries as a group.

My delegation feels that if this observation is correct and since the rinderpest disease knows no boundaries, all the countries affected and all those that could be affected should be given a chance to discuss this Programme. We say this because we believe that once we get involved from the word "go" we shall work out the mechanism through which we ourselves shall coordinate our efforts; and once these get their roots, the rinderpest problem may be more fully controlled. In this connection, my delegation would like to go along with the proposals which have been made by Congo, Ethiopia and Nigeria, that FAO in collaboration with the OAU and IBAR Secretariats, organize an intergovernmental consultation of the affected African States and those that could be in danger of infection, to discuss this Pan-African rinderpest campaign programme. At this consultation each country could indicate its national control efforts, their cost implications and what contributions they themselves may be able to make, and discuss the programmes with potential donors. Here donor participation will come out very clearly.

The delegate of Ethiopia suggested that the Regional Conference of FAO next year could also have a chance to look at this programme. That to me also seems like a good idea. When proposing this, we wish to underline the usefulness of the FAO/TCP aid in rinderpest emergency situations and we request that this support be continued.

S.G. DEMBA (Malawi): It is indeed most unfortunate that the Malawi delegation comes in to intervene at this late hour. You may rest assured that it is not because the items discussed so far have not been relevant and appealing to our own situation, but rather that circumstances beyond our control have prevented us from participating fully in these discussions. I wish to assure the Council that the Malawi delegation does fully endorse the discussions which have taken place so far and the recommendations which have been made. We look forward to detailed discussions in the coming weeks of the FAO Conference.

Coming to the subject under discussion this morning, agenda item 7, and referring specifically to document CL 84/INF/13, the Report on the Pan-African rinderpest campaign, the Malawi delegation does, of course, note the fact that this item is only for the information of the Council but we would very much wish to associate ourselves with the Council's endorsement of this Report, as we feel that this is an important item.

As has been correctly described in the Report, rinderpest is a highly contagious virus disease of cattle and other ruminant stocks of our areas and poses a dangerous threat to livestock development in our countries. Although in Malawi livestock is only part of agriculture, it is an important component and one of the most contributing sectors to our economy, both in terms of nutrition and income to several thousands of our small-scale farmers. It is in this line that my delegation welcomes this Report and the proposed lines of action towards eradicating this disease.

Malawi has indeed cooperated fully and we shall do so in all efforts to eradicate this disease. It is also in this light that we would welcome increased international assistance, both material and financial, from FAO/TCP. Although the Report which has just been tabled speaks of reduced incidence of this disease, in most of our areas the disease is certainly not under complete control. This point is also mentioned in paragraph 4 of the Report. My delegation therefore feels strongly that there is a need for increased support in the regional campaign as well as national government efforts. My delegation fully supports the five point action proposed on page 5 of the Report.

M. TATIETA (Haute-Volta): La delegation de Haute-Volta apprécie hautement le rapport qui nous est présenté. Nous remercions le Directeur général pour les efforts déjà accomplis en vue de venir à bout de cette maladie. Nous approuvons et soutenons les propositions de solutions contenues dans le rapport et nous appuyons le voeu émis par l'Ambassadeur du Congo, à savoir une concertation concrète avec les pays concernés en vue de trouver les solutions les meilleures pour lutter contre ce fléau. Le recul actuel de la maladie ne devrait pas faire ralentir la recherche active des moyens nécessaires pour la combattre de façon définitive.

Nous demandons aux donateurs d'être plus généreux car il s'agit là d'un problème capital pour les économies de la plupart des pays touchés par le fléau.

Mrs. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I think it is time that we went a little beyond our usual ways. We are dealing here with a scourge that affects all of sub-Sahara and central Africa and not great installations of widespread ranches; every little farmer; everybody who has five cows; every small person trying to make a living and to live, and perhaps have a little income. It is a frightful situation and I do commend the FAO and the TCP programme for the action that has already been taken, but it is not enough.

I would urge the governments concerned, every single one of them, to go after the non-governmental agencies that are professing an interest in the problems of hunger and of Africa, to go after the bilateral people who have already shown concern, to go after every Embassy, every Embassy that has a delegation in these countries that are affected or could be affected. Every Embassy should receive a delegation from the government of the countries saying "Give". Yes, the donors must give and I hope my own Embassy will receive messages from the governments concerned. But all the others too, who do not seem so willing to concern themselves with this kind of a problem, who are not yet donors. Let nobody escape from some responsibility in the world for what our fellow human beings are facing in this crucial situation. We must be moved with some indication of the absolute horror of what these countries are facing. As has been said here, it knows no borders and every Embassy that professes an interest in the welfare of the people to which they are assigned and accredited should be doing something, and I make no exceptions.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I hope your message will go home.

Y. HAMDI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): I want on this occasion to put on record the thanks of our delegation to the Director-General, to Mr Griffels and to all his colleagues because of the prompt reaction to our demand for assistance the moment we discovered rinderpest disease. We received that assistance through the TCP. We hope that this assistance will continue to curb this disease and to produce necessary serums to combat it. We would like also to support this work Programme undertaken by this Organization. We launch an appeal to donor countries to increase their technical and financial support for the Programme. I would like also to put on record my personal thanks to the Ambassador of the United States of America for the appeal that she has just launched.

P. KANGA (Angola): Ce problème, qui concerne certains pays, pour le moment ne nous concerne pas directement mais la maladie pourrait arriver jusqu'à nos frontières si l'on ne prenait pas de mesures très efficaces.

A cet effet, ma délégation félicite la FAO sur les mesures qui ont été prises pour l'élimination de la peste bovine et ma délégation appuie les propositions faites par l'Ambassadeur du Congo et les autres délégués qui ont bien voulu prendre la parole sur ce point.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): I just want to know on a point of interest as to whether the campaign is taking into account the incidence of this deadly disease on the wildlife. As you know, rinderpest is fairly common in my country also and we have found in our experience that when we get reports of this disease and we quickly mount a medical team, paramedical teams, and then they fan out in the villages and they take measures to immunize the cattle and to treat the suffering cattle but it then soon spreads to various areas, the areas which are contiguous to these areas where the disease is spreading, and we have found it very difficult to do anything for these helpless wildlife in the forest area and sometimes the toll is so devastating that it is really heartrending and just on a point of interest I wanted to know if some light could be thrown on how the toll of this disease on the wildlife is being tackled.

M. HAMDOON (Iraq)(original language Arabic): I believe we should not forget that this disease, rinderpest, is not confined to the very borders of the African continent, it menaces and threatens other continents as well. So in fact we cannot consider this disease to be solely an African problem and I agree with the Ambassador of the United States because she insisted on this problem and she gave it even a human dimension which is so necessary. As long as this disease can go from one to other continents I suggest that we follow the same example that we have seen in desert locusts, for example, and set up an interregional commission to combat this disease like the DLCC. I think that Iraq has achieved a lot in combatting this disease. We are now producing serums which can help us a great deal in putting an end to this very dangerous disease.

S.J. KAO (Lesotho): We would like first to associate our remarks with your appreciation of the work that is being done by FAO and other donors to contain this disease.

This disease knows no international boundaries and those countries that appear to be free of the disease today stay in constant apprehension of experiencing an outbreak in the near future. However, that fear has in some countries materialised. In order to further enhance the good work so far done to contain the disease we would like to support the suggestion that an intergovernment consultation be held to consider what joint action, with emphasis on joint action, can be taken to contain the disease.

We would further like to emphasise the point that even though the countries that are now free of the disease should attend such consultation and we would like once more to associate our remarks with those of the delegate of the United States and further indicate that the situation has reached a position where it calls for a total commitment of all countries in Africa and indeed in the rest of the world.

A.G. NGONGI (Observer for Cameroon): I take the floor as an Observer mostly to associate my delegation with the views already expressed by the speakers before me, especially the delegate of Congo who has been supported by virtually everybody.

Clearly we appreciate very much the efforts that are being carried out by FAO in meeting the emergency outbreak of rinderpest in Africa and my country has been a beneficiary of the TCP assistance, which we greatly appreciate but certainly the long term Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign cannot be achieved without a resolute coordination and cooperation among the various African countries. In this regard we do support the call that has been made for an African inter-governmental consultation to collectively discuss and draft a programme of action which they will also support with some of their own limited funds before appealing for international assistance. I am sure that such a consultation will be a venue for a local dialogue between the African countries and the interested donors who may be willing to participate in these kinds of meetings. I think the kind of atmosphere which the delegate of the United States just told us, would be very helpful if it could be made an inter-governmental consultation. Clearly the work which is being done, and in the next meeting which will be held, the inter-Secretariat meeting between OAU, IEA, IBNA and the FAO and EEC and the IOE are very helpful but it requires the will of the governments themselves and cooperation between the African governments and donors to implement this programme. I do not wish to take the time of the Council any more. I wish only to associate my delegation with the suggestion that have already been made.

T.E.C. PALMER (Observer for Sierra Leone): As an Observer we want to recognize the wonderful way in which the document has been received because it is a reflection of the input of the Organization into the preparation of the document and for this reason my delegation would like to commend the Secretariat for presenting a factual picture of what actually is happening on the particular topic, that is the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign and we do not like to procrastinate the idea which has been forward by many of the speakers who have taken the floor before me but we would just like to emphasise one or two points, especially those brought up by the representative of Congo and Ethiopia and supported by others, that at least the Pan-African Campaign should be used in a wider context-with a long term view and consequently much elaborate action should be conceded even at the preparatory stage and consequently we support the proposals which have been put forward to incorporate the considerations or consultations of governments in the region, governments interested, governments which could eventually be donors, which would be supporters of the programme because we look at the problem from a wider perspective, including three main factors, institutional arrangements involved with such a Campaign, the financial and human resource contribution from recipient as well as donor governments and also the political commitment of the recipient governments or governments of the region because all too often there are even within the sub-region one or two political differences at political level. So when we consider the main factors we do not want the programme to get bogged down. We believe that at this inception stage that when the programme is developing wider dimension these factors should be taken into consideration and of course we believe also that these factors should incorporate the proposals put forward by previous speakers including the inter-government consultation, the involvement of the regional conference or more or less the inclusion of the programme as an agenda item in the forthcoming regional conference for Africa. We believe also that with FAO as a lead agency we could see far reaching results being obtained if we adopt such modalities of the question.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Dada la magnitud de este problema pienso yo que el Consejo debe manifestarse de manera enfática en los términos en que lo ha propuesto la Sra. Embajadora de los Estados Unidos de América, puesto que verdaderamente el problema es de tal magnitud que si no se to-ma una acción de esa naturaleza los esfuerzos resultarán estériles, pues según el mismo documento que estamos estudiando lo que reporta es un problema que tiene ya muchísimos años de existencia y que tiende siempre a repetirse y a agravarse.

Incluso si examinamos el punto 11 del documento CL 84/INF/13 vemos que se habla de una suma del orden de los 100 millones de dolares para poder efectuar una campaña que obtenga resultados ampliamente satisfactorios.

En el mismo documento vemos que en el cuadro 1 el aporte de la FAO en estos últimos cinco años ha llegado apenas a 5 070 000 dolares puesto que la FAO no tiene recursos para hacer un aporte de ma-yor magnitud, pero yo pienso que la FAO sí puede hacer un llamamiento muy enfático a la comunidad internacional para que se tome una acción y un empeño como el que propone la distinguida representante de los Estados Unidos de América.

J.M. OGWANG (Observer for Uganda): As an observer from a country invaded by rinderpest I would like to express my appreciation to FAO for the prompt assistance given to my country in the fight against this international disease, rinderpest.

I would like to associate my delegation with the views of those who have spoken before me, that in the formulation of the Pan African rinderpest campaign the governments of those countries having this disease should be involved in constant consultations to facilitate smooth coordination of the campaign.

D. NORMAN (Observer for Zimbabwe): I do not intend to prolong this discussion, but I have read the report with interest and I thought that delegates may be interested to know that this is one of the projects currently being studied by the study group of countries. It was highlighted by Tanzania at the recent Donors Conference in Maseru, where as a matter of interest it was the largest single request item on that agenda and it was fully supported by members attending, but regrettably to date has attracted very little support, and Zimbabwe, like many other countries which currently are not affected has a large vested interest. The last time we were struck by the disease at the turn of the century we lost 97 percent of the total head of cattle in the country.

I would also like to give my support to the views expressed by the delegate of the United States of America because not only are so many farmers reliant upon cattle for meat and milk but certainly in many parts of Africa it is the only source of draught power and if we are going to see a continuation or a spread of the disease it will be extremely difficult to maintain many of the cropping programmes that we are currently trying to promote in Central Africa.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La Delegación de Colombia desea hacer llegar su más plena solidaridad a los países africanos, particularmente a aquellos que están afectados por la peste bovina.

Apoyamos con todo entusiasmo toda medida concreta, específica y positiva que pueda tomarse en favor de solucionar esa difícil situación.

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department): I think Dr. Griffiths gave a wise reply and I liked it very much because Dr. Griffiths is head of the Animal Production and Health Division. It is the last time you will see him sitting on the rostrum of the Council because he will retire at the end of the year; so perhaps you would allow me to turn over to Dr. Griffiths.

R.B. GRIFFITHS (Director, Animal Production and Health Division): Thank you, Dr. Bommer, for those remarks. As you say, this is the last time I shall be on the podium and I should like to say how much I have enjoyed my association with the Council over the years.

We have had a very fruitful and interesting discussion. It is quite clear that there is unanimous agreement with what the delegate from Congo has said about intergovernmental consultation. Just for the record let me say that we started the work on this Pan American rinderpest campaign with intergovernmental consultation in Nairobi two years ago, but that was not meant to be a once and for all type of meeting. It is quite clear, and the Secretariat fully agrees, that there must be regular intergovernmental consultation, and I can assure you that the matter is in hand. We are at the moment appointing, together with the OAU and IBAR what are called regional coordinators. One will be provided shortly by FAO under the TCP. Another is being appointed with funds from the EEC, and a third by the Overseas Development Administration in the United Kingdom. One of their tasks will be to set up a regular consultative intercountry mechanism on a regional and subregional basis. But that does not mean that we should not have from time to time Pan African consultations. I think, as the delegate from Congo has said, the time is ripe and we shall certainly look into this with a view to holding such a meeting at a suitable place as soon as possible.

Mention was made of the item coming up at the next FAO Regional Conference for Africa. This will certainly be an item of interest and importance in some part of the agenda. It is quite clear from this morning's discussion how important it is felt among the African Member Nations and the other members of the Council.

Specific reference was made to the question of the involvement of wildlife in the disease and by the delegate of India. It is true that rinderpest does kill wildlife but there are considerable question marks over the exact role of wildlife in the transmission process as between wildlife and domestic stock. We agree fully with the delegate of India that this is a subject which requires much deeper investigation. I am able to announce this morning that starting this month there will be an FAO project in East Africa on this subject financed again under the Technical Cooperation Programme.

The delegate of the United States of America made a very important statement, and I think it would be appropriate for me to say here that at the donors meeting which was held jointly with the EEC, the OAU and the OIE in Brussels this year, some of the potential donors complained that they were not receiving requests from African countries themselves - I am not saying every African country, but they said there was an opportunity if they received requests to consider support. But most of the bilateral donors in particular have said, as they always say, that they cannot act unilaterally, they must receive requests. So what the delegate of the United States of America has said is very important: go out and try to obtain support yourselves. This is absolutely essential. We all know as members of the Council and members of the Secretariat that FAO cannot do this, it has to be done to a great extent by the governments concerned and affected by this problem.

I hope I have covered the main points, but I assure you now that we will continue to press this programme ahead very quickly and I am really looking forward to the ad hoc meeting that we shall have next week to be able to take a major step forward.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Griffiths. The Council will unanimously and very strongly endorse the integrated disease containment and control strategy outlined in this paper as well as the multipronged assistance strategy so eloquently outlined by the Ambassador of the United States of America. I think with these two put together we shall be able to see progress and success in next week's consultations and the other consultations which are likely to take place. I want to thank all the delegates for their very strong support for this programme. I think I must here convey our very sincere appreciation to Dr. Griffiths. We learned from Dr. Bommer that he is retiring. Dr. Griffiths has put in over 22 years of most dedicated service to this Division of Animal Health and Animal Production, and I am sure that we would like to record the Council's appreciation to Dr. Griffiths' very dedicated, devoted and competent service. Thank you very much.

13 - Second Report on Unscheduled Sessions in the 1982-83 Biennium

13 - Deuxième rapport sur les réunions hors programme pendant l'exercice 1982-83

13 - Segundo informe sobre las reuniones no previstas en el bienio 1982-83

V. J. SHAH, (Director, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): The Council had received at its Eighty-second Session last year the report of the Director-General on the Unscheduled Sessions and the Cancelled Sessions from the beginning of 1982 until the time the Council met.

As is customary in the second year of the biennium, we now present the Director-General's report on the same facts as they apply to 1983. The information is given in document CL 84/3 in two distinct parts, part one dealing with the unscheduled sessions and part two dealing with the cancelled sessions. In each case, a brief but I trust clear explanation is provided as to the reason why an unscheduled session was convened or on the contrary, why a session which was scheduled to be held had to be cancelled.

Mr Chairman, I am at the disposal of yourself and the Council for any further clarification which may be required, but I believe that the document stands essentially on its own.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. The document is very clear and I think we should thank the Director-General for this information.

IV. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS (continued)

IV. QUESTIONS CONSTITUTIONNELLES ET JURIDIQUES

(suite)

IV. ASUNTOS CONSTITUCIONALES Y JURIDICOS (continuación)

16 - Other Constitutional and Legal Matters, including:

16 - Autres questions constitutionnelles et juridiques, notamment:

16 - Otros asuntos constitucionales y jurídicos, en particular:

16.1 Invitations to Non-Member Nations to Attend FAO Sessions

16.1 Invitation d'Etats non membres à assister à des réunions de la FAO

16.1 Invitaciones a Estados no Miembros para que asistan a reuniones de la FAO

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Conformément aux dispositions pertinentes des textes fondamentaux de la FAO, le Directeur général, sur la demande de la République démocratique allemande reçue le 20 septembre 1983, a invité ce pays à participer à la onzième session du Comité des pêches qui s'est tenue à Rome du 10 au 19 octobre 1983.

La République démocratique allemande figure au 42ème rang parmi les grandes nations qui ont une activité halieutique dans le monde et sa participation aux débats et aux échanges de vues a été appréciée des membres de ce Comité.

CHAIRMAN: Is there any member of the Council who wants to speak, otherwise we are happy that they made a useful contribution. Thank you very much, Mr. Sylla, for this information.

16.2 Invitations to International Non-Governmental Organizations which do not have Status with FAO

16.2 Invitation à des organisations internationales non gouvernementales n'ayant pas de statut officiel auprès de la FAO

16.2 Invitaciones a las organizaciones internacionales no gubernamentales que no mantienen relaciones oficiales con la FAO

A. REGNIER (Director, Office for Inter-Agency Affairs): As the Council knows, FAO is organizing a large number of technical meetings to which various international organizations, intergovernmental organizations as well as non-governmental organizations are invited. FAO is thus able to get expert advice and information on particular subjects.

International non-governmental organizations having status with FAO are invited on the basis of existing arrangements for cooperation based on FAO's Basic Texts. International non-governmental organizations having no status with FAO can be invited on an ad hoc basis if their participation is considered useful to a particular meeting. The Director-General informs the Council in advance whenever possible of the names of these organizations, but when this is not possible he reports to the Council ex post facto on such invitations. Now these organizations and the meetings to which they have been invited are listed in the Council document that we have just referred to, CL 84/INF/9, and I think that this is for the information of the Council.

16.3 Changes in the Representation of Member Nations in the Programme and Finance Committees

16.3 Modifications dans la représentation des Etats Membres au Comité du Programme et au Comité financier

16.3 Cambios en la representación de los Estados Miembros en los Comités del Programa y de Finanzas

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Conformément aux dispositions pertinentes des textes fondamentaux de la FAO, le Directeur général a reçu, en ce qui concerne le Comité du programme, une lettre en date du 22 août 1983 de M. Michael D. Metelits, Représentant permanent suppléant des Etats-Unis auprès de la FAO, l'informant au nom de son gouvernement que S. Exc. Mme l'Ambassadeur Millicent H. Fenwick, nouvellement nommée Représentante permanente des Etats-Unis d'Amérique auprès de la FAO, avait été désignée pour remplacer M. Roger Sorenson comme représentant des Etats-Unis au Comité du programme. Le Président du Comité du programme en a été informé.

On trouvera à l'annexe A des informations sur les qualités, les compétences et les expériences de S. Exc. Mme l'Ambassadeur Fenwick.

Pour le Comité des finances, le Directeur général a reçu une note verbale du 14 septembre 1983 du Représentant permanent du Sénégal auprès de la FAO, l'informant que M. Sidaty Aidara, en raison des tâches pressantes qui lui incombait à la veille de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies à New York, ne serait pas en mesure d'assister à la session. Le Gouvernement sénégalais a donc désigné M. Papa Yoro Diallo pour le représenter au Comité financier. Le Président du Comité financier en a également été informé.

On trouvera à l'annexe B des renseignements sur les qualités, les compétences et l'expérience de M. Diallo.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I am sure members of the Council will welcome Ambassador Fenwick and Mr. Diallo on the Programme and Finance Committees. Having attended part of the meeting of these two committees I can say the contributions of Ambassador Fenwick and Mr. Diallo were outstanding and we are very happy they are present on these committees.

V. OTHER MATTERS

V. AUTRES QUESTIONS

V. OTROS ASUNTOS

17. Any other business

17. Questions diverses

17. Otros asuntos

17.1 Amendment to Staff Regulations (Dependency Allowance)

17.1 Amendement au règlement du personnel (indemnité pour personnes à charge)

17.1 Enmienda del Estatuto del Personal (Prestaciones familiares)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, as you will see from the document - which I hope you can find because I cannot find my copy - this is a tidying up process to ensure equitable treatment between members of staff in the matter of dependency benefits. The objective here is to avoid duplication of benefits, so I do not think this should raise any problems financially or otherwise.

CHAIRMAN: Are there any other comments from any member of the Council? Then we accept this proposal.

- 18. Date and Place of the Eighty-fifth Session of the Council
- 18. Date et lieu de la quatre-vingt-cinquième session du Conseil
- 18. Fecha y lugar del 85 periodo de sesiones del Consejo

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: La prochaine reunion du Conseil est fixée au 25 novembre, suivant immédiatement la session de la Conférence.

The meeting rose at 12.30 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 30.

Se levanta la sesión a las 12.30 horas.

council

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conseil

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

consejo

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

CL

CL 84/PV/6

Eighty-fourth Session

Quatre-vingt-quatrième session

84° período de sesiones

SIXTH PLENARY SESSION SIXIEME SEANCE PLENIERE SEXTA SESION PLENARIA

(3 November 1983)

The Sixth Plenary Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours.
M.S. Swaminathan, Independent Chairman of the Council, presiding

La sixième séance plénière est ouverte à 15 h 00, sous la présidence
de M.S. Swaminathan, Président indépendant du Conseil

Se abre la sexta sesión plenaria a las 15.00 horas bajo la presidencia
de M.S. Swaminathan, Presidente Independiente del Consejo

ADOPTION OF REPORT
ADOPTION DU RAPPORT
APROBACION DEL INFORME

G.J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): Only a few brief comments to say that the Drafting Committee had two sessions last night and this morning incorporating eight hours work in total. The cooperation of members at all times was very welcome and I thank them for that and the valuable Secretariat assistance. We considered all the material before us contained in REP/1, REP/2 and REP/3 and REP/4 (Sections 1 and 2). Discussion was at all times, I might say, harmonious. There were obviously, as can be expected, different points of view expressed in different ways but these points of view I feel were accommodated in a general spirit of compromise and always a desire to move things forward. I trust that the Council has few problems and I am happy to clarify where I can any particular points that come up as we go through the Report. I understand there are a few small changes to the Reps before us and with your permission maybe the Secretariat could read these out to the Council.

Ms. K. KILLINGSWORTH (Secretary, Drafting Committee): The changes are in the French and Spanish versions of REP/1. They are small errors which have crept in and which we would like to announce in advance to bring the three texts in line with each other.

In regard to the French in Rep.1, in paragraph 5 on page 3 in the fourth sentence it begins "Il s'est également déclaré préoccupé par la nouvelle" the sentence should read "Le Conseil ...". This brings it in line with the English and Spanish versions.

Again in the French text on page 4, paragraph 13 we have three small changes. The first sentence should read "Le Conseil a pris note avec intérêt d'une proposition adressée au CP tendant à ce que" instead of "à l'effet".

In the second sentence the penultimate line at the bottom of the paragraph the verb "serve" should be "suive" and in the last line the phrase "au besoin" should be changed to "si nécessaire".

Finally in paragraph 27 on page 8 in the third line there is a typing error "le concept élargit" the word "élargit" should not have a 't' at the end of it.

The Spanish version there is one change which was not made unfortunately on page 6, paragraph 22 of the Spanish version. The Spanish phrase for hard fibres was not accurately translated, it should read I believe "fibras duras" and not "fibras afines".

CHAIRMAN: I hope that these changes in the French and Spanish texts are clear.

DRAFT REPORT - PART I
PROJET DE RAPPORT - PARTIE I
PROYECTO DE INFORME - PARTE I

Paragraph 2 approved

Le paragraphe 2 est approuvé

El párrafo 2 es aprobado

Paragraphs 3 and 4 approved

Les paragraphes 3 et 4 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 3 y 4 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 5 to 26

PARAGRAPHE 5 à 26

PARRAFOS 5 a 26

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): En el párrafo 6 encontramos dos veces la palabra "observo", tanto en la primera frase del párrafo 6 como en la segunda. Quisiéramos hacer una modesta contribución al re-forzamiento de ese párrafo que en esas condiciones es muy débil, y si bien podríamos dejar el "observo" de la primera frase, quisiéramos en la segunda frase del párrafo 6 proponer la siguiente modificación, decir: "El Consejo lamentó que, a pesar de la reactivación, etc.". Se trataría de reemplazar las palabras "El Consejo también observo" por "El Consejo lamento".

Espero que esto no ofrezca dificultades.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Para apoyar la propuesta de Colombia, nada más.

CHAIRMAN: The proposal by Colombia you have heard, which is in paragraph 6, second sentence "The Council regretted that despite the upturn in economic activity" etc. instead of "noted".

A. FEQUANT (France): Nos interprètes disent tantôt "déploré" tantôt "regretté". J'avoue qu'en français j'aime mieux le terme "regretté" d'une part plutôt que "déploré", et, d'autre part, cela a quand même une conséquence sur la fin de la phrase en français "il a regretté que la situation économique de nombreux pays en développement reste grave et qu'elle soit assombrie par la détérioration". En français il faut dire cela: "et qu'elle soit assombrie".

CHAIRMAN: If there are no more comments, I take it that the paragraph is amended according to the Colombian proposal Paragraph 7: any comments?

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): I thought it would be useful to elaborate this "broader concept of world food security". If I could take you back to the words of the CCP, could we use the words of the CCP "the broader concepts of world food security as drawn up by the Committee of World Food Security and endorsed by the Council". These are the precise words in the CCP Report.

CHAIRMAN: The Pakistan delegate has proposed that in paragraph 7 the last line should read "taking into account the broader concept of world food security as drawn up by the Committee on World Food Security and endorsed by the Council", Is this acceptable? Approved Paragraph 8.

M. HAMDOON (Iraq) (Original language Arabic): In the end of paragraph 8 there is a reference in the beginning of the second sentence to the fact that "several members requested the FAO Secretariat to analyse the impact of the activities of transnational corporations in international trade in food and agriculture commodities". I wonder if we could add to the end of the sentence the fact that the information should not only be that available to the United Nations system but also, other information available, that is to say that information available outside the UN system and this should be equally resorted to.

CHAIRMAN: The delegate of Iraq has proposed that in paragraph 8 at the end it should read "using the information available in the UN system and from other sources" instead of "in the UN system". The suggestion is that there is data elsewhere that could also be used. We agreed to add "in the UN system and from other sources". Paragraph 9?

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Solamente es un problema de estilo que posiblemente afecte al español. Poner con mayúsculas las primeras letras de "nuevo orden económico internacional".

CHAIRMAN: I think that is agreeable. Paragraph 10?

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La distinguida secretaria del Comité de Redacción, la Sra. K. Killingsworth conoce muy bien el castellano e hizo una revisión de este texto, pero sin duda por la presión del tiempo con que se trabaja, parece que en la segunda frase del párrafo 10 hay un error que debe corregirse en castellano. Se dice al final de la segunda frase del párrafo 10 "otras ayudas a la explotación". Se dice en español "explotación". Cuando leímos esto, nos causó impresión ese término que podría tener referencia en relación a la situación de los países en desarrollo en materia de comercio internacional, pero creemos que, en vez de "explotación" debe ser "exportación" que figura en el texto inglés.

M. HAMDOON (Iraq) (Original language Arabic): In the end of the last sentence I do not know if my amendment applies to the English text but in Arabic it refers to the increased interdependence or the growing interdependence. We believe that this interdependence does not exist yet so we should refer here to the need to increase interdependence rather than growing interdependence. In Arabic one understands by the present wording that this interdependence already exists and we are calling for more and for a wider degree of interdependence. What we are trying to say actually is that this increase in interdependence is a vital necessity, I do not know if this applies to the English text.

CHAIRMAN: Well, the English text stresses what you said. "It stressed the growing interdependence between developed and developing countries". The delegate of Iraq's suggestion is that "it stressed the need for interdependence between developed and developing countries".

Mrs. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I am asking for the indulgence of the Chairman and my colleagues to return briefly to paragraph 9. I see no reason for the capitalization of "new international economic order". I do not see why the lower case letters cannot continue to be used.

In regard to paragraph 10 I think "it stressed the need for increased interdependence" is an excellent suggestion and I hope very much that that will be adopted.

I wish we could return in paragraph 9 to the new international economic order as reported and not with the change.

CHAIRMAN: The new international economic order is used widely in the United Nations system. I do not know what is the normal convention. I do not know whether Mr. West can explain how the United Nations refers to it, capital letters or small letters.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I cannot speak for the United Nations but we have had many discussions in FAO about it and I do not want to purport to be taking sides. But the compromise reached on previous occasions has been without capitals.

CHAIRMAN: That is satisfactory to you, delegate of Mexico, since it is being used in that way?

Then we move on to paragraph 10, Iraq has proposed and the United States Ambassador has supported that the last but one sentence in paragraph 10 will be reworded as follows "it stressed the need for increased interdependence between developed and developing countries". Is this acceptable to you?

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I think this is a language problem because I think that in the English at any rate, and in the French, and I think the Spanish too, the wording is in conformity with the views of the Council and Conference. I would suggest that if it is a problem with the Arabic text it should be made to conform with the other versions.

M. HAMDOON (Iraq) (Original language Arabic): The Arabic text refers to the fact or seeks to imply that the Council endorses or is in admiration for this increased interdependence but what the Council is calling for is an increased or a growing interdependence. We are seeking here in the Arabic text in fact to stress the need for an increased interdependence, we are not satisfied with the present situation; we want to improve on the present situation. We would like to draw the attention of the international community to the need to increase this interdependence, and solidarity between developed and developing countries. Now if this idea is covered in the English and the French texts then we have no objection to its staying that way but the Arabic text needs to be amended.

S.A.E. SULIMAN (Observer for Arab Organization for Agricultural Development) (Original language Arabic): Paragraph 10 of the Arabic text in the same sentence referred to by the delegate of Iraq, the wrong word here I believe is the reference to interdependence and in order for this text to be in accordance with the English text the appropriate term for interdependence should have been used. Therefore it is a question of the word used in the translation for interdependence.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Yo pienso que lo que se ha querido decir es que se subraya un hecho existente; eso significa, cuando se subraya, la interdependencia creciente entre países desarrollados y países en desarrollo. Es decir, no es que se está recomendando que haya más interdependencia. En ese sentido, lo que habría que corregir es que todo está en el tiempo pretérito porque se dice "subrayó la interdependencia creciente que existía". Entonces, ahí sí hay una contradicción porque quiere decirse que hubo interdependencia y ya no hay. Tal vez, el Comité de Redacción nos pudiera ilustrar mejor acerca de qué es lo que se ha querido decir; si solamente es un hecho que existe o se ha querido recomendar que ese hecho existente se refuerce. En todo caso, según mi punto de vista, debería quedar el párrafo, la oración, en el sentido de que "también subrayó la interdependencia creciente que existe entre países desarrollados y países en desarrollo".

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Perhaps I was too quick before, because there is apparently a problem with this sentence, but in my humble view the problem is with the word 'growing', not with the word 'interdependence', because the thought being expressed here is that there is an interdependence between developed and developing countries and because of this certain things need to be done in the field of north-south dialogue, etc., because of this interdependence. I think it is the word 'growing' which throws one off the scent.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I hesitate to intervene, but first I must say that the delegate of Ecuador is quite right. In the Spanish text it says 'que existía'. This is not correct. It should read 'que existe'. What does this sentence mean - that we are living together in one world, that we are increasingly living together depending on each other, and I think this is quite good, it means that we are becoming a closer family. Perhaps the Arabic translation is not correct and should be brought in line with the English text, the Spanish text should be brought in line with the English text, and I hope the French text is correct, and then we have no problem at all so that the text could be adopted as it stands.

CHAIRMAN: Shall we leave the English text as it is and make suitable changes in the Arabic text? So we will leave it as it is. Any comments on paragraphs 11 and 12? None? Then we move on to paragraph 13.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Sobre el párrafo 13, se refiere a una propuesta que fue apoyada por nuestra delegación y por numerosas otras delegaciones en el CPPB. No fuimos miembros del Comité de Redacción pero suponemos que este párrafo se ha redactado con base en un pretendido equilibrio entre las tendencias que se presentaron al respecto; pero aun así nos parece que ese equilibrio perseguido desfavorece el apoyo que recibió esa propuesta tanto en el Comité como en el Consejo, y quisiéramos ensayar unas ligeras modificaciones para tratar de lograr el equilibrio que, a nuestro juicio, sería más adecuado.

Al principio del párrafo 13, en vez de decir "el Consejo tomó nota con interés", podríamos decir "el Consejo apoyó en general". Luego, se nota que en la segunda frase del mismo párrafo 13, viene ya la posición de aquellos miembros que expresaron el hecho de que se estaba haciendo algo de esto en otro organismo, y entonces podríamos decir "varios miembros se refirieron a la labor que estaba desarrollando en este campo el Comité del GATT del Comercio, en el Sector de la Agricultura"; todo igual, y luego decir "y se acordó por lo tanto". Creemos que esta forma neutra corresponde mejor a lo de "varios miembros" y no al Consejo en general. Esperamos que esto no ofrezca dificultades.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I would have no difficulties with the proposal of the Ambassador of Colombia with regard to the first sentence. The Philippines delegation would be happy if that were possible

For the second part I have some suggestions. My suggestion is to cut this last sentence into three parts, because the way it reads gives some implied approval of this Council of the work that is being done in another forum, which probably we are not competent to do. So I would say "Several members referred to the ongoing work in this field in the GATT Committee on Trade in Agriculture. The Council ..." - take away the word 'therefore' - "... agreed that the CCP should keep progress in GATT under review on a regular basis. If necessary, the Council would consider the above-mentioned proposal at a future session." This is a more neutral expression of what went on in the Committee without making any judgement about what is going on in another forum, and at the same time it keeps the flavour of what was agreed in the Committee. I think this is a fairer rendition of what happened during the discussion of this item and I hope it will not cause any difficulty to anybody.

CHAIRMAN: Let me repeat what I understand to be the combined suggestions of the delegate of Colombia and the delegate of the Philippines. Will you kindly listen to see whether I have interpreted the suggestions correctly. I will read paragraph 13 with the amendments suggested: "The Council generally supported a proposal made to the CCP that FAO should convene a group of experts to develop guidelines on national agricultural support measures, tariff and non-tariff barriers and export subsidies. Several members referred to the ongoing work in this field in the GATT Committee on Trade in Agriculture. The Council agreed that CCP should keep progress in GATT under review on a regular basis. If necessary, the Council agreed to consider this proposal at a future session." Is what I have said correct? The Philippines delegate agrees that I have interpreted his break-up correctly. Is this acceptable to you?

A. FEQUANT (France): Le premier amendement proposé par M. Bula Hoyos me semble un peu en contradiction avec la fin du paragraphe. En réalité que s'est-il passé? Un certain nombre de membres du Conseil se sont exprimés dans un sens, d'autres membres se sont exprimés dans un autre sens et la conclusion est celle qui apparaît à la fin du paragraphe, une conclusion très sage. "il vaudrait mieux que le Comité des produits suive les travaux du GATT" et brusquement mettre en début de paragraphe qu'il y a un accord de façon générale, il semble que cela détruise tout l'équilibre du paragraphe.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): If we look at it with some calm what it really means is that right now the Committee should not take any action but in the future it could. This is what I thought the decision was. In other words, right now let us see, let us wait, let us look what they are doing, but the door is not closed to the convention of this Committee. In other words, you leave all doors open. But right now there is no decision to convene it. This is my impression of what the paragraph is all about. I do not know whether others look at it in a different way.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Fed. Rep. of): I hesitate again to intervene, but I would like to say that my delegation would give preference to the text as it stands. Our understanding is that the Drafting Committee discussed the issue and came to some sort of compromise proposal which is before us and which as it stands now would not prevent the CCP taking up the issue where CCP feels things are not going in the right direction. So it does not prohibit action of the Committee on Commodity Problems. So do we really need to take a decision on an eventual case which may happen in the future? I am just asking.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I would like to support the views just expressed by my French and German colleagues. I am perfectly content with the latter part of the proposals made by the delegate of the Philippines which I agree make it much clearer than the text before us. But, as our German colleague has just said, I believe that it would be better to retain the text as it stands in the first sentence of the paragraph before us as drafted.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Lo que preocupa esencialmente a la delegación de Colombia es la expresión "tomó nota", aunque aquí se agregue con interés, porque en realidad eso no se dijo en el Consejo. Nosotros apoyamos esa propuesta, reiteramos ese apoyo que ya habíamos hecho en el Comité; pero en el entendido de que era un apoyo en general, lo cual era muy amplio. Creo que mis colegas podrían aceptar la siguiente modificación que podría ser transaccional: "el Consejo destacó con interés la propuesta hecha al CPPB". Destacó con interés, ya que tomar nota es muy pasivo y eso no es lo que se dijo. La propuesta de Filipinas en relación con el texto español no cambia nada la sustancia, pero con ánimo transaccional podríamos aceptar la segunda parte de Filipinas. Podríamos así aceptar este párrafo.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): There is perhaps very little to say after the distinguished Ambassador of Colombia. I also tend to agree with the Ambassador of Colombia that perhaps saying that "noted with interest" is neither factual nor appropriate because CCP is a Committee of the Council and it was the CCP's Report to the Council which we were examining, and just to say "noted with interest" would really defeat the very purpose for which it first came to the Council, so we should express -I personally agree with the Ambassador of Colombia that we can now strengthen the sentence by saying "the Council highlighted with interest". That is a more positive way of looking at the Report.

A. FEQUANT (France): J'avoue qu'il est très difficile en français de dire "a souligné avec intérêt", on peut dire "a pris connaissance avec intérêt", cela c'est tout à fait correct.

V. ISARANKURA (Thailand): I have nothing to amend this, just to support the idea made by the Philippines. I would like to stress that if the CCP is going to do something about what we proposed, we do not need to propose this, our proposal to the CCP, so I would like to repeat this. If something happened in the CCP along the lines that we want, I do not need to propose our proposal.

CHAIRMAN: Now there is this problem. The first sentence, "The Council noted with interest" is what Colombia and Pakistan said, but there is a problem with the French translation of this "highlighted with interest". I think if we generally agree on the tenor of this "highlighted with interest", then a suitable French translation could be arrived at.

Would you kindly suggest a French formulation.

A. FEQUANT (France): Cela dépend beaucoup du texte anglais que je ne connais pas, je ne sais pas comment vous écrivez cela en anglais, je tâcherai de me tenir le plus près possible du texte anglais.

CHAIRMAN: As I said, the suggestion is in English. This will be as follows: "The Council noted with interest a proposal made to the CCP that FAO should convene a group of experts" etc., instead of "noted with interest".

A. FEQUANT (France): Je crois qu'il y a deux possibilités en français, c'est, ou de dire: "Le Conseil a fait connaître son intérêt pour ...", ou "a manifesté son intérêt pour"; ou bien "il a généralement attiré l'attention sur ...". Mais j'aimerais mieux la première formule qui est plus claire: "Le Conseil a manifesté son intérêt pour ...".

CHAIRMAN: Is this satisfactory for those who know French? Is the United Kingdom satisfied with this formulation? Is Colombia?

G.BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo no conozco muy bien el francés, pero me preocupa que se trate de conocer simplemente. Acaso podríamos decir le Conseil "a souligné".

A. FEQUANT (France): Je n'ai rien contre le terme "a souligné", mais il faut voir ce qui vient ensuite: "il a souligné l'intérêt?" C'est vraiment le maximum qu'on puisse imaginer en français.

M. HAMDOON (Iraq) (original language Arabic): I do not know whether I can help, but instead of saying "The Council noted", we can say "The Council discussed with interest".

ZHONG SHUKONG (China): I think here nothing substantive is involved. More problems seem to crop up with the translation, so I would suggest we accept Colombia's version, "The Council generally supported", which would permit translation into other languages, and as to the second part, I can go along with the proposal made by the Philippines that was very clear and concise.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo creo que el colega de Francia puede aceptar simplemente: "a souligné avec intérêt".

A. FEQUANT (France): Je serais ravi de pouvoir faire ce plaisir à M. Bula Hoyos mais il y a des difficultés qui subsistent. Je crois que si l'on disait "Le Conseil a pris connaissance avec intérêt" ou "a manifesté de l'intérêt pour", ce serait assez clair et je crois que cela correspond à la réalité; mais on ne peut pas dire qu'il y ait eu déjà une sorte de répartition des voix entre les différentes tendances. C'est pour cela qu'on est obligé, quand on parle du Conseil, d'agir avec une grande précaution puisque, dans ce Conseil, il y avait plusieurs opinions divergentes. Je ne représente pas tout le Conseil, M. Bula Hoyos non plus, mais je crois que nous pourrions nous mettre d'accord sur une formule assez neutre qui serait ou bien "Le Conseil a pris connaissance avec intérêt", ou bien "a consacré un grand intérêt à la discussion d'une proposition", ou bien "a discuté avec un grand intérêt une proposition".

Voilà ce que je propose, il y a plusieurs formules qui sont offertes au choix de mes collègues.

CHAIRMAN: I think arising from France's remark, one formulation suggested is "The Council expressed considerable interest in a proposal made to the CCP", instead of saying "highlighted". So subsequent speakers can make a comment whether it is satisfactory, "The Council expressed considerable interest in a proposal made to the CCP".

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo preferiría que se aceptara la primera propuesta nuestra que fue generalmente bien recibida en el inglés y en el español y entre la escogencia que nos sometió el colega de Francia tal vez "consagrar" podría ser la más aproximada. En inglés y en español se "destaco con interés". En francés "consacré", quizá sea lo mejor.

F. BREWSTER (Barbados): I think "supported with great interest" or even "manifested great interest in" would be the appropriate rendition for the English to meet the French translation.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): To be honest, I have lost track of where we are now.

A.A. MALEK (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Nous ne sommes pas en train de réviser un texte de poésie mais en train de discuter de l'adoption d'un rapport. Je préfère qu'on se consacre beaucoup plus au fond qu'à la forme, ceci pour éviter de nous retrouver encore ici à minuit traitant de l'adoption du rapport.

A. FEQUANT (France): je suis prêt à me rallier à la dernière formule proposée, c'est-à-dire "Le Conseil a examiné avec intérêt une proposition...".

CHAIRMAN: Is this acceptable? Does it satisfy Colombia? Yes; thank you very much. The rest of the formulation as suggested by the Philippines has been accepted, so we go on to paragraph 14.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): On paragraph 14, basically I have a question for the Chairman of the Drafting Committee on the structure of the paragraph, which is actually only one sentence. The way the paragraph reads now is: "The Council, with the exception of the EEC member countries noted". I was just wondering whether "with the exception of the EEC member countries" refers to the CCP or refers to the Council, because the way it reads it seems as if the EEC members of the Council did not note what happened in the CCP. What perhaps you want to say is that the Council noted the widespread and deep concerns which had been expressed at the CCP by member countries except the EEC members regarding the recent proposal, etc., because EEC members' exception to what was happening in the Council is contained in paragraph 17, which goes on to discuss this, so maybe you need to restructure the sentence.

G.J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I cannot, of course, and I would not want to speak on behalf of the EEC member countries. The point made by Pakistan, though, is well-taken. This particular phrase was an addition which we talked about in the Drafting Committee, and if I am right, the EEC wished to insert that their exception to this thought was as Council members, the members of the Community within the Council.

CHAIRMAN: The Chairman of the Drafting Committee has explained that here, the Council with the exception of the EEC member countries, that is, who are members of the Council "noted the widespread and deep concerns".

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): I do not wish either to be a spokesman for the EEC countries, or speak on their behalf, but I was wondering if the EEC members in the Council were not noting that what was happening in the CCP, because it was the CCP Report that we were discussing, and perhaps what we wanted to say was that in the CCP, the member countries expressed concern except the EEC member countries in the CCP, and that exception is in paragraph 17, when it says "The Council, with the exception of the EEC member countries, appealed to the EEC", etc. so if that is factual and correct, then you have to restructure that exception in paragraph 14 and bring it after the words "expressed at the CCP".

CHAIRMAN: I hope what Pakistan is suggesting is clear: "The Council noted the widespread and deep concerns which had been expressed at the CCP, with the exception of the EEC member countries, regarding the recent proposal of the EEC Commission to the EEC (European Economic Community) Council for the imposition of a tax on domestic and imported fats and oils", etc. It is a clearer formulation. I agree that as formulated, one has to split the sentence, as the Philippines suggested earlier. Maybe we could try to put it in two sentences.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I believe that it would be quite readable and logical if in fact the expression after the word "CCP" was, not, as you suggest, "with the exception of" but simply "by the EEC member countries". In other words it would read "the concerns which had been expressed at the CCP except by EEC member countries", and then it would go on, I think, quite sensibly. I am afraid that that is all I can suggest.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I think I would like to support the proposal of the delegate of Pakistan because the verb is "noted". I mean, they did not approve, they did not endorse, just noted, and the word "noted" is neutral. I do not know if the EEC member countries did not note this proposal during the Council; they must have heard it. They must have read it and that is noting, exactly what the word "notes" means, and if they saw it they read it and that is all we are saying. I do not see why you have put that during the Council meeting they closed their ears, they refused to read anything like this, which is an absurdity, so I think it is just logical that we omit those words there.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): Je partage le point de vue que viennent d'exprimer les délégués des Philippines et du Pakistan, mais je voudrais également dire que si l'on accepte cette proposition le mot "généralement" n'a plus, à mon avis, tellement de raison d'être ici. Ne pourrait-on pas le supprimer?

CHAIRMAN: As now formulated by Pakistan, the United Kingdom, Philippines and the Congo, the paragraph will read as follows: "The Council noted the widespread and deep concerns which had been expressed at the CCP except by EEC member countries regarding the recent proposal etc." which will remain the same.

I find the French and the German delegations are approving, so thank you very much. Shall we now go on to paragraph 15?

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Es un problema de la version en español. La ultima oración que aparece en la version en español no aparece en la versión en inglés, y la version en inglés es la correcta, la que aprobamos en el Comité de Redacción.

Ms. K. KILLINGSWORTH (Secretary, Drafting Committee): I am afraid it is an error in the Spanish version. The Drafting Committee took the sentence out and it is out in the other three versions.

M. HAMDOON (Iraq) (original language Arabic): About the middle of the paragraph it says, "the EEC should find a solution domestically rather than by shifting the burden to another sector and to third countries." What do we mean by third countries? Do we mean developing countries or do we mean developed countries, socialist countries and Third World countries, because it says that it was still morally incorrect to transfer the burden to third countries. If we have third countries here, who are the first and second countries? Surely we mean developing countries?

G. J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): This particular point in fact was not discussed by the Drafting Committee at all. Third countries to my mind would mean any country outside of the European community.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I just wanted to add another sentence before the last sentence. It would indicate one of the reasons that have been raised against this tax, and that the so-called non-discriminatory consumption tax which, according to the proposal, would be levelled at the point of entry would, according to normal practices, not be really added to the consumption price but discounted to the exporters. I would like to add this sentence in here if there is no objection because this is really the paragraph wherein you indicate the reasons that have been brought against this tax, and if there is no objection to this I would suggest that it should be included although the thought is already included in the other sentence in a sort of term but it is made more explicit by this sentence.

CHAIRMAN: Have you a precise formulation; exactly how you would like it to be worded?

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): "The so-called non-discriminatory tax which, according to the proposal would be levelled at the point of entry would, under normal trading practices, not be added to the consumer prices but discounted to the exporters."

A. FEQUANT (France): Je crois que cette proposition a été présentée au Comité des produits par la délégation des Philippines, mais, d'après ce que l'on m'a dit, il n'y a pas eu de discussion détaillée au Comité des produits sur ce point. Alors, moi, je ne verrais aucune objection à ce qu'on dise qu'une délégation a proposé que ...

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): If you look at CL 84/PV/1, page 14, you will see exactly these words indicated, and I thought that we were just summarizing the arguments that were given in the CCP and I thought that these views were supported by those who opposed the tax.

A. FEQUANT (France): Je n'ai aucune objection à condition qu'elle n'engage que les Philippines.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): If you look at the structure of the way this thing is drafted you will see that the paragraph 14 indicates the agreement of the Council. Paragraph 15 indicates the views of those who oppose the tax and paragraph 16 indicates the view of the EEC members. Now if the contention of the EEC members is that only the Philippines was of this view, I can guarantee to the distinguished delegate of France that it is not just the view of the Philippines because it has been supported by other delegations. I therefore believe that if they have anything that they have to say against that they should indicate it in paragraph 16 and not in paragraph 15.

CHAIRMAN: Paragraph 16 of course starts by saying, "The observer of the EEC stressed that at this stage the tax was only a proposal of the Commission to the Council of Ministers which had not as yet taken a decision". What the Chairman of CCP is suggesting is that since the earlier paragraph 15 relates to the views of many members expressed at a meeting, it follows in chronological order. This is one view, and the EEC's view is reflected in paragraph 16, and if it has to be strengthened it can be done. This is what the Philippine delegation, who is also the Chairman of CCP, is suggesting.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Le paragraphe 15 mentionne les arguments qui ont été invoqués par les adversaires de la taxe, et en principe il doit mentionner les arguments qui ont été soulevés au Conseil. Ce que vient de nous suggérer le représentant des Philippines a été dit en particulier au Comité des produits, et je crois que ceci est reflété dans le rapport du Comité des produits. Je n'ai pas souvenir - mais là je peux me tromper - que cet argument ait été repris au Conseil, et, de toute façon le paragraphe 15 reprend essentiellement - je dis bien: essentiellement - les arguments énoncés au Conseil. Je crois que ceci nous donne satisfaction et devrait donner également satisfaction à ceux qui sont contre la taxe. Alors, si l'on me montre que l'argument récent invoqué par les Philippines a bien été repris dans son intervention au moment du Conseil, on peut le reprendre; sinon je ne vois pas sa place à cet endroit.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I thought I had already indicated that on page 14 of document CL 84/PV/1 at the bottom of the last paragraph, the tenth to the last line, you have these words there. Now if that is the difficulty of the delegate of France then we have no problem at all.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Effectivement, Monsieur le Président, le représentant des Philippines l'a prononcée au Conseil et dans ces conditions, cette phrase, s'il veut nous la relire en la condensant peut-être un petit peu plus, nous pourrions l'insérer dans le paragraphe 15, car ce serait l'expression d'une des voix qui s'est manifestée contre la taxe, alors là je n'aurais pas d'objection.

CHAIRMAN: Could the delegate of the Philippines kindly read it again slowly, please? It was also suggested that you make it shorter if possible; so, slow and short please.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): Our shortened formulation of the sentence proposed as an amendment, as requested by the French delegate, is as follows: "The so-called 'non-discriminatory consumption tax', which according to the proposed rules would be levied at the point of entry, would not be added to consumer prices but under general market conditions would be discounted by traders from the CIF prices." That is the insert just before the final sentence of paragraph 15.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je dirais qu'il est relativement clair que c'est la déclaration d'un ou de plusieurs membres adversaires de cette taxe. La rédaction est donc de leur pure responsabilité. Nous ne pouvons pas nous opposer à ce qu'ils disent, nous en prenons note.

CHAIRMAN: We now move on to paragraph 16. Any comments?

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I am sorry to be holding up the Council again on this issue of oils and fats. This paragraph rightly represents the observations made by the representative of the EEC Commission in answer to the concerns which were expressed and as now recorded in paragraphs 14 and 15. The first sentence correctly states that this tax is as yet only a proposal of the Commission to the Council of Ministers, and I suggest that it would follow that, and be clearer, if the second sentence started as follows: "He stated that in the view of the Commission this tax was necessary" etc. I think this is a factually correct statement.

As a matter of English tidying up, it might then be appropriate to change the words "in view" which follow the word "necessary" by the word "because". I hope this would cause no problem to my colleagues or the Council, and the proposal would be that the second sentence should read: "He stated that in the view of the Commission this tax was necessary because of the fact" etc.

CHAIRMAN: I think this puts it more factually, it is more in conformity with the first sentence. Shall we then accept the United Kingdom delegation's proposal and proceed to paragraph 17? Agreed. I see no comments on paragraphs 17-20? They are approved. Paragraph 21?

M. FAIZUR RAZZAR (Bangladesh): The emphasis on research on jute as contained in the CCP document also, is on the improvement of productivity. And keeping that in mind, may I suggest a formulation by adding four words as follows: after the third comma in paragraph 22, the sentence reads "and stressed the urgent need for research to find new end uses for these commodities." I am proposing that we add, after the word "research", the words "to improve the productivity and to find new end uses for these commodities."

CHAIRMAN: I hope this is acceptable because it is an important point: need for research to improve the productivity and find new uses for these commodities.

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Nada más recordar que esto lo discutimos en el grupo de redacción y sugerimos que además de que se mencionen fibras duras como ya lo aclaró la Secretaría, se pusiera "henequén o sisal" adicionalmente a yute, kenaf. Se dijera "yute, kenaf, henequén/sisal y otras fibras duras".

Y otro asunto de orden es que creo que el párrafo 24 podría ir a continuación del párrafo 22; es decir, hacer un cambio de párrafos, ya que creo que van muy ligados, y el párrafo 23 está un poco en medio de dos ideas que se expresan en el párrafo 22 y 24, que deberían de ir una detrás de la otra. Proponemos concretamente reordenar esos párrafos.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): El párrafo 22 empieza por las palabras "Muchos miembros", y dice "hicieron referencia"; creemos que esta manifestación es un poco débil e ingenua; acaso se nos podría permitir encabezar ese párrafo 22 por "El Consejo hizo referencia", y naturalmente, más adelante habría que cambiar "y subrayó la necesidad".

CHAIRMAN: Instead of "Many members" the Colombian delegation has said: "The Council referred to the sharp decline in the price of jute ... sisal and other hard fibres, on account of competition from synthetic substitutes ... need for research to improve productivity and find new end uses for these commodities."

I hope this combined formulation of the suggestions of Colombia, Mexico and Bangladesh is acceptable.

Then the next suggestion of Mexico is that since paragraph 24 also refers to research, the present paragraph 24 should become 23 and the present 23 might then become 24, so that it reads more logically. That is, paragraph 24 would be: "Several members stressed the need to establish a mechanism for cooperation among developed and developing countries to stimulate research and development of new technologies which would permit diversifying the use made of basic commodities." This will become paragraph 23.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Para complementar el reforzamiento de las ideas de estos párrafos, acaso también al principio del párrafo 24, podríamos decir "Se insistió en la necesidad". Tratamos simplemente de suplir donde sea posible "varios miembros" o "algunos miembros" porque esto debilita la posición del Consejo; si esto no es conflictivo.

CHAIRMAN: The new paragraph 23 as suggested by the Colombian delegation will now read: "Several members emphasized the need to establish a mechanism" etc.

Then we go on to the present paragraph 24.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La traducción que me llegó al castellano, me excuso Sr. Presidente, fue la misma del texto actual. Yo he propuesto que en vez de "varios miembros" se diga "se insistió"; forma neutra de "se insistió".

CHAIRMAN: In that case I think the formulation will have to be: "The need to establish a mechanism" and "was stressed" will come at the end. "The need to establish a mechanism for cooperation" etc. "was emphasized." So shall we change it in this way?

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je m'interroge sur le remplacement de "plusieurs" par "on" qui a une connotation beaucoup plus générale. Effectivement, il y a quelques membres qui ont fait cette remarque, mais ce que je voudrais surtout bien comprendre, c'est ce que veut dire: "créer un mécanisme de coopération entre pays développés et pays en développement pour stimuler la recherche et la mise au point de nouvelles techniques qui permettraient de diversifier les utilisations des produits de base". Est-ce qu'on fait allusion à ce qui a déjà été fait à la Conférence sur les transferts de technologies? Je crois qu'il existe déjà un certain nombre de mécanismes; je ne suis pas un spécialiste de ces questions, mais cela existe. Est-ce qu'il est question de créer un mécanisme tout à fait nouveau, et quel mécanisme, comment, etc. ?

Il est bien difficile, si l'on n'a pas de précisions sur une idée de ce genre, de dire que le Conseil ou "on", c'est-à-dire beaucoup de membres du Conseil, sont d'accord pour la création d'un tel mécanisme, alors qu'on ne sait pas très bien de quoi il s'occuperait, comment il fonctionnerait, et sur quoi porteraient ses travaux. C'est pourquoi je me pose des questions.

G.J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): This was a new paragraph, in fact, which we considered without too much discussion. Perhaps the proposer of this particular paragraph could throw some light to the French delegation on their proposal?

CHAIRMAN: The French delegate has asked a question: "The need to establish a mechanism for cooperation among developed and developing countries to stimulate research and development". He says there is no mechanism at the moment; do you want to start a new mechanism and if so, what kind of mechanism? Otherwise, he feels it is very weak.

I see the Ambassador of Peru asking for the floor. The report of the Council normally is discussed only by Council members but if Peru has some useful suggestions which can help us, I shall give the floor to you, Ambassador of Peru.

J. GAZZO F.D. (Observador del Perú): Le agradezco por la deferencia. Yo creo que el espíritu del párrafo 24 se refiere a que este mecanismo de colaboración no es para investigar sobre la producción de los productos básicos, donde ya existe un mecanismo, sino para estudiar los posibles usos y acá dice "que permitan diversificar la utilización de los productos básicos". O sea, no es para investigar esos productos; para eso, ya existe un mecanismo. Lo que queremos es que haya una organización, un mecanismo de colaboración para que se nos enseñe a usar algunos productos básicos en otras actividades, en otras funciones porque la función principal que tenían, está siendo sustituida por productos sustitutorios o por productos sintéticos. De manera que es un mecanismo adicional que no interfiere con el otro, sino que lo refuerza.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo comparto, en cierta medida, la inquietud del colega Elmanowsky de Francia sobre el contenido de este párrafo. Podríamos acaso ponernos de acuerdo sobre una redacción transaccional que podría decir "Se insistió en la necesidad de mejorar los mecanismos de colaboración ...".

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Realmente, no entendemos la duda del distinguido delegado de Francia que participó con nosotros en el Comité de Redacción y que no planteó esta duda que está planteando ahora en este seno. Entonces, no entendemos si lo que está objetando es que se ponga "se insistió" o qué es lo que está objetando, o si ya realmente se dio cuenta de que la idea es una idea que no está clara, y esto no se pudo ver ayer porque, posiblemente, estábamos un poco cansados. En fin, no entiendo la duda del distinguido delegado de Francia.

A.M. QURESHI (Pakistan): I would only like to suggest that in the place of the words "several members" we could substitute the words "the Council": "The Council emphasized the need to establish" because that would, I think, be more appropriate.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): La dernière suggestion proposant de mettre "le Conseil" ne ferait qu'aggraver mes doutes.

En français, on dit qu'on n'a pas l'habitude d'acheter chat en poche. Si on met "le Conseil", ou si l'on met "on", c'est-à-dire dans le fond beaucoup de monde, cela veut dire que nous reconnaissons la nécessité de créer un mécanisme de coopération pour stimuler la recherche et la mise au point de nouvelles techniques permettant de diversifier les utilisations des produits de base. Ma première réaction est de dire: est-ce qu'il n'existe pas déjà quelque chose, par exemple dans le transfert de technologies? Est-ce qu'il n'y a pas aussi quelque chose dans le travail qui est fait à la FAO en liaison avec la CNUCED, par exemple dans deux cas précis s'insérant dans le cadre du programme intégré et du Groupe sur les oléagineux et matières grasses de la CNUCED, ainsi que sur le groupe viande de la CNUCED, où la FAO a examiné des projets de recherche et de développement applicables à ces produits pouvant permettre, par l'intermédiaire de la CNUCED, le financement. Si c'est cela que l'on pense, il ne s'agit pas d'une création, mais d'une amélioration. Si, au contraire, c'est quelque chose d'entièrement nouveau, si l'on pense de créer un organe quelconque dans une autre enceinte indéterminée, avant de se rallier à une telle idée, il faut avoir beaucoup plus d'explications.

C'est parce que je n'ai pas de réponses précises à ces questions que j'ai des doutes pour dire: "on" a souligné ...

CHAIRMAN: I will give the floor to Germany, if you could specifically comment on the suggestion of Colombia. Let me just read out what he said. "Stress was laid on the need to strengthen or improve mechanisms for cooperation among developed and developing countries". That is what he has proposed and from the intervention of the delegate of France I take it you have no objection to that formulation. I would like to get it clear.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Fed. Rep. of): I think the suggestion put forward by Colombia is a very useful one, with one exception, he is still using the word "mechanism". If he would just say "stress was laid on the need to improve cooperation among developed and developing countries" and so on, I think this could perhaps meet the views of all the nations around the table.

CHAIRMAN: The Colombian delegate agrees.

Paragraphs 5 to 26, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 5 à 26, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 5 a 26, así enmendados, son aprobados.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Quiero hacer una observación de carácter general, gramatical. No sé cómo estará en los otros idiomas, pero en castellano o en español se repite este error con frecuencia. Cuando se habla de lo que hace el Consejo, se habla en pasado, como es correcto. Pero cuando se refiere a circunstancias o a hechos que no son del Consejo sino de otras personas o instituciones, se utiliza también el pasado. Y esto puede generar equivocaciones o errores o contradicciones que yo no creo que son propias de un documento de un organismo como éste.

Por ejemplo, en el párrafo 26, cuando se refiere al reconocimiento que se hizo al Sr. Leeks, cuando se dice "El Consejo hizo constar ...", el cual se "iba" a retirar" refiriéndose al Sr. Leeks, entonces parece que se iba a retirar, pero no se retira. Cuando el señor se va a retirar y por eso es que el Consejo le hace un reconocimiento.

Igualmente en el punto 13 se hace lo mismo. Se habla de un asunto que había sido de interés del Consejo, pero como se "está" desarrollando una labor por el GATT esto se estudiará después. Sin embar-go, está en el sentido de que se "estaba" desarrollando. Es contradictorio, no porque se "estaba" desarrollando, sino porque se "está" desarrollando, el Consejo no resuelve ahora nada en concreto, sino que ofrece estudiarlo en el futuro.

O sea, que sugiero esta observación de índole general para que no haya contradicción en cuanto a lo que hizo el Consejo, y a lo que está haciendo, o van a hacer, ciertas personas u organismos.

CHAIRMAN: We now move on to the next item. Item 6.

PARAGRAPHS 27 to 32

PARAGRAPHEs 27 à 32

PARRAFOS 27 a 32

CHAIRMAN: Any comments on paragraph 27?

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Seguramente usted, Sr. Presidente, y nuestros colegas recordarán que sobre este tema la delegación de Colombia hizo una intervención bastante fundada a través de la cual expresó serias preocupaciones, que fueron apoyadas por otros colegas sobre el descenso de la asistencia multilateral. Somos conscientes de que a estas alturas de nuestros trabajos no conviene demorar más la aprobación de este Informe; por lo tanto vamos a limitar solamente nuestra intervención a agregar algo al final del párrafo que espero refleje, aunque sea tímidamente, esa preocupación y esperando que no ofrezca dificultades.

Al final del párrafo después de "canales multilaterales", pondría una coma y diríamos: "cuyo descenso preocupa al Consejo". Creemos que es lo mínimo que se puede expresar a este respecto.

CHAIRMAN: The suggestion of Colombia to add at the end of this "especially through multilateral channels to this sector whose decline is a cause of concern" or something of that kind. I hope there is no objection to adding to this.

W.A.F.GRABISCH(Germany, Federal Republic of): Just one question, the delegate of Colombia spoke on this point and he expressed his concern. I am just wondering whether this would refer to all multilateral finances or whether it is just meant to be UNDP. Perhaps the Secretariat would be helpful in this as to whether we could say that or not UNDP. I would agree we have this in the documentation as well but in regard to the World Bank and other institutions I am just asking the question.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo creo que el colega de la República Federal de Alemania está muy acertado en solicitar la opinión de la Secretaría.

Nosotros situamos nuestra intervención en el contexto general, de la asistencia multilateral, y dije que es una demostración de descenso. Vamos a escuchar a la Secretaría y creo que no habrá dificultad entre el colega Grabisch y yo para ponernos de acuerdo.

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): Je crois, selon les dernières informations que nous avons recueillies, qu'en 1982 l'assistance multilatérale totale au secteur agricole a baissé en termes réels de l'ordre de 4 pour cent, toutes sources confondues bien entendu. Le déclin du PNUD a une influence considérable dans ce chiffre mais ce n'est pas la seule source du déclin. Je crois que ce que le représentant de la Colombie a dit est en fait correct.

CHAIRMAN: This is a cause of concern to the Council. With these remarks, we adopt paragraph 27, as amended. Any comments on paragraph 28?

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Nosotros estamos con la impresión de que el texto que se aprobó en el Comité de Redacción decía lo siguiente: "El Consejo señaló con preocupación los progresos poco satisfactorios", en vez de la redacción que tenemos a la vista.

CHAIRMAN: "The Council expressed concern at the unsatisfactory progress ..." This is what we want to convey. I do not know whether the Spanish formulation requires improvement.

G.BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Queremos referirnos al párrafo 28, aunque lamentamos mucho retrasar sus trabajos Sr. Presidente, y creo que somos sinceros a este respecto; pero corresponde a posiciones muy definidas del Gobierno de Colombia. Por lo tanto proponemos que el párrafo 28 se divida en dos frases. Recordarán ustedes que cuando yo intervine señalé la necesidad de que el Consejo hiciera un llamado acerca de la difícil situación de los recursos del FIDA, y está ese llamado en el Informe del Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación que hizo parte del documento sobre el cual discutimos este tema.

Podríamos decir en la primera frase después de "Fondo Internacional de Desarrollo Agrícola, ": "e hizo un llamado para que se cumplan los compromisos de la primera reposición y se adelante la segunda reposición con positiva voluntad política."

Naturalmente la segunda frase del párrafo 28 deberá decir: "El Consejo expresó preocupación también por la demora"•

Repetimos que este llamado fue aceptado unánimemente por el Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación, de forma no controvertida y tuvo el apoyo del Consejo ya que ninguno se opuso cuando hicimos esta propuesta formal.

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the Colombian proposal about splitting paragraph 28 into two sentences. The first will read: "The Council expressed concern at the unsatisfactory progress in the replenishment of IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) and appealed for the commitments under the first replenishment to be complied with and for progress to be made on the second replenishment with positive political will. The delay in the entry into force of the Common Fund, and the lack of progress in the initiation of global negotiations were also noted with concern." Are there any objections to this? It makes it much more positive. Paragraph 20, as amended, has been approved. Any comments on paragraph 29? None. Then we move on to paragraph 30.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): With apologies, I am slightly puzzled by the inclusion of paragraph 30. It purports to attribute to the Council in the first phrase a view which seems to be not wholly in accord with views that members have expressed in other bodies of FAO on this issue. Of course this does not mean of itself that the Council cannot reach its own conclusion. But I do not recall the issue even being aired in the current Council. Could I ask the Chairman of the Drafting Committee if he could enlighten me as to the origin?

G.J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I can enlighten Mr. McLean only by saying that this paragraph was in the original draft which the Drafting Committee looked at and it was not discussed.

CHAIRMAN: The Chairman of the Drafting Committee has stated that it was in the draft given to them.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I do not want to make an issue of it, although one could say, as we have in the past, that it is questionable whether things should be included in a report which were not actually raised on the floor. In another place not so long ago the Chairman suggested that when we read a report in the future we should have an understanding of what it means. In this case I may have an understanding which does not necessarily accord with that of other members of the Council, but I will let it pass.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): No hubiera querido intervenir otra vez pero me siento culpable, honestamente culpable. Fue la delegación nuestra la que se refirió a este asunto y por eso está este párrafo en el Informe. Nosotros destacamos esa referencia a la manera como se atiende la situación de emergencia y destacamos esa situación satisfactoria y la de limitación de responsabilidades entre los organismos.

Tal vez se podría completar esta idea si el colega McLean estuviera de acuerdo con lo que también dijimos nosotros, que si fuera necesario mejorar esa participación de los organismos debería también considerarse esa posibilidad; pero en fin esto no corresponde sino a lo que yo dije sobre esta situación.

V. BLANCO (México): Unicamente para apoyar al distinguido representante de Colombia, ya que de acuerdo con mis notas, en este tema él se refirió a esta situación.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: The United Kingdom delegate was right in suggesting that what is said here is somewhat different from what has been said in the past. The position is, as explained by Mr. Regnier in his introductory remarks, that there has been a further stage of discussion in ECOSOC which has improved matters. However, in line with what was just said I suggest we could reconcile the viewpoint of both by saying at the end of the sentence that the role of the participating agencies and organizations was now better defined.

CHAIRMAN: I think you have got the point, that the last sentence, according to Mr. West, can read: "The role of the participating agencies and organizations is now better defined".

F. BREWSTER (Barbados): What I want to suggest is that for the sake of consistency in style perhaps we could begin the paragraph "The Council again" instead of "As far as the strengthening of the capacity..."

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. So shall we retain this in a modified form?

Paragraphs 27 to 32, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 27 à 32, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 27 a 32, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraph 33 approved

Le paragraphe 33 est approuvé

El párrafo 33 es aprobado

Paragraph 34 approved

Le paragraphe 34 est approuvé

El párrafo 34 es aprobado

Draft Report of Plenary, Part 1, as amended, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, première partie, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria, Parte 1, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT - PART II

PROJET DE RAPPORT - PARTIE II

PROYECTO DE INFORME - PARTIE II

Paragraphs 1 to 6 approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 6 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 6 son aprobados

Paragraph 7 approved

Le paragraphe 7 est approuvé

El párrafo 7 es aprobado

PARAGRAPHS 8 to 15

PARAGRAPHES 8 à 15

PARRAFOS 8 a 15

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): On paragraph 11 only a question again for the Chairman of the Drafting Committee. I was wondering whether we really need this last sentence in this paragraph which says: "A number of members indicated their intention..." I believe that all members of the Council will be wanting to do so. Why restrict it to "a number of members"? My suggestion is to delete the last sentence of paragraph 11.

CHAIRMAN: The Pakistan delegate has proposed that we delete the sentence: "A number of members indicated their intention of offering comments in more depth during the forthcoming session of the Conference". This item will come before Commission II.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): This delegation was amongst those who indicated that they would give further comments on the proposal for the Programme of Work and Budget 1984-85 at a later stage, and we said that at the forthcoming Twenty-second Conference we would then voice our final position. Of course nobody is deprived of speaking on the subject at the forthcoming Conference, but this was mentioned by several delegates. If our report is to reflect what took place I think we would rather leave it in.

CHAIRMAN: I think Pakistan has no objection. It is a factual account of what happened.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): I would not want to perhaps enter into a lengthy debate on the subject; but my query was that this sentence is at the end of paragraph 11, and if you want this sort of idea generally, then perhaps you will have to fit it elsewhere. In paragraph 11 we said, "The Council agreed therefore that the balance of programmes, " etc., reflected the needs of developing countries, and then when you have a sentence at the end of this, perhaps what we are suggesting is that some Members who want to speak specifically on this issue and have reservations on this. What I want to say is that no Member is debarred or even discouraged from expressing its views in this Conference, and perhaps in that sense it is a redundancy, and may I remind you, Mr Chairman, that I was one of those Members who said that we examine everything in depth where it is required to be examined, which is Commission II, and the Council was not really examining the whole thing in depth, so by saying here that they would do so later on in depth is as if we were not really doing our work here. The work here has to do with the Programme of Work and Budget and not go into detail.

CHAIRMAN: I think Pakistan has a point. If Members agree, what I would like to suggest in the last but one sentence is, "Views and perceptions on the relevance of many FAO programmes were expressed in this connexion and would be elaborated further in the forthcoming Session of the Conference", because some expressed very briefly their views, so this might take care of that.

Federal Republic of Germany and Pakistan, the suggestion is to delete the last sentence. If you still feel there should be something said about the views of Members offering comments, I suggest that we just put a small addition to the previous sentence: "Views and perceptions on the relevance of many FAO programmes were expressed in this connexion and would be elaborated further in the forthcoming Session of the Conference". I think that will be a factual statement. Germany agrees?

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): It would not be good English, perhaps, but couldn't we just add "which was expressed explicitly by several delegations", to what we have said, and then I think it would be better.

CHAIRMAN: Well, I suppose all the delegates may like to say something, as Pakistan says. I would suggest we leave it as it is; it does not matter. That is what we say, "Views and perceptions on the relevance of many FAO programmes were expressed in this connexion and would be elaborated further during the forthcoming Session of the Conference".

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): No sé si ya llegaron a un acuerdo, pero realmente, si recordamos, ya se llegó a una solución porque ésta es una frase que realmente pensamos que sobra por el hecho de que cualquier Delegado puede expresar sus opiniones en la próxima Conferencia cuando se plantee este tema. Por eso habíamos quitado, inclusive en el Comité de Redacción, otra que sugerimos al principio de nuestra discusión que estaba en la versión española y se había eliminado de las demás, es un poco el mismo caso. Realmente esa es una observación que sobra.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, but anyway, it is a factual account, and this is a short Council. People will not have time to deal with it in detail. I see no harm in saying that different perceptions will be elaborated further.

Paragraph 11, as amended, is approved. Paragraph 12. That is an important paragraph because it brings out the redeployment of resources within the Organization. Paragraph 12 approved. Paragraph 13?

M. FAIZUR RAZZAK (Bangladesh): Following on this page which begins with "The Council" and also following the pattern of the Council that "zero growth" is opposed by the Council itself, may I propose that we take out the words "Many members" and say "the Council emphasized that although it fully supported the proposals", and we go on that way.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I understood initially that Bangladesh was making the point that the paragraph as it starts would in my view be factually correct if it used the words "The Council emphasized that they supported the proposals" but I think he would then wish us to go on to include "as an expression by the Council", the latter part of the sentence, and of course, for reasons which I am sure many members of the Council I trust will understand, this I think would not reflect the view of the Council as a whole. I think therefore that the draft as it comes before us is the proper reflection of the position as it affects the members of the Council collectively.

CHAIRMAN: We will split it in two sentences, because the United Kingdom has said the last part of it is not shared by all Members, so either we have to say "the Council emphasized" or leave it as it is.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): I do not want to enter into this discussion about whether you should have "the Council" or "Many Members". I would of course be happy if the Bangladesh proposal could be accepted and we can have this as the views of the Council. However, since some delegates are opposed to it, I was only wondering whether this paragraph does reflect the opinion of many Members, but these were the many Members, including my country, who also expressed the view that there was lack of additionalty in this particular budget, and the concept of zero growth was tackled in paragraph 13, but that idea had not been brought in. I am not going to suggest any specific language, I can leave that to the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, but I would suggest that particular idea be incorporated in this particular paragraph 13, which is the while supporting "The proposals, which they considered a further reflection of the realism emonstrated by the Director-General, many members also expressed concern at the fact that theic was very modest additionalty of resources in the budget".

Mrs.M. FENWICK (United States of America): A very brief suggestion: that 13 might read: "The Council emphasized that they fully supported the proposals, which they considered a further reflection of the realism demonstrated by the Director-General in reconciling conflicting demands. Many members, however, were concerned lest this might be interpreted as a commitment in the future to the concept of zero growth, which they had consistently opposed".

M.FAIZUR RAZZAK (Bangladesh): We agree with the suggestion given by the United States.

CHAIRMAN: I think there is support for the statement by the United States. Will the Ambassador read out the second part of it so we can see the formulation?

Mrs.M. FENWICK (United States of America): "Many members, however, were Concerned lest this might be interpreted as a commitment in the future to the concept of zero growth, which they had consistently opposed".

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): We personally think it is an excellent formulation and we agree. However, we are still concerned about the idea we wanted to be incorporated, and with this excellent formulation, if we could go on, my suggestion is to say "and expressed concern at the modest additionality of resources proposed for the biennium".

CHAIRMAN: Is this additional sentence "and expressed concern at the modest additionality of resources proposed for the biennium, " acceptable, because it still only follows "many members".

ZHONG SHUKONG (China): We can go along with the amendment with one modification at the end, that is after "zero growth" we read "to which they had been consistently opposed". In this way the attitude is clear rather than actions being expressed.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much; "to which they had been consistently opposed". Paragraph 13, as amended, is approved. Paragraph 14?

Mrs.M. FENWICK (United States of America): I know that this is of interest and that two Members of the Committee the other day did express concern. I wondered whether rather than have it the whole Council, we should let paragraph 14 read, "Some members expressed concern about the possible reduction in future years of financial contributions from one Member Nation. The Council greatly appreciated the steps the Government of this Member Nation was currently taking in order to avoid such an occurrence". It is not a big change.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Creemos que, salvo que diga lo contrario el Presidente del Comité de Redacción, este texto del párrafo 14 fue acordado ya por unanimidad entre los miembros de ese Comité, y la lista de los componentes del Comité de Redacción aparece en el REP.1.

Nosotros creemos que este es un asunto de demasiada importancia y que nadie se opuso a lo que expreso en este sentido nuestro distinguido colega el Embajador del Ecuador; y algo más, tuvimos la impresión de que la propia y muy distinguida Embajadora de los Estados Unidos de América compartió esa preocupación, cuando, con gran elocuencia, expresó la preocupación de su Gobierno y la posición contraria de su Administración a esa propuesta.

Si esto es así, tal vez convendría dejar el párrafo en su forma actual.

CHAIRMAN: The matter was first requested by the Chairman of the Finance Committee since the Finance Committee had gone into this.

Mrs. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I do indeed share the concern expressed by our government and by this body but I was trying to reflect more accurately the fact that at the meeting Ecuador and another country - there were two that mentioned the danger of this amendment in our congress, and I heartily endorse the view that there were only two members that expressed this opinion, and I thought that "some members" reflected it better rather than suggesting some unanimous position.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I do not think we should belabour this point because after all I think the matter has been resolved if the news that I hear is correct. In fact although my delegation was concerned, there was indeed a very distinct possibility that the matter could be solved without having recourse to any other thing than the will of the government itself concerned. I was just wondering, if as a matter of compromise we could just say that "deep concern was expressed over the possible reduction in future years" and then that could avoid all the possible connotations. This is why I said it was a neutral proposal although we know that it is indeed a very real concern.

CHAIRMAN: The Ambassador to the United States agrees to this proposal of the Philippines delegate, "deep concern was expressed over the possible reduction in future years" etc.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): It is perhaps a useful suggestion but when you formulate it in such a neutral way you are deleting the Council's concern in the issue. I do agree with the distinguished Ambassador of the United States, that perhaps it was few members who expressed it, but the Council noted it with concern so I would suggest, that if it meets with the satisfaction of the Ambassador of the United States could we instead say, "The Council noted with concern the possible reduction" because I thought the Ambassador of the United States was basically concerned about the fact that there were views expressed by only two members, but the whole thing was noted by the Council. So if we could say, "The Council noted with concern the possible reduction in future years" etc., that would leave at least the Council in the paragraph.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Por principio, somos contrarios a tomar notas. Creemos que con ánimo transaccional, podríamos aceptar la propuesta de Filipinas.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Estoy de acuerdo con lo que acaba de decir el Embajador de Colombia respecto al ánimo transaccional, aunque realmente, como dijo la distinguida Embajadora de los Estados Unidos, solo intervenimos dos personas sobre este tema expresando preocupación. Tengo entendido yo que esto le preocupa profundamente al Consejo, porque es un asunto de vida o muerte para esta institución una situación de este tipo. Pero con el ánimo de que quede de esa forma y de procurar armonía, yo creo que podría decirse que "se expresó profunda preocupación"; porque es importante que se haya expresado esa preocupación, así como es importante que conste el hecho de que el gobierno de ese Estado Miembro está tomando las medidas para evitar que esto ocurra. Yo pienso que así se refleja la realidad.

CHAIRMAN: So shall we leave it as "The deep concern was expressed" which is acceptable to most delegations? Thank you very much. Paragraph 15? Any comments? In this paragraph "In conclusion, the Council expressed its full support of the Director-General's proposal and agreed to remit the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 to the Twenty-second Session of the Conference with the recommendation that it be unanimously endorsed".

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I wonder whether it would not be wise and appropriate to recall here a remark made by the Director-General when we came to an end of the discussion on this agenda item. I should like to suggest therefore to insert just three words after the word "Council" in the first line, and the words are: "except two members".

S. GOTO (Japan): My delegation would like to support the proposal made by the distinguished delegate for the Federal Republic of Germany. My delegation thinks that the report should reflect the pro-ceedings which actually took place at the meeting.

CHAIRMAN: The delegates of Germany and Japan have suggested that paragraph 15 should read as follows: "In conclusion, the Council, with the exception of two members, expressed its full support of the Director-General's proposals and agreed to remit the Programme of Work and Budget, etc."

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Quisiéramos recordar que existen en el Consejo los "verbatim reporters" que reflejan claramente la expresión de las delegaciones sobre los particulares que se manejan en nuestros debates. La solución que le propondríamos a las distinguidas delegaciones de Alemania y del Japón sería que formularan su reserva al pie de la página, como ya parece que otra delegación lo hizo en otro tema, más que quitar esta consideración que hizo el Consejo por, prácticamente, abrumadora mayoría.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Yo me iba a referir a ese punto. Pienso que la aportación que voy a hacer tenía o va a tener algo que ver con lo que se ha planteado previamente, pero a mí lo que me llamaba la atención era que al final se haga una recomendación para que fuera refrendado por unanimidad. Yo tengo la impresión de que el Consejo no puede hacer insinuaciones o sugerencias coercitivas, pero sí se puede recomendar que fuera refrendado totalmente, que en definitiva, eso es el sentir y el criterio de la gran mayoría de este Consejo. Entonces, yo pienso que esto de recomendar unanimidad no es procedente; tal vez, que se refrende totalmente es más apropiado.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): I think it would be quite embarrassing to single out two countries to be shown in this report as if they have not given support to the Programme of Work and Budget. If I understand it right, the UN system works through consensus and when there was such an overwhelming support to the Programme of Work and Budget and only two members expressed certain views - and I am certain they do not oppose the Programme of Work and Budget but they only expressed their reservations on some of the points - it would be somewhat odious to highlight that point in such a prominent way in this report, because once it goes then everybody starts asking who are those two, and that kind of thing, and I am sure the members present in this Council, it is not their intention to single out those two members in this manner.

I suggest, Mr. Chairman, through you for the consideration of this august body, that a simple statement should go that the Council approved this Budget and it recommends for the Conference's approval. I think the reference to those two countries should be deleted.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): Actually as a member of the Drafting Committee I refrained from talking. This point was raised during the Drafting Committee's session and to our recollection no opposition was actually raised. Reservation or lack of commitment, yes, but no opposition to my recollection.

Secondly, as the representative of India put it, it is really embarrassing to single out two members of the Council whom I really do not know myself, and I would personally prefer to leave the text as it is rather than putting the exception.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I appreciate very much the remarks made by several speakers which I consider very helpful, and I can see in those remarks a lot of sympathy. On the other hand I must say that this delegation was at this stage of the discussion of the Programme of Work and Budget not in a position to accept the proposed level of budget and the proposed Programme. Now this must have been the feeling of the Director-General also, otherwise he would not have said, and I quote from PV/3 of our Council Session, "with the exception of two only". Now of course it is not very nice if such a singling out takes place but these are the facts; we have to face them and this has to be reflected in the report. On the other hand, I must say I do not like very much the suggestion that we should appear in a footnote.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I should like to try to be helpful to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Council. I very much sympathize with the views that have been expressed by the delegates of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan. I recall that the United Kingdom found itself in a very similar position at the June Council in a section of that Report where a view was being attributed to the Council with which we found it very difficult to go along. I recall at that stage the Director-General saying that expressions in a report attributing a view to the Council would not always be regarded as meaning that there was wholly unanimous support for that view. By the same token I recall that the way we ultimately resolved that issue and made it even a little looser was to put in the word 'generally'. I do not know whether the delegates of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan would be prepared to accept the use of the word 'Council' with, perhaps, the addition of the word 'generally' together with what I believe to be a very valid suggestion made by previous speakers about what follows.

I believe that it would be far better for this paragraph to keep a little more closely to the wording that was used in the Report of the Joint Session of the Programme Committee, something such as 'approved' or 'endorsed' the Director-General's proposals; and, as I think our Indian colleague suggested, agreed to remit the Programme of Work and Budget to the Twenty-second Session of the Conference with its full support. So I do not know whether such changes in the paragraph, together with the suggestion about its introductory phrase, would help our colleagues from the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): Yes, this sounds to be a very helpful suggestion; could the delegate of the United Kingdom be so kind as to read it at dictation speed later on. Perhaps it is acceptable to everybody and we all, could agree as a fair solution.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I think it might read as follows: "In conclusion, the Council generally endorsed" or "approved" - I do not mind - "endorsed the Director-General's proposal and agreed to remit the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 to the Twenty-second Session of the conference with its full support." I hope our English speakers will confirm that the word 'it' there refers to the Council.

S. GOTO (Japan): My delegation is glad to accept the proposal made by the United Kingdom.

CHAIRMAN: Are there any other comments? You have heard the suggestion of the United Kingdom delegate: "In conclusion, the Council generally expressed" - you suggested "endorsed" or "supported" - "generally endorsed the Director-General's proposals and agreed to remit the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85 to the Twenty-second Session of the Conference with its full support."

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): I do not wish to delay the proceedings but the term "generally endorsed" is a very weak term; it can raise a meaning as though it received only very marginal support and that there were wide-ranging differences, and that the agreement was only very, very restricted; whereas the fact of the matter is that it received overwhelming support. This "generally endorsed" totally depresses and totally conceals that overwhelming support which the budget received.

I therefore feel I would have some difficulty in reconciling myself to the use of this expression which does not do justice to the proceedings that took place here in this House.

CHAIRMAN: I think there is much strength in what the delegate of India has stated. My own understanding is that whenever we use "the Council", as was explained, unless we say "unanimously supported", this means the Council's general view. If there are the specific words "unanimously supported" then it commits every member. The way the Drafting Committee cautiously put it - since there were two exceptions - at the moment it reads: "The Council expressed full support" etc. It does not say that the Council unanimously expressed full support, in which case it would commit the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan. So I do not know if there is a need for "generally" because in almost all cases there may be one or two exceptions.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I am sorry to delay the proceedings but I am thankful for the suggestion made by my neighbour to the right who has given me much technical assistance already during this Council Session. Why not say instead of "generally", "overwhelmingly"? It may not sound very good in this respect but I think it would be all right.

H. CARANDAKG (Philippines): The concern expressed at the end of paragraph 11 already expressed in an indirect way the concern of these two countries and I was wondering whether they could live with this kind of expression of their fuller expression regarding the Programme of Work and Budget. Because during the debate there was really no categorical opposition to the budget but there was this hint of a probable further indepth expression of their views at a later stage, and that was indeed very well captured in the last sentence of paragraph 11. I was merely wondering whether this could indeed be indicated to hint at a possible divergence which might be later expressed, because I am not aware of any categorical expression of opposition to this Budget during this debate.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: The comments of the two delegations and of the Director-General are a matter of record. However, that does not affect the style in which the Council chooses to report its conclusions. As already pointed out, the Council adopts many paragraphs saying "The Council felt", "The Council said", "The Council decided", in certain circumstances in which governments have expressed different views. Now in this case, if the two delegations said: we are opposed to this budget and are going to vote against it or abstain, the correct course, according to past precedents would be for them to insert a footnote in which they would name themselves as having expressed a reservation. This has been done in the past. However, they did not say that, and while - again on the basis of past precedents - one can feel a certain pessimism, especially in regard to those Member Nations, on the other hand we can still live in the hope that during the Conference they may choose to join the other Member Nations.

Therefore, I would suggest that the paragraph might begin by saying: "The Council as a whole expressed its full support". "As a whole" means that perhaps there were other views during the meeting; it is virtually the same as "generally" but it is less suggestive of broad differences of views.

If that is not acceptable to the two delegations, then I believe it would be right for them to name themselves in a footnote.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): I am contrary to the idea that Mr West proposed, the idea of naming, since they are not very strongly opposed to the idea of the Programme of Work and Budget of the Director-General. I can see the concern of the Federal Republic of Germany taken care of in paragraph 11 which says that further elaboration will be made during the Conference in Commission II.

The concern of Japan, as I see from the verbatim record, is over the use of TCP which actually they seem to appreciate very much. I see these people are with us and I think they will fully join us.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I would hope this could be my last intervention on paragraph 15 of REP/2 which is before us. To me it would seem to be a contradiction if we said at the beginning that "The Council as a whole expressed" and then at the end of that sentence, "that it be unanimously endorsed". But if others have no problem with that, I will not oppose it. So, I could accept "In conclusion the Council as a whole" and so on. What I could not accept was the conclusion drawn by the Deputy Director-General - or the possible conclusion - about the statement made by two delegations, I did not hear us or the other delegation speak against or in favour of the budget. We merely said that we would voice at a later stage - meaning at the Conference - the final position of our Government.

Therefore at the present stage we unfortunately had to reserve our position but, as I said at the beginning, I can go along with that suggestion.

CHAIRMAN: Germany endorses the suggestion of Mr. West that the paragraph read as it is, except: "In conclusion the Council as a whole expressed its full support", etc. I hope the Japanese delegation also agrees to this formulation of Mr. West, and the Mexican delegation also agrees. So that if it has your support we shall accept Mr. West's formulation. Paragraph 15, as amended, is approved.

Paragraph 8 to 15. as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 8 à 15, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 8 a 15, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraphs 16 to 18, approved

Les paragraphes 16 à 18 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 16 a 18 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 19 to 35

PARAGRAPHES 19 à 35

PARRAFOS 19 a 35

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): On paragraph 22, I hope the members of the Council will be kind enough to bear with my ignorance but it would appear to me that paragraph 22 is not very clear, therefore we are not very happy with it and our unhappiness may stem from the fact that we are not conversant with Article 300 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea which is mentioned here. What is actually before us, if I may put it like that, is the linkage between that Article and the exercise and then on the fourth line of paragraph 22, after the words "Convention", "and should

exercise the rights, jurisdiction and freedoms recognized in the Convention in a manner which would not constitute an abuse of rights." Now, usually when two parties in a contract do not agree there would be a referee or they would come to an understanding about their point of convention. However my doubt is that I do not know who would be the referee, who would say that that exercise of the rights would constitute an abuse. Therefore at this stage I wonder whether I could have the legal opinion explained to me about the whole of this paragraph.

D. MENASVETA (Secretary, Committee on Fisheries): I am very sorry but Mr. Carroz is not here and, he is by profession the international lawyer. I am a fisheries biologist but anyway this is the language we use in Fisheries and at the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries, many delegations stressed that this language has to be used in the text of the Fifteenth Session and we put this in the Draft Council Report, it comes from paragraph 68 of the Committee on Fisheries Report which stated that "some delegations believed that it was important to stress the spirit of Article 300 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which refers to the good faith in which the state parties should fulfil obligations assumed under the Convention and should exercise the rights, jurisdiction and freedoms recognized in the Convention in a manner which would not constitute an abuse of rights." So this again is repeated in the Draft Council Report.

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): That was quite helpful. However, in order to clarify some of our doubts, I wonder whether this paragraph would stop at the word 'Convention', "assume under the Convention" and then delete the rest up to the words which say "constitute an abuse of rights".

CHAIRMAN: The proposal of the Angolan delegation is that we stop with the word 'Convention', "jurisdiction and freedoms recognized in the Convention" "in a manner which would not constitute an abuse of rights" to be deleted. This is the proposal.

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): The paragraph would stay as it is, if I can read it and then I stop third line, "Convention of the Law of the Sea, which refers to the good faith in which the State parties should fulfil obligations assumed under the Convention." And then we delete "and should exercise the rights, jurisdiction and freedoms recognized in the Convention in a manner which would not constitute an abuse of rights".

G.J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I just wanted to make the point, in relation to the proposal from the Angolan delegate to stop the sentence after "abuse of rights", this next sentence following that was an additional sentence brought in at the Drafting Committee at the specific desire of the Indian delegation. The Drafting Committee considered this matter part of this paragraph and approved it. That is why it is there and that is why the paragraph is seemingly so long.

R.C. SERSALE DI CERISANO (Argentina): La Delegación Argentina participo en el Comité de Redacción del Comité de Pesca y recordó que esta primera frase del párrafo 22 fue propuesta por las Delegaciones Latinoamericanas que estaban en ese Comité de Redacción y que previamente lo habían hecho en la sesión plenaria del Comité de Pesca.

El sentido de esta declaración no era más que recordar el Artículo 300 de la Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Derecho del Mar, porque en él se hace hincapié a la buena fe en que deben actuar las partes, y eso es lo que lleva de por sí todas las razones que hagan que después los derechos de jurisdicción y libertad reconocidos en esa Convención no constituyan un abuso de derecho; de ahí que se hable justamente de derecho de jurisdicción y libertades y no se hable de obligaciones que sería lo que cambiaría el sentido de la frase.

Tenemos entendido que esa discusión fue muy profunda y muy larga en la misma Convención cuando se discutía en Nueva York la Convención de Naciones Unidas sobre el Derecho del Mar, y el artículo 300 fue considerado un artículo que favorecía los intereses de los países en desarrollo con litoral marítimo. Por eso es por lo que nosotros preferiríamos que se conserve el párrafo tal cual está, ya que expresa no solamente lo que se ha reflejado en la Convención de 1982, sino lo que se ha discutido en el Comité de Pesca.

C. VIDALI CARBAJAL (México): Totalmente de acuerdo con lo planteado por el distinguido delegado de Argentina.

Nuestra Delegación hizo esta declaración a nombre del Grupo Latinoamericano y del Caribe en el seno de los trabajos de este Consejo y, por tanto, además de que se está recogiendo el espíritu de lo que se trató en el Comité de Pesca se está planteando también lo que sucedió en el seno del Consejo.

A nosotros también, por las razones expresadas por Argentina, nos gustaría que permaneciera la redacción tal cual está y fue acordada por el Comité de Redacción.

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): I think the explanation supplied by my neighbour on my right was quite a useful one and I wonder whether we could have some minutes to exchange some views and we could come to an agreement.

CHAIRMAN: If Angola and Argentina would like to have some discussion - has any other delegation any view on this paragraph other than the points raised by Angola? Then we shall proceed, in the meantime. I see no comments in the paragraphs 23 to 26. So we pass on to paragraph 27.

A. BOTHNER (Norway): I have just a small point to make, and if there are objections I will not pursue it. I would be happier with the words 'development of fisheries' rather than 'fishery products'.

CHAIRMAN: The delegate of Norway has suggested on paragraph 27: "The- Council underlined the vital role fisheries could play in alleviating undernutrition". Personally I think it is a good proposal because it is a whole area of income and so on. Mr. West suggests "the vital role fisheries development could play in alleviating undernutrition".

A. BOTHNER (Norway): I agree with that.

CHAIRMAN: So we say: "The Council underlined the vital role fisheries development could play in alleviating undernutrition. It stressed that the reduction of post-harvest losses should receive particular attention to improve food fish supplies". Is there any other suggestion on paragraph 27. Paragraph 27 is approved, as amended. I see no comments on paragraphs 28 to 32. We pass on to paragraph 33.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I would humbly submit the addition of another word in the second line after the word 'fisheries', that it should read in this way after the colon: 'fisheries planning, management and development'. This matter has been brought up during the discussion of the Committee. I think it is logical that before you can manage and develop you have to plan. I think also it is understood in the context of the previous paragraphs of the document that has been indicated here and this matter has been brought up by the Philippines. I wondered whether it would cause any problem to anyone. So I would indicate the addition of the 'planning' before 'management and development'.

CHAIRMAN: The Philippine proposal is that paragraph 33 should read as follows: "The Council agreed that the following five Action Programmes should be submitted to the policy phase of the World Fisheries Conference: fisheries planning, management and development (covering both marine and inland fisheries)..." The word 'planning' is added.

A. FEQUANT (France): D'après ce que me dit l'expert de la délégation française, ce programme d'action a été approuvé par le Comité des pêches agissant en tant qu'organe technique de la Conférence. On peut se demander dans quelle mesure le Conseil peut modifier le programme qui a déjà été établi.

CHAIRMAN: No, I think we can. The report comes to the Council.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): If the Council cannot make any changes in the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee then why are we looking at it? I think we have the right to make our comments on changes in the recommendations.

CHAIRMAN: I have already explained the position. We can make changes.

R.C. SERSALE DI CERISANO (Argentina): Lamento volver a intervenir otra vez en el tema de pesca, pero es para apoyar lo que dijo la Delegación de Filipinas y queremos recordar que cuando se aprobó el informe final del Comité de Pesca la Delegación de Filipinas hizo esta recomendación de incluir junto al concepto de "ordenación" la "planificación", y fue aceptado por el Comité. Además quiero también recordar que el incluir la idea de planificación en relación a la ordenación fue una propuesta argentina que fue aprobada por el Comité, en fin, por una cuestión de consideraciones que no es necesario repetir aquí, pero estos temas fueron considerados en el Comité de Pesca, fueron aprobados por el Comité de Pesca y se decidió que "planificación" fuera junto con "ordenación" por una cuestión conceptual.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): I think we can leave the door open for approval and we can delete the Committee's report, as you put it rightly, Mr. Chairman. I do agree with fisheries planning, management and development' and I fully endorse the position of the Philippines and Argentina.

A. FEQUANT (France): Si cette proposition a été examinée, et même, si je comprends bien, approuvée au Comité des pêches, les remarques de la délégation française tombent d'elles-mêmes. Ce dont on peut s'étonner, c'est que nous n'en ayons pas la trace dans le document qui nous est soumis.

CHAIRMAN: So we add "Fisheries planning, management and development".

Any other comment on this paragraph 33? The paragraph is approved as amended. No comments on paragraphs 34 and 35? They are approved.

Are Angola and Argentina ready with the revised formulation for paragraph 22?

N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): At this stage and in order to expedite our work, I wonder whether you would be kind enough to insert a footnote expressing the reservations of the People's Republic of Angola on paragraph 22. Thank you, Sir.

CHAIRMAN: What exactly should the wording of the footnote be?

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): The wording of the footnote would be like we saw for example in paragraph 11, that a different perception and view may be taken by this particular delegation.

I wonder whether the Secretariat could help me with the drafting of our reservation. That is that we just have a different perception and understanding on this particular issue, and moreover, you will agree with me, Mr Chairman - and I do not want to bring this matter into the FAO - that the Convention on the Law of the Sea is not recognized by all countries. However, most of those countries who do not recognize this do fish and quite a lot, but I wish to stop here because I do not want to bring this matter up here.

CHAIRMAN: In any case, I was about to suggest that we have now got REP 3 and it will take some time for REP 4. We could have a 15-minute break so that we can look over REP 3 which has just been distributed. Meanwhile, if Angola will sit with the Secretary and the Secretary of the Drafting Committee and find some manner of giving expression to his views, so we will just adjourn.

The meeting was suspended from 18.15 to 18.45

La seance est suspendue de 18 h 15 à 18 h 45

Se suspende la sesión de las 18.15 horas a las 18.45 horas

CHAIRMAN: May we hear from the delegate of Angola as to whether he has found a satisfactory formulation?

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): I have exchanged some views with my neighbour and I also talked to the Legal Counsel. My doubt is a valid one; it is deep seated. However, it cannot be solved here at FAO. Therefore I have no doubts about this and no reservations; it shall go in.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for your most helpful statement and attitude. We shall therefore take paragraph 22 under item 5 in CL 84/REP/2 as adopted as it is.

Paragraphs 19 to 35, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 19 à 35, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 19 a 35, así enmendados, son aprobados

Draft Report of Plenary, Part 2, as amended, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, deuxième partie ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria, Parte 2, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT - PART, III

PROJET DE RAPPORT - PARTIE III

PROYECTO DE INFORME - PARTE III

Paragraphs 1 and 2 approved

Les paragraphes 1 et 2 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 y 2 son aprobados

Paragraphs 3 and 4 approved

Les paragraphes 3 et 4 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 3 y 4 son aprobados

Paragraphs 5 to 14 approved

Les paragraphes 5 à 14 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 5 a 14 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 15 to 18

PARAGRAPHES 15 à 18

PARRAFOS 15 a 18

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): Je dois dire que notre délégation n'est pas d'accord sur une partie du paragraphe vers la fin, la phrase qui commence avec "en ce qui concerne la proposition de construire une nouvelle aile adjacente aux bâtiments principaux, les fouilles archéologiques se sont poursuivies jusqu'à la fin d'octobre 1983, mais elles ont été temporairement interrompues". Je propose de supprimer la fin de cette phrase. En effet, ici on dit que les travaux ont été terminés à la fin octobre, c'est-à-dire la semaine passée. Or, tout le monde sait qu'en Italie la première semaine du mois de novembre est pratiquement une semaine de congé pour beaucoup de monde, y compris les écoles. Il est donc difficile de considérer cette interruption temporaire de ces quelques jours comme une interruption d'une plus longue durée.

Je vous demande donc, si possible, de supprimer cette partie de la phrase et également le commencement de la phrase suivante: "On ne sait pas si la Direction de l'archéologie sera en mesure ..." et l'on pourrait dire: "On espère que la Direction de l'archéologie ...".

CHAIRMAN: I will repeat the recommendation of Italy: "On the question of the proposal to construct a new wing adjacent to the main buildings, archaeological excavations had continued until the end of October 1983". And delete the rest of it. Then: "It was hoped that the Superintendency of Archaeology would be able to complete the work and issue its report by the end of December 1983 as originally announced." "The Council hopes", this is the suggestion of Italy.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): En primer lugar sobre la propuesta de Italia consideramos que esta segunda parte del párrafo 15 pertenece a la opinión del Gobierno de Italia, y entonces quisiera compartir el optimismo de nuestra distinguida colega italiana, y no tendríamos ninguna dificultad en aceptar su propuesta; pero habíamos pedido la palabra para complementar ese espíritu de optimismo de nuestra colega y fortalecer el sentido positivo de la actuación del Gobierno italiano.

Queríamos proponer en la segunda frase del párrafo 15 que se suprimieran las palabras, que tradicionalmente no nos gustan, "tomó nota" y dijera, en la segunda frase y en lo que respecta a la construcción de 70 despachos en el octavo piso del edificio D: "El Consejo acogió con beneplácito las medidas positivas", ya que a todos nos causa placer que por lo menos en un campo el Gobierno italiano adopte medidas positivas.

Con este mismo espíritu de acentuar el sentido positivo de esta consideración, volveremos a intervenir, si usted nos lo permite Sr. Presidente en el párrafo 17.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: It is for the Council to decide on its report and I shall not make any comment as regards the suggestion of the delegate of Italy, except to say that we have been informed directly by the Superintendency of Archaeology that the excavations are temporarily suspended and that they are doubtful whether they will be able to complete the work and issue their report. Having said that, it is on record and we will come back to it if necessary during the Conference or during any subsequent meeting of governments; but I want to put on record that that is what we have been told directly less than 48 hours ago by the Superintendency of Archaeology.

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): Pourrais-je savoir si la communication de la superintendance est une communication écrite? Dans ce cas, la délégation aurait reçu la même communication, or nous ne l'avons pas reçue, mais nous avons eu de nombreuses conversations téléphoniques avec ce service et cette communication est tout à fait nouvelle pour nous.

CHAIRMAN: I would suggest you accept the proposal of Colombia and amend the second sentence as regards the construction of 70 rooms on the 8th floor of Building D. The Council welcomed the positive action taken by the Host Government in approving the construction project and towards the latter part we accept the proposal of the distinguished delegate of Italy "had continued until the end of October 1983".

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La Delegación de Colombia sigue siendo enemiga de la expresión "tomo nota", sobre todo en este caso del párrafo 17.

Con el mismo buen espíritu con que produjimos la modificación del párrafo 15 queremos proponer que el párrafo 17 empiece por las palabras "El Consejo expreso su grave preocupación"; creo que éste es un hecho, Señor Presidente.

CHAIRMAN: I think this paragraph as amended by Colombia is a statement of fact, and I see that the Italian delegate has graciously agreed.

W.J. MAJOR (Canada): Concerning paragraph 18, the record as we have it may have omitted one item which may affect the total amount of office space available in the FAO. This item has not figured in the documentation but was the subject of a question and a reply by the Secretariat. Could we therefore propose the following addition, "the Secretariat informed the Council of its request to the World Food Council to vacate the offices occupied in Building A".

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Well, it is for the Council to decide whether it wants to put that, that particular point, but if it does I think you should also establish in the answer that was given to the question. It was to the effect that this would not have an adverse effect on the relationships between FAO and the World Food Council, bearing in mind that several important units of FAO and the World Food Programme are situated in a building some kilometers from headquarters.

CHAIRMAN: So now the Canadian proposal is to say that "The Council is informed by the Secretariat of its request to the World Food Council to vacate the office space occupied in Building A". Mr. West suggests that if you want to insert this, he has characteristically stated, you must add that "the Council was further informed that this would not in any way affect the collaborative work" or whatever it is. Something that has to be formulated to that effect.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Nosotros entendemos muy bien la posición de la distinguida Delegación de Canada y consideramos que ellos están en su pleno derecho de haber hecho la propuesta que ahora está ante el Consejo, pero tal vez quisiéramos pedir al colega del Canadá que nos permitiera que no se incluyera en el texto esta referencia, porque creemos que no tendría sana indicación, no contribuiría mucho, sino más bien tendría efectos negativos en cuanto al objeto de esta señalación, y más bien la Delegación de Colombia piensa que es deber de todos los miembros del Consejo y de todos los representantes de Gobiernos evitar esta referencia a organismos que trabajan en común en favor de la solución de los problemas de la agricultura y la alimentación. Tal vez no podría ayudarnos mucho y podría, en cambio, representar algunas dificultades que ya se han hecho patentes a raíz de la respuesta del Sr. West.

Le pediría respetuosa y cordialmente al colega y cuasi vecino del Canadá que no insistiera a este respecto.

Sra. M.E. BONDANZA DE FILIPPO (Argentina): Sí, la Delegación de mi país quiere simplemente apoyar lo manifestado por el Sr. Delegado de Colombia. Entendemos, en efecto, que esa explicación que se dio sobre el Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación no ayuda, realmente, para resolver este tema y creemos que por lo tanto es más adecuado no incluirlo en este párrafo.

W.J.MAJOR (Canada): I think nonetheless it does reflect the discussion that took place. It is simply stated as a matter of fact and I think we have no objection in principle with the Secretariat continuing the sentence to provide the explanation that it provided but it does affect, as I initially said, the amount of office space that may be available to the Secretariat and I would also point out that it would affect the amount of office space available to the Secretariat in the very near future, much earlier than some of the other things which are being discussed.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: There was a question and an answer. If on that basis you want to put it in, no problem that I can see provided you have the explanation but just a point of clarification, we do not have any extra office space and the situation described here is not improved. What are the reasons we are doing this thing? Because the CFA has just approved 80 new posts for the World Food Programme and we are hoping that the Conference will approve the proposals in the Programme of Work and Budget for a new division for research. We will still have an acute space problem so let there be no mistake about that. It has got nothing to do with making free space. It is because of the force of circumstances we have had to do this. We do not want to do it, we have had to do it because of decision of government already taken or we hope about to be taken.

CHAIRMAN: We will find in the Verbatim Reports this question and answer. Would you like it to be included in the Report?

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): It was this delegation which put forward the question and we did it in a constructive spirit and we do still feel it would be some sort of underlining of the urgency that the whole question of Headquarters Accommodation has to be solved. So it has a connexion with the subject which is before us and I just recall that resolution by which the World Food Council was set up and I think it states explicitly that the World Food Council should act or work within the framework of FAO. Now, of course, we were assured that the cooperation would not be affected, all right we are quite happy about that, but actually we had sympathy with the proposal of Canada that it should be put in but we have no strong feelings about it.

Ms. A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italy): I had decided not to say any thing about this item but I would only like to support the idea put out by Mr. West that the subject should be included with the answer to the question. I would accept it as it is because I think you may understand that this problem is likely to cause us problems as well.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Voy a acogerme a dos aspectos de la declaración que hizo mi distinguido amigo Grabisch, de la República Federal de Alemania. Quiero compartir con él el espíritu constructivo que le animo esta mañana cuando él planteo esta cuestión, y también compartir con él la segunda parte de su declaración cuando dijo que no tenía ideas muy fijas ni sostenidas a este respecto.

De manera que con ese espíritu de cooperación yo insistiría, señor Presidente, en que no se incluya aquí ni la pregunta que se hizo, ni la información que dio la Secretaría, ni la respuesta a que se ha hecho referencia por parte del Sr. West.

Seguimos pensando que todo ello no contribuiría a nada, no tendría ningún significado positivo. Usted ha dicho, adecuadamente, que esas declaraciones y las que estamos haciendo ahora figuran en las actas, de manera que lo demás sería dar la apariencia de que estamos planteando un problema de diferencia entre dos organismos que todos nosotros estamos interesados en que trabajen de común acuerdo.

Ahora, yo creo que también hay un hecho. No pienso que se le pueda atribuir mayor incidencia a una separación física. Una separación física no quiere decir que se va a suspender la colaboración entre dos organismos, ni mucho menos, sobre todo una separación física que va a tener un radio de acción muy limitado porque ese organismo va a seguir en Roma y va a seguir trabajando en cooperación con la FAO. Cualquier referencia a este asunto puede causar problemas y no representa ningún aspecto positivo; por eso insisto en que ojalá nuestros colegas de Canadá y de la República Federal de Alemania no insistan en incluir esta cuestión.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): May I ask, through you Mr Chairman, my good friend Mr Bula Hoyos, whether he still opina de la misma manera y si él piensa que esto podría ayudar a nuestra distinguida Delegación de Italia.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Una de nuestras intervenciones anteriores confirmó el ánimo positivo con que yo recibo siempre toda actitud constructiva de Italia; con ese mismo espíritu estoy seguro que a la distinguida colega de Italia le será suficiente ya el debate que se ha celebrado en la constancia que están en las actas como material útil para intervenir ante su Gobierno y así habremos prestado el servicio a la Delegación de Italia y evitaremos que en un informe del Consejo aparezca esta referencia que puede ser más dañina que beneficiosa.

El colega Grabisch habla muy bien el castellano y me está haciendo señas de que asiente a mi propuesta y se lo agradezco de antemano, al igual que al colega y amigo del Canadá.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): It seems that one of the problems about whether or not to include it is that if we include it it will become two very long sentences, first the one that Canada has proposed and then a piece that the Deputy Director-General has suggested. I wonder, since the point has come clearly across to me in the course of this discussion whether it could be put in something like this way: "It was noted that pressure on accommodation was such that the World Food Council would have to leave its accommodation in building A shortly". I offer this as a possible way out of the dilemma because that seems to be the issue presented certainly by the Deputy Director-General, unless I grossly misunderstood him.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I do not want to get between the beautiful friendships of Colombia, Germany and Italy. But at the risk of seeming to take it lightly I would say that physical contact is not absolutely necessary these days, there is such a thing as artificial insemination - I am talking about ideas of course. As a matter of fact I had the most cordial and profitable discussion with the Executive Secretary of the World Food Council today in FAO, and we hope to have the same tomorrow with the President of the World Food Council. So I myself would honestly and frankly say to you that I do not think it adds or detracts anything to put a reference in here. I am afraid the Government of Italy is going to have the problem whether the sentence appears in here or not. But I do want to stress that if a record appears it can certainly appear in the terms that the delegate of the UK said, that it was pressure on accommodation, but I would still like to put in that at least in the view of FAO it should not affect the cooperation between the two organizations. Otherwise why make reference to it?

W.J. MAJOR (Canada): I think we were motivated by the following considerations: should the record be complete; has the Council indeed been informed of this request; and should the discussion, or the record of the discussion, indeed indicate the amount of space that is likely to be available to the FAO. The agreement which established the World Food Council states that it is to be serviced within the framework of the FAO. That may or may not mean that it has to be accommodated in the FAO. The suggested statement which we made made no reference to the state of cooperation between the two organizations or to the legal obligations of one to provide accommodation to the other and there were certainly no suggestions that the space thus liberated could not be productively used by FAO, certainly not. The statement only urged that the Secretariat inform the Council of its request. I am satisfied to leave it at that. I think the formulation of the United Kingdom is certainly acceptable to us or in the manner that has been proposed by Dr. West.

CHAIRMAN: I think the United Kingdom formulation, if you want to add it must come as a separate paragraph because it does not fit in anywhere. It would have to come between paragraphs 16 and 17: "It was noted that pressure on accommodation is such that the World Food Council has to be requested to vacate its office in Building A" and so on. I think the United Kingdom delegate could further revise it.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo creo que en este Consejo toman asiento algunos de los que participamos en 1974 en la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación, en cuya Resolución 22 se adoptaron las palabras a las que hizo referencia el colega del Canadá, dentro del marco de la FAO. Fueron unas palabras muy ambiguas que nadie ha sabido interpretar después, no obstante que la propia Asamblea General de Naciones Unidas apoyo esa Resolución de la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación. De manera que en ese campo quiero dar absoluta razón a los distinguidos colegas de Canadá y de la República Federal de Alemania, pero el colega de Canadá hizo una afirmación que yo creo que está en favor de nuestra posición de que no se incluya nada.

El dijo, y creo que él es muy justo y adecuado en su interpretación, que cuando él hizo esta propuesta no estaba haciendo referencia a las relaciones entre la FAO y el Consejo Mundial, sino a la reducción del espacio en la Organización. Yo creo que esto es evidente, pero si se incluye algo en el informe, daríamos la opinión contraria de que estamos haciendo referencia entre uno y otro organismo. Espero que éste sea un argumento convincente para insistir, nuevamente, de manera cordial y respetuosa, en que evitemos esta referencia que, repetimos, puede causar daños y no traer ningún beneficio.

Sra. A. CAVERO (España): Solamente para apoyar la propuesta del delegado de Colombia en el sentido de evitar generar nuevos focos de desagrado, en algún aspecto, en cuanto se está tratando de salvar por todos los medios, esas incompatibilidades o aparentes incompatibilidades entre órganos que a todos nos interesa que se coordinen mejor.

W.J. MAJOR (Canada): I am satisfied that we have had a full discussion on this question and I will not insist on the addition.

Ms. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I have a proposal in the form of a new paragraph 19 to follow immediately after paragraph 18. I will read it because I think it is neater in that way:

"The Council agreed that with respect to matters regarding relations between FAO and the host country government the issues relating to negotiations with the host country government, as well as legal questions, should be referred to the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters, while specific administrative and financial questions were properly the concern of the Finance Committee."

It seems to me that this states very clearly the responsibilities of the different committees of this body. The responsibilities of the administrative and financial questions are properly the concern of the Finance Committee, whereas relations between FAO and more legal matters should be referred to the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters for action. I think it is simple and sensible. I hope it will be adopted.

I should have said I meant to add that this was discussed in the Committee and agreed by the delegate of Colombia. It was discussed, it was raised, it was agreed, there was no objection, and under those conditions, as the Ambassador has said, that consensus can be taken as agreement because there was no objection.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Por la última referencia de la gentil y distinguida Embajadora de los Estados Unidos, no sé si dio la impresión de que esto había sido discutido en el Comité de Redacción; si fue así, entonces no sé por qué no aparece en el texto del informe. No sé si entendí correctamente, pero a mí me asalta una preocupación. Es el hecho de que tanto el Comité de Finanzas como el Comité de Asuntos Constitucionales y Jurídicos son dos órganos asesores del Consejo, y ambos órganos, a la luz de los Textos Fundamentales, se ocupan de aquellos asuntos que les remite el Consejo, que el Consejo les pide que se ocupen en tal materia respectiva a cada Comité. De manera que esto sería redundante; estaríamos, en un informe del Consejo, repitiendo lo que dicen los textos básicos.

Ms. A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italy): I would like to support the proposal made by the delegate of the United States. As a matter of fact, just to make this a little clearer I wanted to tell you of our experience. While looking for a candidate for the Finance Committee one is actually looking for an expert in budget matters, whereas while looking for a member in the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters one is looking for a lawyer. So in my opinion the problems we are dealing with - headquarters, special immunity problems, and soon - are more likely to be dealt with by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters.

B.N. SEQUEIRA (Angola): I am just seeking clarification. Does this mean that if the proposal advanced by the delegate of the United States is accepted that here the Council will not discuss these matters any further because then the matter will be left to the experts, if I did not misunderstand the delegate of Italy. If that is the view I do not think we could accept that. The legal matters between FAO and the host country should be fully discussed by the Council. Then if we have some doubts we should seek the advice of the CCLM.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: First I would observe that in this report which we are discussing at the moment we are talking about headquarters accommodation, not any legal aspect but about the number of rooms, excavations on archaeological sites, removal of organizations to other parts of Rome, and so forth. There is not one single legal issue there and it is not a question of reaching agreements. The action to be taken is to be taken by the Italian Government within its own jurisdiction. So if you want to take up this question I am surprised that you want to take it up here because accommodation has been dealt with since the foundation of FAO by the Finance Committee and not by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters and I do not see any legal issue here to be dealt with. There is a reference later on under the item dealing with immunity to refer, as appropriate, to the Finance Committee and the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters. Immunity is a legal question. The point that was raised was we attempted to cover it there. The report is coming direct to you, so you have not had a chance to consider that so far. I think it is not before you yet.

As to the point raised by Angola, the Council cannot decide this because the functions of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters are referred to in Article 3 of Rule XXXIV of the GRO. Therefore if you want to change the functions of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters an amendment has to be introduced in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution for introducing amendments and it has to be voted by the Conference. I am afraid it is too late to do that, even if you should wish to do it. But I repeat what I said earlier, that matters such as building, excavations, driving licences, number plates of cars, and so forth, are not legal issues: they are administrative and financial issues.

If you turn to the rules defining the functions of the Finance Committee, you will find that it refers specifically to administrative as well as financial and personnel questions. There is no reference in the rules of the CCLM to administrative or personnel questions, so you have a double problem on your hands if you want to change the situation. You would have to amend the provisions relating also to the Finance Committee and not merely to the CCLM, and what is all this about? I really do not understand this sudden desire to discuss archaeological excavations in the CCLM. It is quite inappropriate. We will refer legal issues to the CCLM as and when appropriate.

The last point I want to make on this is that unfortunately, Italy raised the question of qualifications of membership of the CCLM. Now, that is another constitutional issue and perhaps should be in the CCLM. Are there members of the CCLM present who are lawyers? One says yes. Another maintains discreet silence. Are there members of the Finance Committee who are financial or personnel experts? The question should be answered. The Conference in its wisdom has decided how the members of these Committees should be chosen. There is no provision that they should have degrees or professional qualifications in the fields mentioned, so I think from the point of view of the discussion of the Committee it is, if I may call it so, a red herring.

Ms M. FENWICK (United States of America): I want to speak to the remarks of Angola. It is precisely in an effort to have these things come to the Council through their committees that this proposal was made. Administrative and personnel matters would come through the Finance Committee, as the Deputy Director-General has told us by charter they should, but what I am anxious to do is have them come to those committees, because I think it is very important that we follow not just in the big issues such as immunity, that you know which is just a great big legal issue, but other

legal matters should go to that CCLM, and then the administrative and financial matters, as the Deputy Director-General has outlined, should go to that Finance Committee according to the charter and those two Committees are the arms of the Council. In other words, it is an effort to increase the information and ability of the Council to act when this proposal is made.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Deseamos solamente hacer tres precisiones. Primero, entendemos muy justificadamente las referencias de nuestra distinguidísima colega de Italia a las condiciones que requieren los miembros del Comité de Finanzas y del CACJ; y decimos que entendemos justificadamente esa referencia porque, sin duda, ella muy humanamente, como podemos hacerlo otros, aprovecha esta ocasión para hacer campaña a su aspiración para ser miembro del Comité de Finanzas. Esto nos parece muy adecuado y muy correcto.

En segundo lugar, creemos estar de acuerdo con el Sr. West en el sentido de que esto no correspondería a esta parte de nuestro informe, los locales de la Sede. Esta es una cosa material muy lejos de todo concepto jurídico; de manera que en caso tal podríamos incluirlo en el tema 15, y quisiera muy cordialmente pedir a la delegación de Estados Unidos que leyera el párrafo 16 del REP 4 -Sección 1. Allí, en ese párrafo 16, que consideraremos más adelante, está ya la referencia a lo que ha planteado los Estados Unidos. De manera que les pediríamos, muy cordialmente, a los colegas de Estados Unidos que por ahora prescindieran de insistir en su propuesta hasta cuando llegáramos al párrafo 16 del REP 4 - Sección 1.

Ms A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italy): I just would like to reply to what Mr West has just said about the qualifications required for the Members of the Committee. It says in Rule XXVII, paragraph 1 concerning the Finance Committee, under other things, that this person has to have shown a continued interest in the objectives and activities of the Organization ... and have special competence and experience in administrative and financial matters."

Ms M. FENWICK (United States of America): As usual, our distinguished delegate and friend from Colombia has made a statesmanlike approach, and I would like to withdraw because in part 2, paragraph 16 does indeed cover precisely what we were planning here, so it is more appropriate there, I am happy to yield to Colombia.

Paragraphs 15 to 18, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 15 à 18, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 15 a 18, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraph 19 approved

Le paragraphe 19 est approuvé

El párrafo 19 es aprobado

Paragraph 20 approved

Le paragraphe 20 est approuvé

El párrafo 20 es aprobado

Paragraph 21 approved

Le paragraphe 21 est approuvé

El párrafo 21 es aprobado

PARAGRAPHS 22 and 23

PARAGRAPHES 22 et 23

PARRAFOS 22 y 23

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Me excuso ante el distinguido Presidente del Comité de Redacción por seguir en contra de la expresión "tomó nota". Yo sé que éste es un recurso al que se recurre en esos Comités cuando hay discusión de asuntos difíciles; pero creo que cuando discutimos el examen de los Programas de Campo, varias delegaciones coincidimos en que era preocupante el impacto negativo que el déficit de recursos del PNUD y la disminución del aporte de la FAO nos causaba preocupación a todos. Indudablemente, queremos proponer en la segunda frase del párrafo 22, que se diga "expresó su preocupación en particular por el grave impacto ... etc.". Espero que esto no sea controvertido. Creo que todos estamos preocupados por esa situación.

CHAIRMAN: Colombia has suggested the second sentence in paragraph 22 should be reworded. Instead of "it noted", "It expressed serious concern in particular".

I think "serious" is coming twice here. "It expressed its serious concern on the serious negative impact on Field Programmes resulting". The suggestion is "It expressed its grave concern in particular to the negative", to avoid the word "serious" coming twice.

Colombia, have you got the formulation?

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Tal vez es un error de interpretación, según me anota el intérprete. Yo me había limitado a decir: "expreso su preocupación". El término grave solamente aparecía una vez más.

CHAIRMAN: So "It expressed its concern in particular at the serious negative impact on the Field Programmes resulting from current UNDP resource shortfall and from FAO's declining share of UNDP project execution".

G.J. BOXALL (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I would like to say that that has been noted.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Paragraphs 22 and 23, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 22 et 23, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 22 y 23, así enmendados, son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 24 to 28

PARAGRAPHERS 24 à 28

PARRAFOS 24 a 28

Sra. Doña A. CAVERO (España): Una corrección en la primera oración del párrafo 24. Querría decir el Consejo felicitó al Director General por el Informe presentado, tomó nota. Lo de tomó nota yo no lo cambio, no sé si el delegado de Colombia quería cambiarlo, pero mi delegación lo deja.

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the amendment of Spain to the first sentence: "The Council congratulated the Director-General on his report and noted that it incorporated the advice and many of the suggestions" etc.

I take it that is acceptable.

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): Como miembro del Comité de Redacción, simplemente para hacer un señar lamiento de idioma. En el español convinimos utilizar la palabra "convenio", en lugar de acuerdo, Esto está en el renglón cuarto del párrafo 25. Quedaría incluido un convenio o un compromiso internacional.

Es un problema meramente de traducción.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Hay otro "tomó nota" en la segunda frase del párrafo 25, Creo que si lo suprimimos no cambia el sentido de la frase; espero por lo menos que ésta sea mi intención. Podríamos decir: "consideró que este documento ofrecía un análisis global de los problemas relacionados con los recursos fitogenéticos y proponía una serie de medidas destinadas". Se suprimiría la palabra "tomó nota".

Reitero mis excusas.

CHAIRMAN: I think we do not even need it. If you want to redraft it, we can omit "it proposed"; "that it considered a series of measures aimed at establishing a global system."

A. FEQUANT (France): Peut-être que cela ne soulève aucun problème pour la langue espagnole, mais cela soulève pour la langue française parce que quand on dit "il a estimé", c'est un jugement de valeur. Quand on dit "il a noté", c'est un fait. Mais on ne peut pas dire qu'il a estimé un fait. Voilà la difficulté pour la langue française. On peut penser que l'on rencontre souvent le terme "noté" dans ce rapport, c'est exact. Il me semble cependant que les langues française et espagnole, et certainement anglaise et arabe, sont assez riches pour employer un autre terme que "noté". "Par exemple, "il a constaté".

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Cualquier expresión que satisfaga al Embajador de Francia es aceptable para nosotros.

CHAIRMAN: I wish the congratulations would grow. Paragraph 25, as amended, is approved. Shall we now go on to paragraph 26?

Ms. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I am referring to line 2 of paragraph 26 and the words "free availability". In the French text I believe it reads "disponibilité libre". It does not read "disponibilité gratuite", and I think that "ready availability" would be a clearer and a more accurate description, so "free exchange" - "ready availability" or "free exchange", whichever the experts here gathered consider to be more accurate.

CHAIRMAN: "Free exchange" in my view would be better. The two things are different. "Exchange" means "we exchange". The other is to make it available without restriction. What is indicated here is a sort of unrestricted availability.

Ms. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I did not like to take the time of the Committee to go into the reasons for this, but we are in many countries restricted by patent laws, and there are some nations that have for one reason or another legal restrictions concerning the export of seed crops, and not genetic mass but perfected commercial seeds, and there are many countries in the world that have such laws. We have more restrictions from patent laws but if "ready availability" would be considered to be more accurate then I would like to propose "ready availability".

CHAIRMAN: The distinguished Ambassador has suggested "with regard to the importance and ready availability of plant genetic resources for scientific and development purposes as a heritage of mankind."

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): Efectivamente, no es un problema meramente de traducción. En español definitivamente no tendría un sentido claro y de lo que estamos hablando precisamente es de una disponibilidad que implica o no se reduce a un "exchange".

CHAIRMAN: What the "availability" really means is that it should be freely available; it is not exchange. "Ready availability" can raise the view that we have expressed.

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): Quisiera una traducción del español de la expresión.

CHAIRMAN: The interpreter, must be interpreting "ready availability" in Spanish satisfactorily.

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): Definitivamente estamos calificando la disponibilidad. Para evitar una discusión en el tema preferiría que quedáramos como de hecho convinimos en el Comité de Redacción, en donde los Estados Unidos participaron activamente, y le pediría a la distinguida Embajadora de Estados Unidos que tuviera en consideración, por favor, el hecho de su participación en el Comité de Redacción.

CHAIRMAN: Apparently there is no change in the Spanish text. The suggestion is that the Spanish text stays as it is. Is that satisfactory?

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): Lo que yo quiero es que se corresponda con el inglés. Se dice "libre disponibilidad", no hay limitación a esa disponibilidad. No la estamos calificando. Tendríamos que hacer la correspondiente modificación en el español.

CHAIRMAN: The point is important. Will the delegate of the United States comment?

Ms. M. FENWICK (United States of America): I think that some languages have more words of one kind or another but it seems to me that the French and English here are very clear. The French language says "disponibilité libre" and does not say "disponibilité gratuite". Now the English text suggests "gratuite" rather than "libre", and it is in that effort to make it fall together. In my country, and I am sure perhaps also in Mexico, there are patent laws that make it practically impossible to order the absolute delivery of complete genetic commercial material. Now that does not refer to the kind of basic genetic plasma, you might say a mass, that is available and freely exchanged, and readily available and freely exchanged, but what we are anxious to do is to make something that we can live up to within the restrictions of our patent laws, and as I said, I could name a couple of countries but there is no point in that. I think the countries here know which ones have restrictions for export which would also interfere with them, so this is something which would be useful not just because we have patent laws but because other countries have export laws of their own.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Reconocemos el análisis constructivo y positivo de la distinguida Embajadora de los Estados Unidos; pero después de las explicaciones que se han dado entre la propia representante de Estados Unidos consideramos que los textos de este párrafo deben quedar tal como están en su respectivo idioma, ya que en cambio no sería compatible con el sentido correcto de este párrafo en el texto de otro idioma.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): I do not wish to enter into arguments about semantics and so on but I think the explanation that has been given by my distinguished neighbour, the Ambassador for the United States, we could include if she agreed the words "free availability" in the English text. As we have said on other occasions, with the understanding that certainly the English readers will put their own interpretation on it as meaning ready availability, and should we ever need to refer back frankly to this paragraph, that is what we would say is the interpretation we would put on it. I wonder if in those circumstances my distinguished colleague and neighbour would be agreeable to keep the words "free availability" in the English text.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): Mr Chairman, I think this word "free" would create some difficulties and the interpretation or the suggestions made by the distinguished delegate of the United States, Ambassador Fenwick, I support them entirely because most of the countries do have these laws which regulate the importation or export of the plant material, the genetic material, and there is very strict control exercised on them. Therefore in actual fact this increased "free availability" means nothing because these regulations have to be observed and clearances have to be obtained from a number of sources, and it is only then that this material can be exchanged. I therefore suggest that this word "ready" would be a better substitute here and the text would be clearer.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): I do not want to add to your problems at this late hour but I personally am in entire agreement with the distinguished delegate from the United Kingdom that we leave the text as it is because the word "free" in the English language has both connotations, the connotation of accessibility plus also the connotation of finances involved in it, and in the English language it can be interpreted both ways, so we should have no difficulty at all. I would suggest we can leave the text as it is in the English language and then go on.

CHAIRMAN: The second sentence here says, "A number of members indicated that certain articles in the draft Undertaking caused difficulties". It would certainly refer to the patent laws, the import convention and so on, so it is recognized here that there are some problems with countries that have got restrictions. So shall we leave it as it is?

Ms. M. FENWICK (United States of America): Under those conditions, I will let it stand, and with the remarks that have been made by the distinguished delegate of Pakistan.

Paragraphs 24 to 28: as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 24 à 28: ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 24 a 28: así enmendados, son aprobados

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): Mr Chairman, you have already decided upon paragraph 26, so we will leave our comments until when this issue is going to come up at the forthcoming Conference.

Draft Report of Plenary, Part III, as amended, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, partie III, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria, Parte III, así enmendado, es aprobado

CHAIRMAN: We have now two more documents which I think the Drafting Committee have not seen yet. These two documents, CL 84/REP/4 - Section 1 and Section 2, have not been examined by the Drafting Committee since there was no time.

I must also bring to your attention that we have interpretation available only until 9 p.m. today, so if you want to have a quick ten minutes break so that people can read it and mark only those points where they want to intervene, or make any minor editorial changes, if it is possible and helpful. We continue ? Good.

DRAFT REPORT - PART IV SECTION I

PROJET DE RAPPORT - PARTIE IV SECTION I

PROYECTO DE INFORME - PARTE IV SECCION I

Paragraph 1 approved

Le paragraphe 1 est approuvé

El párrafo 1 es aprobado

Paragraph 2 approved

Le paragraphe 2 est approuvé

El párrafo 2 es aprobado

Paragraphs 1 and 2 approved

Les paragraphes 1 et 2 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 y 2 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 6

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 6

PARRAFOS 1 a 6

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): Just one point, I think several African delegations mentioned the fruitful cooperation and support offered by EEC. Now I wonder whether here in this paragraph 1 this could not be spelled out explicitly, as it would in this case I think not be covered by other agencies. So perhaps just to put this it would cause no problem to anyone else,

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): I fully endorse the view of the distinguished delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany. I wish to see the contribution of the EEC recorded in this Session. With this I proceed with paragraph I. I want to add a few words here and there. "The Council expresses its concern" and then follows "that rinderpest continued to be a serious problem".

Then, the last sentence in the same paragraph: "It commended FAO for the assistance provided through TCP projects amounting to more than US \$ four million since 1982."

I think this concern, especially the first one I stated, was fully shared by the Council and I expect no objection.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to read the proposal, partly by the Federal Republic of Germany and partly by Ethiopia. The two amendments will make the paragraph read as follows:

"The Council expressed its concern that rinderpest continued to be a serious problem threatening livestock production throughout sub-Saharan Africa. It expressed satisfaction that prompt emergency measures to limit the disease had been taken by governments with the support of FAO, the EEC and other agencies. It commended FAO for the emergency assistance provided through TCP projects amounting to more than US\$ four million since 1982."

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): El distinguido colega y amigo de Etiopía se me ha adelantado a suprimir el "tomo nota" que aparece al principio de párrafo.

Creo que las propuestas de Etiopía todas son muy merecedoras de nuestro pleno apoyo.

Igualmente compartimos la conveniencia de que se incluya la cooperación de la CEE, que es un importante organismo que puede asistir muy válidamente a los países africanos.

A. PINOARGOTE CEVALLOS (Ecuador): Solo para observar que mi querido amigo Bula Hoyos ha sustituido el "tomó nota" por "se expreso" la preocupación"; queremos enriquecer un poco el lenguaje del informe ya que esto sería repetitivo y tal vez habría que recomendar al Comité de Redacción que no emplee tanto el que "expreso su preocupación" ya que hay muchas formas de expresar la preocupación. Solo era esa sugerencia porque sino sustituimos una frase cliché por otra.

CHAIRMAN: Paragraph 1, as amended, is approved. On paragraph 2?

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): I have to repeat "expressed" as I do not have any other word for the moment. I want to say "fully appreciated that the emergency was not yet over" but I hate to appreciate emergencies! We would replace that with: "also expressed its regret that the emergency was not yet over and the success achieved was only partial."

A. FEQUANT (France): Je crois qu'il faudrait mettre "a constaté avec regret".

CHAIRMAN: With these amendments, paragraph 2 is approved. Let's move on now to paragraph 3.

P.M. AMUKOA (Kenya): I should like to add a sentence at the end of this paragraph as follows: "It was therefore recommended that FAO continue to provide emergency assistance through TCP and that other donors consider taking similar action."

CHAIRMAN: Is the suggestion of Ethiopia acceptable? I think the Ambassador of the United States put it beautifully this morning about giving a helping hand. Perhaps "and appeal to other donors to take similar action" would be better? So we recommend that FAO continue its emergency assistance through the TCP and recommend to other donors to take similar action.

M.D. METELITS (United States of America): There is, I believe, a grammatical error in line 2 after the reference to vaccine production centres, which is plural, the verb "was" is singular.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, that is right; it should be "were seriously deficient" but I hope that when the manuscript is cleaned up and the final draft comes out, such mistakes will have been eliminated.

TESSEMA NEGASH (Ethiopia): I am going to propose here a very long amendment. The first sentence of paragraph 6 will remain as it is. I have a substitute for the second and the last sentence. My proposal is as follows: "In this connection the Council requested FAO to, (1) prepare a programme of action along with the OAU, IBAR, OIE and the EEC; (2) convene intergovernmental consultation to discuss the programme; (3) present the result of the consultation, together with a programme of action, to a donors' meeting; and (4) report results of both the intergovernmental consultation and the donors' meeting to the next FAO Regional Conference for Africa."

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Teníamos la intención de haber propuesto algunas mejoras al párrafo 6, pero desde luego la propuesta de Etiopía es mucho más amplia, más completa y más positiva, y apoyamos plenamente las adiciones que ha propuesto.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): The modifications suggested by the Ethiopian delegate are excellent. The whole thing becomes very compact and purposeful, and we support it.

ZHONG SHUKONG (China): We also go along with the amendments and as to the last original sentence which reads "FAO's role should also be at the meeting." We cannot agree "a role", there is a preposition missing here.

CHAIRMAN: But now the new Ethiopian proposal replaces that. So we accept the Ethiopian proposal, that is the subsequent, the first sentence, the rest of it will you also kindly give it in writing to the Secretariat.

If members of the Council agree we will add one more point here, a tribute to Dr. Griffiths who is retiring at the end of 22 years of distinguished service in this field. So if you agree we will just put in one appropriate sentence expressing the Council's appreciation of the dedicated service of Dr. Griffiths.

Paragraphs 1 to 6, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 6, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 6, así enmendados, son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 11

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 11

PARRAFOS 1 a 11

Ms. K. KILLINGWORTH (Secretary, Drafting Committee): In the French version of Rep. 4 under item 14, paragraph 3 in the second line you will find the word "Règlement général" which should be "Statut du personnel" to correspond with the English staff regulations.

There are a few minor changes. In paragraph 5 "le" instead of "la" in the second line, a few typo-graphical errors which we will correct of if course eraphical errors which we will correct of course. In paragraph 10 on page 7 of the French version we should in the first line make "de la" instead of "du"; again we have a problem of gender.

On the 8th line of paragraph 10 we have the words "son adoption pour". This should read "son acceptation par".

In the Spanish version there is a small change on page 8, paragraph 9. There the penultimate line the term "foundary" should read "boundary"

Paragraphs 1 to 4 approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 4 sont approuvés

Log párrafos 1 a 4 son aprobados

Paragraph 5, including draft resolution, approved

Le paragraphe 5, y compris le projet de résolution, est approuvé

El párrafo 5, incluido el proyecto de resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 6 to 8 approved

Les paragraphes 6 à 8 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 6 a 8 son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 9

PARAGRAPHE 9

PARRAFO 9

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): Solamente como pregunta. Hecha la corrección de las palabras en inglés que tienen en nuestro párrafo 9, quisiera una traducción literal del término "boundary" y "border" e insistir, reconociendo la decisión que ya ha tomado el Consejo en esta materia, como información solamente, que en el caso del español no son sinónimos. Me gustaría escuchar una trague-ción literal en español de estos dos términos.

LEGAL COUNSEL: I merely wanted to point out to the delegate of Mexico that the amendment which was accepted this morning in English affects the English text, the text in Spanish and also in French is the same one. It is a "frontera" in Spanish and "frontière" in French, but I do not think the change from border to boundary would necessarily require any amendment to the existing French and Spanish phrases which are in the agreement at the moment.

R. GUADARRAMA SISTOS (México): No teníamos la intención, por supuesto a estas alturas, de presentar ningún tipo de discusión. Simplemente, a manera de pregunta, hicimos la intervención y comprendemos que en español deberemos utilizar la palabra frontera; el límite es una acepción diferente.

Paragraph 9, as amended, approved

Le paragraphe 9, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El párrafo 9, así enmendado, es aprobado

Paragraph 10 approved

Le paragraphe 10 est approuvé

El párrafo 10 es aprobado

Paragraph 11 including Resolution adopted

Le paragraphe 11 y compris la résolution est adopté

El párrafo 11 incluida la Resolución aprobado

PARAGRAPHS 12 to 16

PARAGRAPHERS 12 à 16

PARRAFOS 12 a 16

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): D'après ce que l'on m'a dit, je crois que ce matin, il s'est agi d'un exposé fait par le secrétariat auquel notre représentant a répondu dans son intervention. Mais il paraît qu'il n'y a pas eu d'autres interventions à ce sujet. C'est la raison pour laquelle je demanderai que l'on veuille bien mettre à la place de: "le Conseil a rappelé" une autre expression comme: "le Conseil a noté", ou "le Conseil a pris note" parce qu'il n'y a eu qu'un exposé de la part du secrétariat.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Quisiera ayudar a la distinguida colega de Italia, pero no puedo aceptar la expresión "tomó nota". Tal vez, pudiéramos decir "el Consejo había debatido la cuestión de la inmunidad de procedimiento", porque esto fue un hecho. Lo habíamos debatido; el Consejo había debatido. Espero que esto pueda satisfacer a la distinguida colega de Italia.

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): Je suis désolée, mais l'intervention de M. Bula Hoyos ne m'a pas beaucoup aidée parce qu'il n'y a pas eu de discussion. Il y a eu simplement l'exposé de la part du secrétariat et la réponse de la part de notre représentant.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Yo le rogaría, muy cordialmente, a la distinguida delegada de Italia que lea toda la primera frase del párrafo 12. Según mi propuesta diría así: "El Consejo había debatido la cuestión de la inmunidad de procedimiento judicial de la FAO en Italia en su 82º período de sesiones". O sea, en el pasado. Yo creo que esto está claro; lo debatimos en el pasado y al suprimir el término "recordó" le estamos dando razón a la delegada de Italia de que nadie insistió aquí en esto esta mañana. Yo creo que nuestra propuesta es correcta puesto que es decir que lo debatimos en el período pasado.

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): Je suis d'accord, on l'a discuté dans le passé, mais pas ce matin.

CHAIRMAN: Shall we just say "The Council had discussed the question of FAO's immunity from legal process in Italy at the 82nd Session and its 83rd Session" just to omit "recalled", "The Council had discussed". Is it acceptable to you?

Ms. A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italy): Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Paragraph 12, as amended, is approved. Any comments on paragraph 13?

Ms. A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italy): It is the same.

"Le Conseil a également rappelé ..."

I think it changes a little bit the structure of the paragraph if you only say "has discussed in the past".

CHAIRMAN: So we can again continue with the same formula "The Council had expressed at its 83rd Session great concern at a deteriorating situation", then it continues as it is. This approves paragraph 13. Any comments on paragraph 14?

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): Au milieu du paragraphe, il est dit que "le Gouvernement étudiait actuellement la possibilité d'amender la législation italienne en ce qui concerne l'immunité des Etats et des organisations internationales...". Ce n'est pas correct. Notre représentant n'a pas mentionné l'immunité des Etats. Il a mentionné l'immunité des propriétés des Etats et des organisations internationales. C'est sur ce point que doit porter la loi que l'on a l'intention de faire, l'immunité des actes d'exécution sur les propriétés des Etats et des organisations internationales.

Il y a une autre question. Je vous demanderai si possible de ne pas mentionner le mot "verbales" parce que les assurances données devant le Conseil ne peuvent être que verbales. Mais mettre le mot "verbales", cela donne un ton un peu trop grave.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Queremos apoyar las dos propuestas que ha hecho la distinguida delegada de Italia. Creo que ella está en su legítimo derecho de garantizar exactamente las manifestaciones que ha hecho aquí el representante de su país. Pero hemos pedido la palabra porque vamos un poco más allá, siempre con el ánimo de contribuir a que esta situación se solucione satisfactoriamente para todos. Ya el Presidente del Comité de Redacción, sin duda habrá notado, que hay "tomó nota" al principio del párrafo 14. Podríamos acaso decir "El Consejo acogió con satisfacción la declaración efectuada por el representante del Gobierno de Italia". Porque no lo dijimos; lo habíamos pensado decir, pero el momento era muy sometido a la presión del tiempo. Creo que a todos nos causa placer haber oído al Sr. Francischi que el Sr. Saouma se había encontrado con el Sr. Andreotti. O sea que "El Consejo acogió con satisfacción".

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: On behalf of the Director-General I must say that I am concerned about the proposed deletion of the word 'oral'. This is the problem. If we were to receive written assurances we would not be discussing the item at all today possibly, but we have only received oral assurances. It is not the case that it is only possible to make oral statements to the Council. It is open to any member state to circulate a document, to send a letter to the Director-General, which can be reproduced as a document. So I think 'oral' has a very specific and important meaning.

Mme A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italie): Au sujet du mot "verbales", je pense qu'il est exagéré de le mentionner. Ce sont des assurances données par le représentant du Gouvernement italien, et les assurances données pendant les réunions du Conseil sont des engagements. En tout cas, il s'agit de déclarations officielles et je pense qu'il faut y croire.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Quisiera conceder la razón a la distinguida colega de Italia, aunque comprendo las dificultades del Sr. West. Podríamos acaso decidimos por esta redacción. Podríamos decir: "En su declaración, el representante de Italia renovó asimismo las garantías", y suprimimos "orales".

CHAIRMAN: Then we make these two amendments to this paragraph, "amending Italian legislation regarding the immunity from measures of execution of State property and the property of inter-governmental organizations" and "In his statement the representative of Italy also renewed the assurances that had been given".

ZHONG SHUKONG (China): I hope, Mr. Chairman, that you can reconsider the term 'state properties', it should be 'state property'. Properties go along with theatrical companies, whereas property in the singular would mean what one owns. Could I seek clarification from our United Kingdom friends? Property and properties are two different things.

CHAIRMAN: Right - 'property of states'.

M.D. METELITS (United States of America): As the Council will recall, my delegation in the able manner of my Ambassador had proposed a paragraph to be added to our record. As a member of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters I might add a few points of information as to why this proposed paragraph might be germane. I can give an example of a concern. This Council a year ago adopted a resolution requesting the Director-General to keep the CCLM and the Finance Committee informed on certain developments. There has been in the interim a decision by the highest court in Italy on those issues. To date the outcome of that case has not been officially reported to the CCLM, while on the other hand it has been reported officially to the Finance Committee. One can agree certainly that there might be administrative and financial repercussions on a decision by a court. But one must also understand that usually there are legal implications on a court decision, and it is to be hoped that this would be a matter that would be considered relevant and germane for the CCLM. Indeed in reading the general text we see in Rule XXXVI, paragraph 3, that the CCLM is supposed to consider specific items referred by the Council or the Director-General which may arise out of, among other things, matters relating to membership in the organization and its relations with nations. Certainly this is germane. It is for the purpose of assisting this organization in areas in which a body that already exists has competence that my delegation had proposed a paragraph to be added. The paragraph reflects the statements that were made in this room by Member Nations-, statements which were not contradicted from the floor, although certainly the Secretariat had expressed other views. It has been the practice in this session that when a number of delegations express an opinion and no delegation rises to contradict or dispute that opinion this is in fact what the Council agrees. It is therefore my delegation's pleasure to offer for the wise consideration of our colleagues here the following paragraph, which I shall read if I may. This would be a new paragraph 17 to follow the current paragraph 16 on page 9 of REP/4 Section 1. The text would be as follows:

"The Council agreed that with respect to matters regarding relations between FAO and the host country government, issues relating to negotiations with the host country government as well as legal questions should be referred to the CCLM, while specific administrative and financial questions were properly the concern of the Finance Committee."

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Naturalmente no hemos tenido ocasión de tomar todavía en su forma completa la larga extensión del nuevo párrafo 17 que se propone. Queremos, como reacción preliminar, agradecer la comprensión y la tolerancia con que la distinguida Embajadora de los Estados Unidos aceptó nuestra propuesta de aplazar esta iniciativa hasta llegar ahora aquí donde nos encontramos, al párrafo 16 del REP 4.

En segundo lugar, nosotros oímos con inmenso placer la elocuentísima y sabia declaración de una joven mentalidad de abogado que, naturalmente, contrasta con lo que dijo la delegación de Colombia cuando se planteó este asunto, luego empiezo por sentar el hecho de que, por lo menos, nuestra delegación no estuvo de acuerdo con la interpretación que se dio a este punto.

Nos preocupa, en tercer lugar, y lo decimos con mucha sinceridad, la referencia un poco desobligante al Director General, en el sentido de que él haya menospreciado, que no haya tenido en debida consideración al importante organismo, el CACJ, y haya preferido enviar una cuestión jurídica al Comité de Finanzas. Creemos que esto es inaceptable, que nuestro Director General merece el más pleno respeto y la confianza de todos los representantes y de los Estados Miembros de nuestra Organización, y creemos que fue lamentable haber hecho esa referencia que no debería repetirse para argumentar en favor de la aceptación de esta propuesta.

Insistimos una vez más, el Consejero jurídico está aquí presente y sabe que el CACJ no puede ocuparse del fondo de ninguna propuesta, sino de la forma de aquellas propuestas que le sean remitidas por el Consejo.

No creemos deba aceptarse este nuevo párrafo 17 que en esencia repite lo que ya dice el 16, que ya ha sido acordado y que termina con la expresión "según fuera apropiado".

En tres palabras se recoge toda la elocuencia del colega de los Estados Unidos.

Creemos además que tampoco convendría que en un informe del Consejo vayamos a tratar de modificar el artículo 5 de la Constitución que habla del CACJ y tampoco de los artículos que hablan de las funciones del CACJ y repetir aquí lo que todos sabemos a través de 38 años de existencia de FAO, de que cada Comité se ocupa del asunto que le corresponde.

Nos parece, Sr. Presidente, inaceptable esta propuesta.

Ms. A. DELLA CROCE DI DOJOLA (Italy): I just wanted to support the proposal made by the delegate of the United States.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): We are not against the proposal made by the United States delegate when he says that a new paragraph 17, as he slowly dictated, should be inserted here. We are not against the spirit of it. But in our view it is a question of how it should be provided and where because it related to the working of a committee, it relates to its charter which already exists. Therefore, I think this matter should be examined by the Secretariat to see, if in the existing charter there is some ambiguity in the points in the new paragraph 17, how they can be amended or rectified so that they become self-contained and they answer the type of problems raised in this paragraph. I think it is a matter of where to fit it. I feel that unless that examination has been done and its rightful place determined and the manner of its doing it would not be proper to incorporate it in the proceedings of this Council in this manner because it has these constitutional and other legal implications.

L. ARIZA HIDALGO (Cuba): Nosotros queremos expresar que nos parece un poco intempestivo a estas horas, este gran párrafo que se pretende incluir en un tema que se ha debatido bastante en esta Sala. Fundamentalmente queremos expresar que independientemente de lo que está dentro del párrafo, poco varía; creemos que es improcedente por la razón institucional que ha aducido la representación de Colombia de que el CACJ no debe conocer de estos asuntos hasta no ser tratados por un comité de la Organización.

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): My intention is to be very brief and I simply raised my flag to offer the support of the UK both as a Member of this Council and as a Member of the CCLM to the proposal made by the United States for the reasons that he very lucidly set out. However, I am very sorry that I have to expand a little in my intervention, because I am quite sure that Mr. West is probably going to repeat what he said at the early juncture or something along those lines. Of course, he is entitled to give us his views and his guidance on this matter, but I do suggest and I would say this with great respect also to my Colombian colleague: that the point made by the US is simply one of the Council putting an interpretation on the terms of reference, and I call them that for ease of understanding to what is set out in the Basic Texts.

I was sorry that Mr. West suggested at an earlier stage that the proposal was an attempt to try to go round the back door to change those terms of reference. That is not what I had in mind. It is simply hoping that the Council, which I believe is the competent body, go as it were by taking an interpretation give some guidance to the Secretariat on the role that the CCLM should play. I simply repeat that paragraph 3 of the rule in question provides that "the CCLM shall consider items referred to it by the Council or the Director-General which may arise out of" and then it lists a number of things, and again, as the US said, if matters concerning the host country could not be included in the text of paragraph f, which reads "matters relating to membership in the Organization and its relations with nations", then there is obviously a gap somewhere in these terms of reference.

I will not go on, but I feel there is a misunderstanding about the purpose to the proposal that has been made by the US. It was certainly raised and supported during the debate, and I find it difficult to understand why colleagues should find it objectionable or even suggest that it should have to be referred back for consideration by the Secretariat.

This body surely, Sir, as the Council is entitled to put if it wishes an interpretation and so record it in its Report.

K.C.S. ACHARYA (India): I only wish to say this, when I suggested that it should be examined in the Secretariat that this Council should have an authority to request an opinion from the Secretariat whether the charter of the Committee is to be amended or it can be provided here in the minutes. We do not have that advice as yet before us, and therefore the Council cannot express a final view that it should be inserted here in this fashion.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I will not repeat all I said before, although I do want to stress that I adhere to what I said before. I would just ask you at this moment to look at the wording of this text and to tell you that were you to adopt it, I would advise the Director-General - and of course I do not know whether he would accept my advice - but I would advise the Director-General to take it to the Conference and to request that the matter be taken up in a proper way in consonance with the Constitution so that we get a clear decision at the highest level. The Constitution cannot be changed by interpretations of the Council.

Now, why am I saying this? When I look at this text I see that there are the words "as well as legal questions", so it is not only legal questions that this text addresses itself to. It says "as well as legal questions issues relating to negotiations with the host country government". In other words, any issue that might relate to any negotiation with the host country government and that again we come back to archeology and building accommodation and the Commissary quotas and Trust Fund Agreements, of which we now have many with the Italian Government. The CCLM wishes to involve itself in discussion of how many million dollars should go to an African country for its development. This is what the words could cover, and who knows what the ambitions of future members of the CCLM might be? These words are completely, I would say, unacceptable as an interpretation which bears any validity whatsoever to the existing approved text of the CCLM, and I consider also that this is a gross inflation of a minor incident in which the CCLM or some member of it seems to be discontented with the fact that at a certain stage, the question of the judgment of the Corte di Cassazione was not referred to them, it was referred to the Council. The question of time and circumstance should not be inflated in our view into a major constitutional problem in which Member States are going to have a lot of difficulties for a long time.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of): I was going to support that proposal after I listened very carefully to the explanation given by the United Kingdom. Now having heard what was said by Mr. West, actually, I do not see a necessity yet that the Conference is going to be involved. If we would stick to what the United Kingdom has said, that there was a gap and that the Council should give some direction to the CCLM to be more involved in matters of the Organization, then I would agree that this should be done.

CHAIRMAN: I think paragraph 16 now says: "The Council requested the Director-General to report developments to its Eighty-sixth Session through the Finance Committee and CCLM, as appropriate". If I may humbly suggest, this states to the Director-General that issues which should go to the CCLM should go to him through the Finance Committee, and at this late hour, whether you want to have a further debate on this or wait on the action taken on item 16 and consider it in detail at the Eighty-sixth Session, I would like to have your guidance.

M. D. METELITS (United States of America): If I may speak personally for just a moment, I have the greatest respect for Mr. West. I have known him only for a few years, but in those years I have found his opinions to be sound and his advice very generally to be sage. It is in that respect that my delegation has proposed a way in which Member States could assist or further assist the Director-General in what is, as he has already said and Mr. West has said to us, a very, very serious matter, a series of important issues.

Certainly, neither my delegation nor I myself has ambitions to create a super Organization out of the CCLM, and if it would be possible for us to receive an assurance from the Secretariat that in accordance with the provisions of Rule 34.3, sub-paragraph f that the CCLM will be consulted regarding the relations between the Organization and the host country, because it very clearly says "matters relating to ... its relations with nations", and certainly, the host country is a nation, Mr. Chairman - if we could have that assurance, then I would be glad to withdraw my proposal.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Lamento que por principio deba reaccionar negativamente ante la última declaración del eminente y sabio jurista de los Estados Unidos. Nosotros creemos que es una falta de respeto a la Organización y a la Secretaría exigir aquí la garantía de que se va a cumplir los textos básicos que hemos aprobado todos como la Biblia, como la guía fundamental de nuestras actividades. Yo creo que esto no es procedente y que ningún representante de ningún Estado por importante que sea tiene derecho a dudar de la imparcialidad y de la buena fe de la Administración de nuestra Organización.

Yo le pido cordial y respetuosamente a usted, Sr. Presidente, que le dé de nuevo la palabra al colega de los Estados Unidos, en primer lugar para que retire su propuesta y luego para que presente sus excusas por esta actitud que nosotros consideramos improcedente.

M. KHORAYCH (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Je voudrais dire que mon pays appuie ce qui a été proposé par la Colombie. Nous pensons en effet que le projet de paragraphe proposé par les Etats-Unis ne devrait pas être inséré dans ce rapport car il ne répond à aucun but positif.

R.F. de J. NETO (Angola): J'associe ma voix à celle du délégué de la Colombie et j'appuie également les affirmations du représentant du Liban pour dire que le paragraphe proposé par la délégation américaine ne doit pas être inséré au paragraphe 16. J'approuve également ce qui vient d'être demandé à la délégation américaine, c'est-à-dire qu'elle retire sa proposition en ce qui concerne sa dernière affirmation relative au Conseil.

M.D. METELITS (United States of America): My delegation does not want at this hour to take up any more time of this body with a proposal. We will withdraw the proposal, and I personally would like to speak to Mr West to explain to him our position.

Paragraphs 12 to 16, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 12 à 16, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 12 a 16, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraphs 17 to 19 approved

Les paragraphes 17 à 19 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 17 a 19 son aprobados

Draft Report of Plenary, Part IV, section 1, as amended, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, partie XV, section 1, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria, Parte IV, sección I, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT - PART IV SECTION 2
PROJET DE RAPPORT - PARTIE IV SECTION 2
PROYECTO DE INFORME - PARTE IV SECCION 2

Paragraphs 1 to 3 approved
Les paragraphes 1 à 3 sont approuvés
Los párrafos 1 a 3 son aprobados

Paragraph 4 approved
Le paragraphe 4 est approuvé
El párrafo 4 es aprobado

Paragraph 5 approved
Le paragraphe 5 est approuvé
El párrafo 5 es aprobado

PARAGRAPHS 6 and 7
PARAGRAPHES 6 et 7
PARRAFOS 6 y 7

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Señor Presidente, si usted me lo permite voy a hacer dos propuestas con-juntas sobre los párrafos 6 y 7, siempre con todo respeto por el Sr. Boxali, nuestro Presidente del Comité de Redacción. Propongo que tanto en el párrafo 6 como en el 7 en vez de "tomó" nota" se diga "y señaló la competencia y experiencia", en ambos párrafos.

Paragraphs 6 and 7, as amended, approved
Les paragraphes 6 et 7, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés
Los párrafos 6 y 7, así enmendados, son aprobados

CHAIRMAN: Then the last item, "Date and Place of the Eighty-fifth Session of the Council". From past experience it can be that sometimes the Conference concludes early, it could be the 24th or 25th, so immediately after the conclusion of the Conference. So I would suggest it might probably be on the 25th or it may be the 24th; it depends when the Conference concludes.

Paragraph 8 approved
Le paragraphe 8 est approuvé
El párrafo 8 es aprobado

CHAIRMAN: This brings us to the close of the adoption of the Report. I want to thank most sincerely the Chairmen and members of the Drafting Committee for the outstanding work they have done, and before I bring this meeting to a close, is there any comment by anybody else?

Draft Report of Plenary, Part IV, Section 2, as amended, was adopted
Le projet de rapport de la pléniere, partie IV, Section 2, ainsi amendée, est adoptée
El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria, Parte IV, Sección 2, así enmendado, es aprobado

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: The Director-General asked me to say a few words on his behalf at the end of the Council, simply of course to say how grateful he is to the Council and to yourself Mr. Chairman, for this very short but very full and fruitful session of the Council, especially as it has shown such an extraordinary degree of consensus and good feeling about many issues. We have had our moments of course, not least this evening, but the Council would be very dull without such occasions, and the Council has concluded its business at least on a note of good fellowship and constructive accomplishment. So on behalf of the Director-General I would like to thank you all and to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your very patient and courteous but effective conduct of these proceedings.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): No podría, a pesar de lo tardío de la hora, limitarme a tomar nota de que todos estamos muy satisfechos con la forma tan acertada y eficaz como usted, señor Presidente, ha dirigido nuestros trabajos.

Queremos, igualmente, expresar nuestro agradecimiento a los distinguidos vicepresidentes, al Sr. Boxali, Presidente del Comité de Redacción, y a los miembros que le acompañaron en su tarea de presentarnos el proyecto de informe.

Igualmente estamos agradecidos a los Presidentes de los Comités del Programa, de Finanzas, del CACJ y todos los demás representantes de organismos que presentaron sus informes a nuestra consideración.

Al Sr. West pedimos transmita al Director General nuestro reconocimiento por el aporte valioso y constructivo que la Organización ofrece a las reuniones del Consejo. Como lo ha dicho el Sr. West, es cierto que hubo algunos debates que parecieron ser acalorados en determinado momento, pero nosotros creemos que eso corresponde al carácter esencial del Consejo, en el seno del cual de la controversia surge siempre la cordura y el entendimiento, espíritus con los cuales vamos a pasar pasado mañana a la próxima Conferencia. Gracias.

CHAIRMAN: I promised our interpreters that they would not be kept beyond 9 p.m. so I will say a few words and close this particular session of the Council, the Eighty-fourth Session. I must at this time thank all the messengers, our interpreters, the people who are doing the verbatim records and all those who are working here for us. I think they are remarkable. Of course it is just a preparation for them, this meeting, because for the whole of this month they are going to be exceedingly busy, but I have always admired their patience, and they are all the time listening but we are at least talking or walking. We are very grateful to them, the interpreters who are helping to overcome language barriers and the people who are taking our records. We will soon adjourn but for them the work will start, getting the verbatim records transcribed and so on. We greatly appreciate this tremendous number of anonymous people who really make for the success of our Organization, and efficiency. I want to express our very sincere gratitude to all of them.

Then of course my gratitude goes to our Secretary-General, Mr. Sylla, and Mr. Henderson and all the group who are directly concerned with the servicing of the Council. They have also been exceedingly patient and exceedingly helpful. I want to thank Mr. Sylla; he is a wonderful person as I think I told you last time in June. He is a remarkable man, a perfect gentleman, a great human being and also a great asset to the work of the Council.

I would like to thank the three Vice-Chairmen. I apologize to them; I would have liked to see them sitting here in my chair but this meeting was so short that I could not take advantage of their great experience. All three are very distinguished Vice-Chairmen - Mr. Pinoargot of Ecuador, M. Féquant of France and Mr. Qureshi of Pakistan. I want to thank them for lending dignity and their names to this particular meeting.

Already much has been said about the Chairman and members of the Drafting Committee, Mr. Boxali, and the representatives of Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, India, Mexico, New Zealand, Iraq, Norway, Thailand and the United States of America. We were complaining about our long hours but they worked about eight hours last night; they went home at about 12.30 am and reconvened at about 8 o'clock in the morning. I want to thank them most sincerely. My sincere thanks go to Ms. Kay Killingsworth and her associates for the help they have given to the Drafting Committee.

If I may suggest to Mr. West and the Organization, I think on such occasions when the drafting committee has to work during late hours in the evening and night, the Organization could spend a little money to give them a working dinner. I asked Mr. Sylla yesterday whether he has made any arrangements but he was kind enough to ring me up to say that coffee was being arranged. It is certainly worthwhile to show consideration for the people who work until midnight. And not only the Members who are going to draft but also the interpreters and other staff who are going to assist them. Although we have serious financial difficulties I would plead for some funds to provide some sandwiches to the members and the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and to the staff helping them. I hope this can be arranged for next time.

We have been helped in our work by all the committees. Mr. Trkulja is not here, the Chairman of the Programme Committee. Rich tributes have been rightly paid to him, as well as to Mr. Abeyagoonasekera, the Finance Committee Chairman and the Finance Committee members. Our thanks go to Mr. Glaser of CCLM, the work of which has been much under discussion today; Mr. Carandang, who also is not here, of the Committee on commodity problems; Mr. Abdu Rachman of the Committee on Fisheries, who did excellent work, and his members; Mr. Peterson of the Committee on Forestry; Mr. Norman Tape of the Committee on Agriculture and Mr. Muir of the Committee on World Food Security. All these committees' reports come to us in the Council, and I want to thank the Chairmen and the members of these Committees for their outstanding work.

The Director-General and Mr. West and all their senior colleagues have always been most helpful and understanding and have always given whatever information we ask for. As the Canadian delegate said, the documents are transparent, and I have seen when I sat through the Programme and Finance Committees, any information asked for was immediately forthcoming, and we want to transmit through Mr. West to the Director-General our sincere gratitude for all that he has done to help the Council in its work and the outstanding work that has been done.

Of course we would like to convey best wishes on behalf of the Council to the Honourable Mr. J.R. Block, the Chairman of the Conference, and H.E. José Ramon López Portillo Romano, who is going to be Chairman of Commission I, H.E. Chaka Ntsane, Chairman of Commission II, and Mr. T. Glaser, Chairman of Commission III, and also to the members of the Nominations Committee of the Conference and to other officers.

Finally to you, Council members, and the observers, the NGOs and others who make the Council sessions worthwhile, I want to thank you most sincerely. As you know my two-year term is coming to an end with this session and I have greatly benefited and enjoyed working with all of you; it has been a distinct privilege and pleasure. Somebody said occasionally heat is generated in our meeting but I have not seen heat here. If there is heat it leads to light, and that is what is important. We have more heartwarming light. It has been a source of concentrated education to me on this podium, listening to so many distinguished people all committed to the same cause. I do hope that the spirit of cooperation and comradeship will continue and prevail because I for one believe in an old saying for which there are many versions in different languages. It says "I searched for my God; God I could not find. I searched for my soul; soul I could not find. I searched for my friend; I found all the three." Ultimately in life I think it is friendship and comradeship and cooperation which count, and I have enjoyed it in great measure from all of you, for which I am deeply grateful. Thank you all very much.

I see it is ten minutes beyond our promised time. I thank you all and I wish you all a very purposeful time in the Conference. I hope we will have a very successful Conference because each Conference is a renewal of faith in the Organization and that faith is one like the Olympic flame. It is an eternal flame which we should keep alive because after all food is first among the hierarchical needs of man. Thank you once again, I hope you will have a nice dinner and rest. With this, this Session comes to a close.

(Applause)

(Applaudissements)

(Aplausos)

The meeting rose at 21.15 hours

La séance est levée à 21 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 21.15 horas