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منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للامم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE CONFERENCIA

Twenty-ninth Session • Vingt-neuvième session • 29º período de sesiones

Rome, 7-18 November 1997
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OF THE CONFERENCE

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10 November 1997



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FIRST MEETING OF COMMISSION I
PREMIERE SEANCE DE LA COMMISSION I
PRIMERA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN I

10 November 1997

The First Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours
Mr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La première séance est ouverte à 10 h 00
sous la présidence de M. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Président de la Commission I

Se abre la primera sesión a las 10.00 horas
bajo la presidencia del Sr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Presidente de la Comisión I

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET POLITIQUES EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION
ET D'AGRICULTURE
I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA
ALIMENTACION

7. The World Food Summit and its follow-up (C 97/7)
7. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi (C 97/7)
7. La Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento (C 97/7)

CHAIRMAN

Distinguished delegates, observers, representatives of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies and others. I am greatly honoured to chair Commission I of the Conference, and feel confident that with your cooperation and with the help of the Vice-Chairmen and Secretariat we will achieve the objectives in front of us with much efficiency and harmony and in a timely manner.

I would like to remind you that Commission I of the Conference deals with major trends and policies in food and agriculture, with the exception of the general debate in Plenary on the State of Food and Agriculture. As far as the appointment of the Commission's Vice-Chairmen is concerned, I am pleased to inform that Ambassador Dominici from France and Mr. Atul Sinha from India are the two Vice-Chairmen of this Commission. As far as the Drafting Committee is concerned, I still do not have the names, as soon as I get them I will announce them to you for your information.

Let us speak now about the time available for the debate. I would like to draw the attention of the distinguished delegates to document C 97/12 which sets out arrangements for the Twenty-ninth Session of the Conference, in particular paragraph 25 which emphasizes the procedures and debate during the session. May I also point out that Commission I is scheduled to meet for only four working sessions: Monday and Tuesday, today and tomorrow, 10th and 11th November respectively, to debate the issues in the six agenda items before it and to adopt its report on Thursday, 13th November. This will call for the utmost discipline regarding the lengths of our interventions.

Distinguished delegates, we have been talking a lot about savings in different FAO meetings, so today we have the chance to put these talks to a test by trying to keep our discussion short and within the timeframe allocated to us. I would appeal to you to please keep your statements and interventions short, and not to discuss issues raised by previous speakers. Just make a reference to that, and you can be sure that it will appear in the minutes of the meeting and the Verbatim Record of the Conference. If possible please hand out your statements to the Secretariat for inclusion in the Verbatim Records and present only a concise version of that in the discussions. I tend to give priority to the representatives of OECD, Group of 77 and regional groups in various statements, so that it makes it easier for you to make a difference between the points they have made. This way we can shorten the time of discussion if they are ready to do so, which I do not know yet. As far as working hours of the session are concerned, please note that the Commission should have its work completed and its Report adopted by Thursday, 13th November. On this basis, I propose the Commission's working hours as follows: morning sessions 09.30 to 12.30 hours and afternoon 14.30 to 17.30 hours. Unfortunately, this morning we could not start on time, but I hope that we can make up for the delay in the coming sessions. In case all our efforts do not work, it may be necessary to extend sessions beyond the normal closing time or an extra session may prove to be necessary. We will announce it later for your information. You all know that the agenda has been adopted by the Plenary of the Conference, so we do not have an adoption of the agenda and can therefore start with the adopted agenda.

The main items to be covered by Commission I are shown in part one of the agenda that you may see as document C 97/1. Commission I will cover Agenda Items 7 to 12. The first Item on the Agenda is, therefore, Item 7. If there are no points we can start with our Agenda. The floor is open to discussion. So, we consider the Agenda adopted by Commission. Now we will start with the main document on Agenda Item 7, which is document C 97/7.

As you know, the World Food Summit was held successfully exactly one year ago in this building and our Heads of Government and Ministers made lots of commitments for the achievement of food security for all. Among other things, they committed to reduce the number of hungry people by half by the year 2015. After a year, we are here to see what has been done, what we are going to do and with our discussion enrich the debates and help the Organization in its endeavours towards this very humanitarian goal. Now I will give the floor to Ms Killingsworth, Special Adviser for World Food Summit Follow-up, to introduce her document. You have the floor, Madam.

Ms Kay KILLINGSWORTH (Special Adviser for World Food Summit Follow-Up)

The World Food Summit was a major event in the life of this Organization and its influence will be felt for many years to come. In his statement to the Conference on Saturday, the Director-General has already described FAO's priority initiatives in follow-up to the World Food Summit. The Medium-Term Plan and the Programme of Work and Budget document for 1998-99 also cover in detail the activities of FAO, as they are influenced now by the Summit's commitments. We look forward in the days to come also to hearing from the interventions, not only this morning but also those in Plenary, initial reports from countries themselves on what actions are being taken at the national level. All of this, I think, adds to the total perspective on the World Food Summit one year later.

With regard to this Item in the Agenda of the Commission today, and in particular document C 97/7 which is before you, the purpose is to permit the Conference to make an assessment of the global impact of the Summit and to give guidance for its follow-up, concentrating in this context not necessarily on FAO's technical work, but rather on the catalytic role which FAO's inter-governmental bodies and its Secretariat are expected to play. That role, was defined, I think, very eloquently by the Chairman of the Conference on Friday as transforming hope into collective strength, and then into action.

It was in this Commission two years ago that you agreed to convene the Summit and prepared, for submission to Plenary, what became Resolution 2/95 which defined the Summit's objectives and the parameters for its preparation. The Conference entrusted to the Committee on World Food Security the responsibility for acting as focal point for the preparations for the Summit and requested the Committee to report through the Council to this Session of the Conference on all aspects of the event and its follow-up. So what you have in document C 97/7, Mr. Chairman, is the Committee's Report as adopted at its Twenty-third Session in April this year, and as endorsed by the Council.

You will have noted that the CFS addressed the question in a dynamic and forward-looking manner, focusing on making effective arrangements to fulfil the critical role which the Summit entrusted to it to monitor implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action. Since the meeting of the Committee and the Council, there have been some new developments in the areas covered by the Committee's Report and these are reported to you in paragraphs 2 to 14 of C 97/7. As this part of the document was prepared quite recently, I think little further updating is necessary. I would like to mention that the UN General Assembly did consider last week the Director-General's Report on the Summit, which had gone to ECOSOC earlier this year, and the sense of the debate in the Assembly was extremely positive. Another piece of factual information: the dates of the meeting of the Inter-Agency Working Group on FIVIMS mentioned in paragraph 13 of the document have now been fixed for 8 to 10 December of this year.

One important area on which no updating has been given in those first paragraphs of the document is the involvement of civil society, which made a great contribution to the preparation of the Summit and which is of course crucial for the follow-up. That doesn't mean, however, that little is happening, far from it. The Parliamentarians who met, as you will recall, during the Summit have decided through the Inter-Parliamentary Union to convene a Conference of Parliamentarians here in Rome next year on the contribution of sustainable agriculture to the achievement of World Food Summit goals. In various regions, civil society organizations are forming networks and are carrying out advocacy work and implementing programmes for food security. The INGO observers to this Conference met on Saturday, and I believe that later on in your debate you will hear a Report from them.

As pointed out in the document, the year 1997 has seen significant progress in setting up the system required to promote action and to monitor progress in the years to come. In making its own assessment of the impact of the Summit, the Conference will undoubtedly wish to take the same forward-looking approach and give guidance to both Council and to the CFS, as well as to the Secretariat, on how to proceed in the coming years. Some of the points which the Conference may wish to consider are contained in paragraph 19 of the document before you. Allow me to provide just a few words of explanation on some of these issues on which a decision of the Conference is suggested.

Paragraph 19 (a), refers to the national reports which, as you know, have been called for by 31 December 1998 on the first year of implementation. It is very difficult to overstress the importance of ensuring that all countries which participated in the Summit do submit their first reports on implementation within that deadline, because it will only be on the basis of those reports that the CFS can establish a benchmark situation against which to monitor future progress. Paragraph 19 (b) suggests that the reporting which has been carried out over a number of years on the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development might be folded into this process. Again, we know the burden that preparation of these reports places on many countries, and it is for this reason that the Secretariat proposes -- since the substance of the issues covered by the WCARRD reporting is contained now in the Plan of Action -- that you may wish to avoid duplicative work both at the national level and in the Secretariat and the discussions by intergovernmental bodies, and that you may decide that henceforth reporting on WCARRD will take place as part of the reporting on the relevant sections of the World Food Summit Plan of Action. Your decision on this matter will then be communicated to the ECOSOC which also receives regular reporting through FAO on the outcome of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

Speaking of ECOSOC and our partner organizations, in particular those of the UN System, the Summit attached utmost importance to ensuring their contribution to follow-up in view of the multi-dimensional nature of food security. It is suggested the Conference may wish to reiterate the call for all organizations with a mandate touching on aspects of food security to both support the implementation effort and provide information on their activities to the Committee on World Food Security. With reference to paragraphs 19 (e) and (f), we suggest that the Conference may also wish to request the Committee on World Food Security to provide a first report on implementation of the Plan of Action through the Council to the ECOSOC in 1999, and that the Conference may wish to return to the question itself at its Thirtieth Session later in the same year, 1999.

Some information of a practical nature: The Conference has a document called C 97/INF/20-Sup. 1, with a supplement No.1, which in the overall context of coverage of inter-agency cooperation refers also to the World Food Summit and the initiatives taken in that context. I suggest you might wish to make any comments you might have on the relevant paragraphs during this debate.

Finally, the report of the World Food Summit itself, Part one, has been out since early this year and I am sure that all of you have seen it. Part two of the World Food Summit report, I am happy to announce, is finally available. Hopefully, it will be at the documents desk today or at the latest tomorrow. It contains the verbatim transcription of all interventions made during the five days of the World Food Summit. Putting it together has required a major effort. It is a multi-lingual document, and we think it will be of value in many different ways. We also have a revised list of participants available now at the documents desk. In line with our policy of relying as much as possible on electronic means for dissemination and archiving of important information, we will have a CD-ROM available with all of the documents, including these new documents, hopefully before the end of this Conference.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much Ms Killingsworth, we have listened to your introduction - as a matter of fact we are used to listening to your introductory remarks during the past two years which are always very skilfully done.

We also have the pleasure of having Mr Hjort, Deputy Director-General, here with us and I welcome you, Mr Hjort.

As you heard, the Secretariat is asking you to focus your attention on paragraph 19 of the document before us, but you are welcome to comment on any other issues you deem necessary. The floor is open to the general debate. First let me see if any of the representatives of the regional groups are willing to take the floor. I see none, so we can draw up a list of speakers. The floor is open please. The list is still open and you can add your name to the list. We will start with the first speaker on the list which is Angola.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Comme c'est la première fois que ma délégation prend la parole dans cette Commission, je voudrais avant tout m'acquitter d'un agréable devoir. En effet, j'aimerais m'associer aux autres orateurs pour vous présenter mes félicitations pour votre élection à ce poste. Les mêmes félicitations s'adressent également à MM. les Vices-Présidents ainsi qu'aux autres membres du Bureau appelés à vous épauler dans cette exaltante tâche de coordination de nos travaux.

Devant le tableau désolateur de la situation alimentaire mondiale actuelle ainsi que ses perspectives d'avenir, ils se sont engagés à la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action défini par le Sommet. Cependant, il est regrettable de constater que les modestes ressources allouées à l'aide publique au développement et l'aide alimentaire ainsi qu'aux organismes internationaux, comme la FAO, pour résoudre avec efficacité le problème grave posé à l'agriculture et à l'alimentation continue à s'amenuiser. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation avait recommandé, dans le cadre de l'objectif 5.2, la mise en oeuvre d'un système d'information et de cartographie de la sécurité et de la vulnérabilité alimentaires (en sigle SICIVA), considéré comme le fer de lance de la coopération dans ce domaine. C'est avec satisfaction que nous avons appris, comme l'indique le paragraphe 13, le lancement de ce système. Par conséquent, nous profitons de l'opportunité qui nous est offerte pour manifester notre appui au Plan de travail proposé en vue de l'élaboration progressive et la mise en place du SICIVA au niveau national et international en tirant parti de systèmes et mécanismes d'information pré-existants, sans oublier le soutien extra-budgétaire de la Banque mondiale et du Gouvernement Japonais.

Ma délégation voudrait encourager les autres donateurs à suivre l'exemple de ces deux premiers cités. S'agissant du protocole d'accord, conclu entre le Haut Commissaire aux Droits de l'Homme et le Directeur général de la FAO le 29 mai dernier pour promouvoir les activités portant sur le droit à la nourriture, nous ne pourrons qu'exprimer notre satisfaction pour la concrétisation de cette action conformément au mandat du Comité des Droits économiques, sociaux et culturels et à l'objectif 7.4 du Plan d'Action.

En ce qui concerne le paragraphe 12, le droit à la nourriture est un des droits inaliénables à tout être humain. L'Angola souscrit pleinement à cette proposition qui consiste à inscrire ce droit dans la législation. Mon pays est en train de revoir sa loi fondamentale et cet aspect important sera du moins pris en compte par le législateur angolais.

Ma délégation se félicite de l'organisation d'un séminaire d'experts de haut niveau, comme il est prévu au paragraphe 11, et croit que la FAO prendra une part active à ce séminaire grâce aux avantages comparatifs dont elle dispose dans ce domaine. Concernant l'initiative du Directeur général de lancer l'opération *Téléfood* dans le cadre de la célébration annuelle de la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation, ma délégation est convaincue que cette initiative répond aux directives du Sommet. Elle permet de maintenir l'intérêt du public sur la décision prise lors du Sommet de faire prendre conscience du fléau que constituent la faim et la malnutrition, mobiliser la bonne volonté ainsi que les ressources supplémentaires pour contribuer à la lutte pour la sécurité alimentaire. *Téléfood 1997* a atteint cet objectif en touchant plusieurs centaines de millions de téléspectateurs dans plus de 70 pays. Elle a permis de mobiliser des fonds pour appuyer des projets au profit des communautés rurales pauvres des pays en développement. Ma délégation appuie avec force l'intention du Directeur général de faire du *Téléfood* un évènement annuel.

D'autre part, l'engagement pris par le Directeur général lors du lancement du *Téléfood*, qui prévoit qu'aucune somme ne sera affectée à des dépenses administratives ou de soutien de l'Organisation, nous réjouit. Cependant, ma délégation voudrait exprimer une préoccupation: si ce qui précède est accepté par les Etats Membres, par la Conférence, l'Organisation devra mobiliser et recevoir les contributions extra-budgétaires volontaires pour lui permettre d'assurer la promotion et la coordination de cette opération au niveau mondial.

Nous osons espérer que les fonds collectés seront effectivement utilisés pour promouvoir la sécurité alimentaire et lutter contre la faim dans le monde. En Angola, un Comité national a été créé à cet effet, réunissant plusieurs membres du Gouvernement, ceci pour démontrer l'engagement de l'Etat angolais pour la concrétisation de cet objectif. Dans le cadre de l'opération *Téléfood*, des visites sur le terrain ont été effectuées. Nous avons assisté à une forte participation des médias publics et privés pour sensibiliser l'opinion nationale sur l'importance de cet évènement qui s'est traduit par des dons en nature et en espèces.

Monsieur le Président, je voudrais vous informer que jusqu'à aujourd'hui l'opération *Téléfood* continue. Mon pays ne manquera pas de présenter les résultats de cette campagne à la FAO, comme tous les autres pays. L'Organisation informera ses Etats Membres dans un avenir très proche sur les résultats obtenus. Ma délégation croit que, dans l'avenir, l'opération *Téléfood* devrait s'étendre à tous les pays membres de l'Organisation et des Nations Unies pour sensibiliser aussi bien les 150 Etats Membres en développement et en transition que l'autre catégorie d'Etats Membres, les pays développés. N'oublions pas que ce sont 186 pays qui ont adopté la Déclaration de Rome et le Plan d'action du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation.

Puisque j'ai la parole, ma délégation demande à M. le Président de ne pas clôre le point sur le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi. Ma délégation, avec quelques autres délégations et ceux qui sont intéressés, voudrait présenter ou soumettre à la Conférence un Projet de résolution sur le *Téléfood*. Pour terminer, ma délégation appuie le contenu du paragraphe 19 qui englobe plusieurs considérations.

Mohammad MEJBAHUDDIN (Bangladesh)

First of all congratulations to you, Mr Chairman, and to your Vice-Chairmen on your election to the Bureau of the Commission.

The document C 97/7 provides a unique opportunity to review the follow-up actions that have been undertaken at FAO, other international organizations and at national and regional levels. We believe that the careful monitoring of the food insecurity situation throughout the world through a predictable and universal mechanism will permit us to gradually realise the commitments made at the World Food Summit in 1996 in Rome. We are happy to note that adequate institutional arrangements have already been made as a necessary follow-up measure to the World Food Summit. We are in complete agreement with the decision of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, ACC, to set up the inter-agency follow-up to the Summit within the framework of the UN Resident Coordinator System at the country level, with support provided globally through the ACC Network appointed jointly by FAO, IFAD, World Food Programme and other concerned UN organizations. We also commend the unanimous decision of the Committee on World Food Security to ask for the national reports on the implementation of Plan of Action by January 1998.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the distinguished delegates through you that as a follow-up in Bangladesh we have already undertaken a few important measures in this regard. First of all, our Ministry of Agriculture, with the assistance of FAO, has prepared a document entitled "Measures, Strategies and Programme Framework for Agriculture Development in Bangladesh". It is being utilised as an important reference document for the preparation of a five-year plan for the agricultural sector. Second, in order to implement the decisions of the World Food Summit, a policy document entitled "Strategy of National Agriculture Development - Horizon 2010" is being drafted under the close supervision of FAO. The document indicates the medium-term development study to attain food security. Thirdly, the Government of Bangladesh in collaboration with FAO, has prepared and finalised a National Plan of Action on Nutrition. Finally, two new TCP projects have been approved recently which are in direct support of the Special Programme for Food Security.

We believe strongly that the main responsibilities for initiating programmes in line with the commitments rest with the concerned national governments. However, developing countries will require technical and financial assistance in this regard. Special assistance will be needed to improve the quality and interpretation of statistical data related to the identification of areas where urgent remedial actions would be necessary. We warmly welcome the signing of the MoU between FAO and the Commission for Human Rights for further cooperation to establish the right to food. Recognition of the human right to food and to be free from hunger is a moral victory for the impoverished of the world. Declarations of human rights, of course, are necessary but are not sufficient to improve the lives of the food insecure and hungry. As a matter of fact, fighting world hunger requires overcoming economic, technical, political and cultural constraints in the less fortunate parts of the world. Acceptance of the right to food can help in the design and implementation of programmes in the right direction. In the post-Cold War developing world human right, the right to food will provide a moral compass and motive power indispensable for our journey to the hunger-free world, but the need for the sound ship will always be there.

Now we have some brief specific comments on the work plan for the development of the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping Systems (FIVIMS). It is important that food security is monitored through indicators which represent accurately the situation at hand. The need for appropriate indicators of food security/insecurity can hardly be over-emphasised. Food security is not national food availability. While this is a necessary condition, it is not sufficient. People must have physical and economic access to food to be able to consume it. FAO uses three statistics, namely, dietary and energy supply (DES); dietary and energy requirements (DER); and co-efficient of variation (CV) in dietary energy intakes to estimate the incidence of chronic malnourishment around the world. Various independent studies have shown that the FAO measure of chronic undernourishment is essentially an indicator of national food availability rather than of food security and people's access to food. Actually, we believe what is needed in addition is an indicator that reflects current and future food access and one that is comparable

across countries. For this purpose, one good starting point may be a nationally representative survey based data on consumption which will indicate actual intakes of energy and a variety of nutrients. We would expect that the inter-agency working group in its next meeting will consider this when selecting appropriate indicators of food insecurity.

Ismael BERNAL MAURE (Panamá)

Permítame, a nombre de la delegación de la República de Panamá y en el mío propio, expresarle nuestra sincera complacencia por su merecida elección como Presidente de la Comisión I. Su presencia en el estrado presidencial representa para nosotros la seguridad de éxito de nuestros debates y la garantía de una equidad en el desenvolvimiento de los mismos. Por su digno conducto extendemos nuestras felicitaciones a los demás miembros de la mesa.

En relación con el tema de nuestro debate, deseamos referirnos, de manera general, a las acciones de seguimiento de la Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación . Al respecto, deseamos manifestar nuestra satisfacción por el trabajo que se realiza en 150 Estados Miembros en el desarrollo y en la transición sobre las estrategias nacionales para la agricultura y la seguridad alimentaria hacia el año 2010.

Tal como lo planteara el Director General en su discurso inaugural, es de esperar que los países desarrollados miembros de la FAO participen en la elaboración de documentos análogos que permitan la preparación de un marco global para la colaboración con la FAO. De la misma manera, nuestra delegación expresa su apoyo y su satisfacción por el inicio del desarrollo del Sistema de Información y Cartografía sobre la Inseguridad y Vulnerabilidad alimentaria , que se ejecuta en estrecha colaboración con otros organismos del sistema de las Naciones Unidas.

Estamos convencidos que para alcanzar el objetivo de reducir a la mitad, en el año 2015, la cifra de 800 millones de personas que padecen hambre y malnutrición, no bastan las palabras y las buenas intenciones, son necesarias acciones concretas, tales como el Programa Especial de Seguridad Alimentaria, el Programa USAID contra las plagas y enfermedades transfronterizas de los animales; la red mundial de unidades nacionales y el fortalecimiento de la capacidad de intervención rápida; la asistencia para los países para combatir y erradicar epizootias y enfermedades en las plantas, así como también otras acciones, como el apoyo a los Estados Miembros en la aplicación de los acuerdos de Marrakesh.

La delegación de Panamá considera oportuno referirse al éxito obtenido por *Telefood*, que más allá de lograr éxitos económicos, tuvo el mérito de haber concientizado la opinión pública mundial sobre el grave problema del hambre y la malnutrición. Al respecto, nuestra delegación quisiera ser solidaria con la solicitud que ha presentado la República de Angola para que se le dé la oportunidad de presentar un Proyecto de resolución con el fin de analizar el tema en cuestión de *Telefood*.

Ms Mary Ann KEEFFE (United States of America)

In addition to producing a very useful blueprint for countries to follow in pursuing food security, the United States of America believes that the World Food Summit produced a great deal of important momentum, which we are committed to building upon. The Committee on World Food Security did a good job last spring in taking the first step to design a follow-up reporting mechanism. It is now up to all countries to take that requirement seriously - not just to report on what they were already doing, but to be working on plans to strengthen that effort. In the United States, the policy oversight body which guides our work on food security, decided shortly after the Summit that we would produce a United States Action Plan on food security. We have been hard at work on it, and we expect to have a first draft by early next year. We are doing it in collaboration with civil society, so it will not just be a government plan, it will have both domestic and international components.

Mr Chairman, we are very pleased to report that the United States has adopted the goal of reducing hunger by 50 percent no later than the year 2015 as a domestic goal as well as internationally. The United States Action Plan will be long-range in nature. It is a complex and challenging task, but one that we believe is too important to let slide. The reports which are prepared for the next Committee on World Food Security meeting will be a good indication on how seriously countries are taking the Summit Plan of Action. While we would not expect a great deal of new action to have been taken in time to incorporate in the reports taken next January, it is important that countries do a serious job of documenting what they are doing to serve as a benchmark for future reports. In that regard, we concur in the Secretariat's proposal that the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development report before the end of the Summit follow-up reporting. That would certainly be consistent with the broad array of issues which food security encompasses.

With respect to interagency cooperation within the United Nations System, we think the Food Security and Rural Development network set up under the Administrative Committee on Coordination is a useful first step in promoting coordination within the UN System of food security efforts. Close coordination and the efficient and non-competitive use of resources need to be continuing agenda items for all UN Agencies contributing to food security. We are pleased with the initiative which FAO has taken to carry out the Summit charge of facilitating work on the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability in Mapping System. Accurate and timely data is fundamental to national and international response to the problem of hunger and malnutrition. We fully support this effort and are ready to work with FAO in this important endeavour. This information is critical to the follow-up effort. FAO should continue to play a catalytic role in assuring that there is effective coordination within the UN System and that the system which is developed is done so with the full participation of developing countries, and that the result is a distributive system, and one in which many interlinked players have responsibility for parts of the system, not one overarching system run by one Organization.

We remain somewhat concerned about the path FAO has outlined for the evolution of FIVIMS. We feel FAO should not proceed with this Plan until it has fully assessed the food security information of its Member Nations and updated the Plan accordingly. In addition, we feel FAO should broaden the range of partners within the perimeters of FIVIMS to include other large-scale database efforts that cover themes related to food security. The UN's Global Terrestrial Observing System, in which FAO already participates, or efforts of regional organizations, like IGADD's Regional Integrated Information System, come to mind as examples. We feel this should help to build active participation at the national level by illustrating multiple uses for the same data and suggesting cost-saving opportunities.

With respect to FAO's own Programme of Work, we are encouraged by the Director-General's instructions to FAO staff to review all of its activities in light of the outcome of the World Food Summit. A strong consensus emerged from the Summit that we need to work on all aspects of the food security equation at the same time, if we are going to eliminate hunger and malnutrition. Production improvements alone will not do it. Emergency programmes alone will not do it. We need to get the policies right. We need to assure that sustainability, trade liberalization, economic and political stability and population stabilization are all addressed. FAO needs to continue to evolve into the kind of organization that will best support this new paradigm.

With respect to the issue of Right to Food, the Plan of Action clearly invited the UN High Commissioner to assume the primary action on this question. We believe the expert human rights bodies, especially the Commission on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, have the mandate and resources within the UN System, to direct, as envisioned in the World Food Summit of Plan of Action, the follow-up on this issue and to report back to the Committee on World Food Security on a regular basis. FAO, as a technical agricultural organization, need not provide technical assistance on this issue. FAO's contribution to ensuring all people have access to safe

and nutritious food is most appropriate through its normative and programmatic activities that ensure countries can effectively implement their World Food Summit commitments.

Zhang XIGUI (China) (Original language Chinese)

First of all, please allow me, on behalf of the Chinese delegation, to express our thanks to the Secretariat for its efforts in preparing documents C 97/7 and to Ms Killingsworth for her introduction. The documents and introduction have been very helpful for our discussion today.

The World Food Summit held in November last year, adopted the World Food Summit Rome Declaration and the World Food Summit Plan of Action. This has extremely important and far-reaching significance in reaffirming the commitments of the international community and governments of various countries to eradicate hunger and malnutrition, in raising the awareness of the international community and governments of different countries of the issue of food security, in strengthening international cooperation, and in promoting government efforts for the realization of food security. As a follow-up activity of the World Food Summit, FAO has worked out the strategy for agricultural development towards 2010 for some countries and is making necessary institutional and legal arrangements that will monitor the implementation of the World Food Security Rome Declaration and the Plan of Action at national, regional and international levels.

In October of this year, a global TeleFood programme was organized on the occasion of World Food Day for the purpose of further attracting people's attention to the issue of food. During the activities of World Food Day this year, the Vice-Premier of our country made a special speech for World Food Day. In our whole country, we organized activities for selling food and cherishing food. All such activities are aimed at raising people's awareness of the food issue. The Chinese Government attaches great importance to carrying out follow-up activities of the World Food Summit and honouring our commitments made during the World Food Summit. Since the World Food Summit, China has continued to adopt a series of effective measures to improve the macroeconomic environment for agricultural development, increase agricultural input, strengthen the buildup of agricultural infrastructure, speed the progress of agricultural science and technology, foster and develop markets for agricultural products and promote international trade of agricultural products.

China has made new efforts in securing China's food security and has achieved sustaining effectiveness. In the opinion of the Chinese delegation, the solution to the problem of food and the eradication of hunger and malnutrition will require mutual assistance and cooperation between different countries as well as efforts made by various countries themselves. We think that developed countries have the responsibility and duty to provide necessary aid for agricultural development to developing countries, which includes financial and technical aid, and to make real efforts to reduce all renewed debts, abolish trade protectionism, trade discrimination, etc. Developing countries should further strengthen their cooperation in the field of agricultural technology, make up each other's deficiencies and develop jointly. As is well-known to all of us present, external assistance to developing countries in respect to agriculture is still decreasing continuously, and for this we are concerned. For the reasons I mentioned above, the main priority of the follow-up of activities of the international community is to strengthen international cooperation, increase aid to different countries and carry out specific activities that are conducive to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition and that guarantee world food security.

Finally, this delegation agrees with the recommendation made in paragraph 19 of the document.

Yun SU CHANG (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

Thank you, Mr Chairman. I am very pleased to see you in the Chair. First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the Chairman for this important Commission I. I am sure that this meeting will bring fruitful success under your skillful guidance, and chairship. My

delegation would like to express its sincere thanks to the Secretariat of FAO for its endeavour and hard work in the preparation of the very concise and excellent document, C 97/7, before us. I also express my thanks to Ms Killingsworth for a very clear introduction to this document.

Mr Chairman, the World Food Summit, which was held last year, is a milestone and turning point in achieving food security for all as a long-cherished aspiration and to secure the common goal of all mankind through sustainable agricultural development and incremental food production across the world. In the past year FAO, under the guidance of the Director-General, has done a lot of work in the launching and implementation of all aspects of the Summit and the follow-up to the Declaration and the Plan of Action. FAO has achieved many successes in the implementation process of the follow-up to the World Food Summit, particularly in raising international public awareness of the importance of food security for all, in helping with the preparation of national agricultural development strategies for Member Nations, in launching the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System, in arranging coordination of the implementation of the follow-up to the Summit, in launching "TeleFood" in conjunction with World Food Day and in supporting the Special Programme for Food Security.

My delegation welcomes and fully supports all the initiatives, media, programmes and actions taken by FAO and highly appreciates the success and progress we have achieved in the implementation process of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Food Summit. Mr Chairman, we think that world food security can be achieved through sustainable agricultural development and incremental food production in each country and particularly developing countries.

Regarding agriculture, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has untenable natural conditions with very limited arable land owing to the fact that 80 percent of the territory is mountainous. In the past, my Government set out agricultural policy and strategies that were in keeping with its actual conditions in order to achieve national food security, and they have made every effort to implement it, mobilize it and use effectively the natural and material resources of the country. Thanks to this, self-sufficiency in food has been achieved and maintained in my country over the last 40 years.

As is well known, my country has been affected by a series of natural calamities in recent years and consequently, temporary, food problems have arisen. The temporary food shortage is still serious since the agricultural sector has been heavily damaged and food production has been considerably reduced owing to the drought and tidal waves of this year, which added to the effects of the heavy floods of 1995 and 1996. My Government and our people are vigorously carrying out the rehabilitation of the land and agricultural facilities damaged by natural calamities, as well as the implementation of many development programmes and projects in the agricultural and rural sector for national food security.

International organizations, including FAO, WFP and many others, continue to provide the humanitarian assistance to offset the natural calamities of my country and this encourages the people to contribute to the rehabilitation work. My government and the people express sincere thanks to them, for their valuable assistance. My country will continue to make its own efforts for sustainable agricultural development and food production in order to achieve national food security and assure that we will contribute to international food security.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your election to chair of this Commission. On behalf of the European Community and its Member States, I would like to welcome Conference document C 97/7 which reviews the activities undertaken in the framework of the follow-up to the World Food Summit.

One year after the Summit, many initiatives have been taken and the follow-up process has come on stream. We must now consolidate the process and provide substance to it. We underline the primary responsibility of national governments for implementing the WFS Plan of Action.

National reports on this implementation over the year 1997 are due by the end of January of next year using a rather open-ended report format issued by the Secretariat. We are looking forward to discussing a synthesis of these reports and further procedural methods at the CFS meeting in May next year.

We appreciate the actions reviewed in the section headed "Development in other UN Fora". In this context the European Union has stressed time and time again the importance of inter-agency cooperation and coordination with WFP and IFAD and in the framework of the ACC, which makes an integrated follow-up possible in the social and economic fields. We commend FAO for having taken the initiative together with IFAD for the establishment of the ACC Network on Rural Development and Food Security. We are looking forward to seeing this network function in an efficient and productive way and the same goes for the thematic groups on rural development and food security at the country level within the framework of the UN Resident Coordinator System.

The European Union appreciates the steps already taken by the Secretariat to implement the FIVIMS. We find it essential that this System monitors the basic causes of food insecurity and selects its indicators accordingly. We would appreciate information on cooperation with ILO which should play a crucial role in supplying information on indicators such as employment and wages. We would also like to be informed about the involvement of the World Health Organization and UNICEF, whose anthropometric indicators on malnutrition should complement FAO's indicators.

We welcome the initiative taken by FAO in establishing cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for the purpose of better defining by the latter the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger as stated in Article XI of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. We are appreciative of the process already set in motion by the UN High Commissioner and are looking forward to the implementation of Resolution VIII adopted by the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights last April. While urging FAO to cooperate in a proactive manner, we consider input by FAO in the expert meeting already scheduled by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights as being important, particularly with a view to helping create an enabling environment for national legislation.

The European Union also supports the proposals for streamlining and integrating reporting obligations. Progress reports on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development could, indeed, be usefully incorporated into the monitoring of implementation of the WFS Plan of Action and be discussed in the Committee on World Food Security. The same applies to the monitoring of progress and implementation of the results of the International Conference on Nutrition. In this way, the reporting on the implementation of the WFS Plan of Action by FAO to ECOSOC will take place in a comprehensive and coordinated way, which is in line with Commitment 7.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you distinguished delegate of Netherlands, speaking on behalf of the European Union. I think the weather is also supporting the food security and we hope it extends its domain to the arid zones of the world also. Now I call on the distinguished representative of Switzerland.

Rudolf HORBER (Suisse)

Tout d'abord, comme les orateurs précédents, j'aimerais vous féliciter de votre élection à la présidence de cette commission importante et je vous souhaite plein succès.

Monsieur le Président, permettez-moi de faire d'abord trois remarques en ce qui concerne le document C 97/7.

Premièrement, en ce qui concerne les rapports demandés, il faut absolument limiter au maximum leur volume pour qu'une synthèse et une analyse par le Secrétariat reste et soit faisable. En outre, chaque pays devrait, selon nous, esquisser d'une manière aussi concrète que possible sa conception de la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action. Pourtant, selon nous, il ne faut pas surestimer les rapports. Ce n'est pas avec des "montagnes de papiers" que l'on gagne la lutte contre la faim, mais avec des actions concrètes.

Deuxièmement, nous appuyons les démarches pour améliorer la coopération entre tous les acteurs, notamment entre les organisations internationales. Pour atteindre notre objectif, à savoir combattre la faim et ses causes, il faut unir tous les efforts en profitant des synergies. Après avoir étudié le document du Secrétariat, il nous semble que des progrès relatifs y ont été atteints, mais beaucoup reste encore à faire.

Troisième remarque. En ce qui concerne les questions pour l'avenir, le catalogue au dernier paragraphe 19 n'est peut-être pas encore complet. A notre avis, il manque les questions substantielles, à savoir la communication des actions concrètes entreprises par chaque pays pour parvenir à une meilleure cohérence de sa politique avec les engagements du Plan d'action. Dans ce paragraphe aussi, l'accent est peut-être trop mis sur des questions de procédures sans aborder la réalisation concrète dans chaque pays.

Monsieur le Président, certes, la mise en oeuvre est un processus difficile, beaucoup plus difficile que l'approbation du Plan d'action. La Suisse est en train de mettre en place une stratégie pour concrétiser les résultats du Sommet mondial. Cette stratégie prévoit tout d'abord d'examiner la cohérence de nos politiques, notamment en matière d'aide au développement et de l'agriculture suisse, avec les différents engagements du Plan d'action afin de faire ressortir les points faibles de ces politiques et d'apporter les corrections qui s'imposent. Ce travail est concrétisé au niveau gouvernemental dans le Comité Interdépartemental de Coordination de la FAO en consultant, bien sûr, tous les milieux concernés et intéressés, regroupés au sein du Comité suisse de la FAO. Nous serons prêts à informer d'une manière plus détaillée le prochain Comité de la Sécurité alimentaire mondiale et nous espérons bien que les autres Pays Membres feront de même. Il nous faut absolument aller de l'avant, il faut unir tous nos efforts, utiliser toutes les synergies pour atteindre vite des résultats dans la lutte contre la faim. Nous pensons que les attentes du grand public et des pays pauvres en développement sont très grandes, ne les décevons pas.

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

Let me join the other delegates here in congratulating you on your position, and the Vice-Chairmen, thanking Ms Killingsworth for her presentation and thanking the CFS Secretariat for their ongoing work.

We are pleased to understand from document C 97/7 the arrangements that are being taken under the framework of the World Food Summit. We were also pleased to see the developments in the role of the CFS in carrying out the monitoring of progress towards food security. We must all continue to build on the momentum and understanding which was created during the period of Summit preparation and negotiation.

In preparation for the World Food Summit, Canada based its actions on an active partnership between governments, the private sector and non-governmental organizations. Canada has taken seriously the commitment to follow-up on the Summit, and we have developed active and wide-ranging consultations at the national and provincial government levels and with a wide band of representative organizations in the agriculture, food, fisheries and forest sectors, with business, voluntary and aid members of civil society and with aboriginal communities. A joint consultative group has been created which brings together representatives of civil society, industry and

government to prepare an Action Plan for Food Security for Canada. We are presently concluding a three-month period of consultation, research and analysis on the contributions by all these parties to the seven commitments. Over the next six months we will be negotiating together to produce a joint national Plan of Action in time for the next CFS in 1998. The process of developing such an action plan to cover both the Canadian domestic and international commitment to address food security has required concerted effort by all parties. The process of meaningful partnership between government and civil society presents a challenge. There is a growing understanding that Canada's Plan of Action will represent a real sharing of responsibility. It will not simply be a government plan. From the material we have gathered to date, we will be submitting a national report to the Secretariat of the CFS by 31 January 1998. We concur that such baseline reporting by all parties is critical to our progress towards the target set.

In terms of the involvement of civil society in follow-up deliberations, we would like to underline that work should be carried out to evolve a *modis operandi* for inclusion of relevant factors in the CFS monitoring process, recognizing and I quote from Commitment 7, "Their critical role in enhancing food security". We urge that the CFS build on experiences in other UN fora to allow both national and international NGOs to participate fully in the deliberations of the Committee.

As regards the developments in other UN fora, we were pleased to learn of the creation of the ACC Network on Rural Development and Food Security and also of the Director-General's communications to promote formation of thematic groups at the country level. Through the thematic groups, the multi-dimensional nature of food security will be targeted. We must all keep in mind our agreement at the Summit that progress towards decreasing hunger and under-nutrition can only be made by bringing together cross-disciplinary expertise to address the various issues at once. The synergy obtained by such a matrix approach is the only way progress can be achieved and we cannot focus on only one modality such as agricultural production.

We would like some further clarification on how the Network on Rural Development and Food Security will function. Will there be an active coordination process? Other than to exchange information, we are not clear how a network might perform the cooperation and coordination function cited in the report.

On the subject of the thematic groups, will the network be monitoring the creation of country-level teams and their progress in integrating the multi-dimensional aspects in country programming that I have just cited? If not, how will such monitoring be carried out? Canada certainly does call on other organizations, in particular those of the UN System to actively participate in follow-up and reporting. We will present such a call in our representations in other fora. In terms of reporting, we wish to reiterate that Canada believes that all reports should be submitted directly to the CFS Secretary to reflect the fact that the CFS is somewhat distinct from the FAO in its key role of monitoring Summit follow-up. Reports to the CFS by other international organizations, including FAO and the other Rome-based Agencies, should be available to the Members not only in synthesized form but in entirety upon request. We would also appreciate some clarification as to how regional follow-up and monitoring will occur.

As regards cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Canada is pleased that the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights will devote a day at its next session to debate on the right to adequate food. We are also pleased to learn of the intention of the UN High Commissioner to convene an Expert Seminar to focus on implementation of the right to food. This issue is one which has been reported and signalled in our recent consultations as being of fundamental concern to many Canadian and international civil society organizations.

On FIVIMS, Canada recognizes that such a System is especially important for all countries to understand and address chronic hunger and vulnerability. We believe the degree to which countries are committed to national and sub-national food insecurity and vulnerability

assessments will be an important reflection of their commitment to the principles laid out in the WFS Plan of Action. In Canada, following initial soundings, there is consensus that we need to work more on understanding food insecurity issues related to those at risk. We, therefore, support the development of FIVIMS to the extent that the system advances data-gathering efforts and analysis as needed at the national level. Data collection efforts should logically be linked to a national commitment to improve food policy, infrastructure and programmes targeted towards the most food insecure. At this stage, it appears that a homogeneous FIVIMS is being conceptualized for use in both developing and industrialized countries. Contributing to a global data base to attract progress made towards meeting WFS objectives is complicated by trying to find one or a few indicators which are relevant to, at the same time, both developed and industrialized country circumstances. Canada is concerned about the issue of a standardized indicator and we look forward to future discussions on this topic at the Inter-Agency Working Group.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

Norway participated actively both in the process leading up to the World Food Summit as well as during the Summit, and is prepared to do so in the follow-up process, too. On this occasion we wish to comment on document C 97/7, both as regards the Summit itself (the follow-up process internationally, in particular in the UN System as a whole) and as concerns the national and regional activities in which we are engaged.

The World Food Summit helped to draw global attention to the immense challenges that food security for all poses for the international community. At the Summit we agreed that the follow-up of the Plan of Action is, first of all, the responsibility of the governments themselves. The multilateral organizations will, however, still have to play a major role in assisting the governments in their aspiration to reach the goals of the Summit. FAO is important in the work carried out by the UN System in sustainable development, food, nutrition, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development. The Plan of Action stresses that the main focus of action lies at the country level, and that the role of the international society is to stimulate and support the country-level actions. In order for the international organizations to play this role effectively and efficiently, increased cooperation and coordination are imperative. The Norwegian Government welcomes the significant role of the UN Administrative Coordination Committee, ACC, in ensuring an appropriate interagency coordination in the entire UN System. In particular we welcome the role of the UN Resident Coordinators at field level. This is in line with a recommendation of the Nordic/UN Reform Project from 1996, which advocated integration of UN development activities at the field level.

In paragraphs 2 and 3 in document C 97/7, reference is made to inter-governmental monitoring of the Summit Plan of Action. Following discussion in the CFS and the subsequent debate in the Council, governments are asked to report to FAO by the end of January 1998 on the implementation of the Plan of Action. Norway is prepared to provide the information necessary to monitor the follow-up process thus far. However we wish to emphasize that these reports should be concise and strongly linked to the Plan of Action.

In paragraph 17 of the document before us, there is reference to the need for further streamlining of the reporting requirements arising from major UN Conferences and Summits. We strongly endorse this view. Reporting on the implementation of Plans and Programmes of Action from the various World Conferences represents a heavy workload for many countries and agencies. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance that the reporting routines are made as simple and effective as possible in order to use this proportionate share of valuable resources on reporting.

In the end, the success of the World Food Summit will be measured by the extent to which all the concerned actors at national and international levels take the necessary actions.

Mr Chairman, allow me then to comment briefly on actions taken so far nationally and regionally as part of the follow-up to the Summit. The main national event connected to the follow-up process was a Conference organized this year on 15 and 16 October. The most important feature of the Conference was that the participants represented NGOs, the research community and the authorities. All the different participants and groups of this Conference were asked to take active part to produce specific recommendations to the Norwegian Government in the follow-up of the Summit. The recommendations from the Conference will be taken into account in the preparation of our national report on the follow-up process.

Norway has, together with the other Nordic countries, prepared a Programme for a coordinated Nordic follow-up to the Summit. The Nordic Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry met shortly after the World Food Summit and found that there was considerable scope for a coordinated Nordic follow-up of the Summit within the framework of the Nordic Council of Ministers. There is already close Nordic cooperation on issues relating to sustainable agriculture and forestry within the Nordic Council. The follow-up programme was adopted by the Nordic Council of Ministers in June this year, and will be put before the Nordic Council on Thursday of this week (13 November).

We have chosen to centre the Programme around the following five headings:

1. Sustainable agriculture
2. Genetic resources and biological diversity
3. Food safety
4. Strengthening the cooperation with relevant Nordic and Baltic NGOs
5. International activities.

We hope that this Programme will lead to an integration of food security measures in other sectors within the Nordic cooperation system and, as a consequence, generate increased cooperation between, for instance, the agriculture sector and the consumer sector.

Finally, Mr Chairman, the Norwegian Government recently presented its budget proposal which includes a substantial increase in Norwegian development aid. The fight against poverty, support to Africa and to agriculture development will be given increased priority in the near future. This includes considerable increases in the contributions to the UN Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research and a large extra contribution to IFAD. This general Conference is of great importance as the first Conference after the World Food Summit. The challenges are numerous and we wish to contribute to adopting a budget for FAO which will enable the Organization to fulfil its commitments in the follow-up process.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you distinguished delegate from Norway for your statement and good news on the coordinated plan for Nordic countries and the increased support.

Ahmed Khalil GARTAA (Libya) (Original language Arabic)

Mr Chairman, at the very outset please allow me to congratulate you as well as your Vice-Chairmen and all members of the bureau on your election to head our deliberations here and, God willing, we will be successful in discharging our duties.

I must thank the Secretariat for the document submitted to us, C 97/7. My country, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, in spite of the embargo which has been imposed on us, in spite of all that, we do have a project which we are carrying out. A project that, once completed, is going to provide 6 million cubic meters of water and this is all going to be used for agricultural production and the increase in food production, which will ensure the safety of coming generations. My country has established a focal point, a Central Committee, and there is participation from all sectors so that we may monitor and follow all the recommendations that emanated from the World Food

Summit. We know that there is a Plan of Action and this Plan of Action is going to be submitted to FAO as well.

The Jamahiriya wishes to thank the Director-General for the efforts exerted so that we may indeed succeed in providing food and in ensuring security of food.

Tokuyuki SUDO (Japan)

I appreciate the Secretary's efforts in preparing document C 97/7. Japan believes that the Rome Declaration and the Plan of Action that have been agreed at the World Food Summit could serve as a basis for addressing various problems both at the international level and at the domestic level. We have appealed for some important basic ideas at the last Summit which were affirmed by the Rome Declaration and the Plan of Action. In these results of the World Food Summit, the role of civil society is also encouraged in addressing food security. Therefore, we think that the dissemination to all actors in Japan of the results of the Summit should be stressed as well as the appropriate implementation of agricultural policy by the government. We have held symposia on world food security and distributed pamphlets which presented the results of the Summit this year. We are also willing to support the activities of FAO by participating actively in the discussion on the Summit's follow-up in FAO and by making voluntary contributions to FAO activities.

Finally, Mr Chairman, I would like to express our hope for immediate development and a successful implementation of the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System (FIVIMS), as well as the Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS). Japan will support these projects with human and financial resources, which we believe are integral components of FAO's follow-up activities to the World Food Summit.

Abdellatif GUEDIRA (Maroc)

Je voudrais tout d'abord vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, pour votre nomination à la présidence de nos travaux ainsi que comme membre du bureau de notre Commission.

Nous nous félicitons tous des résultats probants auxquels a abouti le Sommet mondial de l'Alimentation et de l'impulsion qu'il a donné à la réalisation de l'objectif de sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Il nous a tracé, en effet, à travers la déclaration politique et le Plan d'action, un cadre de travail cohérent permettant la réalisation de cette sécurité alimentaire aux échelons national et international. Pour sa part, mon pays dont les engagements du Plan d'action ont toujours constitué des préoccupations majeures pour son développement agricole et halieutique et, d'une manière générale, son développement économique et social, tout en étant conforté dans ses choix fondamentaux pour la réalisation de la sécurité alimentaire, dispose actuellement d'instruments juridiques et opérationnels à même de lui faciliter la réalisation de cet objectif.

A titre indicatif, pour le démarrage de la campagne agricole, il a pris une multitude de mesures permettant d'accélérer le processus de développement agricole. Parmi ces mesures figure particulièrement celle visant l'allègement du surendettement des agriculteurs engendré par la fréquence élevée de la sécheresse et d'autres aléas climatiques au cours des dernières années. Il les a également accompagnées de mesures permettant la relance de l'investissement agricole. De plus, une loi d'orientation agricole est actuellement en cours d'élaboration en vue d'un réajustement de la politique agricole en fonction des nouvelles données nationales et internationales.

En matière de coopération et de contribution à l'effort collectif de la communauté internationale et du PSSA, mon pays a déjà défini les axes d'un Programme d'action concret avec des pays amis d'Afrique qui sera opérationnel au début de l'année prochaine. D'autres actions de coopération dans le cadre du PSSA sont également en cours de finalisation. C'est à dire que le Maroc s'est déjà engagé à concrétiser les résultats du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et prépare actuellement, selon les directives de la FAO, un rapport national sur le suivi du Sommet

mondial. Afin de mieux expliciter le canevas de ce rapport et de faciliter l'aggrégation des résultats ainsi que leur exploitation, il serait également opportun de limiter leur volume. Par ailleurs, mon pays appuie l'idée de globaliser le suivi de tout ce qui est lié à l'alimentation et au développement rural, en particulier l'intégration du suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural et de la Conférence internationale sur la nutrition dans le cadre du suivi du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation. Il n'en demeure pas moins que pour atteindre les objectifs de sécurité alimentaire dans les délais fixés, il faudra mobiliser des ressources financières importantes.

Nous exhortons donc le Directeur général de la FAO à poursuivre avec force les efforts de mobilisation de ces ressources et de mettre tout en oeuvre pour que les fonds réunis aillent à des actions concrètes de terrain, à travers la réalisation de projets concrets visant l'augmentation de la production alimentaire et le développement rural.

Avant de terminer, je tiens à féliciter le Secrétariat de la FAO pour la qualité des documents mis à notre disposition pour une plus grande efficience de nos travaux .

Ms Bongiwe NJOBE-MBULI (South Africa)

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this discussion. The World Food Summit with its declared objective "Food for All" was attended by a South African delegation of fourteen, led by our Deputy President who delivered our country's statement. Our Government has also signed and committed itself to the Rome Declaration on Food Security, and actively endorses the goals which are relevant to our country. We in South Africa therefore welcome this event as a propellant to a more urgent global focus on a critical world problem. In particular, we welcome the commitment to regard access to adequate food as a right as we have already enshrined this in our new constitution. The obligation of national governments to implement a Plan of Action to give effect to the declaration of intent to eradicate world hunger, was fully endorsed by the South African Government, and my Minister will elaborate more on the follow-up in the country statement to the Plenary.

South Africa is particularly committed to achieving food security in the SADC region. South Africa is a country with a capacity to produce or perhaps even purchase enough food to feed its population in contrast to many other countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa. However, slow development and hunger in surrounding countries has a direct negative impact on our own ability to resolve our own food security situation. While we are an upper middle-income country, millions of people have insufficient food and health statistics are typical of Low-Income Food Deficit Countries. Twenty-four percent of our population live on less than US\$ 1.10 per day, and about forty percent have an adequate calorie intake. Thus indicating that a significant portion of our population is actually going hungry. We welcome the document C 97/7. We have made some progress on the matters raised, and we will submit a country report as requested.

For now Chairperson, I wish to highlight a few issues from the South African process and in relation to the document C 97/7 and hope that since 1994 we have established macro-economic conditions conducive to investment and growth. Trade and marketing policies have been adopted to encourage investment in these products in which we have comparative advantage.

Agriculture's contribution to the GDP has grown steadily, and in 1996 it was twenty-five percent above the poor year of 1995 measured in constant monetary terms. From a growth point of view, therefore, the agricultural sector is doing extremely well. The National Department of Agriculture as part of a major policy review process, at the end of last year, established a Food Security Working Group to prepare a green paper on Food Security Policy for South Africa. The paper will examine our main food security challenges of making food available now and in the future, providing affordable food to all households and ensuring food consumption for optimal health and nutrition. At the same time, Working Groups on extension and research support

services, rural finance, cooperative development, trade, marketing, sustainable resource management, drought and disaster management, livestock, development and employment are reviewing policy and programmes with a view to ensuring more effective utilisation of resources with the overall objective of increasing access to agricultural production opportunities and of ensuring food security at the household and individual level. Of interest in the deliberations of the Food Security Working Group level are the three challenges identified for policy attention. These will focus on availability, accessibility and the actual utilisation of food at the household and individual levels. In our view and in respect of our unique situation, following the dual agricultural and rural economy, inherited from the past, we find ourselves faced with the necessity for simultaneous and multiple-pronged interventions and programmes at different levels and at different geographical areas in our country. This is a complex challenge and it is our intention to consult with the various stakeholders and interest groups in South Africa to find the appropriate solutions. Critical to the success of a food security strategy at the national and even global level will be ensuring the integration of the specific conditions and capacities of women, the old people, youth, resource-poor communities and isolated areas and resource-poor communities and urban centres.

We look forward therefore to an active working relationship with FAO in the areas of vulnerability mapping for the policy development and understanding more effectively the legal and institutional frameworks necessary to give effect to our constitutional right to sufficient food. We commend the Director-General of FAO for the intensity with which he is pursuing the global challenge of eliminating food insecurity. It is necessary to keep vigilant attention on the efforts of all Member Nations in resolving the constraints to world food security and to provide appropriate and effective support to those countries who need to confront the larger and more pressing commitments in situating themselves in the global economy whilst simultaneously putting in place policies, programmes and actions that eradicate hunger in their countries.

Finally, Chairperson, at the celebration of this year's World Food Day on 16 October in South Africa, the Minister for Agricultural and Land Affairs stressed that in addition to ensuring growth in the sector, we need to put in place policies which will help on the distribution and equity side. This is imperative if we are to ensure that all members of society have enough to eat. He also said that this requires a coordinated approach involving all sectors of government. However, Chairperson, developing country governments alone cannot resolve the global food security problem. The theme of World Food Day celebrations mainly "Investing in Food Security" highlights the critical role of investment at all levels in achieving food security. The World Food Summit Plan of Action highlights that in solving the problems of food insecurity, it will be essential to reach out to civil society at large to ensure that governments, universities, research institutes, NGOs, the media, women, youth and other constitutes are actively involved in this quest for Food for All. It will therefore be imperative even at the global level, to bring to bay all possible human, technical and financial resources, public and private from developed and developing countries to eradicate food insecurity and plan for future generations.

S. MURO (Tanzania, United Republic of)

On behalf of my delegation I would like to say the following with regard to document C 97/7. I wish to stress from the outset that implementation of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action is the only way to ensure that we achieve the objective of reducing hunger and malnutrition in the world.

First and foremost, whilst to make sure that we carry along with us all partners in development, that is government institutions, NGOs, and the private sector which includes the rural farmers. Tanzania has therefore started with sensitisation seminars and workshops in order to seminates the message of promoting food security to various participants coming from the afore-mentioned sectors. All workshops have centred on the importance of food security and the dangers of malnutrition, particularly as regards women and children. These workshops and seminars have

been spearheaded by the Tanzania Home Economics Association which is an NGO. Other NGOs, like PIBO of Belgium and others, have actively participated in national and regional workshops where household food security has been strongly emphasised. Translation of the Plan of Action into the national language is complete, and also translation of success stories on women in agriculture has also been completed.

Mr Chairman, Tanzania has actively participated in the implementation of the Special Programme for Food Security. The Pilot Phase has been quite successful in improving productivity for two major staples, that is maize and rice. This approach and active involvement of farmers' groups has been the major reason for this success, and we will shall continue to take advantage of this approach. My delegation wishes to recognize the initiative of FAO in actively supporting this Special Programme. My Government will work closely with FAO and all other Agencies to make sure that this programme is more successful.

Finally, my delegation supports the proposal to submit reports by 31 January 1998 to facilitate close monitoring by the Committee on World Food Security.

Neil FRASER (New Zealand)

Mr Chairman, thank you for giving me the floor. I am aware that the interpreters do not have a copy of my statement, so I will talk slowly but still be brief.

We welcome document C 97/7 and this Agenda Item which aims to maintain momentum in implementing the World Food Summit Plan of Action and working towards positive progress in addressing the objectives of the Plan of Action. New Zealand has already taken steps that work towards this end. I will not take up this Meeting's time by detailing them here, but they will of course be reported in our National Report. That brings me to paragraph 19 of the document before us. Under (a) of that paragraph, we have no problem with the Conference urging countries to submit their reports by 31 January next year and we shall endeavour to meet that deadline despite our summer holiday period occurring in the interim.

On (b) we agree that WCCARD reporting be incorporated in the World Food Summit Plan of Action monitoring so to avoid duplication.

Concerning (c) and (d), we are a little surprised that other organizations, the donor community and international financial institutions need some reminder only one year after the Summit and therefore caution that any reminder should respect appropriate diplomatic niceties - we suspect that their memories are somewhat longer than twelve months. We agree with the proposals in (e) and (f) with the urging that such reporting be as succinct as possible and involve a minimum of resources to prepare. In this, I endorse the words of Switzerland and others who stressed that reporting not be onerous, thus leaving resources to be directed at the action side of our collective aim of achieving world food security.

Mario LOPEZ CHAVARRI (Perú)

Le hago llegar mis felicitaciones por su designación, que ruego las haga extensivas a los demás miembros de la Mesa. La delegación del Perú, al referirse al Tema 7 de la agenda, relativo a la Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento, desea efectuar no sólo una evaluación de las acciones realizadas hasta la fecha, sino también, y por sobre todo, una proyección en el cumplimiento del Plan de Acción de la Cumbre.

La histórica Cumbre dio vida a la Declaración de Roma y al Plan de Acción, que casi como todos los proyectos fueron concebidos con grandes luces y tuvieron, al igual que en muchos casos, un primer año de maduración bastante gradual. El documento C 97/7, que centra nuestro debate, da cuenta que debemos seguir trabajando para la aplicación práctica, definida e inmediata de los acuerdos de Roma. Se requieren informes, planes y estrategias nacionales, no sólo para 1998, y sobre todo de los países incluidos en el Programa Especial para la Seguridad Alimentaria de la

FAO, pero no se cuenta con fondos para asistir a dichos países en la formulación de los informes, a fin de revestirlos de la calidad científicotécnica que se necesita.

La Conferencia conocerá los resultados de dichos informes recién en 1999, y en este primer punto, quiero resaltar y proponer que se establezca, a partir del próximo año, un fondo específico y adecuado destinado a la asistencia en la formulación de los estudios nacionales y que el Consejo, en su sesión de otoño de 1998, adopte las acciones pertinentes a la luz de las conclusiones de los informes nacionales a que el CSA (Consejo Científico para el África al Sur de Sahara), con cargo a dar cuenta en la próxima sesión de la Conferencia.

La acción de cooperación emprendida interinstitucionalmente dentro del sistema de las Naciones Unidas se considera el adecuado, lo que permitiría contar con un sistema de respaldo para canalizar la asistencia financiera en favor de los países en desarrollo, entre otras cosas, y para la formulación de sus planes nacionales. Asimismo, esta acción permitiría obtener información coordinada dentro del área del sector alimentario y agrícola. Sin embargo, la delegación del Perú solicita que estos mecanismos de cooperación y coordinación interinstitucionales se refuercen, sobre todo, y desde ya, con las instituciones financieras internacionales, a nivel subregional, regional y mundial, así como con los gobiernos donantes, para que presten asistencia para la puesta en marcha del Programa de Seguridad Alimentaria.

En ese sentido, deseo reiterar que la relación financiamiento/ejecución del Plan de Acción efectúa un corte transversal en las buenas intenciones de cumplir con los compromisos de Roma. En el caso de nuestra Organización, vemos que, por un lado, el tema de seguridad alimentaria se encuentra priorizado en los programas y presupuestos de 1998-99, pero, por el contrario, se propone para el mismo período, un presupuesto que no absuelve los requerimientos mínimos de la FAO para el cumplimiento de sus objetivos, que significaría tan sólo la reducción, una vez más, de los fondos presupuestarios.

En el caso del seguimiento de la Cumbre, la reducción del presupuesto de la FAO sólo se traduciría en falta de credibilidad en el Plan de Acción y su seguimiento. Reiteramos aquí, como en los otros comités, la necesidad de aprobar para el próximo bienio un presupuesto que no sea restrictivo.

El Perú invoca la aplicación efectiva de lo acordado el año pasado, siguiendo la voluntad política de la Cumbre, y un seguimiento bianual, hasta el año 2015, para observar el cumplimiento progresivo de las metas.

Asimismo, deseo apoyar lo manifestado anteriormente por las delegaciones de Angola y Panamá, referente a no cerrar el tema de seguridad alimentaria y su seguimiento, para dar oportunidad a la presentación de un proyecto de resolución sobre *TeleFood*.

La seguridad alimentaria no sólo significa alivio de la falta de alimentación, sino que más aún está relacionada con el desarrollo y es un concepto envolvente y dinámico, que abarca la producción, la autosuficiencia, la productividad, el comercio, la competitividad y la especialización internacional. La meta mínima de reducir antes del año 2015 el número de personas desnutridas a la mitad de su nivel actual, es decir, cuatrocientos millones de seres humanos desnutridos dentro de dieciocho años, no se conseguirá si no se cuenta con el trabajo conjunto y la solidaridad mundial de los estados, organismos internacionales, organismos no gubernamentales, gobiernos locales, y de las personas que ven en el derecho a la alimentación un derecho a ser respetado y cumplido.

Ramón RAMIREZ LOPEZ (Venezuela)

El tema de esta mañana es realmente importante, por no ser otra cosa que el seguimiento de las decisiones de la Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación, efectuada en Roma el año pasado. En nombre de la delegación de Venezuela digo que como objetivos de la Cumbre quedaron establecidos: afrontar el problema de la alimentación y de la desnutrición que es uno de los

objetivos de la Cumbre, pero éste es un objetivo de la humanidad que tiene indudablemente que trabajar para lograr que los niveles de desnutrición disminuyan, porque la desnutrición trae consigo - como decía el delegado del Perú- otros problemas conexos y uno de ellos, creo que el más importante, es el problema de carácter intelectual.

En la medida en que la mujer, cuando está embarazada, no está suficientemente bien nutrida, procrea indudablemente individuos que al no tener la suficiente preparación intelectual tendrán una vida muy difícil, provocando problemas graves de desarrollo. Indudablemente, una población mal alimentada es una población que tiende a vivir bajo esquemas de desarrollo muy precarios. Es por ello que realmente debemos hacer que de esta Comisión, y de los resultados que de ella se deriven, se profundice sobre la importancia del seguimiento del problema alimentario a nivel mundial.

Esto, indudablemente, tiene que ver en parte con lo expresado por la delegada de los Estados Unidos. Los países asumieron un compromiso y ese compromiso tiene que ver con el establecimiento de planes, programas y proyectos que permitan afrontar este flagelo de la malnutrición. Es por ello que se impone el compromiso de cada uno de los Miembros de la Organización y también de los países más desarrollados y poderosos para ayudar a afrontar la situación de minusvalía en los países en que existe.

La FAO y esta Comisión no sólo deben tratar de lograr la cooperación con los otros organismos de las Naciones Unidas, sino también con otros organismos que no pertenezcan a las Naciones Unidas pero que puedan ayudar a solventar, en parte, el problema de la alimentación. El rédito que se prevé para el año 2015 habrá reducido a la mitad el problema de la desnutrición. El problema alimentario es muy grave, y me agrada escuchar que algunos países hayan hablado esta mañana de compromisos y planteamientos para trabajar y cooperar en esta lucha. También algunos países industrializados, con mayores excedencias, tienen el compromiso y el deseo de ayudar a los países con mayores carencias.

Para solventar, también, el problema de la alimentación y la desnutrición en el futuro, juega en parte el problema del comercio internacional. Indudablemente países que tienen mayores facilidades de intercambio tendrán mayores oportunidades para su desarrollo. Prueba de ello, el Gobierno de Venezuela ha ido implementando una serie de programas y de proyectos que tienen que ver en parte con el cumplimiento del compromiso de Roma 1996 mediante algunas acciones concretas y específicas: en primer lugar, en la adaptación de nuestras condiciones macroeconómicas al nuevo esquema de la economía mundial de la globalización o liberalización. Es por ello que hemos introducido ante el Parlamento, aproximadamente hace un mes, un Proyecto de ley de Desarrollo Agrícola y Seguridad Alimentaria como elemento importante para ir cumpliendo con los objetivos que nos hemos trazado y poder darle así cumplimiento a los planteamientos de la Cumbre. Es así como también hemos hecho este esfuerzo y estamos cooperando con organismos multilaterales que nos permiten afrontar el problema del riego, de la investigación agrícola, de la extensión agrícola con el apoyo del Banco Mundial, del FIDA y del BID.

En la elaboración del anteproyecto de ley de desarrollo agrícola no sólo intervino el sector gubernamental sino que, lo que es más importante, intervino también la sociedad civil a través de sus organizaciones de base, lo que permitió aportar los elementos necesarios para lograr los objetivos propuestos y que nos permite ir cumpliendo con lo que tenemos establecido. Es por ello, para finalizar mi breve intervención, que deseo mencionar algunas cosas que son importantes.

En primer lugar, pedirle a usted, señor Presidente, como directivo de esta Comisión, que se continúe con este esfuerzo y que este tema, tal como lo ha planteado, se considere relevante. En segundo lugar, creo que con un mecanismo que podría tener la Conferencia se podría hacer el seguimiento de las iniciativas, programas y proyectos de cada país. Esto tiene que hacerse a

través del Sistema de Información y Cartografía sobre la Inseguridad y la Vulnerabilidad Alimentaria. Y por último, el compromiso que hemos asumido es considerable. Creo que es importante llevarlo adelante, que pueda cumplirse, como un reflejo de lo mencionado en el documento C97/7.

Quiero expresarle a usted, señor Presidente, y a los demás directivos, mi felicitación por su elección, en la esperanza de que realmente de esta Conferencia y esta Comisión salgan resultados positivos para el bien de la humanidad.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you distinguished delegate of Venezuela. I can assure you that all of us will do our best to achieve the goals of the Conference as well as the commitments which have been made in the World Food Summit last year.

Jagadish Chandra GAUTAM (Nepal)

Please allow me to join my predecessors to congratulate you Mr Chairman on your election to chair on the important programmes to be undertaken by this Commission.

My country, Nepal, participated in the World Food Summit by the level of the Head of Government. We supported the resolutions made at the Summit. We note the progress so far on follow-up of the Summit with satisfaction. My country attaches great importance to the resolutions of the problems of food security. In this regard, an Agricultural Prospective Plan for 20 years, prospective up to 2015, has been launched. This Plan charts a high rate of agricultural growth to contribute not only to the overall development of the country, but also to solving the problems of food security and the problems of resolving the issues related to poverty.

The plan aims to reduce the number of people suffering from malnutrition by three-quarters, in proportional terms and reducing the number to one-third in absolute terms.

I would also like to submit to this distinguished gathering that we are at this moment successfully implementing the Special Programme on Food Security under the call of FAO's global efforts to resolve food security. We are going to expand this Programme in future in more districts. My delegation therefore supports FAO's efforts undertaken in resolving the problem of food security. In this regard, we support the proposal made in the document C 97/7 related to the World Food Summit and its follow-up. In particular, my delegation supports the item mentioned in paragraph 19 of the document.

Finally, since Nepal has been participating in the FAO-supported Special Programme in Food Security, I express our wish also to participate in the proposed pilot study in Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems (FIVIMS), as mentioned in paragraph 13 of the document.

Denis CANGY (Mauritius)

The Mauritius delegation wishes to congratulate the Director-General of FAO and the Secretariat for their efforts deployed in the follow-up to the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the initiatives taken in this context, including the great success achieved by "Telefood", which we are confident will benefit from the participation of even more countries in the future.

Mr Chairman, the Commission is, of course, well aware of the efforts of governments at national, regional and subregional levels, all of whom are doing their level best to implement the World Food Summit Plan of Action. I should like to emphasize the efforts of the South West Indian Ocean and SADC countries. These governments are giving full consideration to cooperation issues regarding technical assistance in view of achieving food security and sustainable development within the framework of South-South cooperation and development solidarity.

With regard to the future, I am pleased to inform the Commission that the Mauritius Minister of Agriculture in his address to the Plenary last Saturday, has formally requested the Director-General of FAO to organize a Conference of Small Island and Developing States on Agricultural Sustainability and Development Cooperation, to be held in Rome sometime in 1998. It is therefore the wish of the Mauritius delegation that the Secretariat gives due consideration to this initiative in the follow-up to the World Food Summit.

Mrs Wafaa Mohamed YOUSSEF (Egypt) (Original language Arabic)

Mr. Chairman, I should like to congratulate you on your election to the Chair of this Commission. We would include in our congratulations the Vice-Chairmen. We are grateful to the Secretariat for the efforts they have exerted in preparing this document before us. We are grateful to Ms Killingsworth for having introduced this document.

Fellow Member Nations who attended the World Food Summit expressed their concern over the world food situation. They decided that it was necessary to reduce the number of hungry people by half by the year 2015. The Egyptian Delegation believes that it is extremely important that we cooperate and that developing countries and developed countries, regional and international organizations as a whole, along with non-governmental organizations should all work as a team in order to achieve these lofty goals. Food security can be achieved thanks to sustainable development of our agriculture. In that context the Minister of Agriculture of Egypt has introduced an Agricultural Strategy for the period from 1997 to 2017. There are four Five Year Plans involved in that stretch of 20 years. This work is being performed with the World Bank and the UNDP. The Strategy adopted by my government includes two major projects, one involving the development of the southern part of the Nile Valley and the other concerning the development of the Sinai Peninsula.

We support all the terms of paragraph 11 concerning high-level expert seminars. This has been decided by the High Commissioner of Human Rights to examine the whole question of the Right to Food, and will be discussed internationally and regionally with the participation of the UN System as a whole. We also support the Plan of Action adopted by the CFS at its Twenty-third Session as regards the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping System. We also support the context entertained with the World Bank and other organizations and the Sub-committee of the ACC, including the World Bank's activities within the framework of this overall FIVIM System in an effort to have a basis for development programmes in Africa. The Egyptian Delegation supports the terms of paragraph 19 of this document C 97/7. The Organization includes a number of aims which we support, and we congratulate the Director-General on the efforts he is engaged in in order to ensure the proper follow-up to the World Food Summit.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Egypt. I do have three names on my list and we have about five minutes left so I would appeal to these speakers to make their statements as short as possible so we can keep in the timeframe allocated to us. Now I call on the distinguished delegate of Algeria.

Mme Hariba YAHIA-CHERIF (Algérie)

Je vais répondre à votre appel et je serai breve. Ma délégation voudrait remercier le Secrétariat pour le document fourni depuis la tenue du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation voilà tout juste une année. Le document C 97/7 renferme des informations importantes pour ce qui est d'atteindre les objectifs du Sommet et de son plan d'action, et surtout l'accent mis pour que la sécurité alimentaire soit inscrite en priorité dans les programmes politiques nationaux et internationaux.

A l'instar d'autres pays l'Algérie a préparé, avec la collaboration de toutes les composantes de la société civile, des stratégies nationales pour le développement agricole à travers le territoire

national et le Ministre de l'agriculture et de la pêche de mon pays présent à la Conférence, en a tracé à la plénière tous les paramètres. Par ailleurs, ma délégation se félicite du lancement du SICIVA que nous considérons comme une question prioritaire du suivi du Sommet et appuyons le plan de travail qui s'y rapporte. Se référant au paragraphe 11, ma délégation appuie l'idée d'organiser un Séminaire d'experts de haut niveau et souhaite que la FAO prenne une part active à ce Séminaire.

Au sujet de l'initiative du Directeur général de lancer l'opération *Telefood* dans le cadre de la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation, ma délégation encourage une telle initiative parce qu'elle s'inscrit dans l'esprit du Sommet mondial. Cette initiative a pour effet de mobiliser un vaste soutien à la lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition dans le monde, ma délégation approuve donc la décision du Directeur-général d'en allouer la totalité des recettes au lancement de projets de développement au profit des populations rurales.

Le *Telefood*, version 1997, a atteint son objectif en touchant des centaines de millions de téléspectateurs et un écho positif a été enregistré. Le *Telefood* a permis de mobiliser des fonds, ce que nous appelons tous de nos voeux, pour appuyer des projets de développement ruraux. A cette occasion nos vifs encouragements s'adressent à la télévision italienne en formulant l'espoir que cette impression, l'an prochain, s'étende à tous les pays à travers les médias.

Enfin M. le Président, ma délégation appuie les recommandations contenues au paragraphe 19 du document et je vous remercie.

Philip MOUMIE (Cameroun)

La délégation de mon pays se joint aux précédents orateurs pour vous féliciter pour votre élection à la présidence de la Commission 1 chargée d'examiner l'important sujet relatif au suivi du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation. Nos félicitations s'adressent évidemment aux Vice-Présidents et aux autres membres de votre bureau.

Le Cameroun a pris part de manière très active à la préparation et aux travaux du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation. La délégation du Cameroun se réjouit des mesures prises par la FAO pour amorcer en ce qui la concerne la mise en application des recommandations qui lui ont été faites aussi bien par le CSA que par le Conseil qui se sont réunis depuis le Sommet.

Nous voulons particulièrement relever l'importance que revêt pour notre pays le programme spécial pour la sécurité alimentaire qui permettra au niveau des pays qui vont le mettre en oeuvre de toucher rapidement des secteurs qui pourront rapidement voir la réalisation de certains objectifs spécifiques du Plan d'action du Sommet. Notre pays a dans ce cadre pris des mesures pour que la phase pilote du PSA soit rapidement mise en oeuvre.

S'agissant du document préparé par le Secrétariat, nous voulons d'abord lui adresser nos félicitations pour la qualité de ce document qui donne un éclairage très synthétique des actions et faits intervenus depuis le Sommet. Nous voulons cependant relever qu'en ce qui concerne l'épineux problème de financement, l'accent ne semble pas avoir été suffisamment mis sur les grands faits intervenus depuis, notamment les efforts déployés par certains pays développés pour atténuer le poids de la dette des pays en développement. C'était, je vous le rappelle, un des principaux objectifs du Plan d'action du Sommet et nous pensons qu'il est bon de relever ces actions afin de féliciter ces pays et aussi d'encourager ceux qui pourront faire les mêmes gestes qui sont hautement salutaires pour permettre aux pays moins nantis d'améliorer leur sécurité alimentaire.

Notre délégation se félicite enfin des mesures qui sont prises en matière de coordination des actions des organisations du Système des Nations Unies afin d'améliorer leur efficacité sur le terrain. Ce sont des mesures à encourager. Cependant, afin d'éviter certaines lenteurs préjudiciables à cette efficacité souhaitée, une réflexion devrait être mêlée afin que la tâche des

chefs de file dans chaque projet soit facilitée. Il faudrait que le mécanisme de collaboration soit formalisé le plus rapidement possible.

Notre délégation appuie enfin les recommandations formulées au paragraphe 19 et y adhère entièrement.

Pedro Alfonso MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

Quisiera, en primer lugar, expresar nuestra satisfacción por verlo presidir esta Comisión, y, al mismo tiempo, que lo haga en una sala que tiene ciertamente un valor histórico. Fue en esta sala que, justamente, si no me equivoco, el treinta de octubre del año pasado, donde después de maratónicas sesiones logramos finalmente un consenso sobre la Declaración de Roma y el Plan de Acción.

Quisiera, brevemente, referirme al documento C 97/7 y expresar nuestra satisfacción por el contenido del documento y, particularmente, por la forma en que se están llevando a cabo las actividades de seguimiento de los acuerdos de la Cumbre Mundial. No voy a referirme en detalle, gran parte del documento refleja lo acordado por el Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial, y en tal sentido solamente quisiera señalar que para nuestra delegación resultaría importante el poder incluir dentro de las actividades del futuro, del párrafo 19, estando de acuerdo con las que ahí se indican, un señalamiento específico a las actividades de seguimiento que se relacionan con el cumplimiento del Compromiso 7 del Plan de Acción de la Cumbre y, particularmente, en lo que se relaciona con el derecho a la alimentación. En los términos planteados en el Plan de Acción de la Cumbre, quisiéramos que en el párrafo 19 se pudiera incluir una referencia específica a las actividades de seguimiento en lo que respecta al Derecho a la Alimentación y, particularmente, instando a la FAO, y a todos los miembros de la comunidad internacional, para cooperar activamente con los esfuerzos que se realizan por parte del Alto Comisionado para los Derechos Humanos para alcanzar una mejor definición, y aplicación plena, del Derecho a la Alimentación.

Quisiera igualmente anunciar que, en relación a este tema, nuestra delegación, al igual que diversos países de América Latina y del Grupo de los 77, ha preparado un Proyecto de Resolución que vamos a formalizar en el transcurso del día y que toma nota de las actividades que han realizado tanto el Alto Comisionado, como la FAO misma, así como el Comité de Derechos Humanos y que apunta, justamente, en la dirección de poder fortalecer estos esfuerzos, particularmente con vistas a la celebración del 50º Aniversario de la Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos, en tal forma que probablemente la próxima Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas pueda hacer un reconocimiento expreso del Derecho a la Alimentación.

Usted nos ha pedido que seamos breves, me he limitado simplemente a señalar los términos que quisiéramos ver recogidos en el Informe. Permítanme, sin embargo, señalar que como fundamento para todo lo señalado, es importante tener presente que hoy en día la mayor parte de los conflictos que están afectando a la comunidad internacional se originan, justamente, por los problemas de inseguridad alimentaria y de pobreza. Y estamos observando con preocupación que el sistema de las Naciones Unidas está destinando cada vez más recursos para atender operaciones humanitarias en desmedro de actividades relacionadas con programas de desarrollo. Documentos que la propia Secretaría nos ha entregado indican que en los últimos cuatro años estos recursos han aumentado desde aproximadamente mil millones de dólares a más de cuatro mil millones de dólares por año. Esto implica que hoy día la amenaza a la paz y a la estabilidad de nuestros propios países está representada mayormente por los problemas del desarrollo. En otras palabras, por el no cumplimiento del derecho a la alimentación, por ser ésta nuestra mayor preocupación.

Nos preocupa igualmente que los desafíos que tienen que enfrentar nuestras economías agrícolas, de los países en desarrollo, deben compatibilizar, de una parte, una mayor modernización de nuestros sectores productivos, hacer más competitivas nuestras agriculturas, pero al mismo

tiempo sabiendo que la mayor parte de la población de los países en desarrollo está creciendo justamente en las áreas rurales, lo que significa, en términos muy concretos, como lo señalan los documentos de la Cumbre, que estamos actualmente en presencia de la mayor migración rural de toda la historia, con graves consecuencias para la estabilidad de nuestros países y para la paz mundial. Es justamente por estas consideraciones que nosotros consideramos pertinente subrayar la importancia de un pleno reconocimiento y aplicación del Derecho a la Alimentación. De ahí la propuesta que estamos formulando.

CHAIRMAN

I have come to the end of my list for this morning. I do have one more name - Cape Verde - which will start this afternoon followed by the observers if there is no one else from the floor asking to speak.

I have some announcements to make before leaving the room. The composition of the Drafting Committee has been decided on, and I will read the names of the countries: Libya, Islamic Republic of Iran, New Zealand, Netherlands, South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Barbados, Martinique and United States of America. The first meeting of the Drafting Committee will be at 09.30 hours Wednesday morning, and we will announce the place later on.

The meeting rose at 12.45 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 45.

Se levanta la sesión a las 12.45 horas.

10 November 1997



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE CONFERENCIA

Twenty-ninth Session
Vingt-neuvième session
29º período de sesiones

Rome, 7 - 18 November 1997

Rome, 7 - 18 novembre 1997

Roma, 7 - 18 de noviembre de 1997

SECOND MEETING OF COMMISSION I
DEUXIÈME SEANCE DE LA COMMISSION I
SEGUNDA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN I

10 November 1997

The Second Meeting was opened at 14:50 hours

Mr Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La seconde séance est ouverte à 14 h 50
sous la présidence de M. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Président de la Commission I

Se abre la segunda sesión a las 14:50 horas
bajo la presidencia del Sr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Presidente de la Comisión I

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET POLITIQUES EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE
I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

7. The World Food Summit and its Follow-up (continued) (C 97/7)
7. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi (suite) (C 97/7)
7. La Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento (continuación) (C 97/7)

Mme Maria de Lourdes MARTINS DUARTE (Cap Vert)

M. le Président, permettez à ma délégation de remercier Mme Killingsworth pour la qualité de son introduction au document à l'examen de cette commission et vous exprimer aussi notre satisfaction de vous voir la présider. Le document souligne bien les efforts des Etats et institutions qui, lors du Sommet mondial sur l'alimentation, s'étaient engagés à réduire le nombre des sous-alimentés et à instaurer la sécurité alimentaire au niveau mondial.

En ce qui concerne le paragraphe 13 sur le Plan de travail et d'autres mesures pour le SICIVA, nous appuyons ces mesures et au niveau du pays nous pensons que le Comité national d'appui à la sécurité alimentaire devrait être désigné en tant que centre de coordination pour ces activités. Du point de vue du suivi au niveau de mon pays, j'aimerais souligner quelques actions, notamment la création d'un Secrétariat d'Etat de lutte contre la pauvreté et l'élaboration et mise en oeuvre d'un Programme national de lutte contre la pauvreté, l'élaboration et les discussions avec la FAO et d'autres partenaires d'un document cadre de stratégie nationale pour la sécurité alimentaire, l'approbation d'un programme spécifique de sécurité alimentaire, d'ailleurs inscrit au Plan national de développement pour la période 1997-2000, et l'adhésion au PSSA, dont le document est en phase de finalisation.

Nous avons accueilli avec satisfaction l'initiative du Directeur général de la FAO sur le lancement du *Telefood* à l'occasion des commémorations de la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation, car elle répond en effet aux préoccupations du Sommet. Un vaste programme d'activités a eu lieu à cette occasion visant à mobiliser toute sorte de ressources en faveur de la sécurité alimentaire et les résultats ont été très encourageants. Nous appuyons donc la proposition du délégué de l'Angola, appuyée par beaucoup d'autres délégations, de soumettre un projet de résolution sur le *Telefood*. Revenant au document, ma délégation aimerait aussi appuyer le contenu de son paragraphe 19.

Noer SUTRISNO (Indonesia)

First of all I would like to join other delegations to congratulate you Mr Chairman for your election to chair this Commission. I would also like to congratulate the Secretariat for the concise and comprehensive document, as well as the presentation made by Ms Killingsworth.

My statement is brief. I would like to concentrate on the report on the development of the follow-up action in my country, Indonesia. In this very important meeting, allow me to report the Indonesian national activities related to the follow-up action of the World Food Summit and the implementation of the Plan of Action as follows.

Firstly, over this year of 1997 we have completed a series of seminars and workshops at the university level to make our people conscious of the Rome Declaration and the Plan of Action. Secondly, the Government has set up a National Secretariat to serve as focal point for the implementation of the decisions of the Summit. The Rome Declaration and Plan of Action have

been translated into a Medium-term Programme for 1997-99 on Food Security Development by related government institutions.

Thirdly, for the medium- and long-term policy programming, the National Conference on Food and Nutrition will be held in February 1998. This National Conference will recommend the national policy on food and nutrition in this sixth five year development plan of 1999-2004. Therefore this Conference will be an important step in transforming the Plan of Action into the National Policy on Food and Nutrition. Indonesia has also enacted a Food Law Number 7 of 1996 which covers food safety and food security matters as the basis for a comprehensive regulatory measures on food-related issues in Indonesia.

As we are aware that poverty is a major cause of food insecurity my Government has put priority on food insecurity eradication as a special programme. Since early this year, the Indonesian Government is intensifying its efforts to eradicate poverty. There are three programmes that have been implemented, namely, the Special Programme for the Rural Villages; secondly, the Welfare Programme for poor family outside the poor villages area; and thirdly, the Programme for Provision of Artisanal Feeding for Elementary School Students in Indonesia.

To ensure the movement is an effective one, the Special Cabinet Session for Poverty Eradication is called once every three months to monitor the progress of the Poverty Eradication Programme.

Mr Chairman, in conclusion, my delegation supports the decision on paragraph 19 of the document C 97/7.

Michel NANEMA (Burkina Faso)

La délégation du Burkina Faso se joint aux Pays membres qui l'ont précédée pour vous adresser ses félicitations, à vous particulièrement et à l'équipe qui vous assiste dans cette tâche. Elle voudrait apprécier positivement encore une fois le document C 97/7 et l'utilisation qui en a été faite. Elle juge particulièrement très important pour le futur, et cela en rapport avec les objectifs arrêtés par le Sommet mondial pour l'alimentation en 1996, le paragraphe 19 en son point (a). Et c'est justement à ce niveau que ma délégation voudrait vous informer que dorénavant ce Sommet est dans le cadre du programme d'ajustement structurel du Burkina Faso, en attendant qu'un rapport d'estime vous soit fait, mais que le Programme de sécurité alimentaire et de nutrition l'est depuis 1994.

Sa particularité c'est que le public-cible est la femme, car vous n'oublierez pas l'importance de la femme en Afrique, et particulièrement dans le développement et dans l'agriculture. C'est pourquoi nous voudrions suggérer que, pour permettre aux pays d'élaborer des politiques de développement agricole durable, on ne fasse pas ceci seulement à partir de 1996 pour qu'on puisse avoir des informations antérieures des succès et des erreurs dans ce domaine afin de permettre aux pays de ré-élaborer un Programme de développement agricole durable pour le futur.

Par ailleurs, nous tenons à préciser que ce Plan d'action a déjà été initié au Burkina Faso avec l'aide de la FAO, le siège local de la FAO. Et c'est l'occasion pour moi de remercier une fois de plus le Directeur général et son personnel local qui, par des consultations, nous aide à mettre en place un Plan de développement agricole durable. Encore une fois, je vous remercie et je voudrais enfin, pour ce qui concerne ce domaine particulier, demander aux pays qui peuvent soutenir la FAO localement pour assister le Gouvernement d'élaborer ce Programme avec des consultations extérieures.

Abderrazak DAALOUL (Tunisie)

Je voudrais tout d'abord, à l'instar des autres délégations, vous adresser mes félicitations pour votre élection à la présidence de cette Commission ainsi qu'aux autres membres du Bureau.

Aussi, je voudrais féliciter le Secrétariat pour l'excellent rapport que nous avons entre les mains sur le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi.

La Tunisie considère que la réussite du Sommet mondial en 1996 est un événement historique et considère que les travaux des mécanismes mis en place par la FAO constituent des pas positifs importants et méritent d'être continués avec persévérance et durabilité. Au niveau national, la Tunisie a oeuvré dans ses programmes de développement agricole à mettre en place des stratégies nécessaires pour garantir la sécurité alimentaire et la nourriture équilibrée pour tous les citoyens, en considérant ceci comme étant la base des droits de l'homme. Ces stratégies visent l'augmentation de la productivité des systèmes de production dans le contexte de gestion rationnelle des ressources naturelles et de la mise en place d'une agriculture durable.

Pour la réussir, la Tunisie a développé aussi les secteurs de la recherche et de la formation agricole. Par ailleurs, la création d'un fonds national de solidarité en Tunisie a permis d'engager toute la société civile dans la lutte contre la pauvreté et la création de ressources d'emploi et de nourriture dans les zones d'ombre. Les résultats de ces réformes ont permis, depuis 1987, à la production agricole une augmentation de 31 pour cent et l'amélioration du taux de couverture alimentaire moyen, qui est passé de 50 à 83 pour cent. Soucieuse de la réussite de l'effort international pour la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation, la Tunisie considère l'Article 11 du présent rapport comme très positif, car la concrétisation du Droit à la nourriture à travers un Séminaire d'experts pourrait aboutir à des conclusions très constructives. Aussi, la mise en place du système d'information et de cartographie sur l'insécurité et la vulnérabilité alimentaire mentionné dans l'article 13 est aussi extrêmement important pour concrétiser les objectifs à atteindre par le Plan mondial.

Enfin, la Tunisie approuve les mesures présentées à la Conférence au niveau de l'Article 19, et notamment le paragraphe 19(a) relatif au financement de l'aide aux pays pour les programmes qui visent à accroître la sécurité alimentaire de leurs peuples.

Atul SINHA (India)

I thought it was appropriate that since we are one of the Vice-Chairmen of this particular Commission, we should take the floor last. Thank you very much for accommodating us at the end of this list of speakers.

Mr Chairman, this is a subject which is very close to the heart of our country. The reason is that we have the second largest population in the world and there is rampant poverty amongst large sections of our population even though there are very modern sections which have gone ahead with the task of globalisation and rapid economic growth. It is in that context that the World Food Summit and the commitments made therein assumed greater importance for countries, particularly ours. The issue that we in our country do realise is that, ultimately, the path lies in growing, the path lies in ensuring that there is greater trade and the path lies in ensuring that there is greater production. I am sure the World Food Summit, as you all know, addresses all those concerns.

Today it is my task not to cover what has been done in respect of all commitments because then the list would be very large, and I do not think we have the time to go into all of that. Today, however, I do intend to focus on one sub-sector of this entire activity which is the distribution system. Before I go on with that, Mr Chairman, I am sorry I forgot to mention that we have read with great interest, the excellent paper, like always, prepared by the Secretariat, document C 97/7, and we have taken note of all the good work which has been done so far by the Secretariat on this. We are fully supportive of the kind of issues which they have highlighted here.

Having said that, I will come back to the question of the public distribution system in our country. The basic scenario is that it is alright for us to say that we must go in for trade, we must

globalise and we must have a system where growth will solve the problems of food security. However, as has been recognised in the Summit document, it is not growth alone but the problems of the poor people in the medium-term and the near-term which are equally important and it is in that context that we have talked of food security at the household level in the short term. What happens to those people who have not been able to join the mainstream, those who have not been able to generate the kind of surpluses which would enable them to feed their families? It is in this context that India has a very, very large public distribution system. There is a network of 44 million little outlets, fair price shops, which annually distribute commodities, worth more than 150 billion rupees. There are approximately 35 rupees to a dollar, so you can imagine the amount of money involved. Today, 160 million families are benefiting from this scheme which is, easily, the largest public distribution network of its type in the world.

Mind you Mr Chairman, this is a system which enables the government to help not only the producers and consumers. It helps the producers by purchasing the food grown which has been produced by the producers at the lowest minimum price. Now I think this is an important point which must be understood very well by the world community. In case any Indian farmer wishes to sell his commodity at any price that is dictated by the market, he is absolutely free to do so and therefore, there is a price signal which is given to him that he can produce more and more and he can get more and more income. I think that is a lesson which is very important for all of our countries, that when you produce more you find that the revenue is sometimes less simply because the prices have gone down meanwhile, because of excess demand. It is there that this public distribution system is important and that is why the Government must ensure that there is a minimum support price at which the government will purchase this food grain. Now this is exactly what our Government does, and having got hold of that food grain, it then goes on to distribute it to the hungry poor. Now what has happened is that over these years, we have been distributing commodities like wheat, rice, sugar, imported edible oils and kerosene which are the basic requirements of the poor population. What has happened is that after the World Food Summit and after the lessons learned in the World Food Summit, we have gone in for a ten-fold targeted public distribution system. While there is a need from amongst a large number of poor people, it is important to identify and greatly target the poorest sections of our population. So what is happening now is that we are targeting those that are below a certain poverty line and ensuring that they get a minimum quantity of 10 kilogramme of food grains per month at an extremely low price. Now I think that this is a very good system simply because it ensures that those who are not able to join the economic mainstream because of their lack of resources, because of the fact that agricultural production can rise only in the medium-term and cannot rise overnight, are provided with enough food to keep them strong, to keep them able to contribute to the national economy. Therefore, our trust is to include only the really poor and vulnerable sections of society, the landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans, porters, tapers, weavers and so on.

What I was trying to point out, Mr Chairman, was that while the road to economic growth and to household food security is indeed through trade, through greater production, through greater infrastructure development and so on, the whole lot of things that have been mentioned in the Summit document, we must never lose sight of the fact that all these are things which will occur over time. But the problem of the common man is tomorrow, the day after tomorrow and the day after that. It is for this reason that the public distribution system that has been put into place in India, a targeted one as indicated in the World Food Summit documents, is a step in the right direction.

Mr Chairman, I just wanted to share this bit of information with you because this scheme has been launched since 1 June 1997. Lastly, I would like to assure you that the Ministry of Food in our government is implementing the various commitments mentioned here, about which I do not wish to give you a statement right now because of the lack of time, but I am sure that my government would be able to give you a written statement a little later.

Amadou Moustapha KAMARA (Sénégal)

M. le Président, permettez-moi, au nom de la délégation du Sénégal de vous adresser mes félicitations pour votre élection à la présidence de notre Bureau ainsi qu'aux membres du Bureau de cette commission.

Le document C 97/7 sur le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi, dont je souligne au passage la qualité, appelle que nous partagions les informations sur les mesures arrêtées par nos pays pour donner suite à la Déclaration de Rome et au Plan d'action sur la sécurité alimentaire. Immédiatement au sortir du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation, le Président de la République du Sénégal, en février 1997, a consacré 1997 année de la relance de l'agriculture en engageant le Gouvernement et les autres composantes de la société à l'élaboration et la mise en oeuvre d'un important Programme agricole pour les années 1997 et 1998. Ce Programme comporte un ensemble de mesures visant à améliorer l'accès des agriculteurs et des éleveurs à un crédit agricole plus adapté à leurs besoins et à un coût plus compatible avec leur niveau de revenus. Ce Programme a permis un accès plus facile du monde rural à des semences de qualité, à l'engrais et au matériel agricole.

Dans le même temps, une mesure de défiscalisation du matériel agricole a permis d'en abaisser les coûts d'acquisition de 30 pour cent. Ce Programme inclut également des actions d'envergure portant sur le fossatage de fond pour améliorer la fertilité des terres. Le Sénégal a aussi démarré la finalisation d'un Plan directeur pour la sécurité alimentaire et entend mettre en place un Conseil national sur la sécurité alimentaire dont la composition laisse une large place au secteur privé, à la société civile et aux organisations paysannes.

M. le Président, le Sénégal met en oeuvre actuellement le Programme spécial pour la sécurité alimentaire dans quatre régions du pays avec l'aide de la FAO et avec l'appui de 41 experts vietnamiens de différentes spécialités. Des résultats encourageants ont été obtenus dans le domaine de la riziculture. En effet, au nord du Sénégal, en zones irriguées, alors que la moyenne des rendements se situe entre 4,5 et 5 tonnes à l'hectare grâce au projet du Programme spécial dans le département de Matam, des pointes de rendements de 11 tonnes à l'hectare ont été obtenues, et ceci grâce à l'introduction de variétés performantes et grâce à l'amélioration des techniques culturales.

Permettez-moi de profiter de cette occasion pour, au nom de la délégation du Sénégal, rendre un hommage mérité au Gouvernement du Vietnam et à la FAO pour cette belle oeuvre. Enfin, s'agissant des mécanismes interagences de suivi du Sommet mondial, ma délégation approuve la décision de passer par le réseau du Comité administratif de coordination sur le développement rural et la sécurité alimentaire.

Mon pays souscrit également à la décision prise d'incorporer le rapport sur le suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur le développement rural et la réforme agraire ainsi que sur le suivi de la Conférence internationale sur la nutrition dans la surveillance de la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation.

B. SANDAMU (Zimbabwe)

Zimbabwe would like to join other delegations in congratulating the Secretariat on the excellent document on the World Food Summit and its Follow-up.

We endorse the recommendations in paragraph 19 of the document. Although Zimbabwe is generally self-sufficient in food production at the national level and normally a net food exporter except in severe drought years, we still have a very large number of chronically food-insecure households. Slow economic growth in the early 1990s and periodic droughts which were very serious in 1992 and 1995 constrained growth in the small-holder farming sector, and this resulted in an increase in poverty, reversing some gains that had been made in the 1980s. The results of the 1995 poverty assessment survey shows significant rise in the overall incidence of poverty.

That is why Zimbabwe strongly supports the Special Programme for Food Security and the launching of the "Telefood" which is dedicated to alleviating poverty, to increase food production, creating awareness and to making resources available to help improve the situation. Zimbabwe now has a free market for production-marketing and export of agricultural products providing some incentives for farmers. However, in order to promote a more equitable and balanced development of the farming sector, Government policies, strategies and a priority Programme for Agricultural Development are specifically designed to raise the productivity and food security status of the rural population.

The policy and programmes that we are pursuing are consistent with the goals and commitments of the World Food Summit. The new agricultural policy framework which we are pursuing reflects a decisive shift to achieve accelerated, balanced and stable agricultural growth above population growth on a sustainable basis that ensures us food security at both national and household levels. In this we are together with FAO, Mr Chairman.

Mrs Freda LUHILA (Zambia)

On behalf of the Zambian Delegation I would like to congratulate you Mr. Chairman on your election. I would also like to congratulate FAO for the quality documents on the World Food Summit Follow-Up.

Probably some of you recall that in 1991 Zambia took very bold decisions and liberalized its agricultural sector. As a result there has been some negative impact especially on the poverty- related issues. Today Zambia has at least 70 percent of its population below the poverty line and almost 50 percent of its children under five are malnourished. It is for this reason that Zambia would like to support the proposal for the establishment of the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping System called for by Commitments 2 and 7 during the World Food Summit in order for us to come up with specific indicators to monitor the goals of reducing poverty and malnutrition to at least 50 percent by the year 2015.

Regarding follow-up to the World Food Summit, Zambia has been able to sensitize not only its own communities and the people who are related to them in the UN sector as well as the private sector regarding the goals of the World Food Summit. It also involves NGO societies that are related and are implementing economical and social activities in the rural areas. Plans are underway to come up with a Plan of Action to reduce malnutrition by 50 percent and again someone is going to involve stakeholders in the Plan of Action. Special reference in this Plan will be made to improving household food security, infrastructures and trade, strengthening any systems and managing disasters and mitigation, as well as strengthening the network of its stakeholders as well as other partners.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Zambia. With this I have reached the end of the speakers, but I understand that the United States of America has asked for the floor again. You have the floor.

Ms Mary Ann KEEFFE (United States of America)

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I need to speak again on this Item. I promise to be very brief. First I want to express my delegation's satisfaction at the many interventions by delegates which suggest that serious efforts are underway to implement the Summit Plan of Action. Such national-level commitment is vital if we are to achieve the Summit target. Second, I know that several delegates referred to the desire for the Conference to adopt a resolution on Telefood. I only want to remind delegates that at the June Council meeting, concerns were raised that an evaluation of the 1997 "Telefood" effort was needed before any similar activity in the future should be considered. We would caution against any Conference action that preempts such an evaluation.

Mrs Maria Elena CHAVEZ (Observer for International Cooperative Alliance)

Thank you Mr Chairman for the opportunity to address this Conference. I am presenting the statement on behalf of the Informal Meeting of International Non-Governmental Organizations in the absence of the Chairman of that meeting.

The informal meeting of Representatives of International Non-Governmental Organizations attending the Twenty-ninth Session of the FAO Conference was convened on Saturday, 8th November with the participation of over 25 international NGOs and a number of FAO Department representatives. The meeting enabled the formulation of INGO recommendations, views and concerns for reporting to the Conference. The full report of the meeting will be distributed as document C 97/INF/1. Three themes identified by the *ad hoc* group of INGO representatives to FAO residing in Rome in consultation with FAO were addressed: the review of FAO/NGO cooperation; World Food Summit follow-up; and water shortage as a limiting factor to food production. Five key areas of FAO/NGO collaboration were addressed: policy dialogue; information; resource mobilization; field programmes; and partnerships. The important role of international, national and local NGOs and their different and interlinked functions in the fields of policy dialogue, project and programme initiatives and technical expertise were stressed. Participants also noted the success and difficulties in FAO/NGO collaboration endeavours, while accepting the complexities involved in such cooperation. This ongoing process on both the side of FAO and of NGOs requires democratic procedures, transparency and circulation of information.

To improve cooperation, the following recommendations were made: that FAO be encouraged to further its reflections on establishing appropriate and democratic mechanisms for cooperation with NGOs in a careful and prudent manner based on thorough consultation and dialogue; that NGOs be encouraged to establish mechanisms for cooperation among themselves; that the FAO/NGO unit be strengthened to enable FAO/NGO cooperation to take place in an optimal and effective manner; that FAO/NGO cooperation at the national level be strengthened including national consultation and the establishment of working relationships between FAO field officers and national NGOs; and, finally, that the participation of INGOs in the negotiation of international agreements having an impact on food security, including conventions and codes of conduct, be continued.

Discussions on the World Food Summit follow-up highlighted the involvement of NGOs in the Summit and its follow-up. A number of organizations reported on their activities confirming the strong commitment and dynamic actions undertaken by NGOs to ensure the success of the implementation of the Rome Declaration and Plan of Action. The present and future involvement of NGOs in the "Food for All" campaign and discussions being undertaken to better define the Right to Food demonstrated the NGOs' contribution. Participants also examined collaboration on FAO's technical activities and discussed areas for potential collaboration. Technical discussions were recognized as being important for the identification of collaboration in areas of special FAO and NGO competence and expertise.

In conclusion, we wish to reaffirm the support of the international NGOs in initiatives for the eradication of hunger and rural poverty. We wish the Conference success. Thank you.

Ms Patricia WOHLRAB (Observer for Caritas Internationalis)

The Caritas Confederation, an international NGO, which comprises 146 national offices serving 194 countries and territories, would like to add its voice in support of the hungry. A great deal of our work is centred on feeding and awareness-raising of the problem of hunger through development and education programmes, and as you are aware, we function very much at grassroots level.

Regarding the follow-up to the World Food Summit, while wholeheartedly supporting the raising of public awareness by "Telefood", we do, however, have some reservations regarding "Telefood's" collection of funds through the mass media. We consider this approach to be within the traditional channels of NGO fund-raising, and an important source for NGO functioning. In order for the hungry to be fed, NGOs will play an important role that will be vital in combatting hunger and achieving the goals of the World Food Summit. Caritas is, however, encouraged that there are governments which are cooperating and coordinating with NGOs and INGOs in the important work of world food security.

Ms Lydie ROSSINI van HISSENHOVEN (Observateur du Conseil International des Femmes)

Depuis ses origines, 1888, le Conseil international des femmes a pris à cœur les besoins nutritionnels des femmes étant donné que ce sont elles qui sont les responsables du bien-être de la famille, et que leur santé, d'importance capitale pour le développement, est étroitement liée à la qualité et quantité des aliments auxquels elles ont accès.

C'est pour cela que nous avons suivi avec vif intérêt toutes les phases préliminaires du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et nous tenons à remercier le Directeur général de la FAO et Mme Killingsworth pour nous avoir donné la possibilité de nous exprimer en maintes occasions aux différentes sessions du Conseil dès juin 1995, à la Commission I de la Conférence de 1995, à la Conférence ministérielle de Québec, et finalement au Sommet mondial lui-même en novembre 1996, au nom de 22 organisations Non gouvernementales nationales ayant toutes les mêmes objectifs, ceux de l'élimination de la faim, de la pauvreté et de la malnutrition dans le monde.

Nous poursuivons notre engagement et diffusons au sein de nos 80 Conseils nationaux affiliés notre oeuvre de divulgation, d'information et de formation par tous les moyens à notre disposition. A notre 28ème assemblée triennale qui s'est tenue à Ottawa du 15 au 22 juin de cette année, qui a été proclamée "Semaine du CIF" par le maire d'Ottawa pour son engagement constant en faveur des femmes, nous avons voté à l'unanimité deux résolutions ayant trait à la "pauvreté" et "pauvreté et développement" ainsi qu'une recommandation intitulée "Elimination de la faim et de la malnutrition dans le monde", dans laquelle le CIF réaffirme ses résolutions précédentes votées en 1979 à Nairobi sur le "rôle des conseils nationaux dans le développement des politiques et plans concernant les aliments et la nutrition"; ses résolutions de Londres en 1986 sur "la culture des plantes" et "les moyens de lutte contre la sécheresse" et celle de Bangkok de 1991 sur la "pauvreté dans le monde". Une nouvelle Commission permanente du "développement durable" a été créée et son Plan d'action suggère aux femmes des conseils nationaux d'encourager les femmes à être attentives à leurs responsabilités et prendre les mesures nécessaires pour une meilleure intégration dans le développement durable.

Sa Commission 'Economie' s'occupera de l'éradication de la pauvreté des femmes (par des projets micro-crédits, etc.); celle de la 'Consommation' basera son action sur l'utilisation des produits nourriciers locaux ainsi que des ressources humaines locales; celle sur "L'emploi des femmes" s'occupera de promouvoir la valeur du travail non salarié et la nouvelle "Commission des femmes rurales et urbaines" se dédiera à l'introduction et l'amélioration des technologies appropriées au développement à l'éducation, la formation à la santé et l'information des femmes urbaines de tous âges.

La Commission permanente "Bien-être général" qui comprend les Commissions Santé-environnement-habitat et nutrition encouragera ses conseils affiliés à travailler sur les thèmes des futures sessions de la Commission du statut de la femme aux Nations Unies et travaillera pour l'achèvement des droits humains élémentaires pour fournir une nourriture saine et adéquate.

A cette même Assemblée triennale, toutes informations et matériels de diffusion ont été donnés concernant la Journée mondiale de la femme rurale, la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation, la Campagne "une nourriture pour tous" ainsi que *Telefood*. Il serait trop long et je prendrais trop

de temps pour énumérer l'action des conseils nationaux, mais permettez-moi de vous en citer seulement quelques uns:

Le Plan d'action pour 1997 du CN allemand (Deutscher Frauenring) concerne la pauvreté et son objectif est d'établir un lien entre les thèmes des droits de la personne humaine concernant la pauvreté et la situation sociale en Allemagne. Il cherchera les possibilités de combattre la pauvreté à tous les niveaux politiques, et essaiera de trouver les moyens de donner une réalité aux droits de la personne humaine des gens pauvres.

Le Conseil national de l'Australie a publié des brochures sur les mauvaises habitudes alimentaires qui ont toujours beaucoup de succès, et sont envoyées sur demande dans toute l'Australie et aux écoles, bibliothèques et autres lieux pour atteindre les filles à risques.

Des efforts sont faits pour atteindre cette diffusion vers les Services de santé de l'Etat et du Commonwealth.

Le Conseil national des femmes de langue néerlandaise en Belgique a organisé une Journée d'étude, en collaboration avec le Steunpunt Women's Studies, sur les femmes pauvres.

Le Conseil national de la Bulgarie a entrepris des recherches sociologiques en liaison avec la Fédération des consommateurs de Bulgarie sur le statut de la production et de la commercialisation des aliments (et vêtements pour enfants), sur le statut de la nutrition infantile, même qu'un programme d'activités conjointes sur les problèmes des femmes dans l'agriculture, avec les syndicats, et une recherche avec l'Institut d'organisation agricole et économique sur les femmes rurales.

Le Conseil national du Canada, s'associant à la ligne d'action d'autres groupes de femmes, a apporté son soutien et sa participation à une campagne d'élimination de la pauvreté des enfants au Canada pour l'an 2000. Il a présenté des recommandations de modifications fiscales au Comité des finances du Gouvernement dans sa préparation du budget.

Le Conseil national de Colombie s'est occupé de projets de formation et perfectionnement des leaders ruraux pour l'organisation de micro-entreprises.

Le Conseil national de Corée a entrepris une enquête sur 803 ménagères de Séoul pour comprendre leurs attitudes et leurs perceptions à l'égard de la consommation alimentaire et de l'enlèvement des ordures, celles-ci augmentant la contamination des rivières et des ressources d'eaux souterraines. Il a organisé un séminaire de sensibilisation à la sécurité domestique.

Le Conseil de l'Indonésie a organisé un séminaire atelier sur "L'Allégement de la pauvreté dans tous les aspects de la vie des femmes et de la petite fille".

Le Conseil national d'Israël a organisé en novembre 1996 un séminaire pluri-sectoriel (gouvernemental et non-gouvernemental) sur "Femmes et pauvreté" ou marquer l'année internationale de l'éradication de la pauvreté". Il a présenté les programmes des services des petites entreprises et de la Commission des femmes entrepreneurs.

L'Union nationale des femmes marocaines s'efforce de toucher aussi bien les femmes urbaines que les femmes rurales par des actions ponctuelles, telles que des campagnes de sensibilisation, et des actions permanentes, telles que des coopératives dans le but de combattre la pauvreté et le chômage, et des ateliers de formation et projets générateurs de revenus.

Le Conseil des sociétés féminines du Nigéria a introduit l'idée d'un "prêt" qui aboutissait en janvier 1997 à un Symposium pour le pré-micro-crédit afin d'aider les populations rurales à rehausser leur mode de vie et à favoriser les femmes, étant donné qu'elles sont les majeures victimes de la pauvreté.

Je devrais encore parler de la Nouvelle-Zélande, du Pakistan, des Pays-Bas, du Pérou, de la Suisse, de l'Afrique du Sud, de Malte, de la Tunisie, de la Turquie et des projets en Colombie, au

Bénin, en Ouganda au profit des femmes rurales, mais je ne voudrais abuser de votre indulgence et de votre temps, et je vous prie de m'excuser. Permettez-moi de vous préparer un dossier, témoin de notre engagement pris lors du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation qui reflète parfaitement notre engagement plus que centenaire pour le bien-être et la dignité de la personne humaine.

Ms Elena LODI FE (Observer for World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts)

Just a few words on the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts activities and the most positive cooperation with the FAO Food and Nutrition Division during these last years, especially since the World Food Summit.

On World Food Day on 16 October, Mr Zenny, Assistant Director-General, informed the Plenary Assembly of the assignment of the first FAO WAGGGS Nutrition Medal Award which has been given to the Girl Guides of Mombasa for the outstanding achievement in the field of nutrition among disabled young women in Kenya. This FAO WAGGGS Nutrition Medal Award is an ongoing project planned to last for the next three years or so which we hope will involve nutrition and nutrition education projects in all of WAGGGS's 136 member organizations.

WAGGGS is also about to launch a six-year project - actually the official launch is taking place in London the day after tomorrow, 12 November, in the presence of Mary Robinson, High Commissioner for Human Rights at the United Nations. In the six-year project named Building World Citizenship, WAGGGS's perspective is addressed to the more than 10 000 000 Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world. Building World Citizenship is a project which entails six main topics, all basically important for the future of these girls and young women. Member organizations will choose one or two of these topics and consequently formulate a plan and bring it into action. One of the six topics is centred on food and nutrition. In the light of the issues discussed and reported at the World Food Summit, we already know of a considerable number of countries which have chosen food and nutrition as a priority.

WAGGGS also actively collaborated in the development of the International Youth Forum which took place at the same time as the World Food Summit in November 1996 with some 500 young people who arrived from every corner of the world. We all hope that FAO will help the permanent secretariat of the International Youth Forum to carry on the implementation of the Plan of Action drawn up during last month, October 1997, by a restricted group of 13 representatives of the working groups of the World Food Summit Youth Forum itself. The International Youth Forum could be an important stepping stone for the "Food for All" campaign.

Ms Joanna KOCH (Observer for Associated Country Women of the World)

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) is a major international NGO concerned with the health and well-being of rural and farming women throughout the world.

My intervention refers to the Item on Follow-up to the World Food Summit. Our commitment to food security, contained in Commitment 7, has been taking place worldwide most recently under the banner of the World Rural Women's Day. Delegates this morning referred to World Food Day. World Rural Women's Day is celebrated on 15 October, the day before World Food Day.

Rural women of the world play a major role in ensuring food security and in the development and stability of the rural areas. Yet with little or no status, they frequently lack access to land rights, credit, inputs, extension, training and education, while their vital contribution to society goes largely unnoticed.

Rural women comprise more than one quarter of the total world population. Five-hundred million women live below the poverty line in rural areas. Women produce 60 to 80 percent of basic foodstuffs in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean. Women perform over 50 percent of the

labour in intensive rice cultivation in Asia. Women perform 30 percent of the agricultural work in industrialized countries. Women head 60 percent of all households in some regions of Africa. Women meet 90 percent of household water and fuel needs in Africa. Women process 100 percent of basic household foodstuffs in Africa.

During the 1995 Fourth United Nations World Conference on Women, three international NGOs, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, the Women's World Summit Foundation and my organization, the Associated Country Women of the World, proposed that one day a year be designated to highlight the largely unrecognized contribution made by rural women and women farmers, the world over, to food security and the development of the rural areas.

Celebrated for the first time in 1996, the organizers have now launched a worldwide awareness and information campaign. The aim is to raise the profile of rural women, to sensitize governments and the public to their crucial role, and to promote action in their support.

This year more than 50 countries throughout the world celebrated the Day. To highlight just a few of their activities:

- Finland - an event organized by the Finnish Union of Farmers and Foresters;
- India - the SEWA issued four stamps in honour of rural women;
- Taiwan - activities organized by the Taiwan Nut Producers Association;
- Madagascar - posters delivered by bicycle;
- Mali, Cameroon and Zambia used local traditions and culture in isolated agricultural areas to spread the information;
- Hungary - the Agricultural University organized a special folklore event;
- China - 5 000 extra posters printed and distributed;
- Philippines - Proclamation of National Rural Women's Day;
- Special Celebration Panels took place at FAO in Rome and at the United Nations in Geneva.

We would like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation to FAO, the Swiss Government and others for their help and support given to the organizers for this special Day.

It is clear that in any discussion about follow-up to the World Food Summit, international non-governmental organizations, such as ACWW, can play a very effective role, and work hand-in-hand with governments and institutions to bring about food security.

Most international NGOs have a large membership through which they are able to reach people in many countries and regions of the world. The role of NGOs as promoters of action and in advocacy of international issues, such as those of the World Food Summit, is worthy of more attention than is indicated in the reports available for this Conference. It is our hope that they will be taken into consideration by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) at its next meeting in June, when World Food Summit follow-up and reported action will be discussed in detail.

For those delegates who wish to have more information on the World Rural Women's Day, I have copies with me here.

Ms Kay KILLINGSWORTH (Special Adviser for World Food Summit Follow-up)

Thank you very much, Mr Chairman, and may I say thank you first of all, on behalf of the Director-General and all my colleagues, for the very kind words during this debate about both the action taken so far in follow-up to the Summit and about the document itself.

With regard to the document, we definitely need to share that appreciation with the Committee on World Food Security which provided the bulk of it as its report to you. I think that the sense of this debate is certainly one of full endorsement of the Committee's report, presented in fulfilment of the Conference Resolution 2/95. We have also noted the various comments made on some of the FAO initiatives, and in that connection, I will deal with a few questions that have been raised, as will Mr de Haen.

Comments have been made with regard to the role of international NGOs in the follow-up, and I believe a question was asked earlier by the delegate of Canada with regard to arrangements for greater participation of NGOs in intergovernmental meetings as the Summit follow-up proceeds. Let me confirm that we are in dialogue with NGOs about how this might best be facilitated, as a result of a discussion which took place at the CFS meeting earlier this year, and I think the Bureau of the Committee of World Food Security will be coming back to that in preparation for its very important meeting next spring.

We are also making arrangements to facilitate, to the greatest extent possible, NGO participation at the regional level at the upcoming cycle of regional conferences which, as you may know, will also take up the question of World Food Summit follow-up.

Finally, it was stressed in the call for national reports, which went out reminding all countries of the deadline of 31 January, that the Summit had hoped that these reports on follow-up at the national level would be prepared with input from all stakeholders. I have noted a number of interventions this morning and this afternoon from countries who have pointed out that that is exactly the kind of process that they have got under way, and I am sure it is very gratifying for all to hear that.

We have also taken note of the very precious information that has been provided during the debate on follow-up at the national level. As I mentioned earlier, obviously the formal reports that are submitted to CFS will be the important input in establishing the baseline but, in the meantime, the information provided today and in the interventions in Plenary gives us all, I think, a very good sense of how things are proceeding.

Now, I think the debate also indicated full support for the issues raised for decision in paragraph 19 of the document. There are six points there and I would take advantage of a recapitulation to deal with a few questions that were raised and provide some further clarification necessary.

The first is with regard to reporting to the CFS. May I confirm that, as mentioned by Canada, these reports are to be submitted to the Secretary of the CFS for the attention of the Committee itself. Plans have been made to ensure that all the information received from countries in response to this call, and also all the information that will be received from international organizations, will be made available in full for consultation by CFS members -- although obviously we will not be able to provide it all as official documentation. Instead, there will be a synthesis as an official document prepared by the Secretariat for the Committee.

I mentioned that the regional conferences will be devoting one full day to World Food Summit follow-up in the next year, and information on regional-level action by regional and subregional organizations will then be reported in the Secretariat's synthesis for the CFS.

The delegate of Peru, I believe, mentioned that it was important that some countries receive assistance in preparing these reports. I would inform countries that feel such a need that the Director-General has already written to all FAO Representatives and to the Directors of all our Regional and Subregional offices asking them to follow the matter very closely with the governments to which they are assigned, and ensure that any requests for assistance are met -- to the extent that they can be met -- directly by the FAO Representative or by the other FAO units involved. So, the first port of call is the FAO Representative for any country requiring further clarification or assistance in preparing the report.

There was full support, I believe, also for the suggestion that we merge the reporting from the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development with the monitoring process for the Summit Plan of Action. I believe the delegate of Switzerland asked about the International Conference on Nutrition. This is mentioned in the document but not picked up in paragraph 19, because a specific decision of the Conference is not required. The final call for reports on the

ICN follow-up was in 1995, so I take it that you also agree that from now on reporting on aspects of ICN follow-up will be an integral part of Summit monitoring.

Another point was made in this connection with regard to the streamlining of reporting to reduce the reporting burden on both countries and other organizations, including FAO. Several delegations mentioned the need for conciseness to facilitate appropriate synthesis as well. I think those comments were appreciated by the Secretariat, as we can only appreciate ideas that we share enthusiastically. We are working with our partner organizations in the UN interagency bodies to push forward streamlining at the system level. As you will appreciate, the considerable number of International Conferences and Summits that have taken place in recent years do imply a very large reporting responsibility both for countries and for the various organizations involved, so we do have to pursue (and appreciate your encouragement to do so) ways of streamlining this process so that, in the words of several delegates, we can concentrate on action rather than merely reporting on action. I think the delegate of New Zealand mentioned that we should be diplomatic in our request for reports from other organizations. Indeed we are, because we know what an effort it is for us to meet so many requests for information. We are confident also that, through the ACC Network on Rural Development and Food Security, we will, in the future, be able to mobilize the necessary information in the form in which you will need it, in order to assess the contributions of other organizations to the implementation of the Plan of Action.

I think there appears to be support in the Commission for the proposal that the first report to ECOSOC be presented through the Council to ECOSOC in 1999 and, if I am not mistaken, there is also a desire that the next Conference, the Thirtieth Session of the Conference in 1999, would also come back to the question of follow-up to the Summit.

There have been a number of comments and some questions on the ACC Network for Rural Development and Food Security, so perhaps I ought to spend just a small amount of time on explaining how we see it shaping up and how it is expected to work. I think the first and most important point to make about it is that it is very much a two-tier mechanism, with a focus on action at the level of individual countries and a network of headquarters' organizations conceived primarily as a way of supporting action at the national level and then getting feedback from the national level to identify what works, what does not work, what are the best practices that can be shared effectively with other countries and basically facilitating dialogue between the different supporting organizations without the need to convene meetings which are a fairly expensive way of getting the practitioners together.

Since ACC decided to set up the Network, which will be jointly operated by FAO and IFAD and for which we now have the full participation of the World Food Programme, we have written to all FAO Representatives in the field encouraging them to contact Resident Coordinators and ensure that the country teams, of representatives of different UN Agencies at country level, address the question of food security and rural development. Here I should point out that this system is grafted on to a system that already existed in the UN within the ACC framework, which makes the Resident Coordinator the animator of a multidisciplinary team at country level involving all of the different organizations that are represented there. This is why we say that at country level, the Network will function fully within the framework of the Resident Coordinator system.

So far, we have had responses from 58 of our own Representatives who have informed us of thematic groups addressing food security issues involving other organizations which have already been set up or are in the process of doing so. It is still too early to be able to assess the results of their work, because they are too new, but we expect to be having feedback very soon, from the first of them at least, on the action-oriented programmes they may have been able to launch together with others. We have 18 Member Agencies of the ACC involved, so we

basically have got almost all those that have a mandate touching in some way or another on food security, and the one or two which have not joined yet, we expect to be joining in the near future.

Again, to facilitate cost effective communications, we have set up e-mail conferencing, and we will shortly go live, we hope, with an Internet Web Page.

I mentioned that the Network will be an effective means of synthesizing information on activities by various organizations in follow-up to the Summit, and I think that already by next year we should be seeing some results on that score as well.

The latest sister organization to join the Network is the International Labour Office. We received a communication very recently that they were happy to join and would also be providing information on aspects of employment and job creation for poverty alleviation. So I think that goes some way to answering a question which came early in the debate from the European Community with regard to the involvement of ILO. The question was put, I think, primarily in the context of FIVIMS, and this gives me the appropriate opportunity to ask you, Mr Chairman, to turn the floor over to Mr de Haen who will now deal with some of the many questions and comments which were made about FIVIMS.

H. de HAEN (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Department)

Distinguished delegates, we appreciate the many, mainly complimentary, comments that were made on the initiatives taken as a follow-up to the World Food Summit in the field of Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping Systems we undertook in collaboration with all FAO departments. I want to underline that. In fact, to confirm several of the interventions or of the questions raised, we have made a conscientious effort to involve as many competent partners as possible in the UN System and beyond, including Agencies, national governments, universities and individual scientists. Secondly, our effort has been to ensure that this approach be participatory, that is, we want to respect the responsibility that rests with governments and at the country level, including in the choice of indicators.

Now may I briefly try to respond to two specific questions, Mr Chairman. One concerns the intervention of the distinguished delegate of Canada. One concern expressed, as I understood it (I had to be in the Plenary, but it was reported to me), was that the system of indicators might become too homogeneous and then include an identical set of indicators used by all countries, developed and developing alike, and would therefore probably not sufficiently reflect the country's specific problems.

Let me assure you that progress has not yet gone so far as to determine a concrete set of indicators. The Inter-Agency mechanism that is underway and that had one session in March and that will have another one in December, has not yet reached that stage. In fact, there is a set of draft guidelines for country-level development of such indicators which will be discussed in the December meeting. These guidelines contain a categorisation of indicators, but not yet a concrete set of indicators. If I may add my personal expectation then, it would be that I envisage a diversity of national FIVIM systems with indicators which are expected to monitor well this specific country situation but that allow at the same time, and this is of course important, a core set of indicators which are comparable across all countries. Otherwise we could not arrive at regional or global assessments. So it has to be a flexible system at country level, plus a set of common indicators shared by all. But again, nothing has been determined yet and we look very much forward to the meeting in December to which also our Canadian colleagues have been invited.

With regard to the intervention of the United States of America, it was reported to me that you emphasized that FAO should broaden the range of partners to include existing databases, and I wish to confirm that this is exactly the effort that is underway. In fact, during the March meeting

in which the FIVIMS Work Plan was developed and later on adopted by the CFS, nine agencies were involved, and I envisage more and more to be involved as the work goes on.

Regarding the question of the representative of the European Union, my answer is yes, WHO and UNICEF have been involved from the outset and of course in particular, but not only, concentrating on the anthropometric measures and data systems these two Agencies have been developing over the years and have been using in collaboration with us. Now the very specific question was whether the GITOS would be involved or could be used as one mechanism through which information can be generated. My answer is that in general we see such a possibility, in particular with regard to the vulnerability. The FIVIMS has two main components, one is the direct measurement of the nutritional status of the people and the other is the vulnerability to unforeseen shocks, let me say, or calamities that may occur, be they either natural events or man-made.

Vulnerability indicators in the FIVIMS were identified relating to five classes. I will not be long, but just tell you how this could relate to GITOS. The five are income and its sources, food production and the overall resource base, food prices, income distribution and general impoverishment. Now evidently vulnerability of food production has to do with the sustainability of the resource base and this is what the GITOS plans to monitor worldwide. GITOS is a collaborative programme of several agencies for which FAO has the Secretariat, and it is initially concentrating on matters relating to land quality, fresh water and biodiversities. It is of course understood, that whatever the information base that is under development, it could be and should be used as part of the vulnerability indicators.

Now I come to an end Mr Chairman. The United States of America had a second point and that was that they wanted to be assured that the FIVIMS does not proceed with the plan of work until the information needs of countries have been fully assessed. This is also the approach of the Secretariat, and the approach the Inter-Agency mechanism is envisaging. I can confirm this by making reference to the steps already undertaken. One is that all countries were asked to nominate country focal points for the development of their country information systems. Of course, countries are encouraged to bring into this the information systems that they already have in these regards. This was also mentioned by the distinguished delegate of the United States of America. The IGADD Early Warning System that this region is developing with FAO's assistance in the countries of the Sub-region is, of course, a natural candidate to be brought into these countries' information systems on FIVIMS. Furthermore, we have invited the members of the Bureau of the CFS as representatives of the Member Governments of the CFS to the consultations that have taken place and through them we hope to have permanent country contact in this inter-agency mechanism.

Finally, we expect to analyse the reports that countries will submit on their implementation plans and I assume also on the information that they have on their food security situation, that they will report to the CFS, with the deadline being the end of January 1998. So the mechanism to involve countries and to ensure that they are in the driver's seat let me say, is in place.

Thank you Mr Chairman and I hope that this answered the questions that we had on this point.

CHAIRMAN

If no other delegation wants to take the floor, I will continue with a summary of these debates.

We cannot close this Item because there are two Draft Resolution proposals which should first go to the Resolutions Committee before being discussed here, but on the rest of the discussions I will try to make a summary which I will read to you. It might not be very complete but it was the best that I could do.

The Conference endorsed the report of the Committee on World Food Security already approved by the Council, and expressed its appreciation for the work of the CFS, the Council and the FAO

Secretariat in making this Summit a success. The Conference also welcomed the steps taken so far to promote concrete action to translate the Summit commitments into reality. In particular, the Members expressed support for FAO's varied initiatives including the Special Programme on Food Security, the work on national agricultural strategies to the year 2010 and for "Telefood" as a way of maintaining public awareness and commitment and mobilising public support in the struggle against world hunger and malnutrition. This Item will remain open in Commission I, to permit the tabling of Draft Resolutions.

Support was also expressed for the initiatives with the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to contribute to further progress on the Right to Food.

Full support for the decisions outlined in paragraph 19 including urging all countries to report to the CFS by the established deadline of 31 January 1998; agreement to incorporate reporting on WCARRD into the same CFS monitoring process and recommending that ECOSOC adopt the same approach; expressing support for the ACC Network on Rural Development and Food Security and for the involvement of other organizations in implementing the Plan of Action; urging donors and international financing institutions to give priority to programmes targeted to food security; requesting the CFS to provide through the Council a first Report on Implementation of the WFS Plan of Action to ECOSOC in 1999; and subsequently, to take up the question at the next Conference in the same year.

Our Report should reflect the richness of the debate and the many useful points made which should be taken into account by the Secretariat and by the CFS in future work and the importance which the Commission attributed to civil society. This is particularly important for the catalytic role which FAO should continue to play in FIVIMS, and for the refinement of reporting and monitoring systems which are concise and effective. We also noted the need to pay attention to the nature of information being collected and availability of other information initiatives.

This is the summary which I made and I hope it is satisfactory to everybody. And now we have to move immediate to the next Item on our Agenda, which is Item 8.

A few minutes of relaxation and then we will start the new Item. Please remain seated so we won't lose the quorum.

8. United Nations/FAO World Food Programme Pledging Target 1999-2000 (C 97/LIM/15)

8. Objectif de contribution au Programme alimentaire mondial Nations Unies/FAO, 1999-2000 (C 97/LIM/15)

8. Programa Mundial de Alimentos Naciones Unidas/FAO: Objetivo de promesas de contribución para 1999-2000 (C 97/LIM/15)

CHAIRMAN

The present item is Item 8: United Nations/FAO World Food Programme Pledging Target 1999-2000. The main documents relevant to the Item will be C 97/LIM/15 and C 97/LIM/29. This second one is a Report of the Resolutions Committee.

The proposed decision for the Conference is in the formal Resolution 1/112 adopted by the Hundred and Twelfth Session of Council. The Item will be introduced by Mr Jean Jacques Graisse, Assistant Executive Director of WFP. We shall invite him to take the floor.

Jean Jacques GRAISSE (Assistant Executive Director, WFP)

The Conference has before it a draft resolution containing document C 97/LIM/15 on the World Food Programme's Pledging Target for its development activities in 1999-2000. The proposed target is 2.1 million tonnes or US\$1 billion.

As you all know, the World Food Summit Plan of Action assigns substantial importance and urgency to work that helps poor people to improve their access to food. It is recognized that development food aid can play a significant role in this respect. Development food aid is an effective aid instrument in situations where hunger is a constraint to poor people moving out of poverty. It is essential that the Pledging Target is set at a level that will enable WFP, in collaboration with other UN agencies, especially FAO and IFAD, to fulfil its commitment to development. In endorsing the proposal, the WFP Executive Board was generally of the opinion that, given the current level of contributions, the Target was optimistic and set at a high level. The Board recognized, however, that the needs of developing countries also remain high and that a Target had to be set at an appropriate level of contributions commensurate with these needs.

It is thus our hope that the Pledging Target which was endorsed by the Council at its Hundred and Twelfth Session in June 1997 will meet your approval. I believe, Mr Chairman, that the Conference would like to make a point on this Item and I thank you very much.

LEGAL COUNSEL

I will be brief. Just to draw the Commission's attention to the fact that there is also a document reported out by the Resolutions Committee on this, C 97/LIM/29. The Resolutions Committee has indicated that in paragraph 3 of the Draft Resolution after the words "requests the Secretary-General" should be inserted the words "of the United Nations" to be formally correct. There is also a change to the Spanish version - "*secretario*" should be with a capital "S". I would also like to point out one further thing. The date at the end of operative paragraph 3 saying that the "Pledging Conference should be convened at the United Nations Headquarters in 1997" is incorrect. It should not be 1997. In view of the uncertainty surrounding the date and the Conference, perhaps it is better to use the words "as appropriate". So it would read "Pledging Conference for this purpose at the United Nations Headquarters as appropriate."

Philip MOUMIE (Cameroun)

Au nom de la délégation du Cameroun je voudrais mesurer l'importance que revêt le rôle du Programme alimentaire mondial non pas uniquement dans le projet d'assistance d'urgence comme cela a été le cas de manière plus marquée ces dernières années, mais également dans le cas de projets qu'on considère comme des projets de développement mais qui, lorsqu'on les regarde de près, sauvent des vies à moyen et long terme. C'est pour cette raison que, à l'examen de ces documents et aussi bien au niveau du Conseil d'administration du PAM que du Conseil de la FAO, nous voulons simplement, M. le Président, inviter les autres pays à approuver ces documents, à approuver le projet de résolution qu'on veut soumettre à la Conférence pour qu'elle soit adoptée.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

L'objectif que nous nous sommes assigné durant le Sommet mondial sur l'alimentation est de réduire de moitié le nombre de personnes, 800 millions sous-alimentées, d'ici l'an 2015. Nous nous félicitons que l'aide au développement figure toujours parmi les grandes priorités du PAM. D'après le document soumis à notre appréciation, au paragraphe 10 il est dit que les activités de développement du PAM ont permis d'atteindre 20 millions de personnes par an. Cependant, il est regrettable de relever que les maigres ressources à la disposition de cette Organisation empêchent d'accroître le nombre de bénéficiaires. A cet égard, l'accroissement de ressources d'aide au développement s'avère toujours indispensable. Le tableau qui nous est présenté au paragraphe 5 sur le montant de contributions en faveur du développement au cours des 5 derniers exercices achevés, est vraiment désolant et il va en s'amenuisant.

Nous profitons de l'opportunité qui nous est offerte pour lancer un vibrant appel aux pays donateurs afin qu'ils évitent d'allouer des contributions de type multilatéral, qui ne permettent

pas au PAM la possibilité d'accorder des ressources en fonction d'un ordre de priorité établi selon le critère fondé sur la pauvreté et la sécurité alimentaire.

Pour terminer, M. le Président, nous souhaitons que les ressources qui seront allouées au développement soient plus élevées comparativement à celles de l'année antérieure pour que le PAM continue à mieux cibler ces ressources sur les pauvres qui souffrent la faim spécialement dans la perspective des engagements pris lors du Sommet mondial sur l'alimentation. Par conséquent, ma délégation approuve le Projet de résolution portant sur les contributions du PAM pour le biennium prochain pour qu'il soit soumis à la Conférence pour approbation.

Douglas L. SHELDON (United States of America)

We support the WFP Executive Board's endorsement of a voluntary Pledging Target for the 1999-2000 Development Food Aid Resources of US\$1 billion or 2.1 million tonnes. The United States delegation notes that this proposed biennium target reflects WFP's effort to present a realistic budget in the present restrained-resource environment, particularly when compared with its 1997-98 target of US\$1.5 billion.

At the May 1997 Annual WFP Executive Board Meeting which considered this Item, the United States delegation and the rest of the Board felt that this was an obtainable objective for planning purposes.

CHAIRMAN

Any other speaker? Any other request from the floor? I see none. So I think there is no need for a summary because the whole thing was a summary, was summarized and I think we can conclude by saying that the Commission recommends that the Conference approve the Resolution. With this, we conclude this Item of the Agenda. Congratulations to you.

A few more moments please to move to the next Item on our Agenda, which is Item 9.

9. Standards for Plant Quarantine Harmonization (C 97/8)

9. Normes pour l'harmonisation des mesures phytosanitaires (C 97/8)

9. Normas para la armonización en materia de cuarentena de las plantas (C 97/8)

CHAIRMAN

We will start with Item 9 on our Agenda: Standards for Plant Quarantine Harmonization. The main document relevant to this item is C 97/8. The Conference is invited to approve two standards, one is the Guideline for Surveillance and the second is the Export Certification System. This Item is introduced by Dr Sawadogo, Assistant Director-General of FAO's Agriculture Department.

A. SAWADOGO, (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department)

The approval of international standards for phytosanitary measures has been a Conference Item since 1993. At the Conference in 1993, a standard-setting mechanism was approved with the FAO Conference as a final standard-setting body. In 1993 one standard was approved, while in 1995 another three standards were approved. The titles of these standards have been reproduced in documents C 97/8. In this document you will also find the text of two new standards, one on Pest Surveillance and one on Export Certification. The Programme to Develop International Standards was started in the early 1990s in reaction to the necessity felt during trade negotiations for them. FAO established the IPPC Secretariat to develop standards.

Under Agenda Item 18, the Revision of the IPPC will be discussed and interim measures will also be considered by the Conference. If such interim measures are approved, it is expected that in the future, they will be approved by a separate Commission on Phytosanitary Measures. The

text of the two new international guidelines is the result of an extensive process of consultation with the International Plant Protection Convention and Member Governments. It has been reviewed by the Committee of Experts on Phytosanitary Measures, the Fourteenth Committee on Agriculture and the Hundred and Twelfth Council, who have recommended their adoption. I therefore hope, Mr Chairman, that the Conference can adopt these Standards without much discussion, as we will run out of time.

Alan AMEY (Canada)

Canada supports the two Standards. We have been very much involved in the development of them. It has been passed through many FAO Bodies. We are delighted to see them as being living proof of the viability of the International Plant Protection Convention, and we would urge all other Member Nations to support the adoption of these two standards.

Dieter OBST (European Community)

The European Community and its Member States welcome the two draft International Standards, the Guidelines for Surveillance and the Export Certification System, which are submitted to the Conference for adoption. The European Community and its Member States attach great importance to the two Standards and are of the opinion that they will contribute to achieving international harmonization of phytosanitary measures with the aim of facilitating trade and avoiding the use of unjustifiable measures as barriers to trade. The European Community and its Member States are satisfied with the proposed text of the draft Standards and they confirm their approval. They urge FAO to develop as soon as possible further phytosanitary standards on topics which are important for the proper functioning of the International Plant Protection Commission, including its revised text.

Chishio SASAKI (Japan)

I would like to appreciate the IPPC Secretariat and the persons involved in developing international standards guiding surveillance and exposed certification system. It is meaningful to adopt these Standards in the Conference. Surveys on the best surveillance standard will become fundamental in conducting ultimate risk analysis or in establishing priority areas. I think it is very important to implement the international Standards for pest risk analysis and pest free areas. As to the Exposed Certification System, each country can satisfy plant matters with common procedures in accordance with the Standard. Accordingly, Exposed Certification will be conducted properly. I understand that the two standard features recommended have been succinctly discussed in CEPM, the Committee on Agriculture and Council, and I would like to support the adoption of the Standards in the Conference.

Ho-Kyum LEE (Korea, Republic of)

The Korean delegation would like to express its satisfaction and appreciation with the progress and efforts made by the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention, and by the Expert Committee on vital sanitation measures for the two International Standards.

Korea has worked closely with the Expert Committee and Regional Plant Protection Organization in the preparation of these two Standards. My delegation considers that the two proposed Standards will ensure the liability of the standards among Contracting Parties and will contribute to trade promotion by avoiding the use of unjustifiable barriers. Therefore, we are pleased to support the two Standards.

Marcos NIETO LARA (Cuba)

Gracias Sr. Presidente por ser ésta la primera ocasión que hago uso de la palabra. Me permito felicitarlo muy amablemente por su elección.

Sr. Presidente queremos agradecer a la Secretaría y a la FAO por supuesto, por el documento que nos ha hecho circular y conocer que es el producto de un largo proceso de consultas en el cual se logró un alto nivel consensual. Mi delegación considera que estas normas serán un instrumento facilitado del comercio internacional al tiempo que se constituye como un herramienta para proteger la introducción de enfermedades exóticas. Mi delegación apoya firmemente la aprobación de estas normas que nos han sido propuestas por la Secretaría.

Rachid LAKHDAR (Maroc)

Le Maroc a suivi de façon rapprochée toutes les phases d'élaboration et d'examen des normes phytosanitaires internationales qui nous sont présentées aujourd'hui. Le Maroc est directement intéressé à toutes les démarches de rationalisation et d'harmonisation du contrôle phytosanitaire. L'application des directives pour le système de Surveillance phytosanitaire devrait permettre, par le suivi précis de la situation qui prévaut dans les pays vis-à-vis des organismes nuisibles, de justifier les déclarations d'absence ou de présence des ces organismes. Ce système assurera que les mesures prises, notamment de quarantaine, sont transparentes et justifiées et ne constituent en aucune manière une entrave injustifiée au commerce international.

L'application, telle que proposée, du Système de certification à l'exportation contribuera, quant à elle, à assurer que la délivrance des Certificats phytosanitaires à l'exportation se fera sur la base de normes précises. Ceci est de nature à assurer la fiabilité et la crédibilité des Certificats phytosanitaires et, par là même, que les produits concernés satisfont aux exigences des pays importateurs.

Il reste qu'il y a lieu de prendre en compte les préoccupations exprimées au niveau des différents pays quant aux capacités de certains pays à appliquer les directives et le système en question. Il y a lieu donc de prévoir un appui particulier aux organisations nationales de protection des végétaux de ces pays pour leur permettre de développer leurs capacités propres dans ce domaine, et pour cela la FAO a un rôle éminent à jouer.

Le Maroc confirme donc son soutien à l'adoption des demandes qui nous sont soumises aujourd'hui. Je saisir aussi cette occasion pour rendre hommage au Secrétariat de la CIPV et au Comité d'experts sur les mesures phytosanitaires, pour la qualité du travail accompli à l'occasion des deux normes qui nous réunissent aujourd'hui.

Ms Deborah MALAC (United States of America)

The acceptance of these Standards is an important step towards meeting the World Trade Organization's request for FAO to develop science-based Plant Quarantine Standards. We hope the momentum generated over the past few years toward the development of such Standards will continue. The United States of America supports the adoption of these Standards and is committed to supporting the furtherance of this work.

Zhang XIGUI (China) (Original language Chinese)

The Chinese delegation would like to thank the FAO Secretariat and the Member Nations involved for their efforts in preparing this document C 97/8. We would also like to thank and congratulate Mr. Sawadogo for his presentation of this document. With respect to the phytosanitary surveillance of harmful pests, we think that the text proposed is complete and does essentially reflect the present situation prevailing in countries with respect to surveillance of harmful pests and plants. We think that the steps that are outlined are easy to put into practice and handle. We would also like to point out that the proposed amendment, which would be to add the question of certain resistant crops and their impact on rent, have been duly included and reflected. Therefore, we can say that we agree in principle with the text proposed.

Coming now to the Export Certification System, we think that these Standards have a rational structural framework and are also flexible. They should contribute, we think, to harmonizing phytosanitary standards for exports and imports, and therefore should enable trade in agricultural commodities. We would also say that we agree, in principle, to the contents of these texts.

Ramón RAMIREZ LOPEZ (Venezuela)

Sr. Presidente Venezuela ha participado activamente a través de organismos regionales en los dos documentos que hoy nos presentan. Por lo tanto felicitamos a la Secretaría y al Comité de Expertos, consideramos que esto va a ser un elemento importante en el manejo de las relaciones internacionales en la comercialización de los productos agropecuarios. Por consiguiente, le damos nuestro apoyo.

Mme Maria de Lourdes MARTINS DUARTE (Cap-Vert)

La délégation du Cap-Vert souligne à nouveau l'importance des textes en examen dont le processus de négociation a été suivi de près par les experts nationaux. Ma délégation donne donc son appui à l'approbation des deux normes internationales qui nous sont soumises.

Abdelrazig AL-BASHIR (Sudan) (Original language Arabic)

Mr. Chairman, I would like to congratulate you on your election to the Chair of this Commission. We would like to express our support and approval of this Convention and these Standards. Nevertheless, I would like to point out that the implementation of these Standards will be expensive, and a burden for developing countries. We would like to invite countries that have prepared the Standards and who will be responsible for the technical development programmes in developing countries to help to consolidate our infrastructure and our economic infrastructure, so that we may be in a position to respect these Standards, especially as they regard inspection procedures, definition of the various plants, treatment of various diseases.

With respect to the Export Certification System, we would request help so that we would be able to deliver these certificates. This means organizing training courses for staff. This goes far beyond our potential, because our means are limited. This is what we wanted to say. Thank you very much.

B. SANDAMU (Zimbabwe)

The point that we wanted to express has been amply expressed by other delegations. We just wanted to add that we also support the approval of the Standards for Plant Quarantine and Harmonization. Our experts participated in drafting these standards, but we also, like Morocco and Sudan, would like to point out that the Standards for Plant Quarantine and Harmonization are quite extensive. For developing countries like Zimbabwe to adopt the system, it would take some time, as we have to put the necessary infrastructure in place and engage in training the manpower required. I would like to point out that assistance would definitely be required to ensure that the guidelines are adhered to.

O.A. EDACHE (Nigeria)

This being the first time that we are taking the floor, let me join those who have already congratulated you on your election and to thank the Secretariat for the excellent documentation that has guided the work of this Commission. With respect to the documents currently being considered on Standards for Plant Quarantine Harmonization and Guidelines for Export Certification, my delegation has examined the documents and then found all of the issues raised therein satisfactory and in agreement with our comments already submitted to the Secretariat.

As some other delegations have just highlighted, we feel that a number of developing countries, many developing countries, will not have the resources for the implementation of specific surveys and some of the other requirements outlined in the document. We would, therefore, call

on FAO and other donor organizations to provide technical and other forms of assistance to facilitate implementation. Our delegation supports fully the measures outlined here.

Abderrazak DAALOUL (Tunisie)

Pour être bref, je voudrais aussi exprimer notre accord sur les normes qui ont été préparées avec nos experts, tout en exprimant les mêmes soucis qui ont été présentés par le délégué du Maroc et d'autres délégués concernant l'appui nécessaire pour certains programmes nationaux à la rénovation d'un système national phytosanitaire, à la formation de cadres et à la mise en place d'infrastructures pour l'application équitable de ces normes.

Neil FRASER (New Zealand)

I am sorry for my Dutch colleague here, who will have to hear it all twice, while everyone else will hear it only once. I am pleased to express our support for the endorsement or approval of these two standards. New Zealand has been involved in this work, we support it very much, and so we are pleased that it has come to this point. There has been mention of the assistance that will be required for some countries to implement these and other standards, and I'm sure that New Zealand is not alone in providing such support. Through the Regional Plant Protection Organizations and bilaterally, especially in the Pacific, but also in Asia, we have been active in training programmes, capacity development and institution-building, to help countries to implement these. We recognize that it is in the interest of all for these skills to be upgraded. We are pleased to have been associated with that and we will continue to be.

Atul SINHA (India)

Thank you very much Mr Chairman. I can be very brief. We indeed welcome this particular document. The guidelines for perseverance developed by FAO are absolutely responsive to the plan for quarantine requirements of our country. The different aspects of conducting the Surveillance System have been described in detail and they will be the basis for the Pest Risk Analysis, which is indeed a complex and complicated issue. We are sure that, ultimately, these guidelines will help us in reviewing and revising our own plant quarantine regulations on a scientific basis and the justifications would be provided as provided by the World Trade Organization and their specific agreements. We would therefore fully support the proposals here and the document which has been presented.

We also take note and, indeed, welcome the thoughts made by New Zealand with regard to assisting many developing countries in capacity-building and training, and we think that these thoughts need to be commented on and followed up. I am sure that FAO, too, will not be found wanting in widening the assistance to developing countries in this regard. With that, Mr Chairman, I once again support the proposals here.

A. SAWADOGO (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department)

Just one word to express my gratitude to the delegates for their appreciation for the Secretariat work and for their support. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Mr Sawadogo. So, in summing up this Item, in addition to the unanimous support expressed for approval of these two Standards, I have to add that there was a widespread call for assistance to developing countries in implementation of these Standards. With this we can conclude this Item, and also our business today. Before closing this session, Mr Moore has some announcements to make.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Thank you Mr Chairman. I would like to take advantage of the presence in this room of delegations who are interested in IPPC to make a short, informal announcement. As you may recall, last week in the Council certain questions were raised regarding the relationship of IPPC with the WTO SPS Agreement and other matters. At the time, I made an informal proposal for an Explanatory Statement which I felt might perhaps help to resolve that matter.

I understand that Members were consulting their respective capitals over the weekend on this matter, and the matter will be discussed formally on Wednesday in Commission III. However, if possible, I would like to hold an Informal Consultation on this matter tomorrow, if the interested delegations are available, at 14.00 hours in the Legal Office Conference Room, which is Room, A-472, to see if the matter can be resolved or taken further forward. Thank you. That is, there will be an Informal Consultation in the Legal Office Conference Room, A-472 at 14.00 hours. Consultations will take place in English.

The meeting rose at 17.45 hours.

La séance est levée a 17 h 45.

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas.

11 November 1997



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE CONFERENCIA

Twenty-ninth Session
Vingt-neuvième session
29º período de sesiones

Rome, 7 - 18 November 1997

Rome, 7 - 18 novembre 1997

Roma, 7 - 18 de noviembre de 1997

THIRD MEETING OF COMMISSION I
TROISIÈME SEANCE DE LA COMMISSION I
TERCERA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN I

11 November 1997

The Third Meeting was opened at 9.50 hours

Mr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La troisième séance est ouverte à 9 h 50
sous la présidence de M. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Président de la Commission I

Se abre la tercera sesión plenaria a las 9.50 horas
bajo la presidencia del Sr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Presidente de la Comisión I

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)**I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET POLITIQUES EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)****I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)**

10. Negotiation of a Legally Binding Instrument on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) (C 97/6; C 97/6-Sup.1; C 97/6-Sup.2; C 97/LIM/26)

10. Négociation d'un instrument juridiquement contraignant sur l'information et le consentement préalables (ICP) (C 97/6; C 97/6-Sup.1; C 97/6-Sup.2; C 97/LIM/26)

10. Negociación de un instrumento jurídicamente vinculante sobre el procedimiento de información y consentimiento previos (ICP) (C 97/6; C 97/6-Sup.1; C 97/6-Sup.2; C 97/LIM/26)

CHAIRMAN

We have already lost about 40 percent of our time this morning, so let us immediately start our business. We have four Items before us today, Item 10, Item 11, Item 12 and Item 7, which were left over from yesterday. So we will start immediately with Item 10. I want you to know that the meeting will be suspended at 10.40 hours to permit attendance at the McDougall Lecture in the Plenary Hall, so we do not have much time. I hope that we can deal with the two Items which we have for this morning.

The first Item will be Item 10, Negotiation of a Legally Binding Instrument on Prior Informed Consent (PIC). The main documents are C 97/6; C 97/6-Sup. 1; C 97/LIM/26, plus a new document which was distributed this morning, C 97/6-Sup. 2, which gives a cost estimate as was requested before.

The Conference is invited to consider the issues contained in paragraph 19 of C 97/6. The Item will be introduced by Mr Van Der Graaff, and then the general debate will start.

N.A. VAN DER GRAAFF (FAO Staff)

The subject for our discussions this morning is chemicals that are banned or severely restricted in certain countries. For FAO this is of particular importance with relation to banned and severely restricted pesticides. Furthermore, the discussion will also touch on a second class of pesticides that are hazardous, but since they can be handled safely in countries with well-developed registration systems, they will often not fall in a category of banned or severely restricted pesticides. You may recall that in the late 1980s, the voluntary PIC Procedure was negotiated and adopted by the FAO Conference and the UN Governing Council. The Procedure makes provision for informed decisions on future imports of banned and severely-restricted industrial chemicals, pesticides and hazardous pesticides and the enforcement of these decisions by exporting countries. FAO and UNEP have jointly provided the Secretariat for the voluntary Procedure. In this FAO is dealing chiefly with pesticides and UNEP chiefly with industrial chemicals. At present some 22 pesticides and five industrial chemicals are subject to the PIC Procedure, and 152 countries participate in the Procedure at this moment. The Procedure is relatively simple, the inclusion of a chemical or a pesticide is triggered by a ban or severe restriction that meets clearly identified criteria. The reason for FAO involvement is the need to make safe pest control methodologies available to Member Governments.

In Conference document C 97/6, you will find the rationale and history of the negotiations of a legally binding Instrument. A fourth round of negotiations on that Instrument was held at FAO

Headquarters in October this year, and a short report of these negotiations is provided in Supplement 1.

Although progress was made during the last round of negotiations, a fifth negotiation session is foreseen to be held in Brussels and hosted by the EC in January 1998, and we would expect a Convention to be adopted by a Diplomatic Conference probably in April. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee has indicated that continuation of the present Secretariat arrangements may be the most cost-effective arrangement for an Interim Secretariat and the subsequent Convention Secretariat, as you can see in C 97/6-Sup. 1. This would also guarantee a smooth transition from a voluntary to a legally binding procedure. However, it should of course be clear that the decisions on an Interim Secretariat and on a Convention Secretariat remain with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee itself.

During the interim period, and once the Convention comes into force, additional input will be required. The present voluntary procedure is relatively undemanding and does not require substantial inputs from governments. However, in the Legally Binding Procedure, a much heavier involvement of governments is foreseen and the information to be provided by the Secretariat will be far more substantial. Therefore, financial requirements for the Interim Secretariat and for the Convention Secretariat will be higher than for the present Voluntary Procedure. Council requested an estimate of the additional financial requirements for the Interim Secretariat to be available for the Conference. This estimate you will find in C 97/6-Sup. 2. We prepared this estimate together with our joint Secretariat's partners from UNEP. A large part of these costs are additional to the present FAO and UNEP budgets, and such costs are normally met through financial mechanisms established by a Diplomatic Conference and by the Conference of Parties of the Convention.

The next Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and the Diplomatic Conference will meet early next year. In the meantime, the future of the Voluntary Procedure and the nature of the Secretariat arrangements are not fully clear, although the INCS made clear recommendations on that. However in order to facilitate the process of negotiations, you are requested, as indicated in C 97/6 to authorize the organization to participate in future Secretariat arrangements and to accept any necessary changes to the Voluntary Procedure.

CHAIRMAN

Now the debate is open to the floor and I have on my list already European Community and I will draw up a list of speakers, Switzerland, China. So the list is open we can start with the European Community.

Gian Paolo PAPA (European Community)

Referring to the Declaration on behalf of the European Community, and its Member States made during the Council, we still feel in this Declaration that the additional cost to the implementation of the present voluntary procedure should be met through the regular programme since this is considered a regular task of FAO.

Taking into account the explanation of the FAO Secretariat and the fact that we have to proceed in a constructive manner, we can now accept that the additional activities will be financed from extra-budgetary sources.

Lothar GAVIEZEL (Suisse)

La Suisse se réjouit de l'excellente coopération entre la FAO et le PNUE et se prononce en faveur de la poursuite de cette collaboration sur une base permanente. La délégation suisse aimerait dès lors rappeler les avantages comparatifs qu'offre Genève à une organisation hôte du futur secrétariat de l'information et du consentement préalable (ICP).

Il existe à Genève un important réseau d'organisations impliquées directement dans les questions touchant au commerce des substances chimiques. Ainsi, des négociations sur les polluants organiques persistants (POP) sont actuellement en cours dans le cadre de la Commission économique pour l'Europe (CEE-ONU). Le programme "Chemicals" du Bureau régional pour l'Europe du PNUE (l'ancien Registre international des substances chimiques potentiellement toxiques, RISCPT) et le Forum intergouvernemental sur la sécurité chimique (IFCS), rattaché à l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS), travaillent dans ce domaine depuis plusieurs années. L'Organisation mondiale du commerce (OMC), l'Organisation mondiale de la propriété intellectuelle (OMPI), la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le commerce et le développement (CNUCED), l'Institut des Nations Unies pour la formation et la recherche (UNITAR) et la Convention de Bâle sur le contrôle des mouvements transfrontières de déchets dangereux font également partie de ce réseau.

Actuellement, près de 140 Etats se sont dotés d'une représentation permanente auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève. De nombreux spécialistes des questions de l'environnement suivent les travaux des institutions spécialisées et programmes subsidiaires du système des Nations Unies. En tant que centre européen des télécommunications de l'ONU, Genève assure également l'échange de communications entre le quartier général de l'ONU à New York et les autres villes où l'Organisation dispose d'agences spécialisées. De nombreuses organisations non gouvernementales (ONG) complètent et enrichissent l'action des organisations intergouvernementales. Le "World Environment Center" et le "World Business Council" for Sustainable Development représentent et défendent les intérêts du secteur privé, notamment de l'industrie chimique.

Depuis 1993, plusieurs organisations de coopération intergouvernementale actives dans le domaine de l'environnement (PNUE, Convention de Bâle, notamment) sont installées au Geneva Executive Center (GEC). Le secrétariat de l'ICP bénéficiera dès 1998 des nouvelles conditions offertes aux organisations intergouvernementales installées au GEC: il ne devra s'acquitter d'aucun loyer pour les locaux qu'il occupera. En tant qu'utilisateur du bâtiment, il ne prendra à sa charge que les frais d'exploitation et l'entretien.

Dans la mesure où le secrétariat de l'ICP dépendra administrativement d'un organisme des Nations Unies, il jouira de tous les priviléges et immunités que la Suisse accorde à l'ONU en vertu de l'accord de siège conclu avec cette dernière. Des facilités particulières sont offertes, notamment en matière d'exemption de la taxe sur la valeur ajoutée et d'accès au marché du travail suisse pour les conjoints et enfants des fonctionnaires internationaux.

Zhang XIGUI (China) (Original language Chinese)

The Chinese delegation would like to thank the Secretariat for the preparation of the document number 6. The Chinese Government attaches great importance to the management of pesticides and hazardous chemicals. Since 1982 China has studied the registration system for pesticides. Now it is in operation and is being improved. In May this year, China also issued rules and regulations governing the regulation of agrochemicals and in 1989 FAO incorporated the Voluntary PIC Procedure into the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, and China was among the first batch of countries to join this Procedure.

During the negotiation of the Legally Binding PIC Convention, the International Instrument, China has been actively participating in this negotiation and made its contribution. In the future negotiations will continue to give us support and will facilitate the completion of this work. We hope this Convention will take into full consideration the status and the reality of the use and application of pesticides in developing countries, the scope should be properly identified and financial and technical assistance should also be provided to developing countries to perfect their registration system and thus make the Convention an operational international legal instrument.

At present, FAO and UNEP have a joint Secretariat for PIC procedures. It has done a great amount of work and great progress has been obtained. We recommend that when the PIC Convention comes into force, the work should be conducted jointly by the Secretariat of FAO and UNEP who should also monitor the application of this Convention.

Atul SINHA (India)

I will be very brief. India has noted the excellent documentation on this subject and the equally clear introduction to the subject given by the Secretariat and we welcome this.

India has been involved in the work of the PIC Procedures right from the beginning and we have been involved in this entire exercise all through, and this is just to confirm that we will continue to be engaged in this negotiation and eagerly look forward to the forthcoming Diplomatic Conference which is going to be held in Rotterdam. We would also like to repeat what has already been said by China. In fact, that beautifully sums up the position of many developing countries which feel the need for the PIC Procedure because it is a legally binding instrument but, at the same time, need to build up their national capabilities so that they are able to participate fully in a system where things are transparent and well understood and the Procedure works to the advantage of all concerned. It is in this context that we would also once again stress the need for training programmes with FAO/UNEP assistance, or to have bilateral assistance available just as it was in the case of Harmonization of Plant Quarantine which we discussed yesterday. There, bilateral assistance was available for training purposes and the same perhaps could be used in this case also.

At the same time we would also welcome, and we have welcomed, the collaboration between FAO and UNEP. In fact India has consistently maintained that there should be a system-wide response to various problems that beset humanity. This is a good example where FAO and UNEP are working together on a subject which concerns not only both of them, but the whole of mankind because pest control chemicals and pesticides really touch virtually everybody's life. So to that extent, we would like to see this as a precursor of much greater collaboration between all the UN Agencies and we welcome this initiative here. With that, Mr Chairman, we fully support the work done so far, and pledge our support for future efforts in this direction. We hope that this entire exercise will come to a very quick conclusion very soon.

Jagadish Chandra GAUTAM (Nepal)

My delegation supports the idea of UNEP and FAO working together on the question of pesticides and harmful chemicals control. At the same time, the capacity to deal with such a question in the case of developing countries needs also to be considered. I really support the ideas already expressed by the distinguished delegates from India and China in terms of actually extending such capacities, as also has been discussed yesterday with regard to the aspects of the phytosanitary processes. In our own background, in the case of Nepal, for instance, there has already been an accumulation of some certain hazardous pesticides. This was merely because of the indiscriminate importation of such pesticides by multinationals.

In future, I think that such imports should be checked in order to actually make this process of monitoring effective. National capacities should also be enhanced through training courses. In terms of the proposition in the document C 97/6, the delegation of Nepal supports the idea put in paragraph 19.

Neil FRASER (New Zealand)

New Zealand has participated in the inter-governmental negotiations to develop this Convention, and we look forward to their eventual successful conclusion. I will not traverse in this brief statement any of the issues involved, nor comment on the pace of those negotiations. I will just address myself to paragraph 19 of document C 97/6 where two issues are posed for our consideration.

In short, we support the recommendation that the FAO Secretariat participate in an Interim Secretariat and then later in the Secretariat to the Convention. So we basically see a continuation of existing arrangements. Also, we support the recommendation that we agree to and I quote here, "... accept changes in the voluntary PIC procedure, if so decided by the Diplomatic Conference, ...". You will note that this reflects the Council recommendation as outlined in document C 97/LIM/26 which has recently become available.

Imorou ADAM (Bénin)

Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président, pour avoir donné la parole à la délégation du Bénin. Le point en étude par notre commission ce matin présente une grande importance pour le commerce international dans la transparence des pesticides et autres produits chimiques dangereux. Le document C 97/6 nous indique avec clarté le niveau des négociations.

Les négociations ne sont pas terminées parce qu'il y a une divergence de vue sur le champ d'application de la Convention. Faut-il se limiter strictement aux pesticides, ou étendre le champ d'application à tous les produits chimiques dangereux? La question est importante. C'est pourquoi le Bénin approuve la recommandation d'une session supplémentaire afin de dégager un consensus nécessaire à l'adoption et à l'application de la Convention. Le Bénin appuie également le point 19 du même document.

Guillermo BECKER ARREOLA (México)

Solamente para manifestar que para México ha sido siempre un tema muy importante y que considera positivo y conveniente el pasar del procedimiento voluntario hacia un instrumento jurídicamente vinculante como ya se ha mencionado y para ello también, se ha demostrado, que la participación de la Secretaría de la FAO es muy importante que de alguna manera continúe ligada y ayudando junto con el PNUMA en esta labor tan importante ya de un documento formal vinculante.

Por eso apoyamos la participación de la Secretaría de la FAO en este proceso formal y participaremos activamente en las próximas reuniones que se hagan, sobre todo para definir cuál va a ser el alcance, que creo es un punto muy importante, el alcance que realmente va a tener respecto de los productos que finalmente puedan quedar cubiertos, la forma final en que se pueda soportar presupuestariamente estos nuevos trabajos, y los requisitos formales que se deban llenar para seguir adelante con un control más efectivo.

Alan AMEY (Canada)

Canada has participated in the negotiating process for the PIC, and we are very supportive of its work. We are grateful for the extra information provided by the Secretariat on the costs associated with the operation of the voluntary procedure and the Interim Secretariat. I understand that the incremental costs of running the Interim Secretariat will be met from extra-budgetary resources.

We request that the document on cost implications be made available to the Contact Group, established in preparation for the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on PIC. Even further, we would like to see financial details being made available on the range of options under consideration for the final secretariat arrangements.

Finally, assuming the negotiations proceed successfully, we ask that all countries ratify the new agreement as soon as possible so that the new instrument can become effective without delay and the voluntary procedure can be wound up.

Luigi FONTANA-GIUSTI (Italy)

I have nothing to add to what the representative of the European Union has just said. It is known that we have always followed with active interest the activities of PIC, as we consider

particularly important the issues related to health and other issues. I recall that we have in ISPRA an active body, a European Chemicals Group, active in this sector.

I would like to refer to what the Swiss delegation said and, of course, we appreciate the proposal made but we consider it premature to discuss now the Headquarters issue if the prevailing interests are FAO or UNEP. I think that we will need further discussion on this specific issue.

Winston SMALL (Barbados)

We in Barbados have been associated with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee from its inception and we are very supportive of the suggestions made in paragraph 19 of document C 97/6. We agree that the FAO Secretariat should be authorized to continue its work.

We think that the current voluntary PIC procedure has already made very significant progress in improving the transparency of trade in pesticides and that the mandatory process that is now being negotiated will go a lot further in this. We fully support the contents of paragraph 19.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

First I wish to express appreciation for what I detect to be unanimous agreement for the provisions contained in document C 97/LIM/26, to authorize the participation of the FAO Secretariat and to agree to accept changes in the voluntary PIC procedure, as stated in the document.

Second, I also wish to express appreciation for the comments that were made about the existing joint Secretariat, and the desire that that arrangement continue. I can assure you, in view of the fact that there will be a lag between the time of the Diplomatic Conference and the ratification of the Convention, that during that period we will continue with the joint Secretariat arrangements. We expect, also, that once the formal Secretariat is established a similar, if not identical, arrangement can be continued.

I would just add that to my knowledge looking across the Organization and including those activities in which we have partners in other organizations, the joint Secretariat arrangements for this matter are the most cost-effective and efficient that I know of. They operate in two different locations. They stay in constant communication by e-mail and, as necessary, we use the teleconferencing facilities. It is a very effective and efficient arrangement.

In this context, I note the offer that has been made by the representative of Switzerland. I would also note for the Commission that the location or locations of the permanent Secretariat is a matter for the Convention to decide, not the FAO Conference. The permanent Secretariat will come into being some months hence. One does not know how long the time lag will be between the Diplomatic Convention and ratification, but one should not be surprised if, even at the next FAO Conference, you are reviewing the final and firm arrangements for a permanent Secretariat.

A final point that has been made is the reference to the need for national capacity-building and training. Again, there will be this time period, a window of opportunity, and you can be assured that FAO, and I am sure we can speak on behalf of UNEP, will do the necessary to provide the explanatory material, videos and so forth that can be used by Member Nations to prepare for the time when the Convention itself comes into effect.

CHAIRMAN

Let me summarize the debate. I think Mr Hjort summarized it very well and we can say that we have positively responded and supported the two issues contained in paragraph 19 of document C 97/6. We have also noted the necessity of providing technical assistance to developing countries for application of the instruments and that the decision of the location of the permanent Secretariat is a matter to be decided by the Convention itself. With this, we can

conclude our debate on this Item. We can close that. We have to go to the McDougall Memorial Lecture, so we adjourn, and we reconvene again at 11.30 hrs.

The meeting was suspended from 10.45 to 11.40 hours.

La séance est suspendue de 10 h 45 à 11 h 40.

Se suspende la sesión de las 10.45 horas a las 11.40 horas.

Atul Sinha, Vice-Chairman of Commission I, took the chair

Atul Sinha, Vice-Président de la Commission I, assume la présidence

Ocupa la presidencia Atul Sinha, Vice-presidente de la Comisión I

CHAIRMAN

The meeting is called to order after a brief suspension for the McDougall Memorial Lecture. May I request all of you to please take your seats so that we can begin our work. We are ten minutes late, and I apologize to those who did arrive on time. First of all I would like to request the Secretary of Commission I to make some important administrative announcements, after which we will proceed with our work which relates to consideration of Item 11 which is "Desert Locust Situation, Measures Taken and Further Action Required". First of all, the floor is for the Secretary of Commission I to make administrative announcements.

SECRETARY, COMMISSION I

It concerns the two Draft Resolutions which were tabled under Agenda Item 7. A number of delegations have asked when you will be debating these. The two Resolutions are being examined by the Resolutions Committee during the lunch break at about two o'clock. In the meantime, we have made arrangements for the Draft Resolutions to be translated and they will be available to you at the Documents Desk after the lunch break. You should be able to pick them up before the session commences. Once the Resolutions Committee has judged the acceptability of the two Resolutions, this Commission will be in a position to debate them.

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee has kindly agreed to come directly to this Commission to explain the results of their considerations in the Resolutions Committee without having to wait for the written document from the Resolutions Committee which would simply delay things far too much. We hope to begin debating those two Resolutions during the second half of this afternoon. That is for the information of all interested delegates.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much for that announcement. I am sure that the distinguished delegates have noted them.

11. Desert Locust Situation: Measures Taken and Further Action Required (C 97/18; C 97/18-Sup.1; C 97/LIM/27)

11. Situation en matière de criquet pèlerin: mesures prises et à prendre (C 97/18; C 97/18-Sup.1; C 97/LIM/27)

11. Situación de la langosta del desierto: medidas adoptadas y nuevas actividades necesarias (C 97/18; C 97/18-Sup.1; C 97/LIM/27)

CHAIRMAN

We'll now proceed with Agenda Item 11 "Desert Locust Situation -Measures Taken and Further Action Required". We have before us, friends, three documents which will be required for this consideration: C 97/18, which is the basic agenda paper. We also have C 97/18-Sup.1, which is an up-date on the Desert Locust Situation and which was explained in the basic document, and then we have C 97/LIM/27 which is really an extract from the report of the Hundred and Thirteenth Session of the Council which was just held, referring to the Council decision while

considering this particular matter. It says "Desert Locust Situation - Measures Taken and Further Action Required" and then goes on to give the extract of the relevant Council decisions.

May I then call your attention to these three documents. I do wish that you all have these before you, before you make your interventions. Having said that, I would now invite Mr Hafraoui, who is the Senior Officer of the Migratory Pest Service in the Secretariat, to make his very brief presentation of the issue which has already been discussed in some detail during the recently-concluded Council meeting.

A. HAFRAOUI (Personnel de la FAO)

Comme vous l'avez annoncé, le Point 11 de l'Ordre du jour traite de la situation, donc de la lutte anti-acridienne, des mesures prises et des futures actions à prendre. Permettez-moi de rappeler brièvement que vous avez confié à l'Organisation le mandat de coordonner toutes les activités anti-acridiennes par aires de reproduction et d'invasion du criquet pèlerin et de vous rappeler également les différentes activités globales que nous avons effectuées depuis la dernière Conférence.

Il y a eu depuis l'implantation d'un nouveau Programme, j'en parlerai en détail, la coordination s'est poursuivie avec plus d'intensité à travers des échanges avec les Etats Membres, les donateurs, au cours de réunions informelles ou au cours de réunions régionales ou internationales. Il y a lieu également de signaler qu'il y a eu un apport très significatif du Programme de coopération technique, soit en période de recrudescence, soit en période, disons, de fléau. Depuis le démarrage du nouveau programme EMPRES, relatif à la composante du criquet pèlerin, qui est un élément principal et d'une très grande importance et que vous avez approuvé, beaucoup d'activités ont été entreprises pour sa mise en place du Programme dans une région connue par ses zones de reproduction importantes, qui est la Région centrale des pays qui entourent la mer Rouge. Ce Programme est maintenant opérationnel tant sur le plan effectif en personnel de terrain que sur le plan coordination. Pour votre information, les pays concernés par ce Programme se sont réunis depuis pour la cinquième fois et la dernière réunion a eu lieu en Egypte en vue d'asseoir un Plan de travail bien défini qui est actuellement en cours. Nous pouvons constater depuis l'implantation de ce Programme qu'il y a eu des améliorations majeures sur le plan alerte précoce, sur la réaction rapide et sur le plan recherche. Nous pouvons constater aujourd'hui avec satisfaction que les risques de développement d'invasion ont diminué.

Comme vous l'avez recommandé également dans le cadre de l'extension du Programme EMPRES à la Région occidentale, celle-ci est en cours. Une première étape a été franchie et le document a été élaboré. Ce document, qui va circuler à travers les Etats concernés - pour ceux qui souhaiteraient d'ores et déjà avoir une copie de la part de la communauté internationale - sera discuté début 1998 au cours d'une réunion élargie aux donateurs qui aura lieu en Mauritanie en 1998. Ce document, s'il est approuvé, pourrait donc être mis en place pendant le premier semestre 1998. Bien que la situation soit relativement calme en région occidentale, la Région centrale, par contre, a montré tout récemment quelques signes d'activités ainsi que la Région orientale, et ceci en 1997. Des interventions relativement à grande échelle ont eu lieu en Arabie saoudite, au Pakistan et en Inde et ont permis de stopper tout développement de recrudescence majeure.

En discutant le document C 97/18, le Conseil a noté l'accalmie relative actuelle mais il a insisté sur le maintien de la vigilance soutenue. Il a également souligné la nécessité de renforcer les équipes nationales de prospection et de lutte. Le Conseil a aussi recommandé à tous les pays donateurs, comme aux pays bénéficiaires, d'apporter leur soutien au Programme EMPRES. Il a été demandé de réévaluer les structures régionales, de développer également la recherche à travers des méthodes alternatives plus acceptables dans le domaine de l'environnement et celui de la lutte chimique, d'améliorer l'approche en ce qui concerne la stratégie de lutte préventive. Il

a pris note du progrès déjà réalisé dans l'élaboration de certains produits qui pourront être utilisés à très faible concentration.

Pour conclure, il y a lieu de mentionner que, si le rapport se concentre sur le criquet pèlerin, la FAO a apporté également son assistance technique aux Pays membres ayant eu à subir des attaques d'autres espèces d'acridiens. Le premier de ces pays est Madagascar, confronté à une infestation majeure de criquets migrateurs telle qu'elle n'en a pas connue depuis plus de 40 ans. La FAO coordonne un effort pluridisciplinaire dans ce pays. Des assistances ont aussi été apportées en Asie centrale à des républiques de l'ex-Union Soviétique pour lutter contre des espèces de ravageurs très importantes, telles que le criquet marocain et le criquet italien. Il y a eu également des contributions de la FAO faites à travers des pays de l'Afrique de l'Est et du Sud pour le criquet nomade, et actuellement nous assistons à la recrudescence du criquet migrateur dans quelques pays de la Région sahélienne, en particulier au Tchad et au Cameroun. Voilà ce que je voulais résumer sur l'ensemble du document qui vous a été présenté et je vous remercie.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much Mr Hafraoui for an excellent introduction to this document. Indeed the floor could now be opened for discussions and comments particularly in the context of what has been said on the subject in the recent Council. May I, therefore, open the floor and request members to indicate if they wish to speak on the subject.

Ely OULD AHMEDU (Mauritanie)

Permettez-moi d'abord, comme c'est la première fois que je prends la parole au nom de ma délégation, de vous féliciter, ainsi que tous les membres de votre Bureau, pour votre nomination, pour présider et diriger les travaux de la Commission I.

Comme vous le savez, la Mauritanie constitue une aire naturelle d'habitat du criquet pèlerin. En effet, elle fonctionne comme un couloir permanent aussi bien pendant la période printanière qu'estivale ou même automnale. Si la situation peut être considérée globalement en 1997 comme étant calme, il n'en demeure pas moins que la prudence doit être de mise surtout que les équipes de prospection au niveau local ont toujours identifié des solitaires, des individus isolés, qui peuvent, à la faveur de conditions favorables, se grégariser, également du fait que la zone centrale et orientale est active comme l'a indiqué tout à l'heure M. Hafraoui dans sa brillante présentation.

C'est dans le cadre de cette vigilance que la Mauritanie, la délégation de mon pays, s'en tient raisonnablement à la résolution et la présentation qui a été faite tout à l'heure, qui constitue les recommandations du Conseil de la FAO, notamment dans ses aspects d'appel à la vigilance, aussi bien aux pays qui sont situés dans l'aire de multiplication du criquet qu'aux donateurs.

Au passage, je tiens à remercier l'ensemble des donateurs, aussi bien bilatéraux que multilatéraux, pour leur sollicitude et leur engagement au côté de la Mauritanie dans la rude épreuve de lutte contre le criquet pèlerin constituant par là un jalon important de sécurité alimentaire. La Mauritanie soutient donc l'ensemble de ces résolutions, et notamment le maintien et le renforcement des équipes, mais également l'extension du Programme EMPRES à la zone occidentale, et je me félicite que son siège dans la zone occidentale soit la Mauritanie.

Alan AMEY (Canada)

Canada would like to reiterate its support for this area that we previously expressed in the Hundred and Twelfth Council. A small observation only, basically Canada supports the efforts towards further research on alternatives to chemical control of locusts and of the implementation of these methods. We are pleased in this regard to learn about the fruits of our investments towards locust biological control and the successes achieved so far.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

On behalf of the European Community and its Member States I would like to present a few comments on Conference documents C 97/18.

The document gives a realistic overview of the present situation with respect to desert locust control in the Central and other regions. The framework of the EMPRES Programme in its present form offers a good opportunity for monitoring the situation and assisting Member States in their efforts to control the problems in coordination with bilateral and multilateral donors which are also active in this field.

A study funded by the European Commission on the organization of monitoring and fighting the Desert Locust in six countries of the Western Region was completed in March 1997, and the Report has been made available to FAO. Almost simultaneously, a specific computerized Early Warning System for the Sahel area has been put at FAO's disposal. We consider that the identification of zones of seasonal reproduction is a key component of the EMPRES Programme. Utilization of satellite data is, therefore, an important element of this strategy. Research begun at the level of the Central Region should be consolidated and integrated into other regions to preserve a coherent framework for interventions and coordination. The European Commission and several Member States continue to offer active support for further development of control strategies and tools.

A critical assessment and revision of the present strategies are needed, including the development of new and less toxic and biological means after substances like Dieldrin have been banned.

Research in this field has produced encouraging results allowing the development of products used at a very low concentration. These products already appear in Table 1 listing the products recommended by the FAO Pesticide Reference Group.

Strategic development should be an important part of the EMPRES Programme, with due attention paid to output of research activities. We are of the opinion that this element needs more emphasis than it receives in the present document.

We agree with the main emphasis in the section on Proposed Decisions on Locust- Affected Countries to further strengthen their institutional capacity for monitoring and control activities. Regional cooperation is essential in this context. As we now seem to enter a period where "Current indicators suggest that the desert locust activity is beginning to decline and move towards a recession period", that is indeed where the main emphasis should be. Strategy development with respect to chemical, biological and other control measures should be incorporated in this process of strengthening the institutional capacity.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much distinguished delegate of the Netherlands. We do observe that you have spoken on behalf of the European Community. We also then take note of the excellent suggestions you have made and your continuing support for developing strategies and tools. We observe your views about development of alternatives to chemical means for the control of Locusts. We also observe that you stressed the need for regional cooperation in this regard. Obviously that is the core of all strategies in this respect because what happens in one country, almost always affects what happens in some other country.

Ms Bongiwe NJOBE-MBULI (South Africa)

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on an Agenda Item, Item 11, and specifically to propose some issues which could be taken into account in consideration of further actions. South Africa is currently spending between US\$3 to 4 million on locust control in any given year. This demonstrates the seriousness with which we approach the need for preparedness and timely control of these migratory pests.

While it is true that the FAO EMPRES Programme is focused on the Desert Locusts in the Central and Western regions, we would like to highlight the gravity of the local situation in the Southern African Region, specifically in the SADC countries. Our concerns at the moment are those of the long-term perspective with regard to effective and sustainable regional coordination, as well as the impact of existing practices and methods of eradication on food security as well as on the status of our already fragile agricultural natural resource base.

With specific reference to the document under discussion, namely, C 97/LIM/27, I wish to express our support in principle for the acceptance of the report and the continuation of the Programme. With respect to paragraph 3, the South African delegation would like to draw the attention of FAO and its Members to the local situation within SADC countries and in South Africa. We regularly have to deal with outbreaks of the Brown Locusts in the semi-desert areas of South Africa and Namibia, the African Migratory Locust affecting Botswana, Namibia and South Africa, and the Red Locust which occur mainly in the flood plain grasslands in Mozambique, Namibia, Botswana, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia. These species, Chairperson, may not fall under the definition of Desert Locusts, but I can assure you that they create the same threats to food crops and natural resources and require equally effective mitigation and control measures and regional coordination mechanisms.

We appeal therefore that with respect to paragraph 3, future action should look to options for developing a partnership with SADC countries to share experiences to date, with the objective of adding value to world experience and making the system of control in SADC more effective. We have taken the initiative and appreciate the initial interest shown by FAO, and we look forward to more interest from other Member Nations. We further support the recommendation in paragraph 4 as we believe this is forward-looking. We also have ongoing research projects to optimise and improve the chemical control technology, evaluate alternative methods of locust control, develop of Early Warning and Forecasting System for the Region and promote capacity-enhancement and linkages with the surrounding countries. We believe that these endeavours will contribute to the long-term sustainability of our approach to locust control.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much distinguished delegate of South Africa. We have noted your comments, particularly the information given by you about the situation in your Region, Southern Africa. We have also noted your problems with regard to species which cannot be specifically classified as locusts but nevertheless which cause problems with food security. I am sure the Secretariat would respond to that particular issue. We have also noted that you have generally supported paragraphs 3 and 4 of the C 97/LIM/27 document.

Rachid LAKHDAR (Maroc)

Nous sommes profondément convaincus que la lutte préventive constitue l'approche appropriée pour la maîtrise du fléau acridien. Aussi, nous renouvelons notre recommandation pour la mise en oeuvre effective et rapide du Programme EMPRES dans la Zone occidentale de l'aire d'invasion et qui viendra donc compléter le Programme déjà mis en place au niveau de la Zone centrale.

Quant à la réévaluation des structures régionales existantes de lutte anti-acridienne, celle-ci devra prendre en compte les aspects d'efficacité du fonctionnement de ces dernières et aussi les aspects de spécificité en matière acridienne des Pays membres. Il nous faut aussi être vigilants pour éviter que toute nouvelle restructuration ne conduise à la mise en place d'organisations lourdes et dont la pérennité du fonctionnement ne pourrait être assurée. Enfin, nous souhaitons que les chercheurs des pays de l'aire d'invasion soient encore plus impliqués dans les Programmes de recherche, notamment pour les nouvelles voies de lutte contre le criquet pèlerin.

B. SANDAMU (Zimbabwe)

The Secretariat and my neighbours from South Africa have really preempted what I was going to say, but I will just re-emphasise the points that they have made.

We are also grateful to note that FAO and other donors have given immediate assistance to the Southern Africa Region in times of emergency crises caused by the Red Locust. In Zimbabwe, and indeed in other parts of Southern Africa, we are equally threatened by the Red Locusts and other migratory locusts. While in terms of manpower, countries in the Region are now well prepared to deal with Red Locust invasions, donor agencies, including FAO, have from time to time assisted and will, I am sure, be called upon in the future to continue assisting with operational funds. Zimbabwe and other countries in the SADC Region would, in the future, need to improve the Early Warning of Locusts Development, the procurement of pesticides and equipment and the provision of operational funds, for example, the hire of aircraft for spraying. I would therefore like to call upon FAO and other donor countries to give the same consideration for the Red Locust as they are giving to the Desert Locust.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much distinguished delegate of Zimbabwe. We have noted your remarks regarding the problems of Red Locusts in your area, and we have also noted your request that donor countries continue to support activities like aerial spraying and so on.

Tokuyuki SUDO (Japon)

Je voudrais remercier le secrétariat de nous avoir fourni des documents qui présentent bien la situation des criquets pèlerins. Le criquet pèlerin est un fléau nuisible aux cultures de l'Afrique du Sud et, dans certains cas, de l'Asie de l'Ouest. Par conséquent j'ai apprécié les énormes efforts fournis par la FAO pour réduire cette menace grâce au Programme EMPRES, ainsi qu'aux antipodes du globe grâce au Sommet mondial de l'alimentation.

Le Japon appuie financièrement le programme EMPRES depuis 1982. Je désire exprimer mon immense espoir pour que la lutte contre le criquet pèlerin continue à contribuer à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, et je compte sur le Secrétariat pour nous tenir informés de la situation du criquet pèlerin et des mesures prises avant de continuer notre coopération avec EMPRES.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much Japan. We are very happy to note that your country pledges to continue its support for EMPRES and other programmes by FAO in this regard.

Bernardo PALESTINI (Italie)

Je prends la parole pour soutenir la déclaration que les Pays-Bas a faite au nom de la Communauté, dont nous partageons totalement le contenu. Il faut cependant souligner que les résultats qu'on peut obtenir par la mise en oeuvre du Programme EMPRES, lequel identifie trois éléments essentiels pour la réussite de la lutte, soit l'alarme rapide, l'intervention rapide et la recherche, seront d'autant plus durables et importants que sera forte l'adhésion des pays des régions intéressées.

L'Italie a apporté, et pourra continuer à apporter, sa contribution en connaissances et en technologie, particulièrement pour ce qui concerne la mise au point et la mise en oeuvre de systèmes satellitaires de relevés de la végétation.

Il est souhaitable en outre que les limites de chaque intervention contre les acridiens soient précisées par un protocole de mise en oeuvre des interventions adopté suivant les indices prédéterminés, tenant compte non seulement de tous les éléments bio-agronomiques, mais aussi de l'importance des dommages, des coûts sociaux et environnementaux. La prochaine activité

réduite prévue pour les criquets pourrait, sans qu'on relâche pour autant la vigilance des centres régionaux d'observation, libérer des énergies et des fonds à utiliser pour la recherche, suivant les lignes reconnues: réduction de l'emploi des pesticides, impact environnemental, lutte intégrée, relevés à distance.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much distinguished delegate of Italy. We have noted your comments. Tunisia you have the floor and after Tunisia we will have Algeria, Malawi and Sudan in that order, followed by India now and all that I would need to say is that subject to your agreement, we are intending to close the debate after these speakers have spoken for the simple reason that we are a little behind schedule and we wish to close in order to enable you to have enough time to have a decent lunch. So therefore, if there are no other speakers, the list would be closed after Sudan and India have spoken. Is that Tanzania, most welcome Sir, you would speak before India and India would be the last.

Thank you very much indeed. With that, the Speakers' List therefore will be closed. We would have Tunisia, Algeria, Malawi, Sudan, Tanzania and then India in that order. And then the Speakers' List stands closed. Thank you very much, because we have had the benefit of your very able and very well reasoned arguments during the very recent Council Session, and therefore we are strengthened by that input. May I then request Tunisia to take the floor please.

Abderrazak DAALOUL (Tunisie)

Je voudrais tout d'abord remercier Monsieur Hafraoui pour l'excellente présentation du document C97/18 et les documents annexes. Je voudrais vous informer que la Tunisie a toujours maintenu une vigilance soutenue pour la lutte préventive contre le criquet pèlerin en organisant des prospections périodiques et en réunissant le Comité national de vigilance d'une façon périodique. Aussi, en Tunisie, il y a un encouragement aux travaux de recherche pour la lutte dirigée contre le criquet pèlerin. A cet effet, la Tunisie soutient les décisions proposées par le Conseil, et surtout celles relatives à la mise en oeuvre de l'IMPRES dans la région de l'ouest et invite aussi à faire collaborer ses chercheurs en lutte biologique avec le programme de certains pays du nord.

Embarek GUENDEZ (Algérie)

Je voudrais remercier et en même temps complimenter Monsieur Hafraoui pour l'exposé qu'il a fait dans la salle au sujet du criquet pèlerin. Je voudrais, avec votre autorisation, rappeler aussi que l'Algérie est un pays qui est constamment menacé par le criquet pèlerin: il est menacé en période d'invasion et même en période de rémission. Je voudrais simplement rappeler que la dernière invasion de 1987-89 a coûté à l'Algérie plus de 40 millions de dollars, dont une bonne partie, plus des deux-tiers, a été acquise sur des prêts effectués auprès de la Banque mondiale et que nous sommes en train de rembourser actuellement. C'est dire que l'effort est très important.

A cette occasion-là, je voudrais rappeler qu'une grande quantité de produits chimiques a été pulvérisée pour arrêter les essaims, chose qui a été faite et qui s'est traduite par l'extinction des essaims qui se sont introduits en Algérie, mais il y a des reliquats très importants de produits qui existent encore en Algérie et qui sont issus de cette période d'invasion. Ce sont des produits qui ont été achetés sur des prêts que nous avons consentis, et sur les produits aussi qui ont été accordés par les donateurs à cette occasion-là.

Je voudrais simplement attirer l'attention de la FAO et, en même temps, lui demander de bien vouloir continuer à faire les efforts pour essayer de résorber les produits obsolètes qui existent, et nous en avons une quantité très importante en Algérie.

En période de rémission, je voudrais vous rappeler que l'Algérie fait tout le temps des efforts pour maintenir la rémission dans son pays. Cela se traduit par le même effort de prospection sur

toutes les grandes zones sahariennes qui existent en Algérie, et des traitements ont lieu pratiquement tout le temps et sans rémission après la période d'invasion. Je voudrais rappeler qu'en 1992, 1993 et jusqu'en 1996, tout le temps il y a des prospections qui sont traduites par des traitements - entre 5 000 hectares et jusqu'à 100 000 hectares. Cela veut dire qu'en période de rémission nous fournissons les mêmes efforts. Cela nous coûte très cher, et c'est très lourd.

C'est pour cela que nous sommes contents que la FAO fasse des efforts pour mettre en place un système de lutte préventive d'alerte rapide à travers le Programme EMPRES. Nous appuyons fortement ce Programme, mais nous voudrions dire à cette occasion-là qu'il faut absolument, à notre avis, tenir compte de ce que les pays ont mis en place au niveau de leur Région, des institutions qui existent, des commissions qui oeuvrent et qui ont acquis des expériences très importantes et qui ont effectué un travail de lutte préventive et de lutte curative très important dans cette Région.

Je voudrais tout simplement dire à la FAO qu'il faudra tenir compte de l'avis de ces pays.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much distinguished delegate of Algeria for those very learned comments.

C.J. MATABWA (Malawi)

Thank you, Mr Chairman, for giving me the floor to comment on this issue of Red Locusts. I wish to support the statement given by Zimbabwe, since their problem with Red Locusts affects us all in the SADC region. Let me thank FAO for all of the support they give us in that Region, and it is our hope that more support will be coming from all donor countries or agencies, especially, as was stated by Zimbabwe, for procuring pesticides, enhancing early warning mechanisms and providing some kind of training. Also we request that FAO should consider Red Locusts as being as great a problem for us in the SADC Region, as it already considers the Desert Locust to be a problem in other regions.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much indeed, Malawi. We have noted your comments and your support for the Zimbabwe and South African positions on the subject, particularly relating to the Red Locusts in your area.

Mohamed Said Mohamed Ali HARBI (Sudan) (Original language Arabic)

I should like to thank the Secretariat for the three documents that were presented to us, and the Secretariat who has introduced this subject.

I will confine myself to three major points. First, the Sudan supports EMPRES as it has been proven to be the most appropriate means of combatting Desert Locusts. Second, the Sudan believes that EMPRES should continue to extend its support to the stage of Locust waves formation and should not be confined to preventive control measures. Third, the Sudan, being a member of the Central Region that is most involved with locust control (as it is nine months per year, during the summer reproduction season in the west and the winter reproduction season on the Red Sea), should receive assistance in terms of pesticides in order to secure successful control operations and to prevent locust migration in the spring reproduction season.

Since the Sudan spends almost US\$5 million for the provision of pesticides and equipment, 70 percent of which is directed to locust control preparations, the support we are receiving should be proportionate to the annual costs we are incurring to combat this insect. Moreover, the Sudan believes that a Steering Committee of EMPRES should be formed with the following membership: two permanent members, two members to be annually elected, technical members and representatives of other organizations, who should be chosen in consultation with the

EMPRES Coordinator. Taking into account the great efforts deployed by the Sudan, we believe that the Sudan should be one of the two permanent members of this Steering Committee.

You know that the Sudan is the biggest country in Africa, and we are cultivating 40 million tonnes of crops.

In conclusion, we support what has been included in this document, namely the appeal to the donor countries, to help the locust-afflicted countries in their efforts to combat these locust waves. I thank you Mr Chairman.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much distinguished delegate of the Sudan for those very comprehensive and very useful remarks. The points made by you regarding cost-sharing and the steering committee for EMPRES have been noted, and I am sure that the Secretariat may wish to respond to them at the appropriate stage.

S. MURO (Tanzania, United Republic of)

Mr Chairman, let me on behalf of my delegation, congratulate FAO for the desert locust control component of the EMPRES Programme. I wish also, to recognize the efforts and resources to be mobilized by individual countries affected by this problem. Regional organizations such as the Desert Locust Control Organization of Eastern Africa have done tremendous work to coordinate and assist the efforts of Member Nations.

I wish at this point to join other Member Nations in appealing for additional emergency assistance. At the same time, I wish to emphasize the point raised earlier during the Council meeting, that national governments have the first responsibility to carry out surveys and control operations.

It is because of the inadequate capacity of these national units and the nature of the problem that an appeal for cooperation and extra support is being made through FAO. And also directly through other donors.

Let me now agree with the other SADC countries which have spoken, and turn to the problem of Red Locust control which hitherto does not appear to have received enough attention or mention in the document. My delegation considers the problem of Red Locusts to be very high on the agenda of migratory pests. Tanzania has some breeding sites for Red Locusts and towards the end of 1996, a substantial population of Red Locusts remained widespread in all major outbreak areas in the country. As had been predicted, all breeding areas turned up with alarming swarms of Red Locusts in early 1997. Swarms were experienced as early as May 1997. Counter-operations were organized and carried out jointly by the Plant Protection Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and the International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa.

During the operation a total area of 13 000 hectares of locust infestation were treated along with 38 swarms, using 7 300 litres of fuliticide and technico. However, a substantial residual population of pests still remains in these grasslands, and another huge offstream population is expected in 1998. Given the prevailing favourable weather and the presence of residual populations in all outbreak areas, an alarming locust outbreak situation is likely in 1998. While we continue to mobilize internal resources in order to control the locusts during the relatively harmless period, in the hopper stage, we shall be collaborating with other countries in the Region in this control programme. Mr Chairman, I only mention this in detail to bring to your attention the fact that in Central and Southern Africa, Red Locust control is an equally serious problem.

On behalf of my delegation and I believe on behalf of all other countries in the Region, we request FAO and listening Member Nations to consider the problem and come to our aid when we request necessary assistance.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much, Tanzania. You have indeed done an excellent job in bringing the problems of your country to the focus here and you have also done an excellent job in providing statistical information about the work being done in your country to help yourselves. Thank you very much indeed.

I then come to the last speaker, that is India. Now here, I'm afraid, I am trying to adopt something which is usually never done, but I do hope you will be able to excuse me. What happened is, unfortunately, the other Indian delegate who was to speak on this subject has not arrived because of certain technical reasons and I am indeed under pressure to speak out about what India wants to say on the subject, since India is, indeed, concerned about this very important subject. So, with your permission, if I could just replace my Chairman's hat with the hat of India and just take one minute to say what the delegation wanted to say.

Therefore, with your kind permission in adopting this extraordinary procedure in view of the extraordinary problem that we are facing, I would wish to take the floor as India, and just indicate that India fully supports the document and the resolution proposed in C 97/18, paragraph 18.

It also fully supports what has been said in the Council report, C 97/LIM/27, paragraph 124. India also wishes to place on record its appreciation for the excellent work done by FAO in helping developing countries and also India in its task of trying to control locusts, because they have effects on not only one country, but on several other countries. We would, however, like to underscore the need for continued support particularly for training in the following areas: desert locust survey and ULV control, training and radio training, particularly in respect of ekon and kodon makes which have been made available, training in remote sensor techniques, training in repair and maintenance of the vehicles which have been provided for this work, training in locust information efforts and in costing and training on aerial applications and pesticides.

I will not go into details about the work that has been done in my country, particularly at this stage, when we are running short of time. Thank you very much for allowing me this departure from the normal practice of the Chairman not taking the floor. With that, we have finished the List of Speakers. Thank you very much indeed.

We now turn to the Secretariat, Mr Hafraoui, who would wish to answer some of the questions and concerns which have been raised after which I will give a very brief summing-up and we will be finished with this Agenda Item. Yes, Mr Hafraoui, would you like to take the floor?

A. HAFRAOUI (Personnel de la FAO)

Je remercie tous les intervenants de l'intérêt qu'ils ont accordé durant cette session au problème acridien dans sa globalité mais, également, dans ses spécificités.

Je pense qu'en échangeant nos points de vue aussi bien sur le plan opérationnel que sur le plan même fondamental et conceptionnel sur la stratégie à adopter, nous pourrons dire très prochainement que nous sommes arrivés effectivement à limiter l'ère d'invasion et à limiter également peut-être même l'ère de rémission.

Je pense que, dans l'ensemble des intervenants, un point important a été également accordé à cette coordination au niveau régional et au niveau international. De même, que les intervenants ont appuyé la nécessité de maintenir ce contact entre institutions internationales, donatrices ou donateurs, et pays affectés. Je crois qu'un de nos rôles est celui de coordonner donc ce domaine et je crois que nous avons eu des résultats très satisfaisants. Il ressort donc des intervenants qu'il

y a l'aspect environnemental qui doit primer dans tout Programme et, en particulier, dans le Programme EMPRES.

La FAO veille et continuera à veiller sur cet aspect-là en encourageant toute initiative pouvant apporter toute nouvelle technologie, toute nouvelle méthode d'approche, aussi bien dans le domaine de la recherche fondamentale, de la recherche d'accompagnement et de la recherche opérationnelle. Et nous veillerons sur cet aspect-là. Il est tout à fait naturel que des chercheurs des pays concernés soient donc impliqués dans le Programme ou dans le volet recherche du Programme EMPRES. Et ceci est en bonne voie.

Je pense qu'il était nécessaire d'attirer l'attention de l'assistance sur le fait qu'il y a une certaine complémentarité qui doit se faire entre les chercheurs de terrain et entre les chercheurs de conception au niveau donc des laboratoires ou même au niveau universitaire. Il était également dit que d'autres techniques, qui sont la télédétection, peuvent contribuer à la connaissance de ce phénomène acridien. Je pense que nous avons des projets, et un Programme également est établi dans notre Programme spécial EMPRES, sur ce volet particulier qui est très important puisqu'il complète nos données opérationnelles de terrain.

Il est prévu également que la FAO accorde plus d'attention à ces espèces qui n'ont pas la même importance que le criquet pèlerin sur le plan migratoire. Nous veillerons à comprendre également ce problème du criquet nomade ainsi que d'autres espèces comme le criquet malgache et des réponses seront apportées au cours des discussions que nous aurons donc avec les pays et les institutions concernées.

Il est important de voir cette quantité de pesticides qui a été effectivement utilisée pendant de longues années, et particulièrement durant la période de la grande invasion 1987-89. Effectivement, comme l'a souligné le délégué algérien, ce problème se pose et la FAO, dans son humble contribution, a essayé d'apporter un certain nombre de réponses à des problèmes de produits stockés quelque part en Afrique et quelque part également au niveau du Moyen-Orient. Mais c'est un travail de longue haleine, l'expertise est assez rare, mais nous continuons à approfondir ce problème pour aboutir à une éradication de ces stocks obsolètes.

Je pense que je me suis résumé sur l'ensemble des points qui ont été abordés et pour venir, si vous le permettez, le délégué du Japon souhaitait recevoir des documents, les documents vous seront donnés tout de suite après le déjeuner. Nous vous invitons à les retirer dans le casier réservé au Japon. Vous les aurez aussi bien pour l'Afrique que pour le Moyen-Orient, et également pour l'Afrique Australe.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much, Mr Hafraoui, for those remarks. We are indeed enthused and reassured about the commitment of FAO for the work relating to Desert Locust control and I think you have indeed answered the questions and concerns which have been raised by the Members.

I am now therefore in a position to sum up the debate and close this matter. I do observe, first of all, that as many as thirteen countries, plus the European Union, European Community, spoke on this subject, which shows the degree of interest in this matter. I congratulate you for having given us the benefit of your advice. First of all, we observe that people have praised the excellent work done in various countries to control Desert Locusts. We have also noted that all the countries have observed that even though the situation is not alarming at this particular point of time, there is need for eternal vigilance, and that is the central point of all Desert Locust control work. There is need for vigilance. I also observed all availng support for the work which has been done by EMPRES in this regard, and the need for continuing that work. I have also noticed that there is some concern for the chemical control of Desert Locusts which has proven to be causing problems in various areas, and therefore the need for greater stress and greater work on the

biological control. I would wish to remind the Commission that the FAO has, indeed, done a lot of excellent work on Integrated Pest Management, and I think that is a step in the right direction to which we have also alluded.

People have spoken about regional cooperation. That again is the central point in all Desert Locust control work, because the locusts are, indeed, migratory. For unless there is regional cooperation, nothing can be changed.

We have heard people appreciating the multilateral and bilateral assistance which has come so far in this work, and the need for continued support from these sources. That point is also well-taken. Of course, this is a tribute to those countries that have been supporting this particular Programme bilaterally, as well as multilaterally.

I also observed that a large number of SADC countries have spoken: South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and so on. They have said that we must not forget areas which are not mentioned in these documents, *per se*, but which are indeed very important, particularly the problem of Red Locusts in those areas. I am sure that the Secretariat has taken note of your concerns, invariably voiced by many countries from the SADC region.

With those remarks, I observe that you are generally supportive of the Draft Resolution that is contained in paragraph 18, in the document C 97/18 and you are also supportive of the Council recommendations which are contained in the document C 97/LIM/27, paragraph 124. Therefore, with your permission, these Resolutions are then adopted.

Thank you very much indeed for a very, very useful, a very, very enlightening and a very, very informed debate. Thank you very much indeed.

The meeting rose at 12.45 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 45.

Se levanta la sesión a las 12.45 horas.

11 November 1997



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE CONFERENCIA

Twenty-ninth Session
Vingt-neuvième session
29º período de sesiones

Rome, 7 - 18 November 1997

Rome, 7 - 18 novembre 1997

Roma, 7 - 18 de noviembre de 1997

FOURTH MEETING OF COMMISSION I
QUATRIÈME SEANCE DE LA COMMISSION I
CUARTA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN I

11 November 1997

The Fourth Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours

Mr Louis Dominici,

Vice-Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00

sous la présidence de M. Louis Dominici,

Vice-Président de la Commission I

Se abre la cuarta sesión plenaria a las 15.00 horas

bajo la presidencia del Sr. Louis Dominici,

Vicepresidente de la Comisión I

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)**I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET POLITIQUES EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)****I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)**

12. Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis (PAAT) (C 97/19; C 97/LIM/28)

12. Programme de lutte contre la trypanosomiase africaine (PLTA) (C 97/19; C 97/LIM/28)

12. Programa contra la tripanosomiasis africana (PCTA) (C 97/19; C 97/LIM/28)

LE PRESIDENT

Je viens en tant que Vice-Président et je demande votre compréhension pour mon premier exercice avec vous. Nous allons examiner le Point 12 de l'Ordre du jour, c'est-à-dire le Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine. Je pense que vous avez tous les documents, deux documents, j'ai l'habitude de les rappeler: C 97/19 et C 97/LIM/28. Je vais donner la parole à M. Fujita qui va introduire ce Point.

T. FUJITA (Director, Animal Production and Health Division)

The results of the past effort to control Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis indicate that to address the problem, the level required to obtain and sustain significant results demands coordinated and focused reaction at the international, regional and national levels. It is with this motive that this new and innovative Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis has been proposed. The objective will no longer be on eradicating tsetse because they are there, but rather there will be a focusing of resources for the rational delivery of disease control in the broader context of sustainable agriculture production. It is important to note that this is not solely an FAO initiative. PAAT has been progressively developed, based on a recognized demand and on the recommendation given to the Organization by the Member Nations directly involved.

It should also be emphasized that PAAT is facilitatory and aims at international coordination. Significant support to this endeavour has also been given at the level of OAU/IBAR, as well as by representatives of the major donor countries and international research and development organizations, some of whom have already contributed financially to the Programme. A notable achievement in this respect is its recognition and endorsement by the World Health Assembly, WHO Geneva, in May 1997. An outline of the aims and structures of PAAT is described in Conference Document C 97/19, as are some of the achievements made since its very recent inception. Since the drafting of this document, the organizations involved in the Joint PAAT Secretariat, namely FAO, WHO, OAU and IAEA have taken the initiative to combine meetings of their various statutory and coordinating bodies under the common umbrella of the International Scientific Council on Trypanosomiasis Research and Control in Mobuto, Mozambique, in September 1997. This attracted the attendance of 280 scientists and national and donor representatives from all over the world. A notable outcome from the Plenary Session was the recognition and endorsement of the principles upon which PAAT is based, and our recommendation that it be supported fully.

The Hundred and Thirteenth Session of the Council recognized the considerable constraint imposed by African trypanosomiasis on the goals of the World Food Summit Plan of Action, and appreciated the need for a concerted and coordinated effort against this disease such as proposed by the PAAT initiative.

This is substantiated by their recommendation that the decision on this Item should not be subject to further delay but should be presented to the current Session of the Council for consideration, despite not having been first placed before COAG for their technical consideration.

In consideration of the financial implications of the changes in the structures of Statutory Bodies, the Council noted that no additional resources would be required in the next biennium and the PAAT Proposal would result in a reduction of these Bodies from three to one.

E. Wayne DENNEY (United States of America)

As we noted during the Council, the United States of America agrees with the thrust of the proposals before us, and we certainly agree with the importance of bringing African Trypanosomiasis under control. This issue, like other disease eradication efforts, is related to the World Food Summit Plan of Action.

The planned linkages with other international institutions are essential, but we would like to hear more about how they will be accomplished. Similarly, we would like additional information about how the two proposed modules would interact. The important aspect of resource requirements is not adequately addressed in the Secretariat document in our view, although we are pleased to hear that no additional costs are envisioned with the proposed realignment of Statutory Bodies.

Regarding the Draft Resolution, we propose two small amendments. First, in Article 4 of the second operative paragraph, we propose that the word "appropriate" be inserted prior to the word "resources" and that the phrase "warranted by its potential" be deleted, so that the article would then read "to afford PAAT the priority profile and appropriate resources to contribute to the aims of the World Food Summit Plan of Action".

Finally, in Article 5 on the very last line, we would suggest the word "annual" be replaced by the word "necessary". So the last three words of the last line would then read "facilitate necessary meetings".

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Le Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine est une initiative louable qui mérite tout notre appui car elle est d'une importance capitale pour l'Angola dont 25 pourcent du territoire national est investi par cette infection. Vous n'êtes pas sans ignorer que dans les zones où il y a la Trypanosomiase animale le potentiel de l'élevage est réduit au minimum de 37 pourcent voire parfois 70 pourcent ce qui a des implications négatives sur la sécurité alimentaire. Et en Angola dans les zones infectées par cette maladie, on enregistre une situation sanitaire très difficile, tant chez l'homme que chez l'animal - situation difficile qui affecte en particulier le développement socio-économique du pays par le fait que dans les zones infectées il est difficile, voire impossible, de pratiquer l'élevage.

Il nous paraît important de mettre l'accent sur la lutte contre le moustique tel que stipulé au paragraphe 27, qui, à notre avis, est le point clé de ce programme. Par ailleurs, à l'examen du premier paragraphe de ce document nous étions frappés par l'exclusion ou peut-être l'oubli à l'inclusion du Secrétariat mixte vu qu'il s'agit de maladie d'animaux et que cette institution est chargée de coordonner les activités de la santé animale au niveau mondial. Ma délégation souhaiterait être informée sur les raisons profondes de la non-inclusion de cette institution dans ce document.

Nous tenons à l'informer que dans la Commission II, lors de l'examen du Point portant sur la suppression de certains organes statutaires, plusieurs délégations, parmi lesquelles mon pays, ont manifesté leur préoccupation sur ce point. Et le Président de la Commission II a proposé de surseoir la décision portant sur ce point en attendant la conclusion sur le problème de la Commission II. Ma délégation propose que la suppression de ces Organes statutaires et subsidiaires, relatifs à la lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine soit mise en veilleuse pour permettre à la Conférence régionale de se prononcer sur ce point. Dans notre sous région de l'Afrique australe au niveau de la SADC nous avons un Programme régional se rapportant au contrôle de la Trypanosomiase de la mouche tsé-tsé. A cet égard, nous souhaiterions savoir

quelle serait la position du RPT vis-à-vis de ce Programme. Dans le cadre du PLTA ma délégation souhaiterait également être informée de la position du Comité sur les Trypanotolérants puisque cet aspect de production n'a pas été mentionné. Pour terminer, ma délégation approuve les activités proposées au paragraphe 29 ainsi que le projet des résolutions sur le PLTA.

Mohamed Said Mohamed Ali HARBI (Sudan) (Original language Arabic)

Thank you very much, Mr Chairman. Actually, we are really concerned with the question of Trypanosomiasis. It is one of the most important and endemic diseases of the country. But I do not believe that it is more important than Rinderpest. The idea of speaking about Trypanosomiasis, because it is more important than Rinderpest, or other diseases, is not accepted by us, at least not by me as a veterinarian. All diseases are important for us, especially the contagious Bi-implorial pneumonia, Rinderpest, Blackwater, Anthrax. We believe that they are very important both for exports in the economy of the country and for the local consumption of meat.

The question of Trypanosomiasis included in the new proposal should be taken over. Mr Chairman, I believe that a consultation of African intergovernmental experts may help FAO tackle the problem of Trypanosomiasis with more depth.

Regarding the Pan-African Animal Trypanosomiasis, the Sudan delegation stands for the proposal stated in document C 97/19, and we emphasize the importance of the project. FAO did very well with the substitution of the two existing bodies into one Statutory Body. As far the abolition of the Commission of African Trypanosomiasis is concerned, we would like to raise some reservations. We believe in revitalizing it. This, in brief, are my contributions.

Michel NANEMA (Burkina Faso)

Ma délégation vous remercie pour lui avoir de nouveau donné la parole pour intervenir sur ce document C 97/19 concernant le Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine PLTA. Le document synthétise bien la situation à la matière et la délégation du Burkina Faso s'en félicite.

Cependant, si on devait évaluer les sommes immenses investies par les Etats africains dans le cadre de la formation de spécialistes dans ce domaine, la mise en oeuvre du Programme de lutte au niveau national et sous-régional, avec l'aide de leur partenaire au développement, si on devait évaluer cela, disais-je, par rapport à la situation actuelle de cette maladie et notamment en Afrique de l'Ouest, il y a lieu d'avoir des inquiétudes. En effet, l'utilisation abondante de trypanosocides se poursuit cueillant par ci par là des trypanorésistantes. La lutte intégrée est timide. Le partenariat avec ses bénéficiaires est à ses débuts. C'est pourquoi la délégation du Burkina Faso soutient et appuie de toutes ses forces l'initiative récente de la FAO de mettre en place le PLTA. Elle souhaite cependant que le comité du PLTA puisse identifier des institutions interrégionales dont l'expertise est éprouvée dans la lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine comme partenaire dans le cadre de la mise en oeuvre de vastes Programmes régionaux. C'est enfin sans faire de la publicité que nous pensons à l'ex Centre régional de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase animale africaine CRTA, aujourd'hui Centre international en recherche/développement en élevage en zone sub-humide, CIDES, dont la FAO, je n'en doute pas, connaît les mérites.

Ma délégation saisit l'occasion qui lui est offerte pour remercier l'Union Européenne qui permet actuellement à ces structures de mener des actions de formation et de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine dans la région et au-delà. Elle voudrait, comme elle l'a dit tantôt, sans faire de la publicité, qu'on lui indique la place qui lui permettrait d'être utile dans le nouveau cadre du PLTA.

Ronald ROSE (Canada)

I was wondering, since I have had my flag up since the beginning of the debate, whether you wanted to hear my intervention before the explanation of the Secretariat or after.

A. SAWADOGO (Sous-Directeur général, Département de l'agriculture)

Je crois qu'à ce stade du débat il est bon de donner quelques informations qui vont pouvoir, je l'espère, aider à la poursuite des discussions. Je veux en particulier aborder les problèmes de structure. Je comprends que dans le projet de résolution qui est soumis à l'attention de la Conférence on parle d'une part de faire un appel aux Etats Membres en leur disant de renforcer leurs actions en matière de Trypanosomiase africaine, et d'autre part dans le dernier paragraphe, le Point 6, on parle de supprimer la Commission intergouvernementale qui s'occupe jusqu'à présent du problème au niveau des gouvernements. Je crois que, pour bien comprendre nos propositions, il faut se rappeler qu'il a été créé en 1972 un Programme spécial d'action contre la Trypanosomiase et c'est à l'intérieur de ce Programme que deux commissions ont été créées: la Commission sur la Trypanosomiase africaine et d'autre part un Panel d'experts pour prendre en considération les aspects de développement.

Cependant, je voudrais rappeler ici que le Programme spécial sur la Trypanosomiase africaine a été supprimé au cours du biennium 1994-95. Cela veut dire que les deux commissions qui ont été créées comme résultat de ce Programme se retrouvent pour ainsi dire sans structure logique puisque la structure à laquelle ces deux commissions se raccrochent a été supprimée pour le biennium 1994-95.

On se pose alors une question: Est-ce-qu'on peut, d'une part demander aux gouvernements de renforcer leurs actions et d'autre part ne pas avoir des représentants de gouvernements siégeant quelque part? Je voudrais dire aux membres de cette Commission qui s'inquiètent à ce sujet que la représentation des gouvernements va être accommodée au Point 12 du document C 97/19 où il est indiqué que le Comité est composé de représentants élus des donateurs. Dans notre esprit au moins, la FAO va demander - je ne pense pas que les autres partenaires y voient un inconvénient - que les représentants aussi interviennent à ce niveau-là. C'est possible après l'approbation de ce document de Projet de Résolution, mais je reviendrai sur ce point tout à l'heure.

Pourquoi nous pensons qu'il ne fallait pas être trop explicite ici, c'est d'abord parce que, à Ouagadougou, lors de la dernière Conférence régionale, contrairement à ce qui a été dit de temps en temps, il y a eu une présentation qui a été faite de ce Programme. Et cette présentation a été approuvée par défaut. Peut-être que les Pays membres avaient en tête le Sommet sur l'alimentation? Peut-être n'avaient-ils pas suffisamment de temps? Toujours est-il que la présentation a été faite mais la discussion n'a pas été approfondie. Il y a eu une sorte de consensus et, comme le demande le délégué du Soudan, je pense que pour faire un complément de ce Comité qui reflète tout à fait les préoccupations des gouvernements africains, effectivement une Réunion d'experts gouvernementaux pourrait être convoquée pour approfondir la question et avoir une discussion là-dessus. C'est une manière de faire que nous avons déjà employée pour d'autres problèmes à ce niveau-là.

Bien entendu, cela suppose que des soutiens extérieurs puissent être trouvés pour l'implication de ces experts africains. Mon expérience à la FAO qui n'est pas très ancienne m'autorise à dire que les Pays membres, surtout les Pays membres développés, ont un tel souci d'impliquer l'ensemble des partenaires des différentes opérations dans les discussions auxquelles ils participent, que chaque fois qu'un tel besoin s'est fait jour nous avons pu avoir des soutiens extérieurs. Je dois d'ailleurs dire, sans vouloir trahir trop de secrets, que le Programme tel qu'il est présenté rencontre déjà un soutien d'un certain nombre de donateurs et, pas plus tard que tout à l'heure, avant le début de la séance, l'un de ces donateurs nous a fait savoir l'intérêt que son pays a, les structures de recherche du pays d'être partie de ce Programme .

Je voudrais maintenant revenir sur l'intervention du délégué du Burkina Faso, sur les sommes qui ont été investies dans la recherche, la recherche appliquée, les recherches en tous genres; même dans mon Université le groupe de recherche que je conduisais au Département de géographie de l'Université nationale de la Côte d'Ivoire a eu un contrat de 100 000 dollars avec l'OMS pour étudier les rapports entre le comportement et les modes de vie des agriculteurs avec la transmission de la Trypanosomiase. On peut dire qu'il y a d'ores et déjà des connaissances qui sont rassemblées et peut-être d'une manière trop dichotomique s'agissant de la Trypanosomiase animale et de la Trypanosomiase humaine et que, si l'ensemble est coordonné, si les connaissances sont échangées entre les structures qui travaillent dessus, si l'ensemble des donateurs bilatéraux et multilatéraux, les institutions des Nations Unies se réunissent avec les gouvernements pour arrêter une exploitation pratique de ce qui existe déjà, nous ferons une différence, et cette différence sera très nette.

Je voudrais donc dire que l'objectif de la Résolution c'est de montrer aux partenaires qui n'assistent pas à nos réunions, même dans vos pays les ministres qui s'occupent de la Trypanosomiase ne sont pas tous représentés dans cette salle, beaucoup sont au niveau des ministères de la santé, que l'organe suprême de la FAO qu'est la Conférence soutient autant une coordination résolue de la lutte contre la Trypanosomiase sous toutes ses formes que l'assemblée générale de l'OMS, qui a déjà exprimé un soutien extrêmement fort. C'est cela l'objectif essentiel.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

First of all I welcome you distinguished delegate, Ambassador of France, to chair this meeting.

We already delivered a brief statement at the Council on this subject and I now want to go into it in more detail. The statement is on behalf of the European Community and its Member States and, we present our view on the Programme against Trypanosomiasis as contained in the document C 97/19. This Programme is a recent initiative of FAO which brings together a number of activities for the control of Trypanosomiasis. The international dimensions are being coordinated through a joint Secretariat of FAO, the World Health Organization, the Organization of African Unity and the International Atomic Energy Agency. We are aware that this animal disease causes serious problems and affects about one third of Africa. In the affected areas, animal production is hardly possible and ability to grow crops is infinitely reduced because of lack of healthy draught animals. Consequently, food security is seriously threatened. Because this disease affects so many aspects of rural life, its control is a complex matter. It is certainly not only a technical problem.

Leaving the setting up of the new Programme as a positive development, I want to underline that the main emphasis of the Programme should be on supporting action at the country level. Several EU Member States and the Commission already have contributed to activities in this connection. Mr Chairman this clearly has a tense boundary character. As Mr Sawadogo said, the regional dimension is important and we welcome the inter-agency cooperation and the joint Secretariat between FAO and the other Agencies involved. The PAAT Committee and the FAO Regional Conference for Africa are useful for international coordination and discussion.

Although I have described the regional dimension as important, we feel that the main thrust of the programme should be to advise leaders on assisted coordination of research and control activities at national and local levels. Sustainable control activities are essentially linked to efforts at local and national levels. Such activities should be part of an overall framework for rural development. This is all the more important when the tsetse fly has been successfully controlled, and agricultural and rural development can be taken up again in once affected areas.

Finally, Mr Chairman, I would like to make a remark with respect to the Draft Resolution and document C 97/LIM/28. In fact, under point 2(v) of this draft, no mention is made of a mandate

for six years. This seems to have been deleted from the Resolution we had before us in June. In order to respect the Resolution on Statutory Bodies, in our view there has to be a 'sunset clause' in every new Body. We would like to hear an explanation from the Secretariat on this precise point.

Ronald ROSE (Canada)

First of all I think it's important that all of us in the room express our congratulations to FAO for this initiative. It is indeed an excellent example of the FAO working together with other organizations to undertake an expanded coordinated approach against this disease which has serious consequences for livestock health, human health and environment. Canada supported the initiative when it was presented at the World Health Organization and, indeed, we continue to support this initiative now.

Nevertheless, Mr Chairman, this is not the World Health Organization, and we at FAO have particular rules that we like to follow when we propose new organizations and our Basic Texts require that a document be prepared which outlines for the membership the objectives that are to be achieved, the manner in which the Body is to carry out its functions and, lastly, the financial implications of the establishment of the Body for the current biennium as well as a forecast for financial implications for future biennia.

The document before us, covers the first two rather well, but does not contain the sort of information on the financial implications that we would have expected and, although the explanation that is provided in the report of the Council does address this, it would have been quite simple for the Organization to have included it in the document. We are also concerned, Mr Chairman, as we mentioned during the debate in the Council, that, regardless on how valuable and laudatory the objectives, it is normal that such a proposal (which is going to involve financial and organizational implications for FAO and for the membership) be brought up through the Technical Committees of the Organization. I note from the document (and based only on the information available in the document), that this proposal was first discussed at a meeting of FAO Panel Experts in Rome in 1993, discussed again in Vienna in 1994 and that another mention was made in October 1995 and, finally, we were told that the interaction finished with the FAO Panel of Experts meeting held in Rome in November 1995 which, strangely, coincides with the last FAO Conference. So my question is, if this proposal has been in the works for so long, why was it not brought up through the Technical Committees of this Organization so that the technical experts would have a chance to comment on it? Now, I am not sure whether Dr Sawadogo had just told us that, it was, in fact considered by Council last year. If that is, in fact, the case, then the membership has, in fact, been consulted but I would like clarification on whether I had heard that properly or not.

Lastly we would like to support the comments that were made by the representative of the United States of Americawith regard to the structure and their concerns about how the different modules are going to interact together and with the Advisory Committee. We also support the proposed drafting changes which were mentioned by the representative of the United States of America, the two particular additions that he had made; and we join with our colleague from the Netherlands, speaking on behalf of the Member States of the European Union with regard to the six-year "sunset clause" because we note that in the document itself, in the conclusions, paragraph 29, there is a mention of the six-year review and yet when it comes to the Resolution it is not mentioned, although the discussion that we had in Commission II does, I think, require that any new Body that has been set up should be subject to this kind of regular review. Thank you very much for your patience, Mr Chairman, and please forgive my previous intervention. Thank you.

Patrick PRUVOT (France)

Tout d'abord, permettez-moi de souscrire totalement à la déclaration faite par la délégation des Pays-Bas au nom de la Communauté européenne et de ses Etats Membres. Nous voudrions simplement souligner certains avantages que nous voyons au Programme qui nous est présenté. Nous sommes heureux de saluer l'initiative de l'Organisation visant à s'associer toujours plus activement au Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine. Ce Programme est exemplaire dans son principe à plusieurs titres. Tout d'abord, il consacre le principe de la collaboration inter-institutions et celui de la décentralisation au niveau de la Conférence régionale. Deuxièmement, il privilégie la concertation au travers d'une structure fusionnée et simplifiée pour mieux gérer la grave question transfrontalière que représente la Trypanosomiase au plus près des réalités. Troisièmement, il s'attache à mobiliser les efforts et les résultats de la recherche pour le développement au bénéfice de la santé humaine et de la santé animale. Mais surtout, ce Programme s'inscrit dans un cadre qui sera certainement propice aux échanges entre pays concernés, tant au plan de leurs besoins que de leurs expériences. Le caractère essentiel de ce partage d'expériences a déjà été souligné par la délégation de l'Afrique du Sud lorsque nous examinions au Conseil la question de la lutte anti-acridienne. Voici donc un autre domaine où ce partage est tout à fait possible et positif. Ce Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine constitue donc, de notre point de vue, un champ d'action privilégié de la coopération entre pays du sud et des partenariats auxquels l'Organisation apporte son appui. Permettez-moi de rappeler ici la détermination du Ministre français de l'agriculture et de la pêche qui invitait, dans sa déclaration en plénière, les pays du sud et du nord à tirer parti de leur complémentarité et demandait aux pays du nord d'accompagner tous les partenariats et de donner toutes ses chances à la coopération Sud-sud.

Rudolf HORBER (Suisse)

Je serai très bref. La délégation suisse appuie le Projet de résolution soumis à notre approbation. Cependant, ma délégation aimeraient proposer, dans l'intérêt de la clarté du texte, un tout petit amendement au paragraphe 1, donc au point 1 de la Résolution, en créant deux sous-paragraphe sans changer le texte. Le texte se lierait donc comme suit: "1. Invite instamment tous les Etats Membres touchés par la maladie: i) à redoubler d'efforts pour lutter contre celle-ci, et ii) à coordonner leur action par le biais du PLTA et du Secrétariat mixte", etc...

B. SANDAMU (Zimbabwe)

We take the floor in support of the document and also recommend adoption of the Resolution. We also want to congratulate the Secretariat for the detailed and excellent report. Mr. Chairman, we welcome the pooling and coordinating of resources in order to direct them into Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis research and control, as well as the identification of priority areas for intervention in order to achieve the greatest impact and to maximize benefits in the control of African Trypanosomiasis.

Despite technological advances in control of Tsetse-transmitted Trypanosomiasis, the problem remains intractable and the impact of the disease is as great today as it was 40 years ago. We are pleased to note, especially from the Southern Region, in paragraph 23, recognition of the assistance provided by the EU in combating the Tsetse/Trypanosomiasis menace. The Southern Region, particularly the group of countries forming part of the Zambezi River Basin, have been working with the assistance of the EU since the 1980s to control this menace. We want to acknowledge, Mr Chairman, this special assistance. The Programme against African Trypanosomiasis has been effective in mobilizing donor interests for tsetse control. We would like to see the momentum maintained, and gains being made in the control of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis.

Amadou Moustapha KAMARA (Sénégal)

Mon intervention sera assez brève. Je voudrais simplement recommander à notre Commission d'adopter le Projet de résolution qui est soumis à notre approbation, en félicitant le Secrétariat et la FAO pour les efforts qui ont été entrepris afin de faire face à cette endémie transfrontalière qu'est la Trypanosomiase africaine. Je voudrais simplement qu'au dernier point de la Résolution nous recommandions, puisque M. Sawadogo nous l'a indiqué lors de la dernière Conférence de la FAO (le point a effectivement été présenté mais n'a pas fait l'objet de débats) que la Conférence régionale de la FAO pour l'Afrique puisse se saisir des questions qui étaient antérieurement prises en charge par la Commission de la Trypanosomiase animale africaine. Je pense en effet qu'il est bon qu'on laisse la Conférence régionale se saisir de la question et qu'elle puisse en débattre avant qu'une décision ne soit prise. Je voudrais donc recommander sur ce point, étant donné que la Conférence régionale est prévue pour le mois de février, donc dans quelque temps, qu'elle puisse effectivement débattre de cette affaire.

LE PRESIDENT

Est-ce que j'ai bien compris? Vous souhaitez qu'avant d'adopter la Résolution nous la soumettions à la Conférence régionale?

Amadou Moustapha KAMARA (Sénégal)

Il y a une disposition finale dans la Résolution qui fait état de la suppression de la Commission de la trypanosomiase africaine et qui propose que les mandats qui lui étaient donnés puissent être transférés ensuite à la Conférence régionale de la FAO pour l'Afrique. Or, j'étais témoin, puisque j'ai participé moi-même à la Conférence régionale de la FAO, cette question n'a pas fait l'objet de débats au niveau des pays de cette Conférence. Je pense donc qu'il est bon que l'on puisse, avant de lui conférer ces attributions, lui demander qu'elle en débatte, et qu'elle puisse prendre une décision sur cette question. Il ne s'agit pas de soumettre ce Projet de résolution à la Conférence régionale de la FAO. Il s'agit ici de l'adopter, mais sur le point concernant la suppression de cette Commission et le transfert de ses compétences à la Conférence régionale de la FAO, je pense qu'il est bon qu'elle puisse s'en saisir elle-même.

LE PRESIDENT

En pratique, vous voulez dire par la Conférence régionale de la FAO pour l'Afrique, si elle le souhaite? Je ne sais pas. Je doute qu'il faille mentionner quelque chose dans le texte. Peut-être faut-il le dire dans le rapport?

Amadou Moustapha KAMARA (Sénégal)

Monsieur le Président, moi j'aurais simplement amendé le Projet de résolution en enlevant cette disposition, et la Conférence régionale, elle, se saisirait de cette question et prendrait une décision dans ce sens.

LE PRESIDENT

Nous allons voir cela dans un instant.

Mapela NGA-MA (Congo, République démocratique du)

Nous prenons la parole pour la première fois. Permettez que nous vous félicitions pour votre élection.

Ma délégation voudrait aussi appuyer le Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase africaine, d'autant plus que dans notre pays la maladie de Trypanosomiase animale africaine se pose avec acuité, à tel point que nous nous demandons s'il faut que les Etats Membres de notre Organisation dépensent tant d'énergie dans la production de tonnes et de tonnes de papier pour convaincre les donateurs de l'importance qu'il faut accorder à la lutte qu'il faut mener pour

combattre ce fléau, quel que soit le prix à payer. En effet, nous pensons que pour rendre opérationnel le Programme de lutte contre cette maladie, il faut y consacrer des moyens financiers conséquents, c'est-à-dire, des moyens plus importants que ce qui est dit dans le document. Nous estimons aussi que, pour être efficace, le Programme de lutte devrait appuyer tout effort fourni au niveau national pour l'élevage des races d'animaux trypano-tolérants.

Pour terminer, je voudrais bien que nous appuyions le Projet de résolution, au dernier point, le point 6 , où l'on vise vraiment de supprimer la Commission pour la remplacer par la Conférence, appuyer ce qu'a dit le délégué du Sénégal, l'orateur qui m'a précédé. A Ouagadougou, nous n'avons pas parlé de cela. Mais que va-t-il se passer? Nous disons bien qu'il s'agit d'un fléau. La Conférence régionale ne se réunit que tous les deux ans. Et lorsque la maladie se déclanche à un moment donné, et bien que ce soit le groupe de coordonnateurs ou de consultatifs, ils vont s'en remettre à cette Conférence pour attendre deux ans. Je ne sais pas si le Président a la force de demander à la maladie d'attendre deux ans avant d'exterminer le bétail.

Idris M. NUR (Observer for the Organization of African Unity)

I would like to congratulate the FAO Secretariat for the excellent quality of document C 97/19 entitled "PAAT" and for the lucid introduction and explanation of the document.

In several parts of document C 97/19, for example, in paragraphs 1 and 2, the phrase sub-Saharan Africa was mentioned. When someone mentions the phrase Sub-Saharan Africa, one starts thinking that there are two Africas. Whereas, there is only one Africa and only one OAU which is composed of 53 Member Nations. Food and agriculture cannot be classified as North and South of the Sahara. It could only be classified on the basis of ecology as ecology affects both the quantity and the quality of food and agriculture production. Thus there is need for the use of classification based on isohytes which includes the arid, semi-arid zones, etc. If the author of the document wanted to use the Sahara as a live demarcation, he could have used the term "South of the Sahara" or "North of the Sahara" and not sub-Sahara. The phrase sub-Saharan Africa is wrongly used both politically and technically.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I would like to comment on four points that have been made. First, with respect to the comment of Canada, you will note in paragraph 4 of C 97/LIM/28 that there is the sentence "It noted, however, that the establishment of PAAT would not involve additional Regular Programme resources beyond those allocated in the PWB 1998-99". I recall that we gave the specific provisions that are contained in the Programme of Work and Budget for 1998-99 as being US\$1 240 000 and that those would not need to be amended in order to carry forward this proposed Programme. I believe that one could interpret the provision of the Basic Texts that has been quoted as being complied with by this written statement that it "would not involve additional Regular Programme expenditures". I would hope that the representative from Canada can let us off the hook, if you will, with that consideration. I believe it is reasonable to conclude that in writing we are saying no additional Regular Programme resources would be required, and that we would thereby be in conformance with the provision.

Second, turning to the Resolution itself, I wish to confirm that the Secretariat would have no difficulty with the suggested amendments to the Resolution. In particular, I make reference to the amendment suggested by Switzerland to insert Roman numeral (i) and Roman numeral (ii) into operative paragraph 1. With respect to operative paragraph number 2(iv) there was the suggestion that it be edited to read "to afford PAAT the priority profile and appropriate resources to contribute to the aims of the World Food Summit Plan of Action". The Secretariat has no difficulty with that . As regards operative paragraph 2(v), there was the point from the Netherlands about the lack of reference to the six years. I would suggest for the Commission's consideration that we add a sentence at the end of that paragraph: "This body will be subject to

review after a period of six years". I will repeat "This body will be subject to review after a period of six years". In that same paragraph there was also a recommendation to strike "annual" and insert "necessary" so that it would read "and to facilitate necessary meetings". Again the Secretariat has no difficulty with that suggestion.

Finally, the suggestion from Senegal which I gather would come out in its operative form with the deletion of Roman number (vi). There I would say that the Secretariat would have some difficulty, not with respect to the role of the FAO Regional Conference, I think that is understood, but with the abolition of the Commission. I would wish to note that a Regional Conference does not have authority to abolish or establish any Statutory Body.

As regards the Statutory Body that is named here in Roman numeral (v), which is to be established, it is this Conference that will establish it. If the Commission, the old Commission on Africa, is to be abolished, it is this Conference that will abolish it. The Regional Conference has no authority, as was mentioned. If you do not abolish it at this Conference your next opportunity will be two years hence. Perhaps a possible way, if acceptable, would be to move back to operative paragraph 2(iii), where it states "to give formal recognition, within FAO, to the PAAT Programme Committee". Now you will recall that Dr Sawadogo has informed that the Committee will be in effect taking over the function of the Commission but it will be broader-based. It will have Government and others represented on this elected Committee. So you could make the link here and simply add to it, "and abolish the Commission....". Then you could delete Roman numeral (vi).

There was one other point that Canada had mentioned before. They were concerned that this matter was not brought through COAG, the Technical Committee. I believe that that has been considered. I recall that just at this session Dr Sawadogo noted that there was a presentation of this concept at the Technical Committee of the Regional Conference for Africa in April 1996. At that meeting, we were given the encouragement to pursue the further development of the concept. Now these efforts of turning a concept into a proposal only begin to really evolve into something practical and workable following the workshop that was held in Montpellier in April 1997. Then in May 1997 we were presented with the situation where there was no COAG meeting coming up. There was the urgent problem and the Director-General of WHO had been establishing contacts and was wanting to strengthen links on the matter. We therefore proceeded to take the matter straight to the Council and from the Council to the Conference. I agree that this is not the normal pattern, but I would hope that in the urgent need for it and with the understanding that one needs to move forward with this Programme, we could in fact move forward and approve this Resolution.

LE PRESIDENT

Je crois que nous avons des réponses qui me paraissent complètes, que nous avons des propositions d'écriture qui correspondent aux différentes interventions sur les amendements, qu'il y a un point qui reste en suspens, qui est de savoir si la délégation du Sénégal serait satisfaite par la proposition qui lui est faite d'inscrire au point 2.3(i) un membre de phrase disant: "et abolir le Comité de la Trypanosomiase" et donc de supprimer le point 6, ou bien, si elle préfère, qu'on en reste au point 6 tel qu'il est, compte tenu des explications qui ont été données. Je voudrais savoir ce qu'est sa préférence. Cela ne veut pas dire que nous allons nous arrêter à une seule préférence. M. Sawadogo demande la parole pour améliorer ma question.

A. SAWADOGO (Sous-Directeur général, Département de l'agriculture)

Ainsi que vous vous en doutez, je n'ai pas l'ambition d'améliorer la question d'un président qui, en plus, d'un Pays membre. Je voudrais en revenir à la question de la délégation sénégalaise, que cette délégation a soulevé en sa qualité, non seulement de représentant du Sénégal, mais de Président du Groupe africain. Des contacts que j'ai eus avec la délégation sénégalaise et d'autres délégations africaines, il me semble que la préoccupation que vous exprimez est de savoir

comment est-ce que nous allons résoudre cette apparente contradiction entre un appel aux gouvernements de renforcer leur participation et le fait qu'ils n'apparaissent plus dans la nouvelle structure. Et j'ai dit tout à l'heure que cela va être pris en charge dans le Comité du PLTA et que la proposition faite par le Soudan, si vous acceptiez de la soutenir, pourrait permettre d'avoir l'apport des experts inter-gouvernementaux avant que cette inclusion de la responsabilité des Etats apparaisse dans la structure du Comité. Mais, comme l'a dit M. Hjort, les Conférences régionales n'ont pas de pouvoir de décision et, si la décision n'est pas prise maintenant, au lieu de renforcer et de donner une visibilité plus grande au Programme, nous allons donner l'impression que, au contraire, il faut dans les sacrifices qui vont être faits, aligner ce Programme dans les choses auxquelles il faut donner moins de priorité. C'est ce que je voulais ajouter pour vous permettre d'avoir tous les éléments afin de donner votre réponse à la question posée par M. le Président.

Amadou Moustapha KAMARA (Sénégal)

Je serai très bref. Je pense qu'il est peut-être préférable de maintenir le Point 6 en état pour ne pas surcharger simplement le point 3, puisque dans le fond c'est la même chose et le point 6 est alors plus explicite. Les explications qui m'ont été données me paraissent acceptables.

Mapela NGA-MA (Congo, République démocratique du)

Ce n'est pas pour compliquer les débats, c'est pour ma compréhension. La maladie, la Trypanosomiase animale africaine, est une calamité naturelle qui n'est pas voulue par ceux qui la connaissent. Nous sommes d'accord sur cela, mais l'impression que donne ce texte est comme si un jour le Secrétariat réfléchissait et choisissait au hasard une région où une commission devrait être supprimée, et décidait que cette région devait être l'Afrique. Je voudrais alors proposer qu'à l'avenir, est-ce qu'on peut nous répondre, on envisage de supprimer d'autres commissions dans les autres régions. De cette façon, l'équilibre serait peut-être rétabli.

Ronald ROSE (Canada)

I want to, through you, express my thanks to the Secretariat for providing those very detailed answers. I think the main thing that we have to bear in mind in this instance is expressed in paragraph 3 in document C 97/LIM/28 that regardless of what had gone on before, it was agreed that due to the importance of the subject of food security, it should be forwarded to Conference and not be delayed. That is, in fact, the most important thing, so I am pleased that these questions have been answered and I am sure that the report of the Conference will reflect those answers, but also the urgency to have the Organization proceed with what was in fact a very good initiative.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I cannot give you the specific numbers, but the results of the Review of Statutory Bodies, which was initiated by the Conference two years ago, were considered yesterday in Commission II. The Bodies that are listed are contained in four appendices. On Appendix A which are Statutory Bodies to be Abolished, I do not have the document in front of me, they were in the order of 20, I would say, that are recommended to be abolished. The other Appendices reach up to 50 or 60. Canada has the document here, and so I will be able to be very precise. The Appendix A bodies that are proposed to be abolished are one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight Commissions and Committees at global level. Commissions and committees and regional bodies: one, two, three, four, five, six. Expert committees and panels: two. So, altogether, 16. I was a little high in my estimate. There are sixteen bodies to be abolished. The only ones which Commission II did not approve were the ones that were being considered here, and it agreed that since a substantive matter was being considered here, they will await the guidance from this Commission. If this Commission agrees to abolish these Bodies, then Appendix A will go forward as it is. If this Body would decide not to do so, then they would amend their report. There are, as you can see, a

good number of other Bodies that are recommended to be abolished. I am not even going to take the time of the Commission to count them, but you can see that it is a good number.

7. The World Food Summit and its Follow-up (C 97/7) (continued)

7. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi (C 97/7) (suite)

7. La Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento (C 97/7) (continuación)

CHAIRMAN

We will continue with Agenda Item 7 which we left yesterday unfinished and in order to save time I will ask the Secretary of the Commission Mr Randell to explain what the situation is and where we are standing.

SECRETARY, COMMISSION I

Yesterday two Draft Resolutions were proposed, one by the delegation of Angola and the other by the delegation of Chile. These two Draft Resolutions have been circulated to you in this room under their Resolutions Committee codes C 97/RC/2-Sup.1 for the Resolution proposed by Angola and C 97/RC/2-Sup.3 for the resolution proposed by the delegation of Chile. I understand that these are available in all of the languages of the Commission.

We have not had the opportunity of finding out what the status of the resolutions is within the context of the Resolutions Committee, and we have invited with your agreement the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee to advise on that situation. It is then a matter of deciding whether we can debate the substance of the Resolutions within the Commission.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you, Dr Randell. We welcome the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee and by thanking him I ask him to take the floor and explain the situation please.

Oscar CABELLO SARUBBI (Presidente del Comité de Resoluciones)

El Comité de Resoluciones acaba de concluir su reunión y lamentablemente no hemos tenido el tiempo material de presentar como es usual un informe por escrito. Es por eso que el Comité me ha solicitado de venir en persona para informarles de cuál ha sido el resultado del examen a que fueron sometidos estos dos proyectos en el Comité de Resoluciones.

Con relación al proyecto contenido en el documento C 97/RC/2/Sup.1 y, con relación al programa *Telefood*, las observaciones del Comité son las siguientes:

En primer lugar, un comentario que se refiere a la numeración de los párrafos dispositivos que en el borrador que nosotros tenemos a la vista no están numerados. El Comité de Resoluciones recomienda que estos párrafos resolutivos sean numerados respectivamente como 1, 2 y 3. Asimismo el Comité ha recomendado que la Secretaría aclare de una manera más precisa cuáles serían, en concreto y en qué documento estarían contenidas las decisiones del Director General que se mencionan en este Proyecto de resoluciones. Ustedes podrán observar que en los párrafos dispositivos 1 y 2 se menciona una decisión del Director General y la recomendación es de que sean determinadas.

Con relación al Proyecto sobre el derecho a la alimentación presentado por la delegación de Chile, hemos tenido esta tarde la presencia del Representante de Chile, en la Comisión, con quien se ha llegado a un acuerdo de que este proyecto sea representado y reformulado de manera muy especial y de cuáles serían las acciones concretas que se recomendarían a la Conferencia y que deberían ser realizadas para que este importantísimo derecho pueda ser debidamente inculcado. Eso es todo.

CHAIRMAN

I was asked to come to the Resolutions Committee when it was considering the Resolution that had been put forward by Angola, which is identified as C 97/RC/2-Sup.1, and in particular was asked to comment on two of the paragraphs. There also was the request that there be an explicit reference to the matter from a previous body. I believe that could be accommodated by making an explicit reference to the Hundred and Twelfth Session of the Council. I could, if you so wish, suggest possible language to make that explicit and then see if that would meet with the approval of the body.

In the paragraph 3 on the first page of this document, it starts with "welcoming", one could delete that word and instead say "recalling that the FAO Council at its Hundred and Twelfth Session had been informed of.." then it can continue on "the Director-General's decision to launch", and so on. If one wishes to have the explicit reference, it is paragraph 19 of CL 112/REP, in other words, the Report of the Hundred and Twelfth Council.

That was the unfinished piece of business when I left the Resolutions Committee. I was asked to identify a reference. I trust and hope that this will be satisfactory.

There also were questions about operative paragraphs 1 and 2 on page 2 and I reported to the Resolutions Committee that the Director-General, in fact, has decided, using his authority under Financial Regulation 6.7, to establish a special Telefood Fund, and as stated, as required, the purposes and limits of that Fund, and has used his existing authority to determine that no support cost charges shall be levied against these contributions.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

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CHAIRMAN

The floor is open for debate on the first Resolution C 97/RC/2-Sup.1.

Ms Mary Ann KEEFE (United States of America)

Based on our interventions yesterday, and in particular the concerns we raised as to the need for analysis of "Telefood" 1997 before future commitments are made, we would like to suggest an

amendment to the first paragraph on page 2 which begins "acknowledging the success of Telefood Operation in 1997" by adding the words after acknowledging "preliminary information indicating" and by deleting the remainder of the paragraph following "1997". This paragraph would then read "Acknowledging preliminary information indicating the success of the Telefood Operation in 1997".

Our reason for this, Mr Chairman, is that we received today the preliminary report from the Director-General on Telefood 1997, which we do feel should be acknowledged. However, we are still concerned to have a more complete analysis before a commitment is made to expand the coverage and continue with further "Telefoods", and this is the reason for deleting the rest of that paragraph.

In addition, Mr Chairman, we would like to amend the first sub-paragraph under the third paragraph on page 2. The sub-paragraph begins "a Special Fund to receive the proceeds" and we would like to amend that sub-paragraph by eliminating the last phrase of it which states "to help the poor farming families in the developing world produce more food" so that this sub-paragraph would end with the words "Special Programme for Food Security". Again, as we discussed yesterday, Mr Chairman, the consensus from the Summit was the need to work on all aspects of food security, not only production improvements. This last phrase represents the old paradigm and we feel it is not reflective of the goals of the Summit and seems to us to be an unnecessarily narrow constraint on the use of the funds.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

My delegation has not had the possibility of studying the Draft Resolution on "Telefood" in depth. I will, however, give some preliminary remarks. We can of course support the Telefood as a voluntary initiative to raise public awareness of issues underlying food security. We can, however, not give our support to the very last paragraph in the Draft Resolution.

In our country we have an ongoing tradition that initiatives like "Telefood" are the arena for NGOs, and that they give economic support to NGO activities in developing countries. In our country, "Telefood", therefore, will be in direct competition with the NGOs' activities. We would therefore propose to change the last paragraph in the Resolution like this, and I read the last sentence: "invites the interested FAO Members to take all measures..." and so forth.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I must say that we received these two Resolutions at 15.30 hours and I really want to make a Point of Order regarding the discussion of these Resolutions. We did not have a chance to discuss both Resolutions in our coordination, and we really want to consult within the EU on both Resolutions. The Secretariat recalls paragraph 19 of the Council Report, and I was present at that time, and we had a long discussion about this initiative. I will not give my reaction at this moment on behalf of the European Union, I just want to ask one question. In the two paragraphs, which are now numbered 1 and 2, is it stated that they recall a decision, because this is in fact something which has been decided without a consensus. Is it possible that we discuss only the last paragraph as an operational paragraph and that the other two paragraphs are just recalling things that have happened? But to come back to my initial remark, I think we really have to consult within the EU on both Resolutions, and to come back to this tomorrow morning. We really need some time to consult.

Roland FOX (United Kingdom)

I simply want to refer to what the Netherlands has just said about the need for consultation before discussions on the detail of this Resolution can be held most productively.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Nous venons d'entendre certaines propositions. Une fois on demande de supprimer un certain nombre de phrases, on propose la suppression d'un point ou de faire un ajout tenant compte des informations préliminaires qui indiquent le succès, cela ne pose pas vraiment de grands problèmes. Mais lorsqu'il s'agit de supprimer les phrases qui suivent, je crois qu'il n'y a alors plus de raison d'existence de cette résolution. Vraiment, il est difficile que ma délégation l'accepte.

Mario LOPEZ CHAVARRI (Perú)

Un punto de clarificación. El día de ayer en su resumen sobre este Tema, mencionó la presentación de un tercer Proyecto de Resolución, a la luz de los debates realizados y en base al párrafo 19 del documento C 97/7. Mi pregunta es ¿se realizará este proyecto en esta Comisión?

Ms Kay KILLINGSWORTH (Special Advisor for World Food Summit Follow-up)

If I recall correctly in your summing up yesterday, you mentioned that the various decisions in response to the proposals made in paragraph 19, in C 97/7, were going to be reflected in the Commission's report. But I do not recall you mentioning a Resolution for those decisions. There were only the two Resolutions which you announced would be coming to the Commission on Telefood and on the Right to Food.

CHAIRMAN

I also confirm your understanding. Is it satisfactory to you Peru?

Mario LOPEZ CHAVARRI (Perú)

Bueno, si es así, nos atenemos a lo acordado ayer. Yo tenía en mis apuntes que se iba a presentar tal vez un Proyecto de Resolución, pero si se va a recoger todo en un informe, mi delegación está de acuerdo en tal sentido.

Mme Hariba YAHIA-CHERIF (Algérie)

Je reviens aux dispositifs et l'amendement qui a été fait par une délégation ainsi que l'intervention faite par l'Angola. Je n'ai pas compris ce qui a été décidé concernant ce paragraphe, M. le Président. Où s'arrête-t-il? Comment a-t-il été amendé?

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Thank you, Mr. Chairman for letting me comment on the comments. First, with respect to a comment from the United States of America, and specifically the suggestion to amend the first paragraph on page 2 starting with "Acknowledging". Reference has been made to the brief report on the Telefood Programme. I do believe, as the Director-General does, that relative to the expectations, this programme was, in fact, a success. And I don't see any reason why the Conference should shy away from that recognition. There were millions, millions of people that were reached by the programmes that were provided by the various sources. As far as the latter part of that sentence, "convinced of the necessity to continue this initiative and expand its coverage", I can assure you, that the Director-General of this Organization is so convinced. It is to be a part of the World Food Day celebrations throughout the world, every World Food Day in the future. It has already been decided that "Telefood" 1998 will be held on 17 October 1998. I therefore would encourage the Commission to leave that paragraph as it is there before you.

There was also the comment from the United States of America to delete under Roman numeral (i) the phrase that reads, "to help the poor farming families in the developing world to produce more food." I would note that in the decision memorandum that the Director-General has used to establish the General Fund and its approved uses and limits, it says, "Funds will be used to

provide inputs to such projects, including materials, supplies, equipment and other items used by producers to produce food." This was not to get into a debate or discussion about the whole purpose of food security and the Plan of Action, but what the Director-General seeks in this particular activity is that the use of these resources, which have been donated by individuals for quick action and for grassroots-level activities, get under way. He expects the local people to share the costs. He expects to be in a position to provide them some materials, some means of production, but they are expected to provide the counter-part contribution, if you will. The resources collected under the Programme are relatively limited. The Director-General does not want these resources to be used in large projects. He wants them to be small-scale projects targeted very tightly and aimed at the problems of the producers. As a matter of fact, that was identified and promised to the contributors in connection with the Telefood activity. I would therefore again plead for leaving this phrase in sub-paragraph (i).

The Netherlands, I believe, on the behalf of the European Union, asked whether the paragraphs that begin, "Approves the Director-General's decision..." and "Endorses the Director-General's decision..." were, in effect, to approve or endorse an action that has already been taken. In fact, in the way the world operates, that is the case. Funds were collected and the Director-General had to use the authorities available to him under Financial Regulation 6.7, which I could read to you, if you wish. It is clear that he does have the authority and there was the necessity to establish a Special Telefood Fund where the proceeds could be deposited. In doing so, he is required to state the purposes and the limits on the use of those funds. In doing so, however, he was very much guided by the promises that had been made to the contributors in publicizing the Programme - that being that there would be no administrative costs paid from these contributions. In other words, these contributions are to go for direct purposes, we are not to charge support costs or administrative costs for the use of these funds. Roman numeral (ii), a Trust Fund to receive sponsorship, is also a matter that is under the authority of the Director-General. This makes the distinction, please note, between the contributions and sponsorship. There is a Trust Fund that is established for sponsorship, that is, to cover the costs related to promotion and coordination.

The other point, that I just note, is Norway's concern over competition and their suggestion to insert "interested" before FAO Members. Obviously the Conference is sovereign, but it cannot bind individual, sovereign states to an action. Certainly those that take up this Programme will have to decide on their own. There is no way that the Conference, or FAO, can force you to do so, if you choose not to do so. I believe that covers the main points that were made,
Mr Chairman.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I ask to have the possibility to look at this Resolution, also the Resolution on the Right to Food. I think we really have to have more than one hour, when the meeting is running, to consult and to coordinate. I really want to have these two resolutions discussed tomorrow morning, because they came up quite late, and it's impossible to have a position on both resolutions. Thank you.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I can sympathize with what is a common problem. At Conference, we have Resolution Committees, and Resolution Committees then put matters before the Commissions for their consideration before they go to the Conference as a whole. The practical problem facing us now, at about seven minutes after five in the afternoon, is that this is the last scheduled session for this Commission. Commission III starts tomorrow. There is very little, if any flexibility, with respect to interpretation teams and so forth. The only two items that I understand you have left on your Agenda is the consideration of these two Resolutions. Now you've spent a fair amount of time on this one. Perhaps you would like to go on to the second one and consider it, but I do not know how or when you can come back to these Resolutions. I mean, do you really want to have another session and another session of interpreters, and so on, to consider these Resolutions? I understand that you have until six o'clock tonight; it is nearly an hour. Is there some way, within that

constraint, that you can either pass the matter on to the Drafting Committee, complete, or incomplete?

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

It depends on where we are aiming. Are we aiming at Resolutions which can be adopted by consensus, or are they Resolutions that are brought to vote in the Conference in this shape? I think the common practice within FAO Conferences is to try to reach consensus on the text of Resolutions. And these particular Resolutions have some controversial aspects in it.

I only have to recall the discussion that we had in the June Council and the Committee on World Food Security, and I really want to ask the FAO Secretariat if it is the intention to get Resolutions adopted by consensus, because, if so, we really need to come back to these resolutions after consulting. I also think we have to have time for some informal consultations before coming back to this Commission. In particular, the Commission on the Right to Food is not a Resolution of one page, it has 11 operational paragraphs, and the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee indicated that there are some changes in the order. We are really in a somewhat confused state regarding the second resolution, and I think that if we want to reach consensus we have to have the possibility of time to discuss it more in depth and this is a point for the Secretariat to organize.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I just was going to point out that you do have a Drafting Committee. The Commission can, at this point, pass the matter on to the Drafting Committee and, of course, you will have the final say on the matter when it comes back for the adoption of the Report of the Commission. Now the Drafting Committee's first meeting is tomorrow morning. Perhaps that is, under the circumstances, the best way out. You have had this discussion, certain suggestions have been made, and you now turn the matter over to the Drafting Committee. The Drafting Committee's Report is going to come back to you for adoption. If there are any loose ends, you tie them up at that point, before it goes on to Conference.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

I very much support the views put forward by the Netherlands on behalf of the European Community. I also underline in my intervention that my delegation has not had the possibility to study the Draft Resolution on "Telefood" in depth. My delegation's position is that we have even more need to look into the second Resolution on the Right to Food.

My point of departure here is, that it is a very good thing for the Member Nations, for the Organization and for the Director-General to seek consensus on matters which it is possible to seek consensus. Then it is, I think, the challenge for the Secretariat and for the Member Nations to reorganize our meetings and works in such a way that we have the possibility to look into these Resolutions and have the necessary consultations before we finalize this discussion. I also wish to underline that we have not had a real discussion on these questions earlier during this Conference.

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

I would support the intervention just made by Norway. To clarify, I understand that the Resolution on the Right to Food will be redrafted and go back to the Resolutions Committee so, in essence, the next version of the Resolution on the Right to Food will not have been discussed in this Commission. The suggestion is that it should go directly to the Drafting Committee. I think that it is correct that the central Resolution should have the opportunity to be reviewed by the general membership in this Commission before it proceeds to the Drafting Committee. It is a very important Item, and I am sure that there are many who would like to review it openly first.

Mohamed Said Mohamed Ali HARBI (Sudan) (Original language Arabic)

We all know how publicity in the press or television or broadcasting helps to promote the sales of a certain commodity or certain goods. Now, there is Telefood. Telefood is a new kind of publicity. It does not concern any one person, any one community, but it concerns the whole of humanity. It concerns donor countries as it concerns beneficiary countries, because all people have one conviction, the importance of Food for All and the modalities of ensuring that there is Food for All. The Programme does respond very actively to the recommendations of the World Food Summit, and what Telefood has given in the past has been very positive indeed. We look forward and are very optimistic about the future of this Telefood Programme. I believe that what we see submitted to us in this document C 97/RC/2-Sup.1 is very suitable, including the Right to Food in the document. We would therefore recommend, and we plead, that we should adopt both Resolutions here.

Neil FRASER (New Zealand)

It would seem to me that in sending these directly off to the Drafting Committee, the Drafting Committee is not going to have very much to go on, but I suppose it is its job. It would consider whatever information it has had. It is hard to know what the Drafting Committee would make of this very limited discussion. It is most undesirable that there has been this inadequate amount of discussion. We have not yet heard any reply to Mr Hjort's comments from those countries that have proposed some changes. It seems to me that if the Drafting Committee did consider it, they would come back with a Report which this Commission then has another opportunity to discuss, merely to find that that was when the real discussion was held. It certainly highlights the late delivery of these Resolutions and then the delays caused by consideration of the Resolutions Committee. I do not know how we will resolve that. I do not know what the answer is to the whole problem, but I did just want to say that for somebody on the Drafting Committee it seems to me a most undesirable and inadequate situation that there will not have been suitable discussion on these Resolutions

Denis CANGY (Mauritius)

After the exhaustive explanation given and the clarification given by Mr Hjort the Mauritius delegation does not have any problem with this Resolution and we suggest that this Resolution be endorsed by the Commission and recommended for adoption by the Conference.

My delegation does not have any problem with regard to the second Resolution on the Right to Food. However, if some Members have problems, I think we can leave it to the Drafting Committee. The Mauritius delegation does not have any problem with these two and we recommend them to be endorsed and presented to the Conference for adoption.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Obviously we are trying to be helpful to you. I must remind you that the the Governing Bodies decide on the length of sessions and the procedures for sessions. It is not the Secretariat. The Secretariat tries to do its best to accommodate the wishes of the Members. Some of you will recall that there is a drive to try to save money in the Organization and this is part of the problem. We have been trying to find a way around this, and I have been searching to see if we can find a room. The specific problem we have is that there are all kinds of permutations that you can run. You can come back in as a Commission in the morning using the Drafting Committee's team for an hour, whatever you need, to discuss the Resolutions and then let the Drafting Committee go back. Even if it took all morning, it does not make that much difference, I suspect. It would mean bumping the Drafting Committee back to the afternoon for its work. The point has been made that the Drafting Committee has four items already that it has to consider, so it does have some work that it could do, but maybe this is the way out. Now, the problem is that Commission III is coming into this room in the morning. The Plenary is still on and Commission II is still meeting. Perhaps the Malaysia Room - we are still trying to see if it is available - with its reconstituted self

may be sufficient to accommodate the Commission. If so, then we can have that interpretation team go there while you complete your discussion of these two Resolutions. That is all you have left on your Agenda, as I understand it, and once you have completed that discussion, then your Drafting Committee carries on.

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

Thank you, Mr Chairman. Thank you, Mr Hjort for your guidance. The delegation of Canada has a small problem with your suggestion, in that we understand that we are still to receive a rewrite of the Resolution on the issue of the Right to Food and at the point when we receive this, we will want to consult back with our capital to obtain some guidance. It is a very important issue, and we take it with great seriousness. In order for us to present our positions in a wise way, we will have to have a little bit of time, so a reconvening of this meeting in the first slot in the morning would be a little difficult for us, since we have not even received that rewritten Resolution at this point. I do not know if it is possible to suggest that, perhaps, we continue with the Drafting Committee and work on the Resolutions later in the day, when we have had a chance to consult and to concert with one another.

Pedro Alfonso MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

Yo quisiera hacer una proposición para poder avanzar en nuestros trabajos. Estamos todos conscientes que tenemos una limitación de tiempo y de recursos. Creo que esto nos tiene también que hacer reflexionar sobre ciertas medidas que a veces tomamos en aras de ahorrar recursos. En este caso por ejemplo, acortando las reuniones del Consejo y de la Conferencia, nos colocan a menudo en situaciones de hacer un trabajo bajo presión de tiempo, y muchas veces nos encontramos con la necesidad de tener más recursos para poder cumplir adecuadamente con nuestras tareas. Esta es una preocupación muy seria que tenemos en cuanto a la reducción y a las limitaciones que tenemos en términos de reuniones. Aquí se han señalado dos cosas, de una parte, la necesidad de que esta Comisión pueda conocer los informes del Comité de Resoluciones, tanto como lo que se refiere al *Telefood*, como al Derecho a la Alimentación. En relación al último punto, creo que podríamos aprovechar parte de esta reunión, o lo que queda de esta reunión, para que al menos escuchemos las observaciones que algunas delegaciones tienen respecto al Proyecto de Resolución del Derecho a la Alimentación.

En la reunión que sostuvo el Comité de Resoluciones, fui invitado a exponer las razones por las cuales nosotros estábamos impulsando este Proyecto de Resolución, y yo me comprometí a presentar un nuevo texto sobre la base de las sugerencias que escuchamos de algunas representaciones. Sin embargo, creo que sería extraordinariamente útil si pudiéramos adelantar, al menos, conociendo las observaciones que le merecen a las demás delegaciones, o a las delegaciones aquí presentes, el texto en su forma actual y así ciertamente podríamos facilitar el trabajo a esta misma Comisión proponiéndole un texto que podría ser fácilmente aprobado.

En relación a la forma en cómo este Comité podría abordar tanto el Proyecto de Resolución del *Telefood* como el derecho a la alimentación, pienso en que en la medida en que nosotros avancemos en la discusión, ciertamente vamos a necesitar menos tiempo después para aprobar las resoluciones. Se trata de buscar una ecuación en la mejor forma para invertir el tiempo que nos queda disponible. Me permito hacer esta sugerencia, señor Presidente, y ojalá que podamos ocupar adecuadamente el resto del tiempo que nos queda.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

There are other possibilities that are opening up. You could, for example, devote the last half hour to giving Mr Medrano Rojas comments and suggestions for the redraft of the document. You could continue as scheduled with your Drafting Committee tomorrow morning with the clear understanding that the Drafting Committee does not complete action on the Resolutions. Leave those pending, because it is difficult to find rooms and because of what Canada said.

If I understood that, going back to their capital means the earliest you could have the Commission to reconsider would be tomorrow night. I see no need to have a night session. I think, on Thursday, you are presently scheduled essentially all day for Report adoption. It should not take that much time. If you have your Report, with the exception of these two Resolutions, completed by tomorrow morning and it is being processed and ready for you, then in the morning of Thursday, it would seem that you can, as a Commission, address the Resolutions and then move them on. If you are lucky, you may not even need to move them to the Drafting Committee but if you do then you say, OK, Drafting Committee now take it on and look at it and bring it back to us for the final session on Report adoption. That would give you a certain amount of flexibility, but it would mean proceeding with the PIC and with the other matters which you have already considered in the Drafting Committee tomorrow. Get those taken care of. Get them ready so they can be processed and be ready on Thursday for your Report adoption. You could have your consultations among yourselves on these Resolutions, come back as a Commission on Thursday, consider them and then move to the Report adoption session, hopefully without the necessity to go back to the Drafting Committee with the Resolutions.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I think the proposal of Mr Hjort is within the limits of the time available for Commission I. I think that is the most practical solution. We have then time to consult and we can at the same time conclude the draft Report on the items we have discussed today and yesterday. I have a precise question on "Telefood". Mention was made about a report about the Telefood operation, is that available for delegates?

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

Mr Hjort's suggestion seems an eminently useful one to us. We would agree with that.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Some Member made reference to it. Obviously he had seen it. It is identified as number 3, 7 November 1997, Telefood 1997, a Summary. It is a two-page, front and back, little document that I understand was distributed to all Members. It should have been so. No, it is not a Conference document, as such. I think you will find it in your mail boxes. It is available, as a matter of fact. I will give you this one.

Neil FRASER (New Zealand)

Yes, it seems that the proposal of Mr Hjort for the most part would work, that is that the Drafting Committee would meet, do what it can, bring that back, and then in the process of that the Commission on Thursday can discuss the Resolutions, if there is a need to further discuss them at that point, as I suspect there will be. He then talked about the possibility of the Drafting Committee going back to work before the final adoption of the final Report. The timing of that sounded pretty odd; I mean it sounded very unclear, but maybe we cannot actually see every step at this stage, and we just have to get further down the track and be pragmatic as we go.

Mario LOPEZ CHAVARRI (Perú)

Quisiera preguntar, por su intermedio, a los miembros de la Secretaría, ¿cuándo tendríamos la nueva versión del documento C 97/RC/2/Sup.3 sobre el Derecho a la Alimentación?

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I believe the understanding is that as soon as you give comments to Ambassador Medrano Rojas, then he will, based on those comments, redraft the document. I assume that he hopes to be able to get it redrafted tomorrow, probably early tomorrow. I am a little concerned that now we have been since seven minutes after five, not talking about any matter of substance. There was quite an opportunity for the Members to give him comments on what is wrong with the present draft on

the Right to Food, what would you like to see in it? What would you like to see out of it? I am a little fearful that the time will drift away, and we will have received none of that guidance.

CHAIRMAN

I think that we will continue the discussions of the Resolutions as suggested by Mr Hjort on Thursday morning. We will use the time we have left to comment on the second Resolution regarding the Right to Food and provide some opportunities for Ambassador Medrano Rojas to re-write and deliver it tomorrow morning as soon as possible.

It seems there are no comments. Everybody is satisfied with the Resolution as it is?

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I would like to put a question to Ambassador Medrano Rojas regarding this Resolution. In this area, we came to a conclusion in the World Food Summit Plan of Action. We know, and we have also mentioned this in our statement, that there have been some developments within the framework of the UN High Commission on Human Rights. We would like to hear from Ambassador Medrano Rojas what is going on beyond the agreement reached on the World Food Summit and the developments that have taken place in Geneva during the period from the Summit until now, because this information helps us to establish the position on this Resolution.

Avram E. GUROFF (United States of America)

The United States of America has two concerns with respect to the first draft which we looked at - two suggestions really. There seemed to be a couple of references to commitments by the High Commissioner and actions taken. Relating to the last intervention and questions of information as to the validity of some statements in the text, we would simply suggest as a general rule that, when looking at a redraft, only statements that can be verified by Members are made and that there is some document, letter or statement that is in the public record and that we can all see and be aware of.

The second suggestion is again a general construct for redrafting. We would suggest careful adherence to the language that we all endorsed at the World Food Summit last November. That text was, of course, arduously arrived at and I think that any Resolution that we endorse here will need to stay within those confines and not try to negotiate new language or anything else, so I would just suggest a careful delimiting of the redraft to stay within the boundaries of the Plan of Action.

Ms Turid KONGSVIK (Norway)

Yes broadly what I would like to say has been expressed by the delegation of the United States of America. I have been looking quickly at the World Food Summit text in this regard, that is on page 42 in the World Food Summit Plan of Action, Objective 74 which, as the United States reminded us, was a very arduously-negotiated text and which went into some detail as to the division of work within the UN System, reporting and who was going to do what.

The text which we received this afternoon and which we have obviously only been able to look at in a very hurried manner seems to rewrite that part of the World Food Summit Plan of Action, and we certainly would need to consult with our authorities to see whether we are prepared to redraft today, the World Food Summit Plan of Action on this point.

May I just draw your attention to one point which could be problematic and which is going way beyond the Plan of Action, and that is the fact that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights was asked in the Plan of Action to propose ways to implement the Right to Food and take into account the formulating of voluntary guidelines. This task has now been transferred or, if we approve this Resolution, we will be asking both the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights and the Commission on Human Rights to do the same thing and some of the text which was in

the provision relating to the UN High Commission on this point in the World Food Summit Plan of Action has now been transferred to the paragraph which deals with the Commission on Human Rights. This is a totally new item which is coming up here. There is also the question of the UN High Commissioner reporting to the Committee on World Food Security, which is also new. So this is not plain sailing, this is actually quite complicated, and I must say it is very difficult to be asked to discuss and approve something which was very complicated to negotiate during the World Food Summit and I wonder whether *le jeu vaille la chandelle*, as they say in French, or that we might not get stuck in a very complicated debate without adding very much to what we painfully agreed on at the World Food Summit negotiations.

Pedro Alfonso MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

La verdad es que me encuentro en una situación bastante difícil porque inicialmente nosotros habíamos propuesto este Proyecto de Resolución con posterioridad a la reunión sostenida con el Comité de Resoluciones. Expresamos nuestra disponibilidad para reformular el texto sobre la base de algunas sugerencias o comentarios que hayamos escuchado.

En este debate aparezco un poco como la persona que tiene que recibir comentarios para reformular un texto, y no sé si eso me inhibe o no para poder expresar cuáles son las razones por las cuales presentamos esta Resolución. De todas maneras, creo que voy a tratar de hacer un equilibrio y de ser muy racional al menos en la explicación de por qué nosotros consideramos importante renovar el compromiso de esta Organización en una materia que nos parece de la mayor trascendencia.

Quisiera hacer una afirmación previa, en el sentido de que no es nuestra intención reabrir ningún debate. Entendemos que los compromisos alcanzados durante la Cumbre en relación al Derecho a la Alimentación constituyen un hito histórico, y es a partir de esos acuerdos que nosotros quisiéramos elaborar nuestra Resolución. Repito, no estamos desconociendo para nada lo que acordamos durante la Cumbre, sea en la Declaración de Roma o en el Plan de Acción.

Las resoluciones de la Conferencia normalmente expresan la voluntad política de la Organización, o de sus Estados Miembros, perdón, en relación a temas o asuntos que se consideran de prioridad.

En este caso, nosotros consideramos que desde la Cumbre hasta ahora ha habido progresos, ha habido actividades que han desarrollado distintos órganos del Sistema de las Naciones Unidas que merecen ser destacados, que merecen ser alentados y estimulados a que continúen su desarrollo. Partimos de la base que si la FAO organiza una Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación, que si la Cumbre Mundial acuerda, si nuestros Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno acuerdan, solicitar al sistema de las Naciones Unidas una serie de acciones en relación a un tema fundamental, nos parece que le corresponde a esta Conferencia, y esta es una interpretación que nosotros le damos, nos parece que esta Conferencia, siendo la primera Conferencia después de la Cumbre Mundial, debe justamente resaltar la importancia de un Tema como el Derecho a la Alimentación, repito, siendo ésta la primera Conferencia después de la Cumbre Mundial y, repito, sobre un Tema que durante el proceso preparatorio de la Cumbre concentró gran parte de nuestra atención y que ciertamente fue un Tema difícil de abordar pero, a nuestro juicio, con resultados bastante trascendentales en lo que se refiere al desarrollo y aplicación del Derecho a la Alimentación.

Creemos, entonces, que los hechos a destacar, y a estimular a que se sigan desarrollando, son aquéllos que han tenido lugar entre la última Cumbre y ahora, y nos parece además que es importante que estos organismos del Sistema de las Naciones Unidas reciban el mensaje por parte de esta Conferencia en cuanto al interés que tienen sus Estados Miembros de continuar dándole la debida prioridad a este tema. Y en tal sentido, siendo un elemento ético, moral y, me permito recordar, mencionado por el representante de la Santa Sede en su intervención al

inaugurar la Conferencia, con ocasión del 50º Aniversario de la Declaración de los Derechos Humanos que tendrá lugar el próximo año, nos parece a nosotros que sea de la mayor trascendencia que nosotros aprovechemos esta oportunidad para mandar un mensaje respecto de la importancia que tiene este Tema para los Miembros de esta Organización. Organización que, por lo demás, fue una de las que estimuló el desarrollo de todas las actividades que mencionamos considerando el Proyecto de Resolución.

En relación a la parte operativa, estamos de acuerdo, y esta es una de las consideraciones que yo quería presentar al momento en que hiciera la nueva presentación del texto, estamos de acuerdo en que probablemente hay espacio para resumirla y adecuarla al formato que normalmente exige este tipo de Resolución. Pero respecto de esas disposiciones específicas, creemos que se pueden encontrar en la terminología aprobada por la Cumbre, textos que nos permitan tener un consenso sobre el conjunto de la Resolución.

Yo quisiera, desde luego, manifestar nuestra mejor disposición para corregir todas las imperfecciones, si es que las hubiera, examinando con atención el texto.

Me permito indicar que no veo contradicción alguna respecto de las responsabilidades que se han establecido para los distintos órganos, particularmente para el Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas, y respecto de los órganos que tienen que ver con el pacto sobre derechos civiles, económicos y políticos.

Creo que en tal sentido estamos moviéndonos dentro del esquema aprobado dentro del Plan de Acción y reitero nuestra disposición a buscar en ese marco un texto que todos puedan apoyar, porque en definitiva nos interesa que esta Resolución sea lograda por consenso.

Jagadish Chandra GAUTAM (Nepal)

Thank you Mr Chairman for recognizing Nepal. I have been very carefully listening to the arguments, the *pros* and *cons* on the proposal made by Chile. I missed some of the earlier discussions because of my other engagements in other Commissions. By and large, from what I understand of what is presented by Chile, I think that Chile deserves congratulations from all of us for recognizing the concepts, the percepts, of the human right that food is the fundamental right for survival. I think it must be written as a Universal Declaration that this is the basic need of the human being regardless of semantics and the wording used here. I think that basically within the framework of the World Food Summit, my delegation is very supportive of the recognition of food as a human right. So, therefore, I will ask the Commission to put the wording in terms that are acceptable, based on the proposal of the declaration itself put forward by the distinguished delegate of Chile. I think the concept of this being put to the Conference and passed by this Conference is very opportune now and that we must do so.

Amadou Moustapha KAMARA (Sénégal)

Je voudrais peut-être dans cette contribution dire que mon sentiment et le sentiment de la délégation du Sénégal est que l'examen de ce Projet de résolution a bien suivi la démarche habituellement adoptée dans le cadre de ce genre de Résolution. Je me souviens bien que, à l'occasion de l'examen du point 7, donc sur le document C 97/7, ce point sur les droits de l'homme a bien été examiné lors de l'intervention du débat général et dans ce document, à la page 3 du paragraphe 9 au paragraphe 12, cette question a été largement traitée. Je crois que, dans sa forme actuelle, et dans les différentes interventions que nous avons entendues sur cette question, plusieurs délégations sont intervenues pour indiquer quel était le sentiment de leurs délégations ou de leurs régions sur la question des Droits à la Nourriture.

Je pense également qu'il faut se féliciter que le Chili ait annoncé, lors de son discours sur le débat général, ce Projet de résolution. A mon avis, dans sa forme telle qu'elle nous est présentée, elle reflète bien ce qui a été dit par les différentes délégations et elle reflète également la question comme elle a été traitée dans le document de base qui nous a été distribué. Je crois qu'il est

certain que nous savons tous et nous convenons que la question des Droits à la Nourriture est bien conforme au mandat qui a été donné à la FAO lors du Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et qu'il cadre bien dans l'objectif 7.4, tel qu'il a été libellé dans le texte.

Je crois qu'on convient également que la FAO a fait beaucoup d'efforts pour pouvoir, au sein du Système des Nations Unies, collaborer avec les différentes institutions spécialisées en matière des droits de l'homme. Je crois également que dans son invite principale, donc au paragraphe 11, il est tout à fait naturel que cette Résolution invite les Etats Membres de la FAO à pouvoir promouvoir la reconnaissance du droit à la nourriture qui, à mon avis, est un droit fondamental pour tous les pays, et surtout pour les pays du Groupe africain et pour les pays du Groupe des 77.

Je voudrais donc indiquer mes appréhensions et indiquer combien je suis inquiet cet après-midi sur la manière dont cette question, et également la question du *Telefood*, ont été traitées. Il me semble que nous avions une heure de temps pour pouvoir échanger nos idées, pour que les délégations puissent prendre une position claire sur ce Projet de résolution, indiquer quel est le chapitre ou le point sur lequel ils ne sont pas d'accord, et comment ils veulent le voir révisé. Ce n'est pas ce qui a été fait. Actuellement, les principales interventions que nous avons entendues ont été des interventions très vagues, qui ne nous indiquent pas le fond de ce que les gens veulent voir changer dans ces différents textes. Je voudrais les inviter, et inviter tous les Pays membres qui ont des problèmes de fond avec ces textes, à indiquer jeudi matin de manière précise quel est le chapitre qu'ils veulent voir révisé, et à faire des propositions dans ce sens. Sinon, jeudi matin, nous tournerons en rond, comme nous avons tourné en rond cet après-midi. Voilà ce que je voulais dire, en indiquant encore une fois que cette question est une question essentielle et fondamentale et je voudrais féliciter le Chili pour la manière dont ce texte a été élaboré tel qu'il nous est présenté.

Sra María E. JIMENEZ DE MOCHI ONORI (El Salvador)

Muy brevemente señor Presidente. La delegación de El Salvador desea apoyar plenamente las palabras que hace un momento pronunció el delegado de Chile respecto al Proyecto de Resolución presentado por su país. Asimismo queremos apoyar lo que acaba de indicar el delegado de Senegal, y creo que deberíamos de buscar una solución adecuada a este asunto.

The meeting rose at 18:00 hours.

La séance est levée à 18 h 00.

Se levanta la sesión a las 18.00 horas.

13 November 1997



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE CONFERENCIA

Twenty-ninth Session
Vingt-neuvième session
29º período de sesiones

Rome, 7 - 18 November 1997
Rome, 7 - 18 novembre 1997
Roma, 7 - 18 de noviembre de 1997

FIFTH MEETING OF COMMISSION I
CINQUIÈME SEANCE DE LA COMMISSION I
QUINTA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN I

13 November 1997

The Fifth Meeting was opened at 10:00 hours
Mr Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La Cinquième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00
sous la présidence de M Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Président de la Commission I

Se abre la quinta sesión a las 10:00 horas
bajo la presidencia del Sr Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Presidente de la Comisión I

CHAIRMAN

It seems that we have a quorum and we can start our business. So, we have in front of us the continuation of Item 7 on our Agenda which is the World Food Summit and its follow-up, but before we start our discussion on Item 7 we have a presentation of the "Telefood" video. We will show a 13-minute video wrap-up highlighting the most visual, salient aspects of the Telefood global telecast throughout the world. The video has been produced by the FAO Information Division and I invite you to follow the audio of the international version of this film through the floor channel. Simultaneous interpretation in official languages is also provided. So we will start to look at the video.

Video Projection

Projection vidéo

Proyección video

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)**I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET POLITIQUES EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)****I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)**

7. The World Food Summit and its Follow-up (including Draft Resolutions) (continued)
(C 97/7; C 97/LIM/33; C 97/LIM/39)

7. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi (y compris Projets de résolutions)
(suite) (C 97/7; C 97/LIM/33; C 97/LIM/39)

7. La Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento (incluidos Proyectos de Resoluciones) (continuación) (C 97/7; C 97/LIM/33; C 97/LIM/39)

Draft Resolution: Telefood (C 97/LIM/33)

Project de résolution: Telefood (C 97/LIM/33)

Proyecto de resolución: Telefood (C 97/LIM/33)

CHAIRMAN

Returning to our Agenda, under the remaining section of Item 7 we have two Draft Resolutions left. One is on the Right to Food and the other is on Telefood. The Telefood Draft Resolution is document C 97/LIM/33 and the other resolution, on the Right to Food, is document C 97/LIM/39. Both of these Draft Resolutions have gone to the Resolutions Committee, and have been transmitted to us for consideration in this Commission. Thank you to the Secretariat which set the stage for an immediate start with the first Draft Resolution on Telefood. And now the floor is open to debate.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation a préconisé donc toutes les composantes de la société civile ainsi que la mobilisation de toutes les ressources humaines techniques et financières possibles pour atteindre l'objectif de la sécurité alimentaire de réduire de moitié d'ici l'an 2015 le nombre de ceux qui n'ont pas accès à la nourriture. Il n'est pas besoin de rappeler ici la participation de 186 pays et de nos Chefs d'Etats et de Gouvernements qui ont pour principal résultat la Déclaration et le Plan d'action. Lors de la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation 1997 et à l'occasion de la Conférence McDougall 1997, deux illustres personnages, j'ai cité Sa Majesté le Roi du Népal et son Excellence le Président de la République du Gabon, El Hadj Omar Bongo, pour rappeler les décisions du Sommet. Cela prouve que tous nos Gouvernements ont commencé à insérer dans leur Programmes les actions contenues dans le Plan d'action.

L'initiative prise par le Directeur général de la FAO en lançant l'opération *Telefood* dans le cadre de la célébration annuelle de la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation répondait à cet objectif. En ce sens elle a permis non seulement d'attirer et de conserver l'intérêt du public sur les décisions du Sommet en suscitant une prise de conscience réelle auprès de nos populations sur le fléau que constituent la faim et la malnutrition, mais également elle a permis de mobiliser de bonnes volontés ainsi que des ressources supplémentaires pour contribuer à la lutte pour la sécurité alimentaire. En effet, *Telefood* 1997 a atteint cet objectif en touchant plusieurs centaines de millions de téléspectateurs dans plus de 70 pays, pays développés et en voie de développement. Elle a permis aussi de mobiliser des fonds pour appuyer des projets au profit des communautés rurales pauvres, des pays en développement en vue de la promotion de la sécurité alimentaire. En d'autres termes, cela fut un succès éclatant. Que ceux qui pensent le contraire le disent, car parmi les 33 Pays membres et les cinq observateurs qui sont intervenus sur ce point aucun n'a relevé l'insuccès de *Telefood*.

Compte tenu de cet aspect, notre délégation réaffirme sa proposition initiale telle que nous l'avons présentée et demande que le Projet de résolution soit adopté tel quel.

Ms Mary Ann KEEFE (United States of America)

When the United States of America spoke on this item on Tuesday, we expressed concern that the Conference had inadequate information available to it to accept the Draft Resolution as written and we proposed two amendments at that time to reflect that concern. Since our last session, we, and I presume other delegations, have had the opportunity to study additional information provided by the Secretariat on the publicity for an outcome of the "Telefood" 1997. Based on that information our concerns have been met. Therefore, we would like to withdraw the suggested amendments we made earlier, and support the Resolution as it stands.

Mrs Hannelore A.H. BENJAMIN (Dominica)

Since I am taking the floor for the first time, I would like to congratulate you and the Vice-Chairmen for chairing this very important meeting. Furthermore, our appreciation and thanks go to the Secretariat for preparing the documents before us.

Mr Chairman, on behalf of COAG I would like to state that, for COAG, food security for all nations is of the utmost importance. It is also well known that COAG has played a major role, not only as Chairman of the Committee on World Food Security, but also in the preparation Committee for the World Food Summit. This is the first Conference after the World Food Summit and the global community must make every effort to ensure that the World Food Summit is implemented. COAG cannot overstate that "Telefood" and other programmes have brought home the continuing truth that 1 billion people are living in poverty and millions are hungry. COAG is proud of the vital role it has played in "Telefood".

Telefood for us has two objectives, to raise awareness and to mobilize funds for the grassroots projects in the developing countries. We have witnessed how "Telefood" has been and must continue to be a success throughout all countries and, to help to organize its furtherance, COAG endorses the Draft Resolution on Telefood, and is very happy that it can be adopted.

Ms Turid KONGSVIK (Norway)

I am a little uncertain if we are discussing a variety of issues at the same time, or whether you now want us to limit ourselves to "Telefood" and talk on the Resolution on the Right to Food afterwards. My statement here will be on the Right to Food, but I have the impression now that the issue is "Telefood". Could you clarify this for me?

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Norway, but as I stated we are now limiting ourselves to discussing the “Telefood” and after that we will shift to the Right to Food. Now, if you have anything to add on “Telefood”, please go on.

Ms Turid KONGSVIK (Norway)

We were not prepared to intervene on that at this stage but we might comment on this a little later if you will permit us. Thank you.

Horacio MALTEZ (Panamá)

Son mis primeras palabras naturalmente para felicitarlo. No he tenido ocasión de hacerlo personalmente, y quiero expresarle nuestra satisfacción por verle presidir.

Queremos iniciar nuestra intervención apoyando naturalmente lo que ha dicho la Presidenta de nuestro Grupo de América Latina y el Caribe respecto a este propósito. Sr. Presidente la pobreza genera hambre, casi se puede asegurar que la una es sinónimo de la otra, esto es un concepto más que conocido por la mayoría de todos nosotros. No estamos pues descubriendo el agua tibia, pero para combatir el hambre, hay que conocerla, mirarla en su cara. Para muchos el hambre es sólo un concepto abstracto, es sólo una tentación, una pausa que se advierte entre una comida y otra, para otros es una cuestión de vida o de muerte. Por otro lado, está la paradoja de quienes gastamos tanto dinero en dietas para mejorar nuestra figura o para combatir enfermedades ocasionadas por la excesiva ingestión de alimentos, y por la otra, aquellos que mueren o carecen de graves irreversibles carencias por falta de una dieta apropiada, estos son conceptos que -como dije hace un momento-, para la mayoría de nosotros son tan conocidos, pero no así para la gran parte de público internacional.

En esta época de fabricación de conciencias, en la elaboración masiva de formas de pensar, creemos que *Telefood* ha sabido llevar un mensaje positivo a los millones de telespectadores que lo han seguido. Yo creo que más allá de cualquier otra cosa, esto es un logro, un gran logro que tenemos que reconocer, es por eso señor Presidente, que nuestra delegación quiere, o mejor dicho apoya, muy firmemente esta Resolución, y solicitamos a todos aprobarla sin modificación alguna.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Thank you very much for giving me the floor. Regarding this Resolution, we have looked at it very seriously in our coordination meeting with the UN Member States and the Commission. It is really our intention, as I said earlier, to reach an agreement on this Resolution in order to adopt it by consensus in this Conference.

We had a long debate on the “Telefood” initiative in June, and I do not want to recall that whole debate here. I think it is important that we have in our countries very active NGOs in this area. We discussed this in our coordination with the view to coming to a compromise on the basis of the Draft Resolution submitted by Angola, and I have already asked the delegation of Angola if we really have time this morning to discuss with the submitter of this Resolution some changes we have in mind. I think it is not very effective to start a long debate here in this Plenary Hall on the precise wording, and I would like to discuss it first with the submitter of the Resolution to see if we can come to an agreement. But, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, it is really our intention to come to a consensus on this Resolution. Thank you very much.

Nahi SHEIBANI (Syria) (Original language Arabic)

The “Telefood” broadcast was very extensive. It and has noble humanitarian objectives and we hope that this broadcast will have a positive and tangible impact on our fight against hunger. Thanks to this telebroadcast we can give people, not just states but people, the opportunity to participate and contribute in the fight against hunger. My country firmly supports this television broadcast and fully cooperates in it. Thus we would like to support the Draft Resolution.

Fabian REDHEAD (Grenada)

Since this is the first time we have taken the floor in this Commission, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate you and to wish you success in your Chairmanship.

Grenada strongly supports the Draft Resolution. The fact that we have in this world 800 million people who lack sufficient food is something to lament. We know that the whole scenario of providing food for the people who need it most is a difficult problem, it is a complex one and every effort that can be made to solve this problem is very welcome. Therefore, Grenada strongly supports this Resolution.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

My delegation also wishes to reach consensus on this very important Resolution and, like the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union, we have some proposals on some changes here which I put forward in my intervention when we discussed it earlier in the Commission. We have a proposal for a minor change in the very last paragraph. The reason for this proposal is not to reduce the importance of the Telefood aspect but it is linked to the fact that we could have some problems with our NGOs if we do not get the minor change in the last paragraph, connected to the fund-raising part of this Resolution. There are different cultures in different countries and different parts of the world, and it is important to find a consensus that will allow us to work together in the future between different countries and also have the support of the NGOs in my country, which is very interested in putting more emphasis on the world food security question.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Norway. I recall your earlier intervention and the response by Dr Hjort. There seems to be no problem on that.

Suharyo HUSEN (Indonesia)

First of all, on behalf of the Indonesian delegation I would like to congratulate you in the Chair, Mr Chairman. My delegation would also like to thank the Angolan delegation, the Secretariat and the Resolutions Committee for submitting, preparing and summarizing the Draft Resolution. Since the Telefood initiative is directed for the benefit of the ~~needy~~ people in the world, especially in the Low-Income and Food-Deficit Countries, and also as Indonesia is a member of the Resolutions Committee, the Indonesian Delegation would like to join the speakers in adopting this Draft Resolution on Telefood.

Mlle Nina BONGO (Gabon)

Je voudrais tout d'abord vous remercier de l'opportunité que vous m'accordez et vous féliciter pour votre élection à la présidence.

Je remercie aussi l'Angola pour ce Projet de résolution. Je vais être très brève. Au nom de la délégation gabonaise, je voudrais vous faire savoir que nous appuyons ce Projet de résolution. Nous pensons que l'opération *Telefood* a fait ses preuves, et qu'il est donc nécessaire de poursuivre cette initiative.

Mapela NGA-MA (Congo, République Démocratique du)

Nous prenons la parole pour appuyer le Projet de résolution; cela à la lumière de ce que nous venons de voir sur cet écran. Nous pensons que le Projet de résolution répond bien à l'objectif que nous recherchons tous, celui de diminuer, ne fusse que de moitié, le nombre de pauvres.

Ms Fatimah HASAN J. HAYAT (Kuwait) (Original language Arabic)

Mr Chairman, I have not had an opportunity to take much of a part in the proceedings of Commission I. For this reason, I am taking the floor for the first time on this Commission and congratulate you, Sir, on your election to the Chairmanship of this Commission. As always, you have given full proof of your skills and ability.

With regard to the Draft Resolution now before this Commission, the Draft Resolution on Telefood, I would like to add my voice to what has been said by the distinguished delegate of Indonesia. Both of us represented our respective regions on the Resolutions Committee, and this Resolution was one of the first drafts discussed as part of our work on that Committee. Despite some differences of view relative to this subject at large, we, with a good dose of wisdom and farsightedness on the part of all the Members of that Committee, were able to come up with a solution - a solution which was considered acceptable by all parties concerned. Therefore, I do not think that any single Member Nation of this Organization, which is at the service of humankind in the realms of food and agriculture, could really be opposed to this type of endeavour.

The Director-General, with consummate wisdom, has proved the worthiness of this project. He has managed to make his initial proposal reverberate throughout the entire world. Far be it from me to be lengthy in this statement. I would just like to point out that all of us here can say, when speaking about food and the supply of food, that when we assessed this endeavour we formed a very positive opinion of the celebrations of World Food Day. We can say that, while the activities organized for World Food Day were somewhat limited, this "Telefood" endeavour really did have an impact. Hence my country's delegation is convinced of the importance of this activity and this endeavour, and we would like this initiative to continue in the future.

Ahmed Ali Hummed AL-HAWRI (Yemen) (Original language Arabic)

In the name of the Merciful Almighty, we would like to congratulate you, Sir, and also the other members of the Chair in this Commission, and wish you full success in the results you achieve.

We would like to thank all those who in any way whatsoever contributed to this "Telefood" broadcast, idea and endeavour. We feel that we have received a large amount of very interesting information on this activity, and most of this information concentrates on the importance of providing nutritional input to those who suffer hunger. This hunger is very often the outcome of ignorance and it is necessary to fight against underlying ignorance in order to work on eliminating hunger. It is not just a question of providing people with a loaf of bread, it is also a question of giving people the ability that enables them to eliminate hunger. Hence it is necessary to fight against ignorance, and as a result, it would be possible to limit demographic increases and achieve many other results that come into the picture when undertaking a blanket campaign against hunger. All of this could help to raise people's standards of living and help the poor and needy to find a way out of what has become a vicious circle.

So we feel that what we saw accomplished by Telefood with the active participation of the mass media, when taken all together, could make a very important contribution to the aim we pursue because, as we know, there are many people who are not able to satisfy their basic needs. Even animals are able to find what they need to nourish themselves, while millions of human beings fall by the wayside. Many things could be said on this theme, but I do not think this is the time or place to do so. There were, as we know, demonstrations in France during the time of Louis XVI and when he said to the people "What do you people want?" they said "We just want bread" and

what did the King, actually the Queen, answer? She said "Well if there is no bread, let them eat cake or something".

I am not trying to say the same thing applies now, nor do I say that this is the viewpoint of anyone here relative to the whole issue of people's need for food. We are all much more conscientiously aware of what is the situation today, and I think everyone can take advantage and learn from this Telefood Programme and the importance of it being continued. The importance of this type of a Programme being repeated has our full support, and to all here gathered I wish the utmost success in establishing peace in the entire world.

CHAIRMAN

I want to inform all distinguished delegates that we are pressured for time, and I appeal once again to keep your interventions short, and please not to repeat what has been said by the delegates before you.

Wourou TCHEMI (Togo)

Prenant pour la première fois la parole je me dois de vous féliciter pour votre élection à la présidence de notre Commission. Et je félicite également l'Angola pour la pertinence de la Résolution qu'elle nous a présentée dans le cadre de *Telefood*. La délégation togolaise appuie fortement cette Résolution et adhère à son adoption par notre Commission.

Mrs C. OBENG BOAMPONG (Ghana)

Ghana wants to add its voice in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this Commission.

We think Telefood succeeded in first creating an awareness of the severe hunger in certain parts of the world among those who are in a position to assist. Ghana therefore supports this very noble gesture.

Ahmed ElAbed ABOU AL KASSEM (Libya) (Original language Arabic)

I would like to congratulate you for your Chairmanship of this Commission and wish you full success.

Considering the aims pursued by Telefood in an effort to eradicate hunger and to limit the number of those who suffer hunger, my delegation fully supports this Draft Resolution and thanks those who have submitted it very much.

Neil FRASER (New Zealand)

I intervene not to make a comment on substance, but for a matter of process. My understanding of what we have heard here this morning is that nobody is against this Resolution. There is a general expression that the Members want to see the Resolution adopted. There is, then a question of the total wording of it. One or two delegations have suggested they would like to make changes. Can I suggest that in the interest of time, of which we have only a limited amount, you find a mechanism to achieve some kind of agreement on the text? I think that we have heard that people want the Resolution adopted, but can we find a mechanism so that those who would like to make suggested changes have an opportunity to do so?

CHAIRMAN

Thank you New Zealand, that is a very good suggestion. I have three more names on the Speakers' List. I appeal to them to be short and after that we will decide on your proposals. The names are Chile, Zambia and the Sudan and with this I close the Speakers' List, unless there is concern about these Resolutions from some delegations.

Pedro MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

Siguiendo la recomendación del Presidente, seremos muy breves. Nuestra delegación quisiera expresar su apoyo a este Proyecto de Resolución que nos presenta el Comité de Resoluciones. Quisiera, en tal sentido, felicitar a la delegación de Angola por la iniciativa que ha tomado y apoyarla en los términos que está planteada en este Proyecto de Resolución y, por supuesto, asociarnos plenamente con lo expresado por la Presidenta del Grupo de América Latina y el Caribe.

Vernon CHIMENE (Zambia)

On behalf of the Zambian delegation, since I am speaking for the first time, I would like to congratulate you on your election to this very important responsibility. I would like further to congratulate Angola for sponsoring the Resolution under discussion.

The Zambian delegation would like to join hands with previous speakers in endorsing the Resolution being discussed. Zambia is a Low-Income Country still grappling with the problems of food insecurity. The initiative by FAO to sensitize people through television will go a long way in enhancing appropriate mechanisms in the formulation and networking aimed at the reduction of poverty. However, I would like to add that, we need to take note that in most developing countries, access to television is limited, and we should therefore consider extending this initiative to radio communications in the future.

Mohamed Said Mohamed Ali HARBI (Sudan) (Original language Arabic)

The Sudanese mission, like many other delegations, strongly supports the Draft Resolution on Telefood which is before us. Everyone witnessed that "Telefood" has been a great success. It increased awareness of world hunger and food insecurity at national, regional and global levels and mobilized funds to finance grassroots projects, including the Special Programme for Food Security and its projects to help poor farmers in the developing world produce more to feed their families. My delegation acknowledges the mode of discussion and the good harmony shown by the meeting this morning, but we still see no point in altering the spirit and content of the Draft Resolution. It is of great importance for the Group of 77, which has been endorsed by the majority of countries.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Sudan. I now wish to give the floor to the Deputy Director-General, Mr Hjort, for some comments and also to outline how we will continue our business today.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

It is gratifying to learn that the amendments that were proposed the other day by the representative of the United States of America have been withdrawn. It is also evident that there is extremely broad support for this Resolution and, I might say, from what I heard, with the exception of only two, there is agreement to adopt it precisely in the form that it exists.

I want to reply to the comment made about Non-Governmental Organizations. What is not explicit in this Resolution, but what is explicit in the Director-General's decision memorandum, is that some of the special "Telefood" funds could be used to finance small projects that would be administered and managed by Non-Governmental Organizations in developing countries.

Approval for the use of these funds would require, in accordance with the general determinations of the project, that the NGOs would cover the administrative costs from their own sources. What we would be doing is using "Telefood" funds to augment the projects. I say that to inform that these projects are not administered by FAO alone. The basic authorization for the use of Telefood

funds includes the use of some of those funds to be administered and managed by Non-Governmental Organizations.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Sometimes it looks as though, when we speak on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, you recall this as one voice. When we speak it is on the basis of coordination with fifteen Members of FAO, so it is the position of fifteen Members of FAO and I will repeat that we are looking at this Draft Resolution in a positive way, but we really need to clarify a few elements contained therein. I suggest that we would come together with the submitter of this Resolution, with Angola, in order to find a solution and get a Resolution which can be adopted by consensus.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Vous voyez que dans ces négociations l'Angola n'est pas seul. L'Angola est épaulé par beaucoup de Pays membres comme vous l'avez entendu. Donc, avant que nous ayons une négociation quelconque avec les Pays-Bas, nous voudrions réunir nos collègues qui ont appuyé et qui sont d'accord avec ce Projet. Si je peux demander une suspension d'une quinzaine de minutes pour qu'on fasse une petite consultation avec les coauteurs de cette Résolution.

CHAIRMAN

It seems that on the Telefood Resolution, there are some more discussions needed. So we will suspend the discussion on "Telefood" which is C 97/LIM/33 and immediately start discussing the Right to Food Resolution, which is C 97/LIM/39. I propose a first quick round of discussion and debate on this, and if you will cooperate and keep your interventions short, we could start adopting the Reports on all Agenda Items except Item 7, which is the World Food Summit and its Follow-up. I hope you will all get copies of the Reports, and if we finish this discussion on the Right to Food soon, we will proceed with the Adoption of the Report.

Draft Resolution: Right to Food (C 97/LIM/39)

Projet de résolution: Droit à la nourriture (C 97/LIM/39)

Proyecto de resolución: Derecho a la alimentación (C 97/LIM/39)

CHAIRMAN

We start our debate on the Resolution on the Right to Food, which is document C 97/LIM/39, and the floor is open for discussion.

Ms Turid KONGSVIK (Norway)

I have tried to follow-up on your advice to us to be short and to the point, and I think that after the excellent work which has been done over the last day, we should be able to conclude very quickly on this one. Let me thank the Chilean delegation for having taken up this issue.

Norway was very active and we consider the Right to Food and the pursuit of this objective as being very important. We are very thankful for this occasion to take stock of what has happened on the follow-up to this objective of the World Food Summit, and to give a little push to the international community at large to pursue that work further.

On the last text presented to us, we just have a few minor concerns. The first one - let me start first with the present text. What we would like to see modified here is in the operative paragraph 2; this to some might seem a small thing, but the female population at least should feel very strongly that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is referred to as "its work". It is a woman and we have to recognize that by replacing "its" in the first sentence by "her", so that it would read, "... urges the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to give priority to her on-going work".

That being corrected, let me go to paragraph 3. We are really a little concerned about the use of the word "report" which would imply some sort of subordination of the UN High Commissioner to the Committee on World Food Security. I think she does report to the UN General Assembly and to ECOSOC, but she is not supposed to report to the Committee on World Food Security. This is just a minor point, but just to get it right in legal terms, we would like to redraft this in the following way, "... invites the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to inform the Committee on World Food Security at its next Session on the progress of her work in this regard." So, I give it to you and to the Rapporteur and the Secretariat. I have a copy.

Paragraph 4 is fine with us. On paragraph 5, I think there is just a small editorial problem in the penultimate line which starts with "... cooperate actively" and continues "...with the work of the UN High Commissioner". I suppose the cooperation is not with "the work" but with the UN High Commissioner, so perhaps we could just delete the words "the work" so that it reads "cooperate actively with the UN High Commissioner". These were just some minor changes to the text.

I do have a proposal for a new operative paragraph which I hope will not create a problem. I will briefly explain the reason why we have introduced this one. We have been informed by the human rights people and, more generally, the people in Geneva who work with human rights issues, both in the Committee under the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Covenant, and also those in the Commission on Human Rights, the UN High Commissioner, that they are exceedingly satisfied with the way FAO cooperates with them in this regard. This is important because I think that there was some prejudice and some lack of expectation on what role FAO would be prepared to do in this regard, and this has been a very pleasant surprise. I have the feeling that FAO has gained in their image very much by being so cooperative in despatching the Legal Counsel who has shown great will and great competence, and the Human Rights milieu in general is very eager that FAO continue that very cooperative stance.

So that is why I would like to start the operative paragraphs by recognizing this important contribution of FAO because, after all, we are in the FAO Conference so it is normal to start with what has been done by our own Organization. I will read out that text. It will go as follows "... recognizes the important contribution by FAO to follow-up Objective 7.4 in cooperating with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Commission on Human Rights."

CHAIRMAN

Thank you. We would also appreciate it if you would provide us with the two written paragraphs.

Nahi SHEIBANI (Syria) (Original language Arabic)

My delegation supports this Draft Resolution. I would like to make a comment, if I could, about paragraph 3 and express our support for its contents. It is "that the UN High Commission for Human Rights provides us with a report on progress made." I think we have to keep the text as originally drafted, that is the wording "to report on progress made." With regard to the other paragraphs, I have no comments I would wish to make.

CHAIRMAN

So, you are proposing to add, "made" after "progress". Is that so?

Nahi SHEIBANI (Syria) (Original language Arabic)

Yes, I think we should keep the original wording that is, "to report on progress made".

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

Canada would like to support the interventions that have been made to date on this important Draft Resolution. We particularly would like to support the intervention of Norway with regard to the important contribution by FAO and follow-up Objective of 7.4. In addition, we had just a few very short editing drafting comments to make.

In preambulatory paragraph 4, which commences with “noting that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights” we would prefer to remove the word “firmly”. We feel that the word “committed” means “committed”. It intends that there is a strong commitment. The word is sufficient in and of itself in achieving a better definition. I would suggest the following change to the end of the sentence which would be closer and in keeping with the wording that had been previously agreed in Objective 7.4 of the Global Plan of Action, and I would read the following “... to propose ways to implement and to realize those rights.” So, the paragraph reads “... noting that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is committed to achieving a better definition and to propose ways to implement and to realize those rights.”

We would agree, of course, with the comments on the Commissioner for Human Rights being a lady and, therefore, the wording should be “her on-going work”.

In the operative paragraph 5, we would make the following small changes. Two deletions. In the third line, following “appropriate Specialized Agencies of the UN, including FAO, to cooperate actively with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to achieving a better definition” and remove the words, “and full application”, simply following the wording in the Objective 7.4 “a better definition of the Right to Food.”

Johannes N. de KLERK (Namibia)

Just a question for Canada. What would be the reason for deleting the three words “and full application”, because as it reads now, it only ends with a definition and not the application of what is meant here? Thank you.

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

We feel that a simple repetition of the wording that is in the perambulatory paragraph that we noted, which is “to propose ways to implement and realize those rights,” which is a direct quote from Objective 7.4 would be more appropriate here. If it is problematical, we would go for repeating those words again, but not using the words “and full application”. Thank you.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I wanted to raise a question on the amendment that was suggested in the perambulatory paragraph 4, because it seems not quite clear. It refers to “these rights” and, without something in addition, this could imply that its reference is to human rights. Let me suggest an alternative formulation for the Resolution... “noting that the UN Commissioner for Human Rights is committed to achieving a better definition”, and leave in “of the rights related to food”, which is directly out of the document. And then we could put “and to propose ways to implement and realize these rights.” Then it would be all right; it would be clear then that the reference is to the rights related to food.

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

Chairman, we would agree with the amendments so suggested by Mr Hjort.

I’m sorry, some conferring was necessary. In operative paragraph 5, after the words “achieving a better definition” we would agree to removing the words “and full application” and, using the language that is taken from Paragraph E of Objective 7.4, to replace them with “to implement and realize the right to food.” So it would read: “With a view to achieving a better definition, to implement and realize the right to food.”

Sorry, Chairman. I think using Mr Hjort’s suggestion from the perambulatory paragraph would again work here, so it would read as suggested. I will leave it to Mr Hjort, because I have rewritten it too many times and I do not have it right. But it seems to me that it is correct in terms of the English and the clarity of the sense of this.

And Chairman, following that, I’d like to make another comment. If it could be read, please.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Maybe one can have a briefer, better definition: "and to implement and realize the rights related to food". Would that be better? The way that I have it at present (I could read the whole thing quickly) would be "Urges all governments in partnership with all actors of civil society and relevant organizations of appropriate Specialized Agencies of the UN, including FAO, to cooperate actively with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to achieving a better definition and to implementing and realizing the rights related to food."

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

I would like to thank the Deputy Director-General for his help on that wording. I think it reads much better in English, and it confers the meaning in keeping with the agreements and Objective 7.4.

I'd like to use this moment to make the further statement I asked to make. Canada, in reviewing Objective 7.4 when the Resolution was put forward, wanted to draw the attention of Member Nations to operative paragraph D, under Objective 7.4 of the Global Plan of Action. I will take this moment to read that paragraph.

"The initial umbrella statement is to this end: governments in partnership with all actors of civil society will as appropriate invite relevant treaty bodies and appropriate Specialized Agencies of the UN to consider how they might contribute within the framework of the coordinated follow-up by the UN System to the major international UN Conferences and Summits, including the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993, within the scope of their mandates to the further implementation of this right."

Canada would like to recall to the mind of delegates of various Member Nations, that it is the Member Nations that should be inviting relevant treaty bodies and appropriate Specialized Agencies and it is up to us in our participation in all of these fora to ensure the further implementation of this Right, and Canada would urge other Member Nations that we so do.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I believe that we have agreement on all points. Unfortunately, the Syrian Arab Republic is not in the room at the moment. The only exception is with respect to operative paragraph 3, which Syria had suggested should remain as drafted, while the representative of Norway had recommended a change so that it did not leave the impression that the Conference was directing the UN High Commissioner to report to an FAO Body. I believe that she is right. I do not think that that was the intention of the use of the word "report" in this sense, but the formulation that has been suggested by Norway is, I believe more appropriate. I started to make this intervention before I realized that Syria was not in the room, and I was going to end it by asking if the Syrian representative could agree to the formulation that had been suggested by Norway which is, as I have it, "invites the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to inform the Committee on World Food Security at the next Session on the progress of her work in this regard." I believe the substance is the same and this wording removes the possibility of the FAO Conference appearing to direct the UN High Commissioner to report to it. So, if the Commission could agree to the formulation from Norway, I believe that that would be appropriate.

CHAIRMAN

Any objection to what has been suggested by Norway on operative paragraph 3? I see no objection and, since I see no objection, there is no need for any other amendments. So can we adopt?

Pedro Alfonso MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

Quisiera agradecer muy particularmente a las delegaciones que han intervenido haciendo estas propuestas con las cuales estamos completamente de acuerdo. Usted nos ha solicitado si hay otros comentarios. En relación al número 7 nuevo que se propone, nuestra delegación ciertamente lo apoya, lo que sí quisiera clarificar es si se dice solamente el Objetivo 7.4 o se hace mención, Objetivo 7.4 del Plan de Acción Mundial sobre la Cumbre. Porque me parece a mí que decir solamente si está en la primera fórmula Objetivo 7.4, nadie sabe de qué se trata. En todo caso ésa sería la primera sugerencia que yo haría, y la segunda, si es que la distinguida delegación de Noruega está de acuerdo, es cambiar el orden de la ubicación de éste párrafo, y que el nuevo párrafo, figure como penúltimo párrafo. Creo que eso le daría más lógica, más fluidez al contenido de la parte dispositiva, o operativa, eso es todo.

Ms Turid KONGSVIK (Norway)

The insertion of the reference to the World Food Summit and its Plan of Action was my first draft, but then I realized that when Mr MedranoRojas drafted the Conference Resolution, he had very ably put this reference at the very beginning of the preambulatory part, so I thought that it was unnecessary to repeat it. Now I see no problem in repeating it if that is the wish of the Chilean delegation and the others here. As for the placement of the reference, I had proposed to start with it because, as I said, we are at the FAO Conference, and it would seem natural that we highlight the work of the Organization where we formulate these observations, but I have no strong objection to placing it penultimately if that is the wish of the Assembly. Thank you.

Pedro Alfonso MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

Le ruego me excuse, yo entendí que la propuesta era colocarlo como párrafo número 7, de ahí era mi sugerencia, pero si la idea es colocarlo como primer párrafo, estoy completamente de acuerdo con la delegación de Noruega.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Although we look at the text of the proposed Resolution in a very positive way, we would really like to consult with the EU although we have not had the possibility to do so. Looking at the proposed amendments, I think that we can go along with them. However, I would like to ask, and maybe that would also help our coordination, if there is any opposition within the Commission to insert, in the second operational paragraph, that is in fact the first line on page three, before "priority" - appropriate - because I do not think that we can say this in such a strong way as it is now. We would propose to have here, between "to give" and "priority" the word - appropriate - and before we have our coordination, I would like to hear the reaction from this Commission on this specific point.

Ms Susan MILLS (Canada)

Chairman, thank you. My response simply to this suggestion is to say that there is no adjective before the word priority. It does not say primordial or first or highest, it simply indicates the word priority. This word is a generic word, it simply indicates interest. We would therefore prefer not to have the word "appropriate", Chairman.

CHAIRMAN

Any other reaction from the floor to the proposal of the Netherlands to add "appropriate" before "priority"? The Netherlands, you heard the reasoning of Canada, can you withdraw your proposal?

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Well, Mr Chairman, as I explained earlier, we only received this new text this morning and we see that it is very much improved in comparison with the text we had yesterday. But we really need to have a last possibility to consult within the EU on the text. I listened very carefully to the reasoning of the distinguished delegate from Canada.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you, Netherlands. So, we have here two Resolutions which are both awaiting further consultation within the EU. We will therefore have to stop our discussion on both Resolutions, and we can proceed with the adoption of the Report as far as time permits.

**ADOPTION OF REPORT OF COMMISSION I
ADOPTION DU RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I
APROBACION DEL INFORME DE LA COMISION I****CHAIRMAN**

We start the Adoption of the Report on all Agenda Items, except for Agenda Item 7. This is the World Food Summit and its follow-up which includes these two Resolutions. I suggest that we start with C 97/I/REP/1; C 97/I/REP/2 and C 97/I/REP/4-Rev.1. This is only available in English and Arabic and not, unfortunately, in the other languages. French and Spanish are available but not as a revision.

**DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISION I - PART I (C 97/I/REP/1)
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PREMIERE PARTIE (C 97/I/REP/1)
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I - PARTE I (C 97/I/REP/1)**

**8. United Nations/FAO World Food Programme Pledging Target 1999-2000 (para 1)
8. Objectif de contribution au Programme alimentaire mondial Nations Unies/FAO
1999-2000 (par 1)
8. Programa Mundial de Alimentos Naciones Unidas/FAO: Objetivo de promesas de
contribución para 1999-2000 (párr 1)**

**9. Standards for Plant Quarantine Harmonization (paras 2-3)
9. Normes pour l'harmonisation des mesures phytosanitaires (par 2-3)
9. Normas para la armonización en materia de cuarentena de las plantas (párrs 2-3)**

CHAIRMAN

So we can start with C 97/I/REP/1. Do you agree to adopt it *en bloc*? I take your silence as agreement, therefore, it is adopted.

*Draft Report of Commission I, Part I, approved
Le projet de rapport de la Commission I, première partie, est approuvé
El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I, Parte I, es aprobado*

**DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART II (C 97/I/REP/2)
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - DEUXIEME PARTIE (C 97/I/REP/2)
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I - PARTE II (C 97/I/REP/2)****CHAIRMAN**

Now we come to C 97/I/REP/2: we will take this topic by topic.

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 6**PARAGRAPHES 1 à 6****PÁRRAFOS 1 a 6****10. Negotiation of a Legally Binding Instrument on Prior Informed Consent (PIC)**

(paras 1-6)

10. Négociation d'un instrument juridiquement contraignant sur l'information et le consentement préalables (ICP) (par 1-6)**10. Negociación de un instrumento jurídicamente vinculante sobre el procedimiento de información y consentimiento previos (ICP) (párrs 1-6)****CHAIRMAN**

The first topic is Negotiation of a Legally Binding Instrument on Prior Informed Consent (PIC). Can we adopt them, the first six paragraphs in the Report? No problems?

Moussa Bocar LY (Sénégal)

Je voudrais savoir si je suis bien au bon endroit. Est-ce que vous parlez du document C 97/I/REP/2? On discute donc des six premiers paragraphes. J'ai sans doute deux ou trois observations. Au paragraphe 4, je suis un peu surpris de voir que la Conférence a pris note de l'offre de la Suisse de fournir des structures d'accueil pour une éventuelle composante PNUE. Je voudrais savoir si le Président du Comité de rédaction peut donner des explications, car nous comprenons que cette question a été discutée dans le cadre du Comité des négociations, qu'un équilibre difficile a été obtenu, et qu'ensuite il y aura une autre session du Comité des négociations. Enfin, il y aura la Conférence diplomatique.

Je crois qu'il ne faudrait pas qu'on introduise au cours de cette Conférence des nouveautés par rapport à ce que les experts ont décidé auparavant. Lors de la Réunion des experts du Comité de négociations à laquelle j'ai moi-même assisté, il n'a pas été question de cette offre de la Suisse et je ne voudrais pas qu'on dénature le Secrétariat; le Secrétariat provisoire est le PNUE/FAO. Pour l'instant, les experts ont décidé que cette folie continuerait. La Conférence diplomatique et la Conférence des parties sont libres de changer cela, mais la Conférence n'a pas à changer. Je voudrais donc vraiment avoir une explication étant entendu que pour nous en tout cas ce qui vaut ce sont les résultats du Comité des négociations et rien d'autre. Ça c'est le premier point.

Le deuxième point je crois qu'il y a peut-être une erreur au niveau du paragraphe 6. En tout état de cause lors du Conseil, l'erreur avait été corrigée. Parce qu'il y a tout un membre de phrase qui doit sauter, du moins le Conseil l'avait retenu ainsi. Si vous permettez, je lis le membre de phrase: "à condition que les coûts additionnels de la mise en oeuvre de la procédure facultative actuelle soient pris en charge par des ressources extrabudgétaires". Le Conseil s'était rendu compte que c'était là une erreur et que ce que l'on voulait dire c'était bien "à condition que ces modalités soient jugées satisfaisantes". Cela figure dans le rapport du Conseil et je crois que la même correction devrait être apportée. Dernière observation dans le même sens au dernier sous-point au paragraphe 6: il y a également un membre de phrase qui devrait sauter, du moins tel a été le cas au niveau du Conseil, à savoir "à condition que les coûts additionnels de la mise en oeuvre de la procédure facultative actuelle soient pris en charge par des ressources extrabudgétaires". C'est ainsi que le Conseil l'avait adopté, et je crois que la plupart d'entre nous avons appuyé le rapport du Conseil et si tel est le cas, on doit apporter les ajustements et les corrections nécessaires. Voilà M. le Président, j'espère ne pas avoir pris trop de votre temps.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Excuse me for the delay. The Representative from Senegal as usual is perfectly right. The Council, in considering this matter, deleted the phrase in both of these operative paragraphs - "provided the cost additional to the implementation of the present voluntary procedures be met

through extra-budgetary resources - and so", in the Council Report to the Conference, those phrases do not appear. As a matter of fact, I am sure the Representative of Senegal and several of the others in this room remember that at the Session on the Adoption of the Report of Council, the Secretariat had made an error, they had not deleted one of these two phrases and so it was done at the adoption. And so, what came to you in the document, even in the LIM document, was without these two phrases.

However, I am informed that the full document that came to the Conference did, in fact, have these phrases and that the intervention of the European Union at the Commission stated that it withdrew its previous reservation with respect to the statements on extra-budgetary resources. That is the explanation on why it now reappeared in the Draft Report from this Commission. The connection that has not quite been made is that the initial reservation over this phrase came from the European Union and so what the Secretariat was saying since the EU withdrew that reservation, then the phrases come back in.

Those are the facts of the matter, it is entirely up to the Commission to decide to retain these phrases or to delete them.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Mr Hjort's explanation regarding the debate we had in Commission I is correct. So, the reason why there is a difference between the Council Report and the Report of this Commission, is as Mr Hjort explained.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Netherlands. Senegal, is this acceptable to you, the same two explanations? Senegal you have the floor.

Moussa Bocar LY (Sénégal)

J'avais soulevé la question, mais c'était simplement pour savoir si cela correspondait à ce qui avait été dit au Conseil. Si les autres délégations ne trouvent pas de difficultés à accepter la proposition et si tel est l'avis de tous, ma délégation ne s'oppose pas à l'adoption du Rapport.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Senegal. Any other comments on that? So we have to come to suggestions on paragraph 4. Mr Hjort you might explain this please.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

In this particular case, I do not see that there is a problem with the formulation. All that the Conference is doing is taking note of the offer and, in fact, an offer was made and the second sentence is the critical one, where it reminds the Conference -- drew attention to the fact -- that decisions on this matter would need to be made by the Diplomatic Conference. In other words, the Conference is by no means saying that it accepts or rejects. It is not saying anything about the offer from Switzerland other than recording the fact that an offer was made.

You may wish to have the Chairman of the Drafting Committee speak.

Neil FRASER (Chairman, Drafting Committee)

Well, this merely leaves me in the position of agreeing with what Mr Hjort said. The Drafting Committee's task was to reflect what was said on the floor of Commission I and, as we all recall, there was an offer from Switzerland and we are merely noting that, and then the second sentence is drawing attention to the decisions that are being supported.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Chairman of the Drafting Committee. We are waiting for the distinguished delegate of Senegal to go back to his seat. We are awaiting your reaction.

Distinguished delegate of Senegal did you hear the explanation from Mr Hjort, and the Chairman of the Drafting Committee or do you need it to be repeated?

Can I ask Mr Hjort or the Chairman of the Drafting Committee to explain again? Yes, you have the floor please.

Moussa Bocar LY (Sénégal)

Je m'excuse, mais j'étais occupé ailleurs.

Neil FRASER (Chairman, Drafting Committee)

Thank you. Just to repeat for the delegate of Senegal. Paragraph 4 is merely reflecting the discussion that we heard in Commission I, and it merely notes that there was an offer from Switzerland which is recorded here. That is quite in order. The purpose of the Drafting Committee is to reflect that.

CHAIRMAN

So considering that there is no commitment on behalf of the Commission of Conference on this issue, what is your reaction Senegal?

Moussa Bocar LY (Sénégal)

Je suis d'accord avec votre interprétation. C'est-à-dire, il n'y a pas d'engagement de la part de la Conférence sur cette offre. Elle l'a simplement entendu et je crois que l'enceinte appropriée est le Comité de négociation qui doit se réunir prochainement à Bruxelles, sur aimable invitation de la Communauté européenne. Je crois que jusqu'à l'heure actuelle nous sommes tenus par les résultats que le Conseil a adoptés, les résultats du Comité de négociation. Voilà ce que je voulais dire. Je suis du même avis que vous lorsqu'il s'agira d'interpréter.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you Senegal. Are there any other comments on paragraphs 1 to 6 of this Report? If not, we can consider it adopted.

Paragraphs 1 to 6, approved***Les paragraphes 1 à 6 sont approuvés******Los párrafos 1 a 6 son aprobados*****11. Desert Locust Situation: Measures Taken and Further Action Required (paras 7-11)****11. Situation en matière de criquet pèlerin: mesures prises et à prendre (par 7-11)****11. Situación de la langosta del desierto: medidas adoptadas y nuevas actividades necesarias (párrs 7-11)****CHAIRMAN**

Now we consider the second topic, the Desert Locust Situation, Measures Taken and further Actions Required

PARAGRAPHS 7 to 11***PARAGRAPHES 7 à 11******PARRAFOS 7 a 11***

Rachid LAKHDAR (Maroc)

Ma délégation souhaite intervenir sur trois points qui ont fait l'objet d'interventions de plusieurs délégations au cours de l'examen de ce point de l'Ordre du jour. Le premier se rapporte au Point 9 et nous avions souhaité qu'à l'occasion de la réévaluation des organisations régionales, il soit tenu compte de leur efficacité. Et à cet effet, nous proposons la rédaction suivante de ce point 9: "La Conférence a recommandé aux pays de l'aire du criquet pèlerin de réévaluer leur structure régionale actuelle de lutte antiacridienne afin de réaliser une couverture géographique appropriée, tout en tenant compte des aspects d'efficacité de ces structures, et de calculer de façon réaliste les ressources financières qui permettront aux Etats Membres de prendre des mesures communes."

Le second point concerne les pesticides périmés. Nous avions souhaité, compte tenu de l'importance de ce problème et de l'importance du problème posé par ces pesticides périmés dans la Région et dans les différentes Régions de l'aire d'invasion, qu'il en soit fait un point à part, donc que l'on rédige un paragraphe relatif à ces pesticides, qui pourrait être le suivant: "La Conférence a noté le problème persistant des pesticides périmés résiduels provenant des campagnes antiacridiennes précédentes, et recommande à la FAO de tout mettre en oeuvre en vue de trouver une solution à leur élimination."

Le troisième point qui a fait l'objet d'interventions de plusieurs délégations au cours de la Réunion de notre Commission concerne la recherche et le souhait qui avait été exprimé d'impliquer de façon plus prononcée les chercheurs de la Région des pays de l'aire d'invasion au programme de recherche entrepris au niveau international. Et pour ceci, nous proposons la rédaction d'un paragraphe qui serait le suivant: "La Conférence recommande à la FAO de continuer à mobiliser les ressources nécessaires pour développer les Programmes de recherche dans le domaine acridien, tout en veillant à une plus grande participation des chercheurs des pays de l'aire d'invasion à ce Programme."

Mme Hariba YAHIA-CHERIF (Algérie)

L'Algérie appuie ce que vient de dire le délégué du Maroc au sujet de l'appui que la FAO doit donner aux structures régionales actuelles, et ceci pour mettre en adéquation ce paragraphe 9 avec ce qui a été dit au paragraphe 8.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Although we have discussed this part of the Report at length in the Drafting Committee, the suggestions made sound reasonable. The only problem is that I do not have them before my eyes. Would it be possible for the Secretariat to write them on a piece of paper during the lunch break? That would make it easier for us to give a reaction on the proposed amendments.

CHAIRMAN

We will go along with the suggestion made by the Netherlands and ask the Secretariat, with the cooperation of Morocco, to redraft the new proposals. We will start this afternoon's Session with these new amendments.

Paragraphs 7 to 11 not concluded

Paragraphes 7 à 11 sont en suspens

Párrafos 7 a 11 quedan pendientes

Draft Report of Commission I, Part II not concluded

Projet de Rapport de la Commission I, deuxième partie est en suspens

Proyecto de Informe de la Comisión I, Parte II, queda pendiente

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I- PART IV (C 97/I/REP/4-Rev.1)
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I- QUATRIEME PARTIE
(C 97/I/REP/4-Rev.1)
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I - PARTE IV (C 97/I/REP/4-Rev.1)

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 5

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 5

PARRAFOS 1 a 5

12. Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis (PAAT) (including Resolution .../97)
(paras 1-5)

12. Programme de lutte contre la trypanosomiase africaine (PLTA) (y compris
Résolution .../97)
(par 1-5)

12. Programa contra la tripanosomiasis africana (PCTA) (incluida la Resolución .../97)
(párrs 1-5)

CHAIRMAN

We have a few minutes left before 12.45 hours so we can go to C 91/I/REP4-Rev.1 and decide whether to adopt it. This is the programme against PAAT.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I would like to make a small addition which I do not think is controversial. It is in the third paragraph, at the very end of this paragraph, after South-South cooperation. I would like to propose to add a comma followed by "which is of great interest in all the activities of FAO". I will repeat, a comma followed by "which is of great interest in all the activities of FAO".

CHAIRMAN

Any reaction to this amendment? So, can we adopt the draft with the added amendment from the Netherlands?

Draft Report of Commission I, Part IV, as amended, approved

Le projet de rapport de la Commission I, quatrième partie, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I, Parte IV, así enmendado, es aprobado

The meeting rose at 15.00 hours.

La séance est levée à 15 h 00.

Se levanta la sesión a las 15.00 horas.

13 November 1997



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
لأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE CONFERENCIA

Twenty-ninth Session
Vingt-neuvième session
29º período de sesiones

Rome, 7 - 18 November 1997

Rome, 7 - 18 novembre 1997

Roma, 7 - 18 de noviembre de 1997

SIXTH MEETING OF COMMISSION I
SIXIÈME SEANCE DE LA COMMISSION I
SEXTA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN I

13 November 1997

The Sixth Meeting was opened at 15.40 hours

Mr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La sixième séance est ouverte à 15 h 40
sous la présidence de M. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Président de la Commission I

Se abre la sexta sesión a las 15.40 horas
bajo la presidencia del Sr. Mohammad Saeed Nouri-Naeeni,
Presidente de la Comisión I

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)
I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET POLITIQUES EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)

7. The World Food Summit and its Follow-up (including two Draft Resolutions) (continued)
(C 97/7; C 97/LIM/33; C 97/LIM/39)

7. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi (y compris deux Projets de résolution) (suite)
(C 97/7; C 97/LIM/33; C 97/LIM/39)

7. La Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento (incluidos dos Proyectos de Resolución) (continuación) (C 97/7; C 97/LIM/33; C 97/LIM/39)

CHAIRMAN

We have the quorum, so we can start the business and immediately consider the two resolutions in front of us.

Draft Resolution: Telefood (continued) (C 97/LIM/33)

Projet de résolution: Telefood (suite) (C 97/LIM/33)

El proyecto de resolución: Telefood (continuación) (C 97/LIM/33)

CHAIRMAN

We will start with Telefood document C 97/LIM/33, and I ask the Netherlands to report to the floor the result on negotiations which have been going on over the past few hours.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I will start with the good news and then less good news. The good news is that we discussed the latest recollection of the Resolution on the Right to Food submitted by Chile, and we can accept this resolution as it is now. That is the good news.

On the Telefood Resolution we agreed with Angola to a compromise, but at a certain moment we concluded that we did not go to our Groups with the same understanding of part of the compromise. I will read out the changes which were part of the compromise, and then I will take the part where we have a difference in opinion. I suppose that the distinguished delegate from Angola discussed with his Group the basis of the text he had as the agreement reached. It is unchanged until the second page, that is, acknowledging the success of the Telefood operation in 1997 and convinced of the necessity to continue this initiative and expand its coverage. This remains as it is. This has to be followed by the last part of the last paragraph, that means after the paragraph I have just read out, there has to be added, "in collaboration with the various components of civil society in their respective countries." The second part of the last sentence of the last paragraph has to be added, "in collaboration with the various components of civil society in their respective countries."

Then I had the understanding that we add after the two Roman (i) and (ii) an additional paragraph which I will read it out slowly, "requests the Director-General to report annually to the Council the collected proceeds as well as on the utilisation of these proceeds."

In our original proposal we had also included the costs and Mr Medrano Rojas who was there convinced me that it was not necessary to report on the costs from the Regular Budget, because the Director-General has to do this anyhow. He convinced me on the part of the costs, but not on the question that he has to do this anyhow. I would like therefore to have a clarification from the FAO Secretariat in which way the Director-General has to report to the Council on the collected proceeds, as well as on the utilisation of these proceeds.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Actually I may be asking more a legal question, but you will recall that I reported that a special Telefood Fund has been established. In that Financial Regulation it requires that reports on that Fund, the use of the funds, will be reported to the Finance Committee and, of course, the Finance Committee is a subsidiary committee of the Council. But to be legally correct it may be better, say, to report annually on so and so "to the Finance Committee". If you wish, Mr Moore can give you the specific reference as far as this special Fund is concerned.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Yes, indeed, under Financial Regulation 6.7 it is indicated that Trust and Special Funds should be reported to the Finance Committee. Indeed it is the Finance Committee that is really responsible for the day-to-day control over the financial administration of the Organization, and you will note that under Rule XXVII(7) of the General Rules of the Organization it is specifically required to review the reports of the Director-General on the establishment of Trust and Special Funds and to make recommendations to the Council regarding such funds. In other words, it is the Finance Committee which has the front-line responsibility for these matters, and the Finance Committee itself reports to the Council.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Well it would help me if the Director-General has to do this for the Finance Committee, but it does not seem to me much additional work if we insert this part that we have, then it is clear that we get a good overview of the proceeds as well as the utilisation of these proceeds. But then it has to have the consent of the distinguished delegate from Angola.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Je crois que ce projet nous a permis d'arriver à un accord car nous sommes parfaitement d'accord avec la première partie de la déclaration de l'honorable délégué du Pays-Bas. Mais en ce qui concerne le troisième ajout, qui demande au Directeur général de faire un rapport, nous avons demandé que ce paragraphe soit supprimé et nous sommes tombés d'accord. Honnêtement parlant, je crois peut-être que chacun de nous avait compris d'une manière différente, mais pendant les négociations nous étions trois, dont l'Ambassadeur Medrano Rojas.

Voilà l'accord auquel nous sommes arrivés: l'élimination, pure et simple, de ce troisième paragraphe. Je suis surpris d'apprendre maintenant que l'on doit le réinsérer encore comme un troisième petit (i). Vraiment, je crois que peut-être je demanderais, Monsieur le Président, si j'avais mal compris, qu'on demande à l'Ambassadeur Medrano Rojas de dire ce qu'il pense de cet ajout. Franchement, on l'avait discuté, la discussion a été honnête et alors vraiment je ne comprends pas. A cet effet, je redemanderai encore à mon Groupe afin que nous nous réunissions pour voir cet ajout qui vient d'être introduit.

Pedro Alfonso MEDRANO ROJAS (Chile)

Pienso que es importante que nosotros reflejemos al menos lo que nos pareció que era un entendimiento sobre este texto. La verdad es que cuando conversamos sobre este nuevo párrafo estábamos todos de acuerdo en que esto lo íbamos a presentar a nuestros respectivos Grupos. Ahora parece ser que hay un malentendido, por lo menos yo entendí que el párrafo no era necesario. Se me ha explicado, y no tengo porque dudar, de que fue una interpretación correcta, o de buena fe por lo menos, que se estaba refiriendo a un aspecto de ese nuevo párrafo. Ahora bien, creo que todo esto no tiene mayor sentido, que realmente no tiene mayor sentido porque de lo que se trata ahora es de ver si este párrafo es necesario o no es necesario. Creo que hay argumentos para explicitar que lo que se ha planteado es que sería necesario tener un párrafo de este tipo, y de otra parte se dice que ya los textos mismos de la FAO, en este caso en lo que se refiere al Artículo 6.1 del Reglamento Financiero, tiene todo un procedimiento establecido para los Fondos Fiduciarios, y esos informes al Comité de Finanzas van al Consejo. Me parece que no

siendo, en ese sentido, una cuestión sustantiva, a lo mejor podríamos estar de acuerdo en que el texto no es necesario, al menos en mi opinión, me parece que no es necesario. Es una modesta opinión, muy personal, como país, pero creo que se puede lograr un acuerdo sobre eso.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Well sometimes with different languages things go wrong. I apologise for this to Angola and Chile. Would it be possible that we put in the report the explanation given by Mr Moore and something that will not be in the resolution itself but that it is just stated "in request of"?

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I gather this last suggestion is to include a sentence in the report. The Commission has as pending business the report on follow-up to the Summit and so in that section immediately before the resolution, we could ask Ms Killingsworth if she could draft a sentence that could go in if that would let us go forward.

CHAIRMAN

Angola, is this satisfactory to you?

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Je crois que ça va, que cela ne devrait pas créer de problèmes. Je crois qu'on pourrait quand-même l'accepter.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

As you know the changes so far do not take care of the proposals put forward from my delegation, and I will not repeat my early interventions on the Telefood Resolution. I regret from my side that it was not possible for the majority here in the Commission to accept some minor changes from the proposed Resolution from my country, and this means that it is not possible to reach the broadest possible consensus on the Resolution. I therefore ask for a reflection of my country's views in the Report.

CHAIRMAN

Would you please repeat your suggestion so that everybody remembers what it was.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

Thank you Mr Chairman. Shall I repeat my intervention in the Commission a day ago?

CHAIRMAN

Please do not repeat your intervention, but say exactly what it is that you are proposing.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

I proposed a change in the last paragraph. This has been discussed during the meeting in the Commission and also informally in the pause we had, and it is not possible to reach agreement on it. The main problem is that the solution as it stands now means that we will get into conflict with our NGOs and their effort to use "Telefood" projects as a basis for their own financing or similar activities. Therefore, I proposed a wording in the last paragraph saying, "the interested FAO Members". I understand it is not possible to reach agreement on that, and therefore it is important for me that the Norwegian views are reflected in the Report. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN

The amendment proposes in paragraph 3 that, after “invites,” we add, “interested”. “Invites interested FAO Members”. Angola, do you agree with that?

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Nous avons discuté longuement ce point intéressant. Nous sommes bien tombés d'accord que cela ne devrait pas apparaître dans la Résolution. Alors je ne sais pas pourquoi nous devons encore revenir sur ce point. Cela nous a pris beaucoup de temps et nous ne voulons même pas en discuter.

Eduardo Jorge LIMA BARROS SILVA (Cap-Vert)

Permettez-moi de vous demander si j'ai bien compris la proposition de la Norvège. La proposition est d'inclure dans le rapport cette mention d'une position qui n'a pas été retenue dans la rédaction finale. C'est bien de cela qu'il s'agit. Donc je pense qu'on pourrait facilement l'accepter dans le Rapport. Je me tourne vers mon collègue d'Angola; l'inclusion est dans le rapport et non dans le texte de la Résolution si j'ai bien compris.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Je crois que pour clore cette situation dans laquelle nous risquons de nous enlisier, nous sommes d'accord avec la proposition qui nous a été faite par le Directeur général adjoint.

CHAIRMAN

The proposal is that we do not include “interested” in paragraph 3. We include it in the Report, but not in the Resolution.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

Je m'excuse M. le Président, je n'ai pas vraiment prêté attention à la proposition de mon collègue du Cap-Vert. Je voudrais faire savoir que je suis totalement d'accord avec lui: qu'il soit consigné dans le Rapport et non dans la Résolution.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I would like to ask Norway about this point. The term “invites” is used to start this paragraph; it is an invitation... “invites...” “...the Conference invites...”. It does not mean that countries have to do so; it invites. Is it necessary for your basic point, to have inserted language or qualifying, either in the Report or here? You see what I'm asking, since it says, “invites,” it is an invitation to Member Nations. It's not in any way mandating.

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

I think this is a very, very strong invitation, so it is nearly mandatory for us. I understand it that way.

CHAIRMAN

It doesn't say, “strongly invites”, it just says “invites”. Netherlands, you have the floor.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

Just to confirm that I hope that we have now reached, as far as we are concerned, consensus on the Resolution. I just want to mention, so as not to give the wrong impression, that three broadcasting companies from three Member States of the European Union participated heavily in “Telefood” 1997. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN

My understanding is that everyone agrees to the amendments proposed, and we can accept the Resolution as it stands now. The Netherlands want some clarifications. Your proposal is to transfer the last part of paragraph 3 to the paragraph which starts with "Acknowledging". Or do you want it to be repeated in this paragraph?

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

On this point, we have the same understanding of the compromise. That means, to remove it from the end, and to put it a bit higher.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you very much. So it is a transfer of "in collaboration, with the various components of civil society in their respective countries" to paragraph 4 of the Preamble, which starts with "Acknowledging," and after "coverage" we just mention these sentences.

With this amendment, we accept and approve the Telefood Resolution.

Draft Resolution, as amended, was adopted.

Le Projet de résolution, ainsi amendé, est adopté.

El proyecto de Resolución, así enmendado, es aprobado.

Draft Resolution: Right to Food (continued) (C 97/LIM/39)

Projet de résolution: Droit à la nourriture (suite) (C 97/LIM/39)

Proyecto de Resolución: Derecho a la Alimentación (continuación) (C 97/LIM/39)

CHAIRMAN

On the Resolution on the Right to Food, which is document C 97/LIM/39, my understanding is that everyone agrees with the amendments which were proposed this morning and no other changes were proposed this afternoon. It is decided. The Secretary recommends that before starting adoption of other parts of the Report, I have to announce the adoption of Item 7. Item 7 on our Agenda has been adopted. The discussion on Item 7 is closed.

Draft Resolution, as amended, was adopted.

Le Projet de résolution, ainsi amendé, est adopté.

El proyecto de Resolución, así enmendado, es aprobado.

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF COMMISSION I (continued)

ADOPTION DU RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I (suite)

APROBACION DEL INFORME DE LA COMISION I (continuación)

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISION I - PART II (continued) (C 97/I/REP/2-Sup.1)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - DEUXIEME PARTIE (suite)

(C 97/I/REP/2 -Sup.1)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I - PARTE II (continuación)

(C 97/I/REP/2 -Sup.1)

PARAGRAPHS 7 to 13

PARAGRAPHES 7 à 13

PARRAFOS 7 a 13

11. Desert Locust Situation: Measures Taken and Further Action Required (paras. 7-13)
(C 97/I/REP/2-Sup.1)

11. Situation en matière de criquet pèlerin: mesures prises et à prendre (par. 7-13)
(C 97/I/REP/2-Sup.1)

11. Situación de la langosta del desierto: medidas adoptadas y nuevas actividades necesarias
(párrs. 7-13) (C 97/I/REP/2-Sup.1)

CHAIRMAN

We can now continue with the adoption of the Report. The remaining Report is the one on the Desert Locust Situation; as I mentioned, the number is C 97/I/REP/2-Sup.1, paragraphs 7 to 13.

The Secretary will explain the changes which have been proposed and which have been added.

SECRETARY, COMMISSION I

On the basis of the text provided by the delegation of Morocco, following their intervention this morning, amendments have been made to paragraph 9. A new paragraph has been inserted, which has the number paragraph 10. The following paragraph has been renumbered, unfortunately the computer does this automatically, we cannot use the old system of putting ten-bis or nine-bis. The new paragraph is paragraph 10, and the other new paragraph is paragraph 12. The other paragraphs remain the same as submitted to you this morning.

Rachid LAKHDAR (Maroc)

J'interviens juste pour un point de détail au niveau de la rédaction. Nous avons donc ajouté le paragraphe 12 relatif aux pesticides périmés. Donc il serait souhaitable qu'au niveau du paragraphe 11, le membre de la phrase qui fait référence aux pesticides périmés soit tout simplement éliminé.

CHAIRMAN

This change seems acceptable and with this change, if everyone agrees, we can adopt this Report *en bloc*.

Mr Hjort wants to go back to the Report that we adopted this morning. There are some explanations needed.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I must say that I am highly embarrassed in having to bring you back to a section of the Report which you have adopted. But I only discovered, about the time the hammer was going down, that a phrase that was in the Council Report and was in the document before you, was somehow dropped out of the text that went to the Drafting Committee. I do not believe that it is controversial at all, but it is in paragraph 6 of the Report on the PIC matter. There always was a phrase in that first paragraph which reads "authorize the participation of the FAO Secretariat in an interim Secretariat and in a Secretariat to the Convention, if so desired during the negotiations, and adopted by the Diplomatic Conference". Here is the phrase that somehow got dropped out... "provided that such arrangements were satisfactory to the Director-General". That phrase, to my knowledge, was not controversial. It clearly appears in your copy of the Report from the Council. It was in the basic document for the Commission. As I say, I apologize, but somehow the Secretariat dropped that phrase in the version that went to the Drafting Committee. The Drafting Committee did not consider it. With your indulgence, I will ask if you could authorize the reinsertion of that phrase.

CHAIRMAN

Is everyone agreed to the reinsertion of this phrase?

*It was so decided
Il en est ainsi décidé
Así se acuerda.*

*Draft Report of Commission I - Part II as amended, was adopted.
Projet de rapport de la Commission I, Deuxième partie, ainsi amendé, est adopté
El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I, parte II, así enmendado, es aprobado.*

**DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISION I - PART III (C 97/I/REP/3)
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - TROISIEME PARTIE (C 97/I/REP/3)
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I - PARTE III (C 97/I/REP/3)**

*7. The World Food Summit and its Follow-up (paras 1-10)
7. Le Sommet mondial de l'alimentation et son suivi (par. 1-10)
7. La Cumbre Mundial sobre la Alimentación y su seguimiento (párrs. 1-10)*

*Paragraphs 1 to 10, including two draft resolutions
Paragraphes 1 à 10, y compris deux projets de résolution
Parrafos 1 a 10, incluido dos Proyectos de Resolución*

CHAIRMAN

The only remaining part of our work today is the World Food Summit and its follow-up, Item 7, paragraphs 1 to 10, document number C 97/I/REP/3. The floor is now open for debate.

We cannot adopt this item by block, because something has to be added. It was suggested that some paragraphs should be added, so will go paragraph-by-paragraph.

*Paragraphs 1 to 3 approved
Les paragraphes 1 à 3 sont approuvés
Los párrafos 1 a 3 son aprobados*

Per Harald GRUE (Norway)

I would propose a new sentence at the start of paragraph 4, covering the more general follow-up for the Summit in the UN System. Before I read the sentence, I will say that this suggestion is based on interventions on my part and by the delegations, during the debate earlier in the Commission. The sentence is also based on language from the Summit Plan of Action. I will read the sentence, which comes before the rest of this paragraph: "The Conference underlined the importance of coordination and cooperation within the UN System in the follow-up to the World Food Summit."

CHAIRMAN

Is this amendment acceptable?

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

To avoid the "underlining" and "underlining" one after another, would it be acceptable to change the second sentence and to start it with "In view of" instead of a second "Underlining"?

CHAIRMAN

The proposed changes are acceptable to everybody, so paragraph 4, with the amendments, is adopted.

*Paragraph 4, as amended, approved
Paragraphe 4, ainsi amendé, est approuvé
El párrafo 4, así enmendado, es aprobado*

Paragraphs 5-7 approved

Paragraphes 5-7 approuvés

Los párrafos 5-7 son aprobados

Paragraphs 8-9, including the Resolution on the “Right to Food”, are adopted

Paragraphes 8-9, y compris la Résolution sur le “Droit à la nourriture” sont adoptés

Los párrafos 8-9, incluida la Résolución sobre “Derecho a la Alimentación”, son adoptados

CHAIRMAN

The new paragraph suggested is not ready, so if there is nothing else to be discussed, we can take a short break.

The meeting was suspended from 16.45 to 17.20 hours.

La séance est suspendue de 16 h 45 à 17 h 20.

Se suspende la sesión de las 16.45 horas a las 17.20 horas.

CHAIRMAN

We will start the last paragraph to be adopted. I ask Ms Killingsworth to read this paragraph to us and then the floor would be open to the debate.

Ms Kay KILLINGSWORTH (Special Adviser for World Food Summit Follow-up)

I have a text which, as you can imagine, is only in English. We have given copies of this text to the interpreters. I will now read it, perhaps first at normal speed and then at dictation speed, and the interpreters will translate it for you into the other languages.

The first paragraph consists of three sentences. The first sentence is a general introductory sentence to the Item on “Telefood”. The second sentence should take into account the point which the European Community wished to make clear in the Report, and the third sentence would take into account the position stated by Norway. The following paragraph would then be the Resolution on Telefood.

I will now read what would be paragraph 10 of the Report, first at normal speed and then at dictation speed. “The Conference welcomed the information provided on “Telefood” 1997, which had taken place for the first time on 19 October 1997 in connection with World Food Day, with the main aim of raising awareness and mobilizing support around the globe for the fight against hunger and malnutrition. It noted that, in accordance with the provisions of Financial Regulation 6.7 and the General Rules of the Organization, the Director-General would be reporting to the Finance Committee on the collection and utilization of the Telefood proceeds. One Member Nation, concerned about possible competition with NGO activities, stated that it could not consider itself bound to promote “Telefood” nationally.” That would be paragraph 10.

Paragraph 11 would then read “The Conference adopted the following Resolution”, and we would insert the text of the Resolution included the LIM document, as you adopted it earlier this afternoon.

I hope that that is clear. I would be happy to provide any further clarification if it did not come through.

CHAIRMAN

I suppose that everybody got that paragraph written down. Were there any difficulties in that?

The floor is now open for debate.

L.C. SMITS (Netherlands)

I am very appreciative of the explanation of the FAO Secretariat and the way it is proposed as text for the Report, and we can accept this as it has been written.

Pedro Agostinho KANGA (Angola)

De notre part aussi, nous pouvons accepter ce texte comme il a été présenté par le Secrétariat. Il ne nous pose aucun problème.

Ismael BERNAL MAURE (Panamá)

Nosotros vemos excelentemente la elaboración de este párrafo, y presentamos nuestro acuerdo en su redacción.

Ralph BOYCE (Barbados)

Just a point that might need some clarification. We are told that the function took place for the first time on 19 October. In English this could be ambiguous, as though it could have taken place at other times than 19 October, and I think that we need to ensure that it is clear that it had never taken place before and that the date was the 19 October. It could be ambiguous if it read "It took place for the first time on that date", as though it had taken place on other dates in the past at some other time. So perhaps "The function was held for the first time and that date was the 19 October" would clarify the possible ambiguity there.

Ms Kay KILLINGSWORTH (Special Adviser for World Food Summit Follow-up)

The delegate of Barbados has thrown us into a slight turmoil up here. We think that perhaps the best way is to say "The Conference welcomed the information provided on the first "Telefood" (Telefood 1997) which had taken place on 19 October in connection with World Food Day". If that is acceptable, we will make the change.

CHAIRMAN

Is that change acceptable to everybody?

Paragraph 10, as amended, approved

Le paragraphe 10, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El párrafo 10, así enmendado, es aprobado

CHAIRMAN

Now on new paragraph 11, Ms Killingsworth might want to comment.

Ms Kay KILLINGSWORTH (Special Adviser for World Food Summit Follow-up)

I think that all that is needed is the standard phrase that we put "The Conference adopted the following Resolution", and earlier you have adopted the text of that Resolution.

CHAIRMAN

Is that acceptable to everybody? So paragraph 11 is adopted.

We have adopted the Report of Commission I and this Report will be submitted to Plenary on Tuesday, 18 November.

Paragraphs 1 to 11, including the two Draft Resolutions, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 11, y compris les deux Projets de résolution, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 11, incluidos los dos Proyectos de Resolución, así enmendados, son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission I, Part III, as amended, approved

Le Projet de rapport de la Commission I, troisième partie, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El Proyecto de Informe de la Comisión I, parte III, así enmendado, es aprobado

CHAIRMAN

Now what is left is for me to thank you very much for your hard work and your great spirit of cooperation. I would also like to thank the Secretariat for all their endeavours and my special thanks also go to Mr Randell, Secretary of the Commission, who have helped so sincerely.

Before I close this Session, Netherlands has the floor.

L. C. SMITS (Netherlands)

What you did not do was to thank yourself, and I think that with your excellent Chairmanship we reached conclusion quite efficiently. I apologize for taking the floor so often on both Resolutions, but you were very indulgent, as they say in English, to me, and I really thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN

Thank you, Netherlands. Your interventions were a sign of your interest in the Organization and in the work which is does, and we appreciate that.

Moussa Bocar LY (Sénégal)

Je ne voudrais pas que cette Commission termine ses travaux sans vous présenter les remerciements du Groupe africain pour votre ouverture d'esprit et la manière dont vous avez dirigé les travaux de cette Commission importante. Je crois que c'est tout à l'honneur de vous-même et du Groupe des 77 également, qui a accepté le compromis que vous savez. Cela rehausse encore une fois votre talent et votre esprit de consensus. Nous voudrions souligner cela avant que l'on ne se sépare pour la Plénière comme vous l'avez indiqué.

CHAIRMAN

If no other speaker wishes to take the floor, we have finished our business. Let me thank the Drafting Committee and its Chairman for the hard and excellent work that they have done. We meet in Plenary tomorrow for the election of the Council Members, and then the day after for the Adoption of the Report.

The meeting rose at 17.45 hours.

La séance est levée à 17 h 45.

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas.