

conference

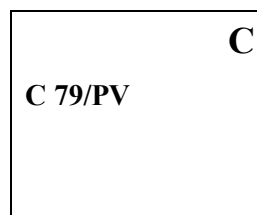
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session
PLENARY

Vingtième session
PLÉNIÈRE

20° período de sesiones
PLENARIA

Rome, 10-28 November 1979
VERBATIM RECORDS OF PLENARY MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE
PROCES-VERBAUX DES SEANCES PLENIERES DE LA CONFERENCE
ACTAS TAQUIGRAFICAS DE LAS SESIONES PLENARIAS DE LA CONFERENCIA

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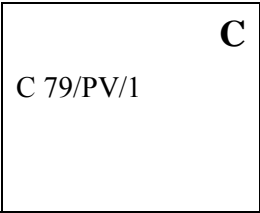
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

FIRST PLENARY MEETING
PREMIERE SEANCE PLENIERE
PRIMERA SESION PLENARIA
(10 November 1979)

The First Plenary Meeting was opened at 11. 10 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La première seance plénière est ouverte à 11 h 10, sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la primera Sesión Plenaria a las 11. 10 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

OPENING OF TWENTIETH CONFERENCE SESSION

OUVERTURE DE LA VINGTIEME SESSION DE LA CONFERENCE

INAUGURACION DEL 20° PERIODO DE SESIONES DE LA CONFERENCIA

Opening Statement by Director-General

Discours d'Ouverture du Directeur General

Discurso de Apertura del Director General

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Mesdames et Messieurs les délégués et observateurs, Excellences, Mesdames, Messieurs, au nom de notre Organisation, j'ai l'honneur et le plaisir de souhaiter la bienvenue aux éminents délégués de nos Etats Membres, aux observateurs des organisations gouvernementales et non-gouvernementales et aux représentants des autres organisations du système des Nations Unies.

Il m'est très agréable de reconnaître dans cette salle de nombreux visages connus et tant d'amis de longue date.

Ainsi réunis, vous êtes la FAO: l'Organisation à laquelle vos nations souveraines ont confié la tâche, exaltante mais écrasante, d'extirper la faim et la malnutrition et de promouvoir le développement agricole dans le monde.

Votre rencontre est unique: elle constitue, en quelque sorte, le sommet des ministres de l'agriculture du monde entier.

Votre force est d'agir à la fois comme une assemblée délibérante, qui discute et trace les grandes orientations politiques, et comme un organe de décision, arrêtant l'action concrète à entreprendre.

C'est ainsi que vous débattrez tout aussi bien de ce que devrait être l'agriculture à la fin de ce siècle, que de programmes d'action spécifiques à lancer sans délai.

Cette capacité de saisir en même temps, et la politique de développement, et l'action, est une marque distinctive de notre Organisation.

Vous vous réunissez au tournant d'une nouvelle décennie: la troisième dite "du développement". Malheureusement, le bilan jusqu'ici n'incite guère à pavoiser.

Qui ne ressent comme un échec le fait qu'après plus de trente ans de coopération internationale le nombre d'affamés n'ait cessé de croître dans le monde?

Qui ne s'inquiète de voir se multiplier, en particulier au cours de ces dernières années, des situations d'urgence, avec leurs cortèges de souffrance et de misère?

La brutale réalité est celle d'une croissance agricole trop faible pour faire face convenablement aux besoins actuellement prévisibles.

Le monde est ainsi menacé d'une fragilité croissante, en particulier dans le secteur alimentaire, au moment même où, sous les coups insidieux de l'inflation, les mécanismes économiques semblent échapper de plus en plus au contrôle des hommes.

Dans ces conditions, il est plus nécessaire que jamais de redire notre conviction que les moyens humains et matériels existent pour surmonter les difficultés présentes et assurer à tous une vie décente.

C'est une question de lucidité et de volonté.

Est-il une cause plus grande que la construction d'un monde capable de nourrir tous les hommes?

C'est, en tout cas, la ferme ambition de la FAO de la défendre de toutes ses forces, avec la certitude que les événements actuels rendent son rôle et son action plus indispensables que jamais.

Je souhaite vivement que, dans les jours à venir, vous puissiez aboutir, dans l'esprit de coopération et de consensus qui vous caractérisent, à des décisions concrètes, à la mesure du défi qui nous est lancé.

Pour atteindre ce but, le Secrétariat de votre Organisation sera toujours à votre disposition.

Excellences, Mesdames, Messieurs, c'est avec un fervent espoir que je déclare ouverte la vingtième session de la Conférence de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

INTRODUCTORY PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION

INTRODUCTION ET QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE

INTRODUCCION Y CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

1. Election du Président et des Vice-Présidents

1. Elección del Presidente y de los Vicepresidentes

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Le premier point à l'ordre du jour est l'élection du Président de la Conférence.

Conformément à l'article VII du Règlement général de l'Organisation, le Conseil a proposé pour cette haute fonction Son Excellence Monsieur Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, Ministre de l'Agriculture de l'Espagne.

La Conférence approuve-t-elle cette proposition?

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL DIRECTOR GENERAL: Tengo el honor de declarar elegido por aclamación para el puesto de Presidente de la Conferencia General de la FAO, al Excelentísimo Señor Don Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, Ministro de Agricultura de España.

Reciba, Don Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, mi más cordial felicitación.

En la última Conferencia Regional de la FAO para Europa, celebrada en Lisboa, tuvimos ocasión de apreciar su gran competencia y notable talento en la dirección de los debates.

Buen conocedor de las actividades de la Organización, está Usted bien capacitado para desempeñar esta función con brillantez.

Le felicito calurosamente por la unánime confianza que se le acaba de testimoniar.

Tenga la seguridad de que en su importante tarea, contará siempre con la más completa colaboración de la Secretaría.

Me complace invitarlo a tomar posesión de su cargo como Presidente de la Conferencia.

Mr. J. Lamo de Espinosa took the chair

M. J. Lamo de Espinosa assume la présidence

Ocupa la presidencia el Sr. J. Lamo de Espinosa

Address by Chairman of the Conference

Discours du Président de la Conférence

Discurso del Presidente de la Conferencia

El PRESIDENTE: Señor Director General, señores delegados, señoras y señores: Permítanme unas primeras palabras emocionadas en este momento, para expresar mi profundo agradecimiento a los representantes de todos los Estados Miembros de esta Organización por el honor que han tenido a bien otorgar al Reino de España, a mi país, al designarme para presidir el vigésimo período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO.

Soy consciente de la enorme responsabilidad que asumo, que acabo de asumir, al intentar encauzar y dirigir nuestros debates en la forma más constructiva posible, para que esta Conferencia se inscriba, por la importancia de sus resultados, en la serie ya histórica de acontecimientos encaminados hacia la consecución de un nuevo y más justo orden internacional.

Si no albergase el convencimiento de la máxima colaboración de todos ustedes, en mi compleja tarea, difícilmente hubiera podido aceptar esta responsabilidad, aun cuando hubiera podido vencerme un sentimiento de especial gratitud hacia los diversos pueblos y naciones aquí tan dignamente representados. Creo que esta Conferencia quedará con caracteres indelebles en los anales de la FAO. En esta ocasión tendremos el alto honor de la visita de Su Santidad el Papa, Juan Pablo II. La visita de Su Santidad indudablemente ha de constituir para todos una profunda y sensible inspiración que nos sirva de guía y luz en nuestras deliberaciones para tratar de resolver los graves e importantes problemas que afectan, principalmente, a los países en desarrollo, y tratar, por todos los medios, de elevar el nivel de vida de sus pueblos y eliminar para siempre la pobreza en el mundo. Espero que la visita de Su Santidad el Papa, Juan Pablo II, nos sirva para hacernos aun más conscientes de la vigencia de los fines fundamentales bajo cuyos principios fue creada esta Organización.

Este período de sesiones, vigésimo de los ordinarios celebrados por la Organización, presenta unas características nuevas, diferentes a las que en años pasados hemos podido observar. Basta para darse cuenta de ello, leer los documentos que la Secretaría ha puesto a nuestra disposición, y que me complazco en alabar calurosamente por su contenido, profundo y exhaustivo, y su presentación cuidada y práctica como es ya habitual en el seno de la FAO.

Mi felicitación al Director General, mi querido amigo Dr. Saouma, por el trabajo muy especial que ha realizado y que nos permite abordar el temario con facilidad y con garantías de éxito. Todos ustedes conocen los esfuerzos realizados por nuestro Director General y la enorme actividad que ha desplegado en el curso de su mandato para reducir a un mínimo los gastos de tipo administrativo y del personal de la Sede y para dar un mayor énfasis a la importancia de cubrir las diversas necesidades del Programa.

Permítanme también que extienda en este momento mi felicitación a todo el personal de la FAO y a todos los que colaboran con ella, ya que todos y cada uno de ellos son imprescindibles para conseguir el fin que nos proponemos.

Señoras y señores delegados: este período de sesiones creo que nos va a situar en una posición muy especial y de grave responsabilidad; desde hoy nuestra responsabilidad ante el mundo se acrecienta. Piensen ustedes, al decidir, que las próximas generaciones tendrán el derecho a juzgarnos como nosotros juzgamos a los hombres que nos precedieron y que tuvieron capacidad de decisión en los acontecimientos de la humanidad.

No voy a abrumarles con cifras que, aunque esclarecedoras de la realidad, son conocidas de todos ustedes; llenan páginas y páginas de documentos y, sobre todo, son frías, pero deseo que escuchen una vez más las palabras hambre, malnutrición e inseguridad alimentaria; son palabras que atentan contra la dignidad humana; el hambre, la malnutrición y la inseguridad alimentaria degradan a los pueblos que las padecen, pero envilecen al que las provoca.

Es una realidad palpable que las circunstancias mundiales son muy distintas en este período de sesiones de lo que lo fueron en sesiones o períodos pasados. Hemos de adaptarnos a una nueva forma de vida y hemos de adoptar una escala de valores que potencien más nuestra condición humana. Seamos conscientes de ello y hagamos que de nuestros debates surjan caminos por donde se pueda acceder a fórmulas que permitan que el Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional valore mejor los derechos y la dignidad humana por encima de cualquier otra condición; y esto no es casualidad que deba ser así.

El próximo bienio no se presenta menos problemático e incierto que el que ahora termina. La evolución económica general y la situación del mercado de la energía permanecerán muy ligadas durante los próximos años e influirán en el objetivo de un crecimiento económico extendido y duradero. Las perspectivas que hemos de afrontar están marcadas, entre otros factores, por la escasez y carestía de recursos energéticos, la insuficiencia alimentaria y nutricional, el cambio de los parámetros básicos en el ámbito de la pesca, la debilidad de las tasas de crecimiento, nuevas presiones inflacionistas, elevados índices de desempleo-incluso en zonas rurales-, cierta tendencia al proteccionismo y desequilibrio en los mecanismos internacionales de pagos.

El conjunto de estos factores nos obliga tal vez a reconocer que el desarrollo agrario, rural y pesquero de nuestros países continuará exigiendo nuevos y mayores esfuerzos, si cabe, por parte de los gobiernos, puesto que cada vez es mayor la evidencia de que la adecuada solución a tan amplio grupo de problemas no puede venir del empleo de métodos o prácticas tradicionales. De ahí la esperanza y el interés de las actividades de FAO, dedicadas a fortalecer la cooperación internacional para mejorar aspectos tan básicos para todo gobernante como son la seguridad alimentaria de sus pueblos y la disponibilidad de materias primas básicas para su desarrollo económico.

Pero dada la velocidad del cambio que se está produciendo en el contexto alimentario mundial, ideas, escritos, opiniones expuestas hace escasamente cinco, seis o siete años bajo un clima alimentario definido por el carácter excedentario de los países desarrollados, han sido desplazados con brusquedad inaudita por un panorama ampliamente generalizado de escaseces, de toda índole. Y si cualquier género de penuria en una sociedad puede ser grave y desembocar en crisis más o menos importantes, la de alimentos reviste un carácter más angustioso, por cuanto constituye la primera necesidad del ser humano para continuar vivo.

Cualquiera que examine con detenimiento estos diez últimos años, tanto desde una perspectiva económica, como desde la integración de la agricultura en la economía general, puede encontrar luces y sombras durante el período. En los primeros años de la década, el mundo rozó una catástrofe alimentaria cuando nuestros recursos básicos, nuestra producción de cereales y de proteínas alcanzaron su cota más baja y situaron a una buena parte de la población mundial en una dependencia casi trágicamente directa de las condiciones climatológicas.

Aquella escasez alimentaria puede reproducirse, pero hoy por razones distintas basadas tal vez en la escasez de recursos energéticos; esta Asamblea en todas y cada una de sus 20 Conferencias ha venido tratando, aunque de modo indirecto, de energía, de la energía solar y de su transformación a través de la máquina transformadora más antigua conocida: los vegetales. Porque nuestros países han ido a lo largo de los años adicionando a los recursos naturales y a la energía solar, dosis crecientes de energía fósil para obtener mejores rendimientos, más producciones y eliminar el hambre de la tierra.

Efectivamente, durante la última década el aumento de rendimientos en muchas producciones y de superficies dedicadas a la producción de alimentos, de fibras o de madera, se ha ido logrando gracias a una aplicación intensiva de energía, el empleo de cantidades crecientes de abonos nitrogenados y a la utilización de maquinaria cada vez más compleja, más sofisticada y de mayor potencia.

Pese a tales esfuerzos, no hemos sido capaces de terminar con el hambre en el mundo. Todavía hoy existen amplias regiones de la humanidad afectadas sistemáticamente por problemas de malnutrición. Resulta necesario frente a tal situación la solidaridad internacional. Por eso esta Conferencia que va a tratar sobre la agricultura en el año 2000, debe reflexionar también sobre el año próximo, sobre 1980. Me parece un ejercicio inexcusable cuando tantas incertidumbres se ciernen sobre el 80 y sobre los años más inmediatos.

Desde que Malthus lanzó su alerta sobre el riesgo de un crecimiento demográfico superior a las posibilidades alimentarias, el malthusianismo no ha tenido éxito, porque la inteligencia del ser humano, sus capacidades y su permanente innovación tecnológica han hecho que nuestros recursos alimentarios crecieran globalmente, casi a la par que las tasas demográficas. Pero yo me pregunto si hoy, en presencia de un nuevo malthusianismo producido por la escasez de energía, no debemos reorientar nuestras economías agrarias y adaptarlas a un menor consumo energético.

Es evidente que bajo un suministro de energía cada vez más escaso y en su consecuencia más caro, los problemas de múltiples economías se van a ver agravados y se impone meditación profunda para estimar cuáles son sus consecuencias y encontrar las soluciones precisas. Pero esas soluciones deben encontrarse entre los países productores y consumidores de petróleo con respecto a su definitiva solución, porque las soluciones, que pueden imaginarse, para hacer frente a esta delicada situación en ningún caso son soluciones inmediatas.

Las mejoras genéticas de variedades deberán replantearse sobre otras hipótesis, concretamente sobre un menor grado de reconstitución de la fertilidad de los suelos. Volver a una economía agraria con menos elementos modernos y mayores aprovechamientos de los recursos naturales renovables, se impone en el futuro. La ganadería no será ya sólo un vehículo de producción de carne o leche, sino también un medio de aportación de fertilizantes naturales al suelo. La transformación de secano en regadíos no será una conveniencia económica, sino una necesidad alimentaria e imperativa para conservar los niveles de producción al menos en sus términos actuales. Y la pesca deberá replantearse más como una actividad reproductiva y biológica que como una simple acción extractiva y depredadora.

Revolucionar, pues, nuestra capacidad tecnológica en la rama de la alimentación es patente, al menos mientras que el espectro de Malthus nos persiga. Y no sólo por incidir sobre la fertilidad de unos suelos que declinan, sino también para lograr el aprovechamiento de unos productos agrarios y pesqueros de los que se pierden mundialmente cerca del 15 al 20 por ciento por plagas, por enfermedades, por no ser tratados industrialmente o por su circulación a través de inadecuados o poco eficientes canales de comercialización.

Por todo ello, la política alimentaria está siendo controvertida por los acontecimientos productivos y en consecuencia no cabe duda que la política de producción de alimentos tendrá que construirse en el futuro sobre una nueva definición; tal definición no puede ser otra que un sistema agro-alimentario integrado, una atención creciente de todos los gobiernos hacia los agricultores y un cuidado exquisito para que la distribución de las cargas de la actual crisis económica entre sectores y entre regiones no golpee más duramente a nuestros agricultores o a nuestros pescadores.

Señores y señores delegados: La oferta es hoy escasa pese a la tecnología aplicada. Y cualquiera que sean las previsiones o los datos que uno utilice respecto a la evolución de la situación alimentaria, es obvio que el incremento de las necesidades alimentarias en los países en desarrollo será considerable, y que su cuantía estará determinada fundamentalmente por un crecimiento demográfico que se puede calcular con cierto grado de seguridad para el próximo decenio. Porque naturalmente la crisis de alimentos sólo cobra su verdadera dimensión a la luz de las magnitudes demográficas del mundo. La población se ha duplicado desde el año 40 hasta hoy y se volverá a duplicar en el transcurso de nuestra vida. Este crecimiento demográfico exige cada vez mayores producciones, que deben ser medidas en forma de calorías, proteínas y no en forma de productos, como hasta ahora hemos venido haciendo.

En la consecución de una nueva solidaridad entre las naciones está la clave del futuro del hombre.

Los estudios presentados por la FAO a esta Conferencia nos dicen que para finales del siglo habrá que alimentar más de 6 000 millones de personas y que la brecha entre el consumo de calorías y proteínas de los países desarrollados y aquellos otros en fase de desarrollo sigue abierta, perjudicando ampliamente la nutrición infantil. Se comprende, pues, la urgente internacionalización de los problemas alimentarios desde la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación celebrada en 1974.

Hace muy pocos días, semanas, la Academia Sueca concedió el Premio Nobel de Economía a dos hombres comprometidos con la pobreza y con las economías subdesarrolladas y el papel de las mismas en la agricultura. Tal vez con esa concesión la Academia Sueca, probablemente, nos ha querido llamar a todos la atención sobre un hecho y es que el modelo económico construido a partir de la terminación de la Segunda Guerra Mundial no es suficiente. No da respuesta a un sinnúmero de problemas económicos y sociales que se plantean entre nuestros pueblos. Y si tales problemas no pueden ser resueltos en una armonía internacional creciente, tampoco los problemas políticos podrán tener solución y quizás pongamos en peligro las libertades y derechos por cuya defensa todos nuestros países, todos nuestros pueblos luchan.

Durante los próximos días esta Conferencia Mundial de la Agricultura y la Alimentación meditará estas cuestiones. Pongamos nuestros relojes en el punto y hora en que nos encontramos. Pero yo quisiera pedir aquí a todos ustedes, como delegados de las distintas naciones del mundo que integran la gran familia de las Naciones Unidas, a todos ustedes, Ministros de Agricultura del mundo entero preocupados por la alimentación de sus ciudadanos, pero preocupados también por el porvenir de sus agricultores y en definitiva por el porvenir de la humanidad, que no olviden en ningún momento el reto con el que iniciamos la década del 80.

Señoras y señores delegados: Tenemos ante nosotros un temario extenso, tenemos una documentación profunda e inteligentemente preparada, tenemos tiempo y tenemos voluntad para realizar nuestro trabajo. Hagámoslo pensando en la palabra solidaridad. Un escritor español dijo que la poesía no era "ni marmol duro y eterno, ni música, ni cultura, sino palabra en el tiempo". Dejemos grabada en el tiempo la palabra solidaridad como fruto de nuestros trabajos en este período de sesiones.

Los temas que vamos a debatir son de gran trascendencia para el futuro del hombre y como tema de trascendencia humana debemos afrontarlo con humanidad. Utilizaremos palabras y conceptos que van cargados de contenido humano: hambre, malnutrición, ayuda alimentaria, desertización, reserva alimentaria internacional de emergencia, proteccionismo, conservación de reservas marinas. Ustedes las conocen perfectamente. Se han ido infiltrando y extendiendo cada vez más peligrosamente en nuestros documentos de trabajo como reflejo de una situación económica internacional injusta. Los sentimos a nuestro alrededor porque tienen el derecho de estar presentes mientras no se elimine la pobreza y la injusticia de nuestro Planeta.

Pero si somos capaces de anteponer el principio de solidaridad internacional a los egoísmos nacionales en lo que es más básico para el ser humano-su alimentación-estoy convencido de que el hombre conseguirá triunfar sobre el hambre.

Muchas gracias a todos, señoras y señores.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Solicita la palabra en este momento, en primer lugar el Sr. Ramadhar, Presidente del Grupo de los 77.

RAMADHAR (Chairman, Group of 77): On behalf of the Group of 77 I would like to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this Conference. Your unanimous election is a testimony to your ability and competence to guide the deliberations of this Conference which has got many important items before it. We are sure that under your chairmanship this Conference will come to constructive and fruitful conclusions on a number of issues.

In your speech you have outlined some very important and basic issues concerning the global food and agricultural situation. I am sure that your statement will put the deliberations of this conference in proper perspective and will serve as a backcloth for the same.

I again congratulate you on your unanimous election as the Chairman of this Conference.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias Sr. Ramadhar. Concedo la palabra al Sr. Baeyens, Embajador de Bélgica y Presidente del Grupo de países de la OCDE.

H. BAEYENS (Président du Groupe des pays de l'OCDE): Merci, Monsieur le Président, de me donner la parole, et si je puis parler au nom des pays industrialisés, je voudrais également vous adresser nos vives félicitations à l'occasion de votre élection et nos remerciements d'avoir bien voulu accepter la lourde tâche-même si c'est aussi un grand honneur-de présider la vingtième Conférence de notre Organisation.

Cette Conférence-nous en avons tous le sentiment, et vous l'avez bien souligné dans votre brillant discours d'ouverture-sera importante. Elle se tient dans un contexte mondial qui nous donne de graves préoccupations, et nous sommes certains que sous votre direction compétente et sage, la Conférence se déroulera dans les meilleures conditions et arrivera aux résultats importants que nous en attendons tous.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias a los dos representantes que acaban de intervenir por sus felicitaciones, y muchas gracias, una vez más, a todos ustedes.

Creo que debemos pasar al siguiente punto de nuestro Orden del Día relativo a la elección de los Vicepresidentes de la Conferencia.

En el párrafo primero del Artículo 8 del Reglamento General de la Organización se estipula que el Comité de Candidaturas propondrá a la Conferencia candidatos para cubrir los tres puestos de Vicepresidentes de la Conferencia, los siete Estados Miembros del Comité General de la Conferencia requeridos en virtud del párrafo 1 del Artículo 10 del mencionado reglamento general, y los nueve miembros del Comité de Credenciales tal y como se estipula en el párrafo 3 del Artículo 3 de nuestro Reglamento General.

El Comité de Candidaturas que debe formular estas propuestas fue elegido por el Consejo de FAO en su 76º periodo de sesiones celebrado del 6 al 8 de noviembre, de acuerdo con las disposiciones del párrafos, letra(b) del Artículo 24 del Reglamento General de la Organización.

Este Comité se ha reunido el jueves día 8 y el viernes día 9 de noviembre y ha formulado ya sus recomendaciones para las candidaturas que acabo de mencionar. Voy a pedir entonces al Presidente del Comité de Candidaturas, señor Pairaj Laowhaphan de Tailandia, que comunique a la Conferencia las candidaturas que propone dicho Comité. Ruego, pues, al señor Laowhaphan que pase a la tribuna.

P. LAOWHAPHAN (Chairman, Nominations Committee): It gives me great pleasure and honour to submit the nominations, in accordance with Article VII of the General Rules of the Organization. The Committee has submitted the following nominations to the Conference; first, the three vice-chairmen of the Conference in Article X, first, His Excellency Germán Bula Hoyos, the Minister of Agriculture of Colombia; secondly, Mohammad Fazil Janjua, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives of Pakistan; third, His Excellency Abdellatif Ghissassi, the Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform of Morocco.

EL PRESIDENTE: Acaban ustedes de oír las propuestas del Comité de Candidaturas por lo que respecta a los Vicepresidentes de la Conferencia. ¿Hay alguna objeción?

Al no haber ninguna objeción, declaro aprobadas estas propuestas y felicito en nombre de la Conferencia, al señor Bula Hoyos, al señor Mohammad Fazil Janjua y al señor Abdellatif Ghissassi, Representantes respectivamente de Colombia, Pakistán y Marruecos, por su elección.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

2. Appointment of General Committee and Credentials Committee
2. Constitution du Bureau et de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs
2. Nombramiento del Comité General y del Comité de Credenciales

EL PRESIDENTE: Procederemos entonces a examinar el Tema 2 del Programa Provisional, es decir, el nombramiento del Comité General y del Comité de Credenciales. Ruego al Presidente del Comité de Candidaturas que prosiga con su Informe y nos presente las propuestas relativas a la composición del Comité General.

P. LAOWHAPHAN (Chairman, Nominations Committee): The seven members elected for the General Committee, in accordance with Article X, China, Lebanon, Panama, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Senegal, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

EL PRESIDENTE: Acaban ustedes de oír las Candidaturas para los siete Estados Miembros que han de elegirse para integrar el Comité General. ¿Hay alguna objeción?

Al no haber ninguna objeción declaro que los siete Estados Miembros mencionados han sido debidamente elegidos para integrar el Comité General de la Conferencia, y les felicitamos por ello.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

Ruego nuevamente al Presidente del Comité de Candidaturas que presente las propuestas relativas al Comité de Credenciales.

P. LAOWHAPHAN (Chairman, Nominations Committee): For the nine members of the Credentials Committee, in accordance with Article III, Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Guinea, Ireland, Sudan, Thailand and Yugoslavia.

EL PRESIDENTE: Acaban ustedes de oír, señores delegados, las propuestas del Comité de Candidaturas relativas a los nueve Estados Miembros que integran el Comité de Credenciales. ¿Hay alguna objeción por parte de la Conferencia?

Al no haber ninguna objeción, declaro a estos nueve Estados Miembros debidamente elegidos para constituir el Comité de Credenciales de la Conferencia.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: (Les vice-présidents des trois Commissions et la composition comité des résolutions) Monsieur le Président, il n'appartient pas à la Commission des candidatures de proposer directement à la Conférence des candidatures pour les vice-présidences de la Commission et la composition du Comité des résolutions. Cependant, au cours de sa réunion, hier, dont le Président vient juste de faire le compte rendu, elle a fait quelques suggestions à la Conférence, pour permettre à celle-ci d'avancer rapidement dans ses travaux et, si vous êtes d'accord, Monsieur le Président, je vais vous lire les suggestions qui ont été faites par le Comité des nominations.

Pour les vice-présidences des différentes commissions de la Conférence, le Comité des nominations a fait les propositions suivantes:

- pour la Commission I, ce sera: le Hongrie, l'Indonésie, et un pays à désigner par le Groupe latino-américain. Je me suis laissé dire que ce nom me sera communiqué cet après-midi;
- pour la Commission II, les vice-présidents seront fournis par les pays suivants: l'Australie, la Sierra Leone, et l'Amérique latine ici encore désignera son candidat cet après-midi;
- pour la Commission III, ce sera: le Gabon, l'Irak et la Tunisie.

Avant de passer au Comité des résolutions, Monsieur le Président, voudriez-vous examiner ces candidatures suggérées par le Comité.

EL PRESIDENTE: Acaban ustedes de escuchar las diferencias con relación a los Vicepresidentes de las Comisiones I, II y III que nos ha hecho el Secretario General. ¿Hay alguna objeción en relación con estas propuestas?

Serán por tanto pues, los nombres que ustedes conocen ya en este momento para que las diferentes comisiones aprueben respectivamente estas Vicepresidencias. Igualmente por el Comité de Resoluciones nos ha sido leído, por el Secretario General, la relación de países integrantes. Si no hay pues ninguna observación, podríamos continuar, pero con este último punto, realmente los asuntos correspondientes a la mañana de hoy quedan resueltos. En su consecuencia tendría que hacer algunas observaciones.

El Comité General se reunirá, tan pronto como sea posible, para examinar los asuntos relativos a la organización de los trabajos de la Conferencia. Especialmente, el Comité General deberá formular propuestas a la Conferencia sobre la aprobación del Programa, la asignación de los temas del mismo a las distintas Comisiones, la admisión de Observadores y la elección de los nuevos Estados Miembros.

El Comité General tiene que presentar esta tarde, a la Sesión Plenaria de la Conferencia, sobre todos estos asuntos, a las cuatro de la tarde el informe correspondiente. Propongo, por tanto, si están ustedes conforme, suspender ahora esta primera Sesión Plenaria de la Conferencia y pedir al Comité General, es decir, a los tres Vicepresidentes de la Conferencia y a los siete Estados Miembros que acaban de ser elegidos para integrar dicho Comité, que se reúnan conmigo inmediatamente después de la clausura de esta sesión-vuelvo a repetir inmediatamente después de la clausura de esta sesión, en la Sala de Filipinas, situada en el segundo piso del edificio "C".

Por su parte, el Comité de Credenciales celebrará su primera reunión después de la clausura de la sesión de esta tarde, en la Sala del Sudán situada en el tercer piso del Edificio "B". Con esto, señoras y señoresj hemos teminado las tareas previstas en el Programa para esta mañana y se levanta la sesión; la primera sesión de esta Conferencia que se volverá a reunir esta tarde a las cuatro. Muchas gracias a todos.

The meeting rose at 11. 55 hours

La séance est levée à 11 h 55

Se levanta la sesión a las 11. 55 horas

conference

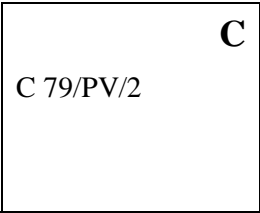
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

SECOND PLENARY MEETING
DEUXIÈME SEANCE PLENIERE
SEGUNDA SESION PLENARIA
(10 November 1979)

The Second Plenary Meeting was opened at 16. 00 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La deuxième séance plénière est ouverte à 16 heures sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la segunda sesión a las 16 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

INTRODUCTORY-PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION (continued)

INTRODUCTION ET QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE (suite)

INTRODUCCION Y CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO (continuación)

EL PRESIDENTE: Vamos a empezar la sesión de la tarde.

Señoras y señores delegados: De acuerdo con el Calendario Provisional de la Conferencia, que figura en el Apéndice A del documento 79/12/Rev. 2, los temas que han de tratarse en la sesión de esta tarde son los puntos 3, 4 y 5 respectivamente; concretamente, la Adopción del Programa, Organización del período de sesiones y asignación de los temas del programa, y Admisión de Observadores. De conformidad con los acuerdos de la Conferencia adoptados esta mañana, el Comité General ha preparado el primer informe que contiene no solamente las recomendaciones y las propuestas relativas a estos tres temas, sino también otros necesarios para la mejor organización del trabajo de la Conferencia.

Propongo que se dé lectura a este primer informe del Comité General, sección por sección, para someterlo a la consideración de la Conferencia. Ruego al Secretario General que proceda a dar lectura de la primera sección del informe.

3. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption de l'ordre du jour
3. Aprobación del programa
4. Arrangements for the Session and Allocation of Agenda Items
4. Organisation de la session et répartition des questions inscrites à l'ordre du jour
4. Organización del período de sesiones y asignación de los temas del programa
5. Admission of Observers
5. Admission d'observateurs
5. Admisión de observadores

First Report of the General Committee

Premier Rapport du Bureau

Primer informe del Comité General

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Le premier point du document porte sur: L'ordre du jour de la session. Le Bureau ayant examiné l'ordre du jour provisoire qui figure dans le document c 79/1 (Rev. 1, pour les textes chinois, espagnol et français) recommande son adoption par la Conférence.

Le Bureau appelle l'attention de la Conférence sur le fait qu'une seconde demande d'admission à la qualité de membre devra être examinée sous le point 26, à savoir la demande du Commonwealth de la Dominique. La question est exposée dans les documents C 79/14 et C 79/14 Sup. 1. Il note également que le sous-point 25. 4 intitulé "Autorisation d'emprunter", ne se justifie plus et que la soixante-seizième session du Conseil a suggéré à la Conférence un nouveau sous-point qui garderait le même numéro, mais traiterait du règlement à temps des contributions. Ce sous-point pourrait s'intituler: "Etats des contributions" et il serait dans le document C 79/LIM 7, paragraphes 81 et 82.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Hay alguna observación por parte de algún delegado con respecto a este punto primero? En caso de no haberla pasaremos al punto número 2.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Le point 2, c'est la: Constitution des Commissions de du calendrier provisoire de la session, à savoir qu'à sa soixante-quinzième session le Conseil a formulé au sujet de l'organisation de la vingtième session de la Conférence et de son calendrier provisoire des propositions qui ont été communiquées à tous les Etats Membres début août, dans le document C 79/12. Il a été prévu, et le Conseil en a été dûment informé, que la onzième conférence McDougall sera faite par S. E. M. Kenneth Kaunda, Président de la République de Zambie (document C 79/INF 9).

Le Bureau recommande en outre que la réunion officielle des observateurs des organisations non gouvernementales commence le mardi 13 novembre, dans l'après-midi.

En ce qui concerne le calendrier de la Conférence proprement dit, la soixante-seizième session du Conseil a été informée que Sa Sainteté le pape Jean-Paul II avait accepté l'invitation du Directeur général et s'adresserait à la plénière de la Conférence le lundi matin 12 novembre.

Le conseil et le Bureau recommandent donc les modifications suivantes qui figurent au document C 79/12, Rev. 2, qui a été distribué:

Le plénière du lundi matin 12 novembre commencerait à neuf heures par l'adoption du premier rapport de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs qui serait suivie par le vote sur les demandes d'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation. Suivrait une courte suspension de séance pour permettre l'accueil de Sa Sainteté le pape qui s'adresserait donc à la plénière vers 10 h 30-10 h 45, avant de s'adresser au personnel de la FAO rassemblé entre les bâtiments A et B.

La onzième conférence McDougall aurait lieu l'après-midi du lundi vers 15 h 15 et serait suivie par la cérémonie d'admission des nouveaux membres.

Le mardi matin 13 novembre, une courte cérémonie serait prévue dans le hall d'entrée du bâtiment A pour l'inauguration des plaques de marbre portant les textes arabe et chinois du Préambule de la Constitution, suivie d'une levée des couleurs des Etats nouvellement admis.

La plénière débiterait vers 10 h 15 par la remise des prix B. R. Sen et A. B. Boerma pour 1978-79. Le Directeur général ferait alors sa déclaration d'ouverture à la Conférence. Le débat général proprement dit débiterait l'après-midi de mardi, avec une déclaration du Président indépendant du Conseil, suivie de celles des orateurs inscrits.

L'attention de la Conférence est appelée sur le fait que, pour pouvoir donner aux ministres qui ne seront à Rome que durant les premiers jours de la Conférence, le temps de parole qu'ils ont demandé, il sera peut-être nécessaire de prolonger ce jour-là le débat général jusqu'à 13 heures le matin et 18 h 30 l'après-midi, étant entendu que les réunions du matin et de l'après-midi devront commencer rigoureusement à l'heure, et il est à espérer que, de cette façon, tous les orateurs inscrits, en particulier pour le mardi 13 et le mercredi 14 novembre, seront à même d'intervenir. Si cela s'avérait impossible, une séance additionnelle est prévue pour un soir, et le Bureau recommande que, dans ce cas, cela soit non pas le mardi mais le mercredi 14, à partir de 21 heures.

Le Bureau recommande donc à l'approbation de la Conférence le calendrier provisoire proposé par le Conseil, compte tenu des modifications ci-dessus.

El PRESIDENTE: ¿Hay alguna observación con relación a este punto número 2? Pasamos, entonces, a la cuestión número 3.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Le point 3 concerne la: Nomination des présidents et vice-présidents des trois commissions.

En application des Articles VII-1 et XXIV-5(b) du Règlement général de l'Organisation, et comme il est indiqué dans le document C 79/LIM/17, le Conseil, à sa soixante-quinzième session, a proposé les candidatures suivantes à la présidence des commissions:

- Commission I : Mohamed Sidki Zehni (Libye)
- Commission II : M. S. Swaminathan (Inde)
- Commission III : M. Mauria (Finlande)

Le Bureau recommande en outre à la Conférence de répartir comme suit la vice-présidence des trois commissions précitées:

- Commission I : Hongrie, Indonésie, Amérique latine (un pays à désigner)
- Commission II : Australie, Sierra Leone, Amérique latine (un pays à désigner)
- Commission III : Gabon, Irak

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Hay alguna observación?Puede usted continuar, señor Secretario General.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Le point suivant concerne la:Désignation du Rapporteur de la Planiere à la Commission I (C 79/LIM/17). On se souviendra que, à propos de l'organisation de la Conférence, le Conseil a recommandé que celle-ci désigne, sur proposition du Bureau, comme elle l'a fait depuis sa quinzième session, un Rapporteur de la Conférence plénière à la Commission I, chargé de signaler à la Commission les points saillants des exposés généraux des ministres et des chefs de délégation.

Sur proposition de la soixante-seizième session du Conseil, le Bureau recommande à la Conférence de désigner pour cette fonction M. Horatio Mends (Ghana), représentant permanent du Ghana auprès de la FAO.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Hay alguna observación con este punto del orden del día?Puede usted continuar, señor Secretario General.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Le point concerne le:Comité des résolutions de la Conférence. Le Conseil, à sa soixante-cinquième session, a recommandé la création d'un Comité des résolutions de la Conférence composé de sept membres, à raison d'un membre par région de la FAO. Son mandat est décrit dans le document C 79/12-Rev. 2-Annexe D, ainsi que les critères devant présider à la formulation des résolutions.

Le Bureau recommande que la Conférence fasse siennes les propositions du Conseil et que les Etats Membres suivants, identifiés par la région à laquelle ils appartiennent, siègent à ce comité:

Afrique	:	Tunisie
Asie et Extrême-Orient	:	Philippines
Europe	:	France
Amérique latine	:	Mexique
Proche-Orient	:	Jordanie
Amérique du Nord	:	Canada
Pacifique du Sud-Ouest	:	Australie

Les délégations des pays concernés sont priées de communiquer aussitôt que possible au Président de la Conférence le nom du membre de leur délégation désigné pour siéger au Comité des résolutions. Le Bureau recommande en outre que le Comité des résolutions soit présidé par le Président en exercice du Comité du programme, afin de bénéficier pleinement de l'expérience de ce dernier. Cela avait été fait par le passé et a été vivement recommandé lors de la réunion privée des chefs de délégation membres du Conseil lors de la session du Conseil de juin 1979.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Alguna observación, alguna indicación sobre este punto?Si no hay ninguna observación podemos continuar.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Le point suivant concerne l'Admission d'observateurs de pays ayant demandé à devenir Membre de l'Organisation (C 79/14 et C 79/14-Sup. 1). Selon la coutume, le Directeur général a provisoirement invité les pays ayant demandé à être admis à la qualité de membre à se faire représenter par des observateurs jusqu'à ce qu'il ait été statué sur leur demande. La Conférence voudra certainement confirmer ces invitations.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Alguna observación con relación a este punto? Como parece que no hay observaciones podemos pasar al punto siguiente.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Le point suivant concerne l'admission de nouveaux membres.

Conformément aux dispositions de l'Article XIX du Règlement général de l'Organisation, les deux Etats ci-dessous ont fait parvenir avant la date limite du 11 octobre 1979 une demande d'admission à la qualité de Membre:

- Dominique
- Samoa

Aux termes de l'Article II de l'Acte constitutif, la Conférence peut, à la majorité des deux tiers des suffrages exprimés, décider au scrutin secret d'admettre de nouveaux membres à l'Organisation (par "suffrages exprimés", on entend les votes pour et contre, à l'exclusion des abstentions ou bulletins nuls-RGO Article XII-4(a)). L'admission d'un nouveau membre prend effet à compter du jour où la Conférence a approuvé la demande.

Il appartient maintenant à la Conférence d'envisager l'adoption de la proposition du Conseil tendant à tenir le vote pour l'admission des Etats susmentionnés à la séance plénière de la matinée du lundi 12 novembre.

Les résultats du vote seront annoncés à la séance de l'après-midi du même jour, et la cérémonie de l'installation des nouveaux membres aura lieu aussitôt après. Comme d'habitude, le Président souhaitera la bienvenue aux nouveaux membres et pourra prononcer un bref remerciement. Pour gagner du temps, le Bureau recommande qu'un seul pays parle au nom de chaque région, et qu'il félicite dans une seule brève intervention les nouveaux membres, ou celui auquel il tient particulièrement à souhaiter la bienvenue. Au cas où un discours pouvant donner lieu à une controverse serait prononcé, et au cas où une délégation serait critiquée en raison des politiques qu'applique son gouvernement, le Bureau recommande que, pour éviter tout retard et permettre à la Conférence de s'en tenir au calendrier très chargé de la journée, le Président ne donne la parole qu'à un orateur contre et un pour.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Alguna observación sobre este punto? Continuamos con el punto siguiente.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Conformément à l'article 5. 8 du Règlement financier, la Conférence fixe le montant de la contribution des Etats Membres nouvellement admis; celle-ci est due à partir du début du trimestre au cours duquel la demande d'admission a été acceptée.

Les rapports des soixante-quinzième et soixante-seizième sessions du Conseil indiquent que, conformément aux principes et aux usages établis, la contribution due pour le dernier trimestre de 1979 par la Dominique et le Samoa s'élèverait à 2 600 dollars dans chaque cas, ce qui correspond à la quote-part minimum. Sur les mêmes bases, l'avance à verser par chacun au Fonds de roulement serait de 650 dollars.

Le Bureau recommande à la Conférence d'approuver les chiffres ci-dessous.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Observaciones en este punto número 8? Si no hay observaciones pasamos entonces al punto 9.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Participation de mouvements de libération: Conformément à la suggestion formulée par le Conseil à sa soixante-quinzième session, des observateurs de l'Organisation de libération de la Palestine et des mouvements de libération africains reconnus par l'OUA ont été invités à prendre part à 1^a Conférence. La Conférence tiendra certainement à confirmer ces invitations.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Observaciones a este punto de la Sección número 9?Pasamos entonces al punto 10.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Admission d'observateurs d'organisations intergouvernementales et d'organisations internationales non gouvernementales(C 79/13-Rev. 1). La liste des organisations intergouvernementales et des organisations internationales non gouvernementales que le Directeur général a invitées à se faire représenter par des observateurs à la présente session de la Conférence figure au document C 79/12-Rev. 1. Les invitations adressées à des organisations intergouvernementales avec lesquelles la FAO n'a pas conclu d'accords officiels et à des organisations internationales non gouvernementales non dotées du statut consultatif auprès de la FAO sont faites à titre provisoire, sous réserve de l'approbation de la Conférence. Le Bureau a pris note du fait que depuis la publication du document précité, le Directeur général avait envoyé une invitation provisoire au Centre de développement rural intégré pour l'Asie et le Pacifique.

Le Bureau ayant étudié la liste des organisations figurant au document C 79/13-Rév. 1, avec l'addition de CIRDAP, recommande à la Conférence de confirmer ces invitations provisoires.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Hay observaciones a este punto por parte de alguna delegación?Pasamos entonces al punto siguiente.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Réunion officieuse des observateurs d'organisations non gouvernementales (C 79/LIM/17)Le Conseil a recommandé que, comme lors des sessions précédentes de la Conférence, des observateurs des organisations non gouvernementales soient invités à assister à une réunion officieuse, afin que leurs avis et suggestions concernant les activités et programmes de l'Organisation puissent être communiqués à la Conférence. Il a maintenant été suggéré que cette réunion ait lieu dans l'après-midi du mardi 13 novembre. Le Conseil, à sa soixante-seizième session, a désigné le Dr V. Harnaj, Président de la Fédération internationale des associations d'apiculture pour présider cette réunion officieuse. Le Bureau recommande que la Conférence accepte cette proposition.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Alguna observación, alguna indicación sobre esta sección?Si no hay ninguna, continuamos.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Nomination du Président indépendant du Conseil (c 79115). A la date fixée par le Conseil, c'est-à-dire le 8 septembre 1979, une seule proposition de candidature au poste de Président indépendant du Conseil avait été reçue, celle de M. Bukar Shaib (Nigéria). Cette proposition unique a été notifiée à tous les Etats Membres par lettre circulaire CF 4/3 en date du 14 septembre 1979.

Aux termes du paragraphe 1 de l'Article XXIII du Règlement général de l'Organisation, le Bureau propose que le scrutin secret prévu pour cette élection ait lieu dans la matinée du mardi 27 novembre.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Observaciones sobre este punto?Podemos continuar, entonces.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Election des membres du Conseil (c 79/11): L'Article XXII-10 du RGO dispose que la Conférence fixe, au plus tard trois jours après l'ouverture de sa session; sur recommandation du Bureau, la date de l'élection et la date limite à laquelle devront être soumises les propositions de candidature.

Le Bureau recommande:

- a) que le début des opérations de vote soit fixé au matin du lundi 26 novembre; et
- b) que les propositions de candidatures aux sièges du Conseil à pourvoir à la présente session soient communiquées au Secrétaire général de la Conférence (Bureau A-202) au plus tard le jeudi 22 novembre à 18 heures.

A ce propos, la Conférence notera en particulier les dispositions suivantes des paragraphes 3, 4, 5 et 7 de l'Article XXII du RGO:

"3. En choisissant les membres du Conseil, la Conférence s'efforce de tenir compte de l'intérêt qui s'attache à:

- a) assurer au sein de cet organisme une représentation géographique équilibrée des nations intéressées à la production, à la distribution et à la consommation des produits alimentaires et agricoles;
- b) à assurer la participation aux travaux du Conseil des Etats Membres qui contribuent dans une large mesure à la réalisation des objectifs de l'Organisation;
- c) à donner au plus grand nombre possible d'Etats Membres l'occasion, par roulement des sièges, de faire partie du Conseil.

4. Les membres du Conseil sont rééligibles.

5. Aucun Etat n'est éligible au Conseil si l'arriéré de ses contributions à l'Organisation est égal ou supérieur aux contributions dues par lui pour les deux années civiles précédentes.

7. Un membre du Conseil est considéré comme démissionnaire si l'arriéré de ses contributions à l'Organisation est égal ou supérieur aux contributions dues par lui pour les deux années civiles précédentes, ou s'il ne s'est pas fait représenter à deux sessions consécutives du Conseil. "

Tous les renseignements concernant les sièges à pourvoir figurent dans le document c 70/11. Des formules de présentation des candidatures seront distribuées ultérieurement.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Observaciones en este punto?Pasamos a la sección 14, "Derecho de voto".

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL :Droit de vote:Le Bureau note qu'en raison du montant de leurs arriérés, six Etats Membres (la Bolivie, la République centrafricaine, le Kampuchea démocratique, Grenade, le Nicaragua et Paraguay) ne peuvent participer aux scrutins de la Conférence, ainsi que le stipule l'Article III. 4 de l'Acte constitutif, qui se lit:

"4. Chaque Etat Membre ne dispose que d'une voix. Un Etat Membre en retard dans le paiement de sa contribution à l'Organisation ne peut participer aux scrutins de la Conférence si le montant de ses arriérés est égal ou supérieur à la contribution due par lui pour les deux années civiles précédentes. La Conférence peut néanmoins autoriser ce membre à voter si elle constate que le défaut de paiement est dû à des circonstances indépendantes de sa volonté. "

Ledit Article stipule donc que la Conférence peut autoriser un membre à voter si elle constate que le défaut de paiement est dû à des circonstances indépendantes de la volonté dudit Etat Membre.

Le Bureau invite le Directeur général à contacter les représentants de ces Etats aussitôt que possible, afin d'examiner avec eux leur situation et à faire rapport au Bureau, de manière que celui-ci puisse formuler des recommandations à l'intention de la Conférence.

Dans l'immédiat, le Bureau recommande toutefois à la Conférence que les six Etats Membres en cause soient autorisés à voter lundi 12 novembre au point 26 de l'ordre du jour (Demandes d'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation), étant entendu que les contacts avec eux se poursuivront d'ici là en vue du règlement de leurs arriérés, et que le Bureau réexaminera toute cette question sans tarder à la lumière des résultats obtenus.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Alguna observación?Continuamos entonces.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Droit de réponse: A ses six sessions précédentes, la Conférence avait décidé que, si un délégué désirait répondre à des critiques visant la politique de son Gouvernement, il devrait le faire de préférence dans l'après-midi du jour où ces critiques ont été exprimées, après que toutes les personnes désireuses de participer au débat auraient eu la possibilité de prendre la parole.

Le Bureau recommande qu'il en soit de même à la présente session.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Observaciones a este punto de "Derecho de respuesta"?Continuamos entonces.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Comptes rendus sténographiques: Conformément aux dispositions du Règlement de la FAO, il est établi un compte rendu sténographique de toutes les séances plénières et séances des commissions de la Conférence et le droit des délégués de vérifier l'exactitude du compte rendu de leurs interventions est expressément reconnu (RGO, Article XVIII-2) .

La correction du compte rendu peut se faire soit par rectification d'erreurs de transcription et autres, soit par amendements portant sur un mot ou une expression effectivement utilisé. En pratique, ces rectifications ou amendements ne sont acceptés que s'ils sont demandés par la délégation qui a fait l'intervention et dans les 48 heures qui suivent la distribution du compte rendu provisoire.

Lors de la session de 1959, le calendrier n'avait pas permis de donner satisfaction à tous les chefs de délégations qui avaient manifesté le désir de participer au débat général d'Ouverture et il avait été proposé à ceux qui voulaient bien accepter cette procédure de faire figurer leur déclaration dans le compte rendu sans qu'elle ait été prononcée en séance plénière. Depuis 1961, cette procédure a été officiellement adoptée par la Conférence à ses sessions.

A d'autres occasions également, le texte de déclarations que les délégués n'avaient pas prononcées en séance a été porté au compte rendu.

Bien que le Bureau n'ait pas d'objection de principe à ce que des déclarations, que le manque de temps n'a pas permis de prononcer, soient insérées dans le compte rendu, il se rend compte des difficultés qui pourraient surgir si l'on ne donne pas aux délégués la possibilité de répondre à des déclarations qui mettraient en cause la politique de leur gouvernement.

Le Bureau, en conséquence, recommande à la Conférence de continuer à autoriser l'insertion de telles déclarations, sous réserve:

- a) que la Conférence, ou la Commission intéressée, soit informée par son Président qu'une déclaration qui n'a pas été effectivement prononcée ou qu'un complément substantiel à une déclaration faite en séance est inséré dans le compte rendu;
- b) que le texte à insérer soit rédigé en anglais, français ou espagnol, c'est-à-dire dans l'une des langues utilisées dans le compte rendu sténographique;

c) que le compte rendu provisoire contenant la déclaration ajoutée soit distribué trois jours au moins avant la clôture de la session; et

d) que les délégations participant à la session aient la possibilité d'exercer leur droit de réponse en faisant, avant la clôture de la session, une intervention portant sur la déclaration ajoutée.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Observaciones sobre este punto?Pasamos entonces a la sección 17.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Déclaration des Chefs de délégation (débat général):Ayant pris note de la situation décrite plus haut, le Bureau recommande que la liste des orateurs soit publiée tous les jours dans le Journal de la Conférence dans l'ordre dans lequel le Président leur donnera la parole.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Observaciones?Pasamos al punto número 18.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Déclarations d'organisations internationales non gouvernementales jouissant du statut consultatif aux séances plénières de la Conférence. Conformément au paragraphe 3 de l'Article XVII du Règlement général de l'Organisation, les observateurs d'organisations internationales non gouvernementales jouissant du statut consultatif peuvent, avec l'autorisation du Bureau, prendre la parole aux séances plénières de la Conférence. L'Article X. 2(g) stipule qu'il appartient notamment au Bureau de "faire rapport à la Conférence sur toute demande présentée par une organisation internationale non gouvernementale participante de prendre la parole à une séance plénière de la session".

L'organisation suivante a fait parvenir une demande à cet effet:

- La Fédération internationale des producteurs agricoles (FIPA)

Bien que l'un des objectifs de la réunion officieuse d'observateurs d'organisations non gouvernementales, qui doit se tenir le 13 novembre, soit de permettre aux observateurs de communiquer leurs vues et suggestions à la Conférence dans un rapport écrit qui sera distribué à toutes les délégations, le Bureau recommande que la Conférence autorise cette organisation à prendre la parole en plénière, étant entendu qu'il lui sera accordé un maximum de dix minutes et qu'il ne lui sera en aucun cas accordé la priorité sur les délégués des Etats Membres.

EL PRESIDENTE:¿Hay alguna observación?Pasamos al último punto del informe.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL:Conclusions :Le Bureau recommande enfin que la Conférence confirme toutes les dispositions relatives à la session et que, sauf pour la période mentionnée plus haut (paragraphe 7), l'horaire de travail pour les séances plénières et celles des commissions soit normalement de 9 h 30 à 12 h 30 et de 14 h 30 à 17 h 30. L'ordre du jour et le calendrier de la Conférence font l'objet des documents C 79/1-Rev. 1 et C 79/12-Rev. 2 tels qu'amendés par le présent rapport.

EL PRESIDENTE:Señoras y señores delegados:Con este último punto se concluye la aprobación del primer informe que ha elaborado y emitido el Comité General que, como ya indiqué anteriormente, les será distribuido a todos ustedes el lunes por la mañana bajo la sigla C 79/LIM/14.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

EL PRESIDENTE: Esta tarde no hay más asuntos que tratar, pero antes de levantar la sesión quisiera recordar a los señores delegados y observadores algunas de las disposiciones que acabamos de convenir, que acabamos de acordar para el lunes día 12, en que tendremos una sesión compleja en cuanto a su organización

La próxima sesión se celebrará el lunes a las 9 en punto de la mañana en esta misma sala. Yo ruego a todos los delegados que tomen nota de la hora fijada con objeto de que todos estemos en nuestros puestos a las 9 en punto de la mañana ya que es esencial que los temas que vamos a tratar inicialmente queden finalizados a las 10 de la mañana en punto. El primer tema que trataremos será la aprobación del primer informe del Comité de Credenciales; a continuación procederemos inmediatamente al examen de las solicitudes presentadas para ingresar como Estado Miembro de la Organización; es decir, pasaremos a examinar el tema 26 de nuestro Programa.

Como ustedes saben, se refiere a la adopción de los nuevos países miembros, el Commonwealth de Dominica y el Estado independiente de Samoa Occidental. Pero quisiera recordar que tenemos que proseguir con la votación muy rápidamente con objeto de que podamos tenerla finalizada a las 10 de la mañana. Una vez terminada la votación, la Conferencia tendrá unos minutos de reposo, pero permaneciendo en la Sala hasta la llegada de su Santidad, el Papa Juan Pablo II. Esperamos que llegue a la Conferencia a las 10,15 aproximadamente y quisiera recordar que como la Sala de sesiones plenarias no tiene asientos suficientes para acomodar a todos los miembros de las delegaciones, los delegados que no tengan asiento en la Sala Plenaria, serán acomodados en la Sala Roja y Verde, situada en el primer piso de este edificio donde podrán seguir las intervenciones por televisión en circuito cerrado.

Una vez que su Santidad el Papa Juan Pablo II haya terminado su discurso, y después de que haya abandonado la Sala Plenaria, se suspenderá la sesión plenaria. Se volverá a reunir a las 15,15 horas para escuchar la disertación en memoria de MacDougall que estará a cargo del Excelentísimo señor Kenneth Kaunda, Presidente de Zambia.

Mástarde, a las 16,30 horas, cuatro y media, de la tarde se anunciarán los resultados de la votación sobre las solicitudes de ingreso en la Organización. Esperamos que entre ésto y las declaraciones que se hagan a continuación, utilizaremos aproximadamente una hora, y con ello se dará por terminada la sesión de la tarde.

Indicaré, si me lo permiten, muy brevemente también, el programa de actividades para el martes 13 de noviembre. A las 9.30 a. m. en el piso bajo, en el vestíbulo de entrada del Edificio A, se descubrirán dos nuevas lápidas de mármol con los textos árabes y chino del Preámbulo de nuestra Constitución. Tras este acto, se procederá a izar las banderas de los nuevos Estados Miembros. Esto se llevará a cabo, evidentemente, en la parte externa del Edificio A. A continuación, proseguiré la V Sesión Plenaria a las 10,15 horas, y el primer tema que está en el Orden del Día será la entrega de los premios Sen y Boerma. Y tras este acto, el Director General, señor Saouma, pronunciará su discurso inaugural.

Probablemente habrán ustedes observado que con el esquema que acabo de describir, desgraciadamente nos encontraremos con medio día de retraso respecto al Programa inicialmente previsto para el período que transcurre hasta el final de la tarde del martes. Por tanto, me veo obligado a recordarles que, de conformidad con lo que ha recomendado el Consejo y con lo que a su vez ha decidido el Comité Central, sería necesario que tuviéramos una Sesión Plenaria el miércoles por la noche.

No me gusta nada, como Presidente de esta Conferencia, tener que hacer esta recomendación, y ruego que me sepan disculpar en relación con este punto, pero encuentro que es absolutamente preciso. Ustedes han aprobado que dicha sesión nocturna, en el caso de llevarse a cabo, se celebre el miércoles 14 a las 21 horas, al término de mi recepción. Las declaraciones de los jefes de delegación originalmente programadas para el miércoles por la tarde deberían ser, por lo tanto, efectuadas en el mismo día. Quisiera pedir disculpas y lamentar el contratiempo que ésto pueda causar a los jefes de delegación, pero pueden tener la seguridad de que se harán todos los esfuerzos posibles para que durante el curso de los días martes y miércoles recuperemos el tiempo, haciendo de este modo innecesaria la programada sesión nocturna.

Esto, desgraciadamente, podría no ser factible, pero depende también un poco de todos nosotros en cuanto a los debates próximos. Y ésto es todo, señoras y señores. Si no hubiera ninguna observación, levantaríamos la sesión, por tanto, hasta el lunes a las nueve horas en punto de la mañana.

The meeting rose at 16,45 hours.

La séance est levée à 16 h 45.

Se levanta la sesión a las 16.45 horas.

conference

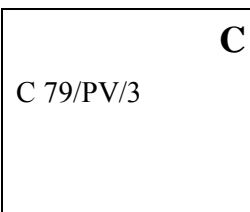
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

THIRD PLENARY MEETING
TROISIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
TERCERA SESION PLENARIA
(12 November 1979)

The Third Plenary Meeting was opened at 9. 00 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La troisième séance plénière est ouverte à 9 heures sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la tercera sesión a las 9. 00 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

EL PRESIDENTE.-Señoras y señores delegados: Vamos a iniciar la tercera sesión plenaria en la que tenemos en esta mañana, de una parte, la aprobación del primer informe del Comité de Credenciales; solicitudes de ingreso en la Organización y, de otra, la recepción a Su Santidad el Papa Juan Pablo II.

Iniciamos la sesión con el primer informe del Comité de Credenciales. Ruego al Presidente del Comité, Sr. Cámara, de Guinea, que suba a la tribuna y presente este informe.

INTRODUCTION-PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION (continued)

INTRODUCTION ET QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE (suite)

INTRODUCCION Y CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO (continuación)

First Report of Credentials Committee

Premier rapport de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs

Primer informe del Comité de Credenciales

J. S. CAMARA (Président de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs):

Monsieur le Président, j'ai l'honneur de soumettre à l'Assemblée le premier rapport.

La Commission que j'ai l'honneur de présider a tenu sa première séance le 10 novembre 1979 pour examiner les pouvoirs des délégations des Etats Membres à la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO,

La Commission a examiné les pouvoirs de quatre-vingt-dix-neuf délégations; elle a reconnu valides les pouvoirs des délégations de quatre-vingt-dix-neuf Etats Membres dont la liste sera incessamment distribuée et ou, s'il y a quelque problème, le Secrétariat est tout prêt pour lire la liste des Etats Membres qui ont déjà présenté les pouvoirs. Quarante-six pays n'ont pas encore présenté de pouvoirs. La Commission examinera au cours de ses prochaines séances les pouvoirs qui pourraient lui parvenir, ainsi que ceux des représentants des Institutions spécialisées des Nations Unies et des observateurs d'autres organisations intergouvernementales et non gouvernementales. Je rendrai compte en temps utile du résultat de cet examen.

Finalment, Monsieur le Président, je voudrais dire qu'un Etat Membre, l'Islam, a informé le Secrétariat qu'il ne sera pas représenté à cette session.

EL PRESIDENTE.-Este informe será distribuido esta misma mañana a todas las delegaciones con el número de documento C 79/LIM/10.

¿Hay alguna observación en relación con el informe? Si no hay ningún comentario que hacer, declaro aprobado el primer informe del Comité de Credenciales.

Adopted

Adopté

Aprobado

PART IV-APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS QUATRIEME

PARTIE-NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS

PARTE IV-NOMBRAMIENTOS Y ELECCIONES

26. Applications for Membership in the Organization-Dominica, Samoa

26. Demande d'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation-Dominique, Samoa

26. Solicitudes de ingreso en la Organización-Dominica, Samoa

EL PRESIDENTE.-La Conferencia debe ahora proceder a la votación sobre la admisión en calidad de Estados Miembros de la Organización de los siguientes dos países: el Commonwealth de Dominica y el Estado Independiente de Samoa Occidental.

Tengo aue recordar ahora que esta votación se rige por lo estipulado en el Artículo II, párrafo 2, de la Constitución de la FAO, que dice lo siguiente: Cito. "La Conferencia puede, por una mayoría de dos tercios de los votos emitidos y a reserva de que esté presente la mayoría de los Estados Miembros de la Organización, decidir la admisión en calidad de Miembro de la Organización de todo Estado que haya depositado una solicitud de admisión acompañada de un instrumento oficial en que se acepte las obligaciones derivadas de la Constitución vigente en el momento de la admisión. "

Ruego a la Secretaría que nos explique el procedimiento que debe seguirse para la votación.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL.-Aux fins du scrutin, les délégués recevront deux bulletins de vote, un pour chacune des demandes d'admission à la qualité de membre. Les bulletins portent trois cases, marquées: OUI, NON, ABSTENTION. Pour voter, les délégués feront une croix dans la case correspondant à leur choix. Aux termes de l'Article XII-4 (c) du RGO les bulletins blancs seront comptés comme abstention. Aux termes de l'alinéa 4 (b) de l'Article XII les bulletins de vote ne doivent porter aucune indication et aucun signe autres que ceux par lesquels s'exprime le suffrage.

EL PRESIDENTE.-De conformidad con las observaciones que acaba de hacer el Secretario de la Conferencia, y de conformidad con el Artículo II, párrafo 2 de la Constitución de la FAO, y con la disposición del Artículo XII del Reglamento, el quorum necesario para proceder a la elección, es de la mayoría de los Estados Miembros de la Organización. Esto significa que deben estar en la Sala más de 73 delegaciones. Me comunican que hay quórum, por tanto podemos proceder de modo inmediato a la votación.

Me permito recordarles que, en virtud del Reglamento, concretamente con el párrafo 14 del Artículo XII, una vez que haya comenzado la votación, ningún delegado o representante podrá interrumpir la votación, excepto para plantear una cuestión de orden relacionada con la propia votación. De conformidad con el párrafo 9 c), del Artículo XII del Reglamento General de la Organización, debo nombrar dos escrutadores de entre los delegados presentes. Ruego, por tanto, a los delegados de Austria y de Uganda que actúen como escrutadores en esta elección.

E. KANAAN (FAO Staff):Je vais procéder à l'appel des délégués qui sont priés de bien vouloir se diriger vers la zone où les isolements ont été installés, c'est-à-dire à droite du podium.

Vote

Vote

Votación

EL PRESIDENTE:La votación ha finalizado ya y a partir de este momento, los escrutadores, con ayuda de los funcionarios encargados de la elección, procederán al recuento de las papeletas de votación, y esta tarde se anunciarán los resultados de las votaciones, al final de la disertación en memoria de MacDougall. Los nuevos Estados Miembros que hayan sido admitidos a la Organización, podrán entonces ocupar oficialmente sus asientos en esta sala.

Voy a proceder entonces ahora a indicarles cómo va a continuar, a lo largo de la mañana de hoy, la sesión, y ruego por favor que escuchen con atención las precisiones sobre el desarrollo de la sesión.

Esperamos ahora la llegada de su Santidad el Papa, y antes de cerrar la sesión quisiera pedirles que permanezcan en sus asientos, en espera de la llegada de Su Santidad. Repito crue mego a todos, para el buen orden de la sesión, que permanezcan en sus asientos hasta el momento de la llegada de Su Santidad el Papa. El procedimiento será el que sigue. El Director General y yo mismo encontraremos a su Santidad el Papa a su llegada a las 10. 30 frente al Edificio A, donde será presentado a algunos invitados en el vestíbulo de entrada del edificio. Su Santidad el Pana será acompañado por nosotros hacia la sala Plenaria y a las 10. 45 horas, el Director General brevemente le presentará y dará la bienvenida a nuestros distinguidos invitados. Su Santidad, más tarde, se dirigirá a la sesión plenaria, aproximadamente entre las 10. 30 horas y las 11. 30 y para entonces, yo pronunciaré unas palabras de agradecimiento.

Ruego atentamente a todos ustedes que permanezcan en sus asientos, mientras que después de los actos que acabo de indicar, el Director General acompaña a Su Santidad el Papa desde esta sala Plenaria a la tribuna que se encuentra entre los edificios A y B.

A mediodía su Santidad se dirigirá al personal de la FAO reunido entre los dos edificios, y abandonará la FAO alrededor de las 12. 30 horas, acompañado por el Director General a través del edificio A. A las 13. 00 horas, a la una, su Excelencia Kenneth Kaundar, Presidente de Zambia y su señora esposa deberán llegar en frente del edificio A.

Antes de concluir, quisiera recordar a los señores delegados que durante las próximas ceremonias será necesario el cierre de la entrada y salida de este edificio que da al edificio B. En todo caso, la entrada principal permanecerá abierta para el uso de los señores delegados y les pido que, ante cualquier problema o dificultad, recurran al Secretariado. Otra vez, les mego a todos que disculpen la insistencia en favor del buen orden de la sesión. Les pido a todos que permanezcan en sus lugares. Tan pronto como Su Santidad aparezca en la sala, el protocolo pedirá a la concurrencia de guardar absoluto silencio. Muchas gracias a todos.

ARRIVAL OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II AND WELCOME BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

ARRIVEE TE SA SAINTETE LE PAPE JEAN-PAUL II ET ALLOCUTION DE BIENVENUE DU DIRECTEUR GENERAL

LLEGADA DE SU SANTIDAD EL PAPA JUAN PABLO II Y SALUDO DE BIENVENIDA DEL DIRECTOR GENERAL

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Très Saint Père,

Ce n'est pas seulement un honneur extraordinaire, que Votre Sainteté fait à notre Organisation en venant prendre la parole, devant les responsables de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture, qui représentent ici les nations du monde à notre Conférence plénière.

La visite de Votre Sainteté constitue aussi et surtout, une inspiration pour nous tous, au moment où s'ouvrent nos travaux. Je dis bien nos travaux et non nos débats, car le but de cette Conférence est d'élaborer et d'adopter des mesures, toujours plus concrètes et plus efficaces, pour vaincre ces ennemis cruels de la vie humaine, de la paix et de la liberté, que sont la faim et la misère.

En cette matière, l'Eglise, n'a jamais négligé de promouvoir l'élévation humaine. L'Eglise, s'est toujours préoccupée des pauvres, mais sa parole s'est faite plus directe et plus insistante encore à notre époque où, dans une prise de conscience renouvelée, par cet immense événement qu'a été le deuxième Concile du Vatican, elle s'est résolument mise à l'écoute des hommes, comme à leur service.

Comment ne pas évoquer ici la grande Encyclique Populorum Progressio de votre vénéré prédécesseur Paul VI? Par les principes qu'il affirme - en particulier celui du "développement solidaire de l'humanité" -, par son analyse lucide de la situation du monde, par les propositions précises qu'il énonce ce texte correspond de très près à nos buts, à nos préoccupations, à nos activités. Nécessité des réformes, lutte contre la faim, programmation, financement international du développement, organisation plus équitable des échanges, ce sont les sujets mêmes de notre Conférence à étudier. Tous ici, quelles que soient nos croyances, nous souscrivons pleinement à l'idée que "le développement est le nouveau nom de la paix" et que tous les peuples doivent pouvoir "devenir eux-mêmes les artisans de leur destin".

C'est dans cette lumière que se situe le discours inspiré que Votre Sainteté a prononcé le 2 octobre devant l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies. Avec cette énergie qui caractérise votre pensée et votre action, vous avez insisté sur le thème fondamental des droits de la personne humaine. De la Déclaration universelle, que vous avez définie comme la "pierre angulaire des Nations Unies", vous avez rappelé qu'elle représentait l'aboutissement et comme le fruit d'innombrables souffrances. Dans toute atteinte à ces droits, vous dénoncez une forme de guerre contre l'humanité. L'accumulation des armes, l'injustice dans la répartition des biens matériels, l'inéquité dans les relations économiques vous frappent comme un monstrueux scandale. Vous affirmez que seule la coopération coordonnée de tous les pays permettra de résorber l'effrayant écart qui sépare les zones de l'opulence et les zones de la misère et de la faim. Sous votre impulsion dynamique, nous voyons se renforcer l'action concrète d'innombrables organismes de l'Eglise catholique au service du développement. Cette action va dans le même sens que la nôtre. Cette vision humaniste que vous avez proclamée à la face du monde est aussi la nôtre. Ce retentissement de toute détresse dans votre cœur, nous l'éprouvons aussi. Ce style direct et chaleureux par lequel vous renouvelez le visage que l'Eglise présente au monde, c'est aussi celui qu'à notre modeste échelle nous essayons d'imprimer à notre action en nous efforçant de briser la gangue bureaucratique et en nous attachant aux réalisations pratiques. Ce que vous affirmez avec tout le poids de votre haute autorité spirituelle, nous luttons pour le faire passer dans les faits.

"Constructeurs d'un monde nouveau" - puisque c'est ainsi que les définissait Populorum Progressio -, les délégués à notre Conférence attendent avec une attention passionnée le message que va leur adresser Votre Sainteté. Mes collaborateurs et moi-même y trouverons un puissant encouragement dans le travail que nous poursuivons jour après jour.

Très Saint Père, qu'il me soit permis d'exprimer à Votre Sainteté, en notre nom à tous, notre profonde gratitude.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Humildemente y con todo respeto ruego a Vuestra Santidad tenga a bien dirigirnos la palabra a la Asamblea.

ADDRESS BY HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II TO THE 20TH FAO CONFERENCE

ALLOCUTION DE SA SAINTETE LE PAPE JEAN-PAUL II A LA VINGTIEME SESSION DE LA CONFERENCE TE LA FAO

DISCURSO DE SU SANTIDAD EL PAPA JUAN PABLO II A LA 20ª CONFERENCIA DE LA FAO

SA SAINTETE LE PAPE JEAN-PAUL II: Monsieur le Président, Monsieur le Directeur général, Mesdames, Messieurs, ma visite chez vous prolonge en quelque sorte celle que j'ai effectuée au siège des Nations Unies à New York, comme ce fut déjà le cas pour mon prédécesseur Paul VI.

Je me réjouis de ce que l'Organisation pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture, née à Québec le 16 octobre 1945, donc peu avant l'Organisation des Nations Unies, s'inspire des mêmes critères de fond que celle-ci, comme aussi de la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme, tout en conservant dans son action l'autonomie propre à toute Organisation intergouvernementale.

Votre Organisation a une vocation universelle puisqu'elle est ouverte à l'adhésion de tous les peuples de la terre à son Acte constitutif. C'est ainsi qu'elle a vu le nombre des Etats Membres passer de quarante-deux, à l'origine, à cent quarante-six représentés à la présente Conférence générale. Elle peut donc se livrer à une action commune qui est le fruit d'une réelle convergence entre les pays du monde, quels que soient leurs systèmes économiques et leurs structures politiques.

La FAO peut se vanter d'exercer une activité spécialisée irremplaçable dans le cadre de la famille des Nations Unies. Elle est affrontée en effet au secteur que l'on peut considérer comme le plus important de l'économie mondiale, l'agriculture, qui fournit les aliments indispensables au monde et occupe cinquante pour cent de la population mondiale. C'est aussi un secteur trop longtemps maintenu à l'écart du progrès des niveaux de vie, un secteur que la rapide et profonde mutation socio-culturelle de notre temps atteint d'une manière particulièrement douloureuse, mettant à nu les injustices héritées du passé, déstabilisant hommes, familles et sociétés, accumulant les frustrations et contraignant à des migrations souvent massives et chaotiques.

Selon le préambule de votre Acte constitutif, l'objectif, qui est de libérer la famille humaine de la faim, comporte l'engagement des Etats Membres à élever le niveau de nutrition et à améliorer la situation des populations rurales en augmentant le rendement de la production et en garantissant l'efficacité de la redistribution.

Mais je voudrais relever aussi que, selon le même préambule, la FAO tend ainsi à "contribuer, par son action spécifique et collective, à l'expansion de l'économie mondiale et au bien-être général".

Elle est donc en pleine harmonie avec les Nations Unies dans le plan d'ensemble et dans les lignes fondamentales de la politique de développement et de coopération internationale selon lesquels se réalise le service de l'homme, sur la base des grands principes que j'ai longuement rappelés le 2 octobre dernier devant l'Organisation des Nations Unies.

Ici aussi, nous nous rencontrons "au nom de l'homme pris dans son intégralité, dans la plénitude et la richesse multiforme de son existence spirituelle et matérielle" (Discours aux Nations Unies, n. 5).

C'est avec une particulière satisfaction que je viens établir ce contact direct avec la FAO. J'ai accepté l'invitation à parler devant la vingtième Conférence générale, en cette année qui marque le trentième anniversaire de la décision prise le 28 novembre 1949 de transférer la FAO de son siège provisoire de Washington à ce siège définitif de Rome, décision qui a pris effet en 1951.

Ainsi se réalisait ce qui a été considéré comme un "retour aux origines romaines" de votre Organisation. Celle-ci a été en effet en quelque sorte précédée par l'Institut international de l'agriculture, fondé déjà en 1905 sous l'inspiration de David Lubin, et absorbé ensuite par la FAO. Depuis cette époque, Rome est devenue un des centres de l'agriculture mondiale, et elle trouve aujourd'hui une nouvelle importance en ce domaine, particulièrement après les décisions de la Conférence mondiale des Nations Unies sur l'alimentation du mois de novembre 1974.

Il y a ensuite une tradition de rapports particuliers entre le Saint-Siège et la FAO. Celle-ci est la première Organisation intergouvernementale avec laquelle le Saint-Siège a établi des rapports diplomatiques réguliers, inaugurés grâce à l'action prévoyante de celui qui était alors Monseigneur Montini, Substitut de la Secrétaire d'Etat. En effet, le vote unanime de la quatrième session de la Conférence de la FAO accordait au Saint-Siège, le 23 novembre 1948, ce "statut d'Observateur permanent,

unique en son genre, qui lui garantit le droit, non seulement de participer aux Conférences de l'Organisation, mais aussi aux autres domaines de son activité et d'y prendre la parole sur demande, tout en n'ayant pas le droit de vote". Une telle situation correspond parfaitement à la nature de la mission religieuse et morale de l'Eglise.

Ainsi a commencé la collaboration du Saint-Siège avec votre Organisation dont Mgr Montini se plaisait alors à relever avec satisfaction les principes moraux et humanitaires élevés qui l'inspiraient (cf. lettre du 16 septembre 1968 à M. Norris E. DODD, Directeur général de la FAO).

Tous les travaux et tous les programmes de la FAO montrent en effet avec évidence que chaque activité technique et économique, comme chaque choix politique, implique, en dernière analyse, un problème de morale et de justice.

La visite rendue à votre siège par le Pape Paul VI le 16 novembre 1970, à l'occasion du vingt-cinquième anniversaire de l'intitution de la FAO, a été un témoignage éclatant rendu au progrès croissant de ces rapports de confiance.

A ces considérations s'ajoute un autre motif:c'est avec plaisir que je vois dans la FAO un effort pour parvenir à réaliser concrètement, dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture, un aspect du programme de développement mondial économique et social. Un tel programme contribue certainement à la promotion de la paix en aidant à surmonter des tensions profondes et en donnant effectivement satisfaction aux revendications premières des peuples, revendications liées aux droits inaliénables de l'homme.

De ce point de vue, votre Organisation spécialisée se réfère plus directement aux droits économiques et sociaux reconnus dans la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme et qui ont été formulés ensuite de manière plus précise et contraignante dans le Pacte international sur les droits économiques, sociaux et culturels.

Mais le perfectionnement de la personne suppose, comme Pie XII le disait déjà dans son radio-message de Noël de l'année 1942, la réalisation concrète des conditions sociales qui constituent le bien commun de chaque communauté politique nationale comme de l'ensemble de la communauté internationale. Un tel développement collectif, organique et continu, est le présupposé indispensable pour assurer l'exercice concret des droits de l'homme, aussi bien de ceux qui ont un contenu économique que de ceux qui concernent directement les valeurs spirituelles. Un tel développement requiert cependant, pour être l'expression d'une véritable unité humaine, d'être obtenu en faisant appel à la participation libre et à la responsabilité de tous, dans le domaine public comme dans le domaine privé, au niveau intérieur comme au niveau international.

De ce point de vue, la FAO apparaît comme une expression concrète de la volonté de passer du plan des déclarations de principe à celui de l'action et des réalisations effectives, en faisant appel à la participation libre et active de tous les Etats Membres. Il faut souhaiter que la volonté politique de chacun des Etats assure à la FAO, au bénéfice de l'action commune, un concours qui ne consiste pas seulement à soutenir des projets et des opérations de développement intérieur entrepris à la demande de chaque gouvernement, et qui ne se contente pas non plus d'harmoniser des intérêts nationalistes fermés sur eux-mêmes. L'action commune qui se réalise au sein de la FAO demande une disponibilité toujours plus prompte pour assumer des engagements véritablement continus grâce auxquels chacun participe à l'action décidée d'un commun accord.

Au cours de son histoire, la FAO a acquis une structure toujours plus vaste et plus adaptée, comme le montrent ses divers programmes actuels et les documents soumis présentement à votre Conférence. Vous allez en effet devoir non seulement faire le bilan des actions accomplies ces deux dernières années, mais aussi fixer les objectifs à atteindre dans les années qui viennent et faire les choix politiques qui sont nécessaires pour cela. L'an deux mille est en effet à l'horizon de vos perspectives, avec les problèmes spécifiques qui se posent à l'agriculture pour qu'elle puisse faire face aux besoins à prévoir:augmentation accélérée de la production, nécessité de la réglementation des échanges et assistance extérieure aux pays qui en ont besoin pour assurer leur départ économique. Il s'agit donc de prendre les moyens d'assurer à tous cet avenir meilleur dans lequel les droits fondamentaux de chacun se trouveront respectés. En ce sens, votre Conférence générale actuelle peut apporter une contribution importante, pour ce qui est du domaine de votre Organisation, à la définition des objectifs urgents et des critères renouvelés qui devraient permettre de mettre en oeuvre la nouvelle stratégie internationale pour le développement au cours de la troisième décennie des Nations Unies qui s'ouvre avec les années quatre-vingt.

Mais le monde ne saurait se contenter de spéculations théoriques. La lutte contre la faim présente chaque jour davantage un visage bien précis et exige des réalisations concrètes de la part des Etats membres et de l'Organisation dans son ensemble. Cette lutte ne saurait pas davantage, d'ailleurs se satisfaire d'appels aux sentiments, de bouffées sporadiques et inefficaces d'indignation:c'est

l'honneur et la volonté louable de votre Organisation de chercher avec persévérance à définir les moyens les meilleurs et les méthodes adaptées aux conditions concrètes de chaque pays et d'en prévoir avec prudence les applications.

Il est fini, en effet, le temps des illusions où l'on croyait résoudre automatiquement les problèmes du sous-développement et des différences de croissance entre les divers pays en exportant les modèles industriels et les idéologies des pays développés.

Il est fini le temps où l'on cherchait à garantir le droit de tous à l'alimentation par des programmes d'aide réalisés grâce au don d'excédents ou à des programmes de secours d'urgence dans des cas exceptionnels.

Votre Organisation s'oriente vers une politique dans laquelle l'effort de chaque pays pour son propre développement prend la première place. Ceci comporte, certes, une exigence: pour que chacun de ceux qui en ont besoin reçoive, sans atteinte à sa dignité, l'aide internationale et les investissements convenables tout en gardant le contrôle des éléments nécessaires pour donner à l'agriculture son dynamisme propre dans le développement du pays, il faut toujours davantage dépasser les rapports purement bilatéraux pour un système multilatéral.

Un autre réajustement des critères et des modèles de développement-que les circonstances de la crise économique actuelle rendent encore plus nécessaire pour les pays pauvres, comme d'ailleurs pour les pays les plus développés-est celui qui vise à satisfaire les besoins humains réels, ceux qui sont vraiment fondamentaux. Ce sont ces besoins qui doivent dynamiser et orienter l'économie, et non les besoins artificiels, en partie provoqués et toujours augmentés par la publicité, par le jeu du marché et par les positions de force acquises dans les domaines économiques, financier, politique. Il importe de prévoir et de combattre les dangereuses conséquences sur l'homme de certaines solutions techniques et économiques, de favoriser activement sa participation libre et responsable aux choix et aux réalisations entreprises pour la croissance organique et programmée des conditions générales de sa propre communauté.

L'expérience contemporaine nous porte à reconnaître que la croissance ordonnée et continue de chaque pays, comme la garantie effective de l'exercice des droits humains fondamentaux des individus et des peuples, présupposent nécessairement le développement global et organique mondial. Et je relève avec intérêt comment, dans ce domaine, les divers programmes de coopération technique ou d'assistance lancés par votre Organisation, la promotion d'un accord international pour assurer les réserves céréalières indispensables, contribuent peu à peu à une transformation de l'économie mondiale.

Cependant, parmi tous les problèmes qui retiennent votre attention et celle du monde, le plus grave et le plus urgent est celui de la faim. Des millions de personnes sont menacées dans leur existence même; beaucoup, chaque jour, meurent parce qu'elles n'ont pas le minimum de nourriture nécessaire. Et force est bien de reconnaître, hélas, comme l'expérience actuelle le montre encore cruellement, que la faim dans le monde ne provient pas toujours uniquement de circonstances géographiques, climatiques ou agricoles défavorables, celles auxquelles vous vous efforcez de pallier peu à peu; elle provient aussi de l'homme lui-même, des déficiences de l'Organisation sociale, qui empêche l'initiative personnelle, voire de la terreur et de l'oppression de systèmes idéologiques inhumains.

La recherche du développement mondial organique que tous souhaitent demande alors que la connaissance objective des situations humaines de détresse prenne sa place dans la formation des individus et des groupes au sens de la liberté authentique et à celui de la responsabilité personnelle et collective.

Les perspectives de la formation humaine totale dépassent certes celles qui sont propres à votre Organisation. Je sais cependant que vous n'y êtes pas indifférents. Vous les favorisez pour votre part en vous efforçant de diversifier vos modèles techniques d'assistance et de développement, et de les modeler en fonction des conditions particulières non seulement physiques mais socio-culturelles de chaque pays, tenant compte ainsi des valeurs proprement humaines, et donc aussi spirituelles, des peuples.

Parmi celles-ci, les conceptions religieuses ont leur place. Elles expriment une vision de l'homme, de ses véritables besoins, du sens ultime de ses activités: "l'homme ne vit pas seulement de pain", nous enseigne l'Évangile. Nous reconnaissons par là que le développement technique, aussi nécessaire qu'il soit, n'est pas le tout de l'homme, et qu'il doit trouver sa place dans une synthèse plus vaste, pleinement humaine. C'est par là que les réalités proprement spirituelles s'imposent à votre attention. C'est dans ce domaine aussi que l'Église, qui a toujours encouragé vos efforts et qui participe efficacement pour sa part au développement harmonieux de l'homme, veut rencontrer vos efforts et collaborer avec vous pour le bien de l'humanité.

Le travail à accomplir est immense, et nul ne doit se décourager lorsque le but à atteindre semble parfois s'éloigner à la mesure même des efforts entrepris pour l'atteindre. En ce moment de l'histoire mondiale, je me réjouis de voir la FAO orienter toute son activité, dans son domaine qui est essentiel, à promouvoir la coopération internationale pour le développement. Et nous espérons tous que ce développement s'étendra, du niveau technique et économique, au progrès personnel et social de l'homme.

Ce qui ne peut se faire que si l'homme, sa dignité et ses droits sont, dès le départ, le critère actif qui inspire et oriente tous les efforts. Pour vaincre les inerties et les découragements pour créer les conditions susceptibles de renouveler la pensée et de soutenir l'action, ne perdez jamais de vue qu'il y a de l'homme, de l'homme concret, de l'homme qui souffre, de l'homme qui recèle en lui des possibilités immenses qu'il faut libérer.

J'ajoute que la somme des efforts que vous projetez, entreprenez ou encouragez pour que la terre soit "cultivée" au mieux, pour que ses richesses productives, terrestres ou marines, soient conservées et jamais gaspillées, et mieux encore pour qu'elles fructifient, en multipliant leurs potentialités sans détruire imprudemment l'équilibre naturel qui a servi de berceau à la vie de l'homme, en un mot, pour que la nature, à la fois respectée et ennoblie, atteigne son meilleur rendement au service de l'homme, tout cela rejoint, en un sens, le dessein de Dieu sur la création, que le texte inspiré de la Genèse nous décrit d'une façon archaïque mais suggestive : "Dieu fit l'homme à son image, homme et femme il les créa, emplissez la terre et soumettez-la ... Yahvé Dieu établit l'homme dans le jardin d'Eden pour cultiver et le garder" (Gn 1 , 27-28; 2, 16). Oui, la terre appartient aux hommes, à tous les hommes, sans oublier les générations qui nous succéderont demain et qui doivent la recueillir de nos mains, habitable et fructueuse. Car elle appartient d'abord à Dieu, le Créateur, le Maître Souverain, la source de la vie, qui en a fait le don aux hommes et la leur a confiée comme à de bon intendants. C'est en harmonie avec le dessein de Dieu que vous êtes appelés à travailler.

Tel est le vœu que je forme pour vous en tant que Pasteur de l'Eglise universelle. Et c'est dans cet esprit que je prie le Seigneur Tout-Puissant de bénir les efforts que vous faites pour servir la famille humaine de bénir vos personnes et tous ceux qui vous sont chers.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE. Santidad, permítame tener el privilegio de saludar a Vuestra Santidad en nombre de todas las delegaciones asistentes a este 202 período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO. Tengo que recordar que ya en otra ocasión, con motivo de la celebración del 25 aniversario de la fundación de la FAO, un Ilustrísimo y Beatísimo predecesor vuestro, el Papa Pablo VI, visitó esta Organización pronunciando unas palabras que sirvieron de inspiración y aliento para renovar la confianza de los países y de los pueblos en los fines perseguidos por la FAO.

La Iglesia desde sus comienzos ha dedicado sus mayores y mejores esfuerzos a resolver los problemas, no tan sólo espirituales, sino también materiales de los pueblos en desarrollo. Su preocupación por los que sufren ha sido, y es, constante. Siempre ha buscado el amor entre los hombres y el logro de una fraternidad universal para conseguir una sociedad y un mundo más justos y más equitativos en la distribución de las riquezas materiales.

La FAO, nuestra Organización, siempre ha luchado incansablemente por estos ideales. En el preámbulo de su Constitución se establece que los Estados que la acepten tratarán por todos los medios de elevar los niveles de nutrición y de vida de los pueblos; mejorar el rendimiento y la eficacia de la distribución de todos los alimentos y productos alimenticios agrícolas; mejorar las condiciones de la población rural y contribuir así a la expansión de la economía mundial y a liberar del hambre a la humanidad.

Las palabras que Vuestra Santidad acaba de pronunciar, y estoy seguro que expreso el sentimiento unánime de todos los delegados aquí presentes, han de servir para darnos fuerza y esperanza en el examen minucioso y en la solución de los problemas que esta Conferencia debe resolver.

Los pueblos representados en esta Conferencia en toda su diversidad, se unen en sus aspiraciones para conseguir un mundo mejor y más justo, respetando los derechos inviolables de la persona humana en todos sus aspectos.

Santidad, en nombre de todas las delegaciones del mundo entero, en nombre de todos los seres humanos que aquí representamos, que aspiran a que la alimentación sea un derecho de los pueblos, gracias por vuestra luz y por vuestras orientaciones.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

The meeting rose at 11. 15 hours

La séance est levée à 11,h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 11. 15 horas

conference

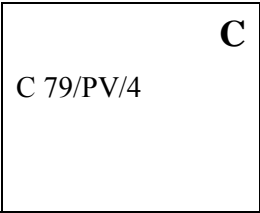
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

FOURTH PLENARY MEETING
QUATRIEME SEANCE PLENIER
CUARTA SESION PLENARIA
(12 November 1979)

The Fourth Plenary Meeting was opened at 15,30 hours, J. Jano de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La quatrième seance plénière est ouverte à 15 h 30 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la cuartasesión a las 15,30 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

ELEVENTH MCDOUGALL MEMORIAL LECTURE

ONZIEME CONFERENCE MCDOUGALL

UNDECIMA DISERTACION EN MEMORIA DE MCDOUGALL

EL PRESIDENTE: Tengo el honor de anunciar la 11ª Disertación Mundial en Memoria de McDougall que será presentada por el Excelentísimo señor Kenneth Kaunda, Presidente de Zambia. Invito al Director General, Edouard Saouma a que tome la palabra.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL : Mr. Chairman, It is a signal honour, for the Organization and for me, to have President Kaunda with us today.

As Head of State of a great African nation, President Kaunda's presence constitutes further proof, if this were needed, of support by his and other African nations for the ideals of our Organization.

It is also a unique encouragement for the efforts of all who believe in this primary importance of food and agricultural development and the role of the Organization in this.

President Kaunda, by his very life and actions, is a source of abiding inspiration.

It would be presumptuous and indeed redundant for me to spell out his history and achievements.

Suffice it only to say that in 1959, he formed the United National Independence Party of Zambia and on 24 October 1964, he became the first President of an independent Zambia.

President Kaunda is noted world-wide for his outstanding personal characteristics, combining modesty with great moral force in his commitment to bring about a socially just society, not only in his own country but in other emerging but as yet subject nations of Africa.

Zambia is not only a front-line State but, over many years, has nobly assumed the economic self-sacrifice which this involves.

President Kaunda's presence in FAO is also an encouragement to us to strengthen even further our programmes of assistance to Africa.

Whereas food production in developing countries rose, from 1970 to 1978, by an average of 3 percent per annum, in Africa it rose by half that amount.

In per capita terms, over the same period, food production in all developing countries rose by 0.6 percent, but in Africa it actually declined by 1.2 percent.

FAO has in fact formulated a regional food plan for Africa, in collaboration with the Organization for African Unity and the Economic Commission for Africa.

We have also organized the provision of massive emergency assistance for the long-standing drought and the more recent dangers of a locust plague.

At this Conference, I have proposed a long-term, wide-ranging programme for the control of animal trypanosomiasis.

We must however be guided primarily by what Member States themselves perceive to be their needs, their interests and their wishes.

It is with this in mind that the address which His Excellency President Kaunda is about to deliver will have especial importance and provide inspiration to all of us.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

K. D. KAUNDA (President of the Republic of Zambia): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Your Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates, Guests, Brothers and Sisters, I am greatly moved by your kind invitation to me to deliver this year's MacDougall Memorial Lecture. I have accepted it to associate my compatriots and myself with the global quest for social justice which the banishment of hunger and poverty implies. It is a rare privilege and a great honour for me to give this lecture in memory of Frank MacDougall whose vision and effort greatly contributed to the establishment of the Food and Agriculture Organization in 1945.

Mr. Director-General, under your able, inspiring and devoted leadership the Food and Agriculture Organization has been making every painstaking effort to uplift the plight of millions of people trapped in starvation, poverty and crippling despondency.

There are 4 billion people on the earth. 450 million of these are wretchedly poor and hunger is a daily companion. These are also the victims of malnutrition and the most vulnerable target for disease. The poor and hungry are twice as many as the total population of the United States of America. By the year 2000 AD the population of the world will have passed the 6 billion mark. It is estimated that the number of poor and hungry people will be 600 million. The majority of the hungry people are in the Third World which, by 2000 AD, will account for at least 60 percent of the total world population. They now account for 52 percent.

The majority of the Developing World countries have attained independence only in the last twenty years. Their economies are by and large still mono economies and therefore highly vulnerable. This is even more the case because they are largely agricultural, dealing in commodities that are highly perishable. Because of the lack of resources and technological know-how their agriculture is largely inefficient and ineffective. As a group they do not produce enough to feed their people and continue to be dependent on international charity.

Their attempt to break out of the vicious circles of hunger and poverty are partially frustrated by the high cost of imports from the industrialized world. Thus even the basic implements for efficient agriculture such as ploughs and tractors, pesticides and others are generally beyond their means. To make ends meet they are contracting debts even where the hope of repayment is very remote. These debts are incurred to enable them to become an effective market for their creditors. This year alone the total debt of the Developing Countries owing to the Developed Countries is at least US \$300 billion. It is estimated that by 2000 AD the total outstanding and disbursed debt will be greatly in excess of US \$1 278 billion which is the estimate for 1990.

Against this situation, a crisis of expectations is sweeping through their countries. Their people are no longer prepared to wait for tomorrow to eat. They want to eat now. Their people want all the good things of life and when they can't have them ask 'why not?' So politically, the Developing Countries are in a political ferment arising mainly from the failure of their economies to develop at a faster pace than is the case now. We thus have, as an ingredient for world instability, not only 450 million hungry people but the whole Developing World which is impatient about the distribution of prosperity in the world today.

That feeling of under-dog is not without a basis. Side by side with the poverty and abject hunger of their countries, the Developed World squanders—and there is no other word for it—at least US \$400 billion in armaments annually. Side by side with their squalor the Developed World reinforces its laagers of privilege by tariff barriers. The decade which is just coming to the end was dubbed the Second Development Decade. The target of 0.7 percent of Gross National Product (GNP) set for official development assistance remains, except for one or two countries in the whole Developed World, unreachable. It is unlikely to exceed 0.35 percent by 2000 AD. The response of the Developed World to the economic crisis that has swept the world has been further cuts in aid to the Developing Countries.

Contrasted with this kaleidoscope of unrelievable poverty and hunger on the one hand and shameless prosperity on the other, are the solid achievements which Man has claimed for himself in the field of human rights. Man may still be oppressed. But he knows now that he is meant to be free. And what is more, he knows now that there is hope because the rest of the world wishes and will make him free. He may be poor and hungry and in terms of property his only fixed assets may be his teeth. But he too knows that before the law courts of many countries, before the International Court of Justice, justice will be done to him because he is a human being.

Man may be useless as an instrument of production. But he too knows that he will not be cast away in justice for that very failure because as a human being he knows that he partakes of an intrinsic divinity which sets him apart from all other creatures. So it is that through the decisions of national codes and national courts, through the precedents being set every day by the World Body, through Man's own actions and decisions, the frontiers of human rights are being expanded. The

freedoms of free association, worship regardless of colour, race or creed, equal opportunity, justice and many others have become hallmarks of our international relations. I note with pleasure that the FAO was the first UN Agency to admit the Council for Namibia to full membership of the Organization. This very fact and the Organization's leadership in the funding of the attendance of liberation movements to its conferences and meetings underlines your concern for the freedom and justice of man irrespective of where he comes from.

But freedom and human rights without food are like freeing a prisoner and then not giving him the key to get out of his cell. The 450 million people who today live in the shadow of hunger and death from malnutrition can never be free men and women, however entrenched their other freedoms may be. These freedoms are only prospects held out and not realised. Between them and the prospect lies a huge gulf of fire and they may never live to cross it to the other side. Freedom is for the living and not the dead. No man or woman can enjoy it unless he or she lives. Nature has ensured that the most intimate activity to life-breathing in and out-will continue from birth to death automatic and free. But nature has also ensured that while the urge to eat will be instinctive, its satisfaction will involve work and the use of scarce resources. We may sigh that if only our ancestor Adam had not eaten the forbidden fruit! But the reality is that nothing sweat, nothing eat.

I believe that the international community of Man appreciates fully this point that Man, goaded and persecuted by hunger, can never really be free. I believe that if it could simply be willed, all our countries would will that there be no hunger on this globe. But it cannot and in any case, an assembly of Ministers responsible for agriculture and their farmers, is hardly the platform for speculation in fiction. What alternatives are open to Man?

It seems to me that long before we tackle the business of resource transfers and others there are ideological bottlenecks which we should resolve because it is these and not the absolute level of resources which influence these very transfers. The first of these is the self-assuring conclusion on the part of those who have that because only 11% of mankind is wretchedly hungry today against an almost certainly higher figure in the past, therefore the situation is improving. The protagonists of this position invent a rosier world to excuse inaction. Let us look at the nature of eating for a moment. Food production is less an individual business now than it used to be in the past. But eating continues very much as a highly individualist activity. Someone can eat the food meant for me. But he cannot eat that food on my behalf (Applause). When a man is hungry and dying it does not help him to know that he must die so that someone else must eat his food and live. This may be the stuff out of which heroes, mothers and martyrs are made. But it is not the stuff of ordinary mortals. The elimination of hunger is therefore not something that must wait to take its time. It is an action that must be undertaken with all the urgency that Man can summon.

When a tragedy occurs, there are always two ways of responding to it. One is to do something about it. The other is to exclude oneself from being part of the solution, to draw up one's shutters, to hope that one can forget and go to sleep. Thus the innkeeper to whom Joseph went to ask for room in the inn solved the problem by shutting the door in Joseph's face and exclaiming 'No room at the inn'. That however did not stop Jesus being born and being born in the stable among the lowing sheep. In our world of today, more than at any other time, man is busiest building walls of separation from fellow Man. Just at the time when a universal ethic appears to be at its highest, the nation state, buttressed by modern technology, is also at its arrogant and defiant worst. When we had the village and then the city state, Man was more universal than he is today. He thought less in terms of his state and more in terms of Man. These nation states carried too far are going to kill Man because they blunt his sensitivity to the sufferings of the whole of mankind. I will be moved generally about the hunger of 450 million people. But I am unlikely to do anything about it unless some of those hungry people are my fellow countrymen. Fellowship in humanity has become more and more identified with a common national state. It is therefore surprising that nation states with the affluence to do something about the problem will choose to fritter away their resources on advertisements to push up the sales of this or that beverage rather than divert these very resources to the hungry and dying?

The metaphysical poet John Donne once wrote that no Man was an island and that the sufferings of another Man diminish him. That statement is as true today as it was then. The evil social and political consequences of hunger can no longer be confined to the hungry areas of the world in these days of quick mass communications. Hungry men never won a war. Even less so the men and women drifting inexorably to their end on the barge of malnutrition. But hunger breeds in men the worst form of despair and the great upheavals of this world have their origins in the despair of men. Do not expect me to have any vested interest in the peace and security of a world that is only so secure because it keeps me and my children hungry. That kind of peace is an imposition. It failed, perhaps for the thousandth time in the history of Man, to still the hungry crowds that stormed the Tuilleries in 1789, decapitated the Ancient Régime and set in train the most lethal weapon against dictatorships that has ever shaped the political history of Man. The socialism of the East as represented by Karl Marx and Engels may still be uneasy bedfellows with the Capitalism to which the American Revolution gave birth. But both these processes owe

their origin in some part to the French Revolution and to that irrational wave of anger that one day sent the Paris crowds on the march to Versailles to demand food from the beleaguered but insensitive monarchy. Those were only a few thousand people. Now there are 450 million in every year in worse circumstances than ever before.

In this greatly civilized world, success and triumph should be conceivable without the defeat and deprivation of others. We must cling to the vision of the triumph and advance of any one nation being the success of the whole of mankind. To envisage otherwise is to mistake the enemy and the battleground. The enemy to our freedom is not the hungry person. It is hunger. The battleground is not the country of starvation. It is the whole earth because the result of the defeat of one people has far-reaching consequences for humanity. In this matter of hunger, let humanity see itself as one people ranged against hunger. For so long as a section of humanity is deprived and hungry, for that long will hunger continue to lurk silently in the shadows of the banquet halls of the affluent peoples. If we have no conscience to trouble us, let us at least have the instinct of self-interest and self-preservation to prod us into exceptional effort to wipe out hunger.

My introductory remarks are really meant to make only one point, namely, that the problem of hunger is the business of the whole of humanity, and not just of those who are afflicted by it. The quality of human freedom itself depends on the resolution of this problem as does peace itself. Therefore this is not a matter to which mankind should be indifferent. It is a matter for urgent international action.

In the short term, the strategy for ensuring world food security is essentially a distribution problem. Food aid by way of switching surpluses to needy areas of the globe has played an important role in relieving hunger and malnutrition and here I would like to commend the FAO for this programme and its efficient administration of the programme. Last year alone the FAO moved approximately US 90 million of food aid from surplus to starving areas. This prompt response from the FAO must be a justification on the part of the surplus areas for more aid and not less. I congratulate the nations that have responded and call upon them and all of us to contribute to these efforts which relieve hunger.

But dependence on these massive transfers of food as the major strategy for securing world food security is not enough. Indeed it is an inadequate response. The FAO Bulletin entitled 'Food Outlook' carried the following ominous comment on the movement of food stocks:

'Imports requirements of wheat and coarse grains in 1979/89 are forecast by FAO at 169 millions tons, 11 million above last season and the largest ever. But if current transport problems in the main exporting countries are not quickly resolved, actual shipments may fall short of forecast requirements. ' There is also of course the problem of sufficient early warning to enable effective action. For we must remember that whereas it takes weeks and even months to move surpluses from one country to another, it only takes days for the human body to give in to hunger and for the spirit to wilt.

The long-term answer for world food security lies in ensuring self-sufficiency in basic foodstuffs for the Third World where the majority of the hungry people are. I want to put myself in the position of the surplus areas and to anticipate their problems in this strategy of the shift of emphasis from food aid as such to aid to develop the food resources of the Third World. For the farmer from the Developed World the food aid programme, insofar as it moves food surpluses off his national market represents an expansion of the market and a firming up of his local market. He is much happier with a government buying up his surpluses at remunerative prices, even if it is to make a gift of them to another country than with a policy of self-sufficiency for the recipients of food aid which makes it impossible for him to dispose of his surpluses. From the recipient's point of view there is also a problem. If people starve they will ask why their government cannot secure emergency food aid for them. But if it imports that food, that special section of the community called farmers and its representation in politics will blame it for policies that result in insufficient production and in the offering of national markets to foreign farmers. Food transfers that do not take into account the capacity of the local farming industry to make up the shortage certainly end up ruining the local farming industry which must be encouraged to expand, sometimes at all costs. The transfers have to continue but the dumping must not be part of the equation. But the emphasis must be on these Developing Countries becoming self-sufficient in basic production. Besides, it is not honourable to continue to depend on others to feed you. In our tradition in Zambia, we give a stranger food for the first few days. If he stays on we give him an axe and a hoe. The symbolism is that no one who is not a stranger has a right to food grown by some one else. He must grow it himself.

But food self-sufficiency for the Third World should not be the only objective of the strategy for world food security. In countable years to come most of the Developed World will run out of land and other resources. Even given its falling rate of population increase, that land will still become insufficient to support even programmes for self-sufficiency. It will also reach a point where it will become only marginally responsive to further doses of technological know-how.

If we are tempted to dismiss this claim as unrealistic let us remember that except for the fact that the Developed World brought its technical know-how and other resources to bear on the production of oil in the Arab countries, the world might never have made the atomic and nuclear age because oil has been basic to the technological advances of Man in the last century. Now, just as the fact that there are still vast oil resources in the Arab World today does not mean that there will always be these resources, it does not follow that because there is enough land to cultivate in the Developed world today, there will always be enough land. In fact we know that there won't be and that the cards will certainly be reversed unless technology is harnessed now to render the vast untapped lands of the Third World productive. We thus have, as a human race, a common interest in ensuring greatly increased production in the new areas. If the human race does not merely want to see the hunger belt move from one region to another it must devote resources, and now is the time, to the full development of the capacity of every region to provide food.

The great talk, in the wake of the oil crisis, is that nuclear energy is the strong runner as an alternative. Until only recently, the oil crisis was not a crisis of the availability of oil. It was a crisis of price. Today inflation has so eroded into profit that the issue is no longer price but the future world security of oil supplies. But although there is some realisation that reserves are running out, the world is still obsessed with price and therefore not doing enough to seek out genuine and viable alternatives. I would like to suggest to you that biological energy will prove to be the most viable alternative. Whether it is a derivative of some corn, molasses or plant, it will need land. If that should happen, how will the world secure its future unless it starts now? The world must think of the oil crisis of the uncertainty of future oil supplies and start now to seek alternatives. Those alternatives may lie as much in nuclear energy as in bio-energy and therefore agriculture.

Between now and the turn of the century agricultural production in the Third World will not make dramatic progress without exceptional effort on the part of all of us. Indeed estimates show that output in these countries will already have declined as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) from 19% in 1975 to 14% by 1990. Against this, the share of the developing countries, manufactured exports in the markets of the industrialised countries will only be around 15%. If real progress is to be made, the key factor will be the millions of farmers, large and small. So the question of their readiness to adapt to changed methods must be asked before all else. There is no point in a massive re-direction of resources to the Third World if the farmer will not-and this is sometimes used as justification for minimum effort by the Developed countries-change. I have overwhelming confidence in the commonsense of the farmer in the Third World. Indeed I go so far as to say he is no different to the farmer in the Developed World in his reactions to situations. The farmer the world-over is a realist. His politics are land, weather, the cost and availability of inputs and prices of his products. He is an eternal complainer because the grass is always greener across the fence. But he will not give up his side of the fence for anything. His ambition is to develop his land and whether it is an individual or collective farm, he wants to feel that his children and their children will somehow relate. I say that he is a chronic complainer. The measure of this talent is that he sees nothing wrong in complaining against God. He is likely to see even less wrong in complaining against his government. The farmer is not responsive to direction. The only direction that he understands is a worthwhile return for his labours and investment. It is INCENTIVES. These incentives have to include not only a high but free market price for his produce but also a very low and controlled price for his inputs. He does not want to be the man who suffers from a controlled or free market price operation. The farmer the world-over is not necessarily unresponsive to new technologies. He is suspicious of them. He has paid dearly in the past as a guinea pig. Why should he now assume that any new methods will help him? His own governments have rarely been protective to him, themselves wilting under the pressure of the high salesmanship and sometimes commissions of the Developed World. If he is in the Third World he has seen the real value of his labours fall and he himself over the years reduced to a cog in a big conveyor system that exists to pamper the politically articulate urban masses.

The task of change is the task of doing something about the condition of this farmer in the Third World even though I dare say that what I have stated above applies equally to all farmers. I know that given clear demonstration that he can benefit from change, the farmer is not a conservative. He will move faster than his political mentors. The challenge is therefore that we should all do more to motivate him than we are doing now. In this respect let me commend the results of the recent conference held under the auspices of the FAO between 12th and 20th July here in Rome on the subject of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Your recommendations and resolutions constitute in themselves, a unique charter for the peasant farmer. Never before has world opinion focussed on him and his plight so closely and intimately. It is right that this should be so because it is not resources nor machines alone but mainly Man that will change the situation.

But that Man needs the aid of resources to be productive. The most important resource is his personal improvement that comes by way of various educational programmes aimed at the farmer. But beyond that he still needs aid and that is where this organization comes in firmly. Aid comes hard to the farmer and most of it is not without strings. What aid there is, therefore, the use of that aid must be maximised.

The FAO is through its dynamic Director-General giving an impressive lead, a lead which other international organizations could well emulate, in this direction. Faced with the problem of marshalling resources for greater effectiveness you Sir, Mr. Director-General, did not only cut back on a large number of publications, posts and meetings to save money for more worthwhile ventures, but you also established out of these savings the Technical Cooperation Programme which is now making it possible for this organization to move speedily to provide emergency aid, badly needed inputs including agricultural machinery and quick disbursing pre-investment project preparation. Through the food security scheme you will now be able to assist developing countries in the formulation of national food security policies and mobilize external aid for the realisation of these policies. Your programme for the prevention of food losses is indeed a welcome action and is contributing to the total stock of available food for the entire human race. It is hoped this programme can be expanded and made even more effective. I urge you, Mr. Director-General and this organization to continue this good work. A breath of fresh air is breezing through this edifice called the FAO. Through the appointment of country representatives your work is being brought to the door, steps of the peasant of the Third World. You are the interface between the peasant and the nations that have the resources. I pray that you will continue with the momentum of urgency with which this organizations is now invested. The existence of international organizations such as this organization and other underline the need for an international action in this struggle. This required intensified common effort has not been readily forthcoming. What has been forthcoming instead, has been the strengthening of definitive economic blocks of the rich countries.

The strengthening of economic blocks and the present trade policies have resulted in locking up of resources and technologies in these countries. This situation can only change if the international community accepts absolutely inter-dependence. Developing countries require resources, science and technology to enable them to increase their food production levels. All of these exist in developed countries. The international action required must be an agreement to transfer resources from developed to developing countries. These resources should be utilised to accelerate food production in developing countries. Until it is possible for developing countries to have access to resources which abound in the developed countries, it will be very difficult indeed for the countries of the Third World to make much greater contributions to the world food situation. The efforts of the international organizations and well intentioned resolutions resulting from international conferences will continue to be frustrated.

The International Community has created mechanisms and institutions through which the transfer and equitable distribution of resources required for agriculture can be channelled. These organizations can only play their full role if the principle of equitable distribution of world resources is accepted and undertaken by all countries. It is evident from the failures of UNCTAD conferences that the human race is still far from uniting in the fight against what we in Zambia, guided by our Philosophy of Humanism, analyse as POVERTY and its off-shoots of hunger, ignorance, corruption, crime and exploitation of man by man. Yet the world would be so much happier in the end if all countries of the world produced enough to eat. The failure of these conferences is largely due to the resistance of Man to share what he has with his neighbour and the desire to hold on to and protect what one has. Not only the desire to hold and protect but also the tendency to acquire more even from those who do not have. All these weaknesses of the human race can be overcome with a conviction that we all have a right of access to the fundamental human right and that food. There should be a conviction in all of us that those who do not have, those who go hungry, must be redeemed by the same human race.

That human race is not showing that conviction in action. Since 1974 the world has been talking about a new International Economic Order, an order of justice in the economic field for all humanity. The new International Economic Order is certainly an important initiative. There is total unanimity over its early implementation in the Third World. The world needs urgently a new basis for the sharing of trade and the sharing of resources and technology among all its peoples. Such a basis is the only meaningful staging point for its war against hunger. But instead of the debate progressing forward to fruitful conclusion, that debate is now caught up, trapped, ensnared and enmeshed in the politics rather than the economics of moving forward. Meanwhile the gap between the rich and the poor countries is widening as the terms of trade between the developing poor nations and the rich industrialized ones continue in favour of the developed countries. Our under-development in the Third World is rooted in the World trade structure; the inequitable international trade arrangements are very much at the core of our poverty. No meaningful assault can be made on the poverty of the developing countries without radical overhaul of products of the developing countries and the discarding of protectionist policies by the industrialized countries are two of the most essential steps in the process leading to a New International Economic Order.

The peasants and workers of the Third World working in the coffee, tea, sisal and rubber, plantations or copper, iron, coal and tin mines are working hard, even though they can still work harder. Thus our poor development prospects are not just a matter of application but essentially a question of adverse terms of trade. The prices of manufactured goods from the rich industrialized countries increase by leaps and bounds all the time, while the prices of the primary exports of the developing countries remain static or fluctuate violently. On top of it all, we have to carry our exports

to the doorsteps of our customers at our cost and buy their goods at their doorsteps and bring them all the way to our country again at our cost. (Applause). Vital inputs in agriculture such as tractors, fertilisers and other chemicals are gradually getting beyond our reach, more so as the price of oil escalates. A tractor which was imported into Zambia five years ago at US \$5 000 now costs up to US \$15 000. Our oil import bill which was US \$20 million in 1974 is now US \$168 million. This is a very untenable situation, particularly so for countries with very scanty natural resources in the form of minerals and fertile land.

The New International Economic Order can become a reality in the not too distant future if the international community will look at the overall development of the world in a broader perspective. It is time we put greater emphasis on the long-term benefits of cooperation, whatever sacrifices that entails now, than on temporary expediency. The jungle law of the survival of the fittest spells doom for humanity. Exploitation of Man by Man at national level as well as the international level breeds violence.

I believe that no country delights in being hungry, begging or prosecuting a deliberate policy of going hungry perpetually. Each nation has some plan of some sort to be self-sufficient in basic food stuffs. However, because of the very familiar gap between aspirations and practical means to fulfil those aspirations, the plans, no matter how well intentioned and formulated, are usually frustrated with consequent disillusionment. The truth of the matter is that without adequate human and financial resources, a national food production plan cannot succeed. Developing countries lack technologies necessary to maximise their production potential. Transfer of technology which is implied in the New International Economic Order is therefore necessary to enable developing countries to step up food production.

But the agricultural development process is not a one way process with the developed countries transferring resources and the developing countries receiving them. The international policies of developing countries need to be harmonized. There should be proper direction of internal resources. Priorities must be set to reflect the importance of improving agricultural production and the quality of life of the majority of the people. When priorities have been set and internal resources properly directed, this is the stage where external resources can have a meaningful impact.

Mere transfer of adequate resources to developing countries cannot feed the hungry. Hunger can only be ended when these resources have been invested in meaningful programmes which will lead to increased food production and availability. Sometimes these resources are used to create bureaucrats and consumption oriented elites and do not reach the target group, the poor, let alone help the recipient countries to enhance their productive capacities. Clearly, if resource transfers from developed countries to developing countries do not reach the target group, mainly the small scale farmer i. e. the peasant, a century from now the status quo will still apply and the developing countries will still be talking the way we are talking today. This may please some because it perpetuates the donor-recipient situation. But it will not be in the interests of humanity. Certainly, it will put off for even longer the day when the world can talk about food trade and about world food security on an equal footing and as one people.

Developing countries need to realise that their production patterns have to be different from those in developed countries where the number of those involved in agriculture and those dependent for their livelihood on agriculture is decreasing rapidly all the time. This is not the case with developing countries where the majority of the people are peasants and their livelihood is on the land. What needs to be enhanced is the productivity of these people. If this is not done, the alternative will be a few large-scale highly mechanized farmers who can produce total national requirements. This can not eliminate hunger and malnutrition and will not raise the standard of living of the peasants as the peasants would have to buy this food, buying it with no money. Their incomes are very low and often non-existent. There is danger in that way. That way is the way by which some countries create an artificial surplus of food while the majority of the people are hungry. They cannot afford to buy the food.

This situation exists to a large extent in the world today. There are countries which are food surplus countries but where food is available to the hungry only at a very high price. The hungry cannot afford to buy this food and continue to be hungry.

Mr. Director-General, we are all aware of the negotiations that have gone on on the New International Grains Agreement and its quest for greater stability in grain prices. Unfortunately this grains negotiating conference failed to agree and adjourned indefinitely. It is with pleasure therefore that I note the Five-Point Action Plan of this Organization for the establishment of national food reserves and stocks as well as assistance to developing countries in order to make the international community better prepared today than it was when the last food crisis broke in 1973/74.

When McDougall conceived this Organization he hardly could have been aware of the many problems that would lie in the way of the fulfilment of the noble idea of food for every human being. At that time, man was groping uncertainly for peace, confident only in his ability to destroy rather than to build peace. At that time also the full dimension of the problem of hunger was yet to be known. The majority of the countries of the Third World were still colonial dependencies with no voice of their own to articulate the hunger and deprivations which they suffered. It was still a world when the few determined the destiny of the many, much more so than is the case today.

It is testimony to the enduring nature of Frank MacDougall's message to mankind that that hope of a world resurrected from hunger is still the cherished goal of mankind. But if MacDougall were to return today he would be appalled and appalled into sickness by the way mankind has misunderstood peace to mean an opportunity for the equal expansion of arms and not an opportunity for the elimination of hunger. The world may indeed experience some temporary peace in the even and equal expansion of the weapons of death by those who have the resources. But permanent peace will only be possible when, in the words of Martin Luther King Jr. "justice rolls down the mountain. "That justice implies above all else, food for every one of the people of this world. The human race may sign, and pray God that it will, many more Strategic Arms Limitation Treaties. But until it signs and implements a global Strategic Hunger Elimination Treaty that peace will continue to evade it. In this year, the International Year of the Child we as a people must rededicate ourselves to this quest for real and genuine peace. For while the horrors of war are real and terrible, let us pray that our vision does not fail and that we see in war the even more terrible horrors of hunger which are the real cause of wars here on earth.

In writing to Sir John Orr who was to become the first Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization MacDougall said, "Brother Orr, we have this day lighted such a candle, by God's grace, in Geneva, as we trust shall never be put out. "MacDougall was, of course, referring to the success which he and his associates had achieved in convincing the League of Nations of the need to associate health with agriculture. But that lighted candle is also the hope that this Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, gives to humanity. Humanity today has a vast reservoir of science and technology. Humanity today has vast tracts of land still to be cultivated.

In this common struggle I emphasize these points that if we as a human race do not banish poverty and squalor from the face of this earth it will not be for lack of means. It will be from lack of will. This Organization has the necessary expertise and leadership to ensure that the candle is lighted for the whole of humanity. I have no doubt, indeed, I know that it will respond to the challenge before us.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Antes de proceder a dirigir unas palabras al Sr. Presidente Kaunda en agradecimiento en nombre de toda la Asamblea, (quero dar la palabra al Excmo. Señor Robertson, Embajador de Australia,

R. H. ROBERTSON (Australia): Your Excellency, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, as the Ambassador of Frank MacDougall's native country it is an honour giving me particular pleasure to congratulate His Excellency the President of Zambia upon the speech he has just made. Knowing his record as his country's leader and as a Commonwealth and world statesman, it could have come as no surprise to us that he has reflected the true spirit of FAO at its founding, showing special insight and concern for the problems that so many of the Organization's Member Countries face.

Speaking immediately after the delivery of an address of such practical insight and scope one risks being invidious in choosing to underline particular points. I shall, nevertheless, choose three. In the first, Dr. Kaunda quoted the English poet John Donne as saying no man was an island and that the sufferings of another man diminished him. This surely was the spirit in which MacDougall and others brought this Organization to birth. As Dr. Kaunda went on to say, the problem of hunger is the business of the whole of humanity and not just of those who are afflicted by it.

I hope that, myself the son of a farmer, I may be permitted to endorse Dr Kaunda's view that the farmer the world over is the same in his reaction to situations. He is a realist, he is not necessarily the conservative he is often painted. Given a clear demonstration that he can benefit from change, he will seize the new opportunities and techniques that are offered to him.

The improvements over the last few years in food production in India and China, the world's most populous nations, do suggest that headway is being made in the struggle against hunger. But as has been said, there are many tens of millions of people who have to wrestle daily with, to borrow Your Excellency's words, starvation, poverty and crippling despondency. Some live in Dr. Kaunda's Continent of Africa, some live in Australia's region, Southeast Asia, which includes the graphic, tragic example of Kampuchea, and many more live in the Indian Sub-continent, in Central and South America. Not until these basic human nutritional needs are met in all the areas of the world will we be able to afford the luxury of congratulating ourselves on the progress made.

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Kaunda concluded his address by quoting a letter Frank McDougall wrote to Sir John Boyd-Orr, the Organisation's first Director-General. Another quotation from McDougall may suitably conclude my remarks: "It would argue a bankruptcy of statemanship if it should prove impossible to bring together a great unsatisfied need for highly nutritious food and the immense potential production of modern agriculture".

My country, one of the world's great producers of food, stands ready to cooperate with others in assuring that there is not the bankruptcy of statemanship of which McDougall spoke.

We firmly believe that with great effort, strong organization and the right strategy, success in our common struggle against hunger and malnutrition is attainable.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE, Sr. Presidente, Excelencia: En nombre de la Conferencia y en el mío propio deseo expresarle nuestra sincera gratitud por habernos honrado con su presencia, y por el magnífico y extraordinario discurso que hemos tenido el privilegio de escuchar.

Somos absolutamente conscientes de que en Africa, actualmente, se están desarrollando acontecimientos importantes y de que su presencia aquí, en estos momentos, constituye y representa una aportación única y excepcional para nuestra Organización.

El espíritu y la esencia de su mensaje nos han conmovido profundamente. Usted, Excelentísimo Señor, representa la voz de Africa y del mundo en desarrollo, que lucha por ennoblecer su despertar a la madurez de expresión.

Usted, Excelencia, nos ha dirigido la palabra desde una perspectiva sin paralelismo posible en la historia del mundo, en cuya formación Su Excelencia está desempeñando un papel crucial. Nosotros respondemos con sinceridad a su llamamiento en pro del humanismo y de la recuperación de una ética universal. Compartimos totalmente su sensible apreciación de los problemas que plantea el hambre en el mundo y la agricultura, y las aspiraciones de los menos privilegiados social y económicamente.

Estamos orgullosos igualmente, de poder ser testigos de que su Excelencia reconoce que nuestra Organización está cumpliendo los ideales fijados por sus padres fundadores, y que persigue los objetivos del nuevo orden económico internacional. Las metas que guían nuestras políticas en la Organización son las de conseguir una mayor seguridad alimentaria mundial, incrementar la producción agrícola en los países en desarrollo y lograr un desarrollo rural más equitativo y justo.

Tal como su Excelencia ha manifestado en forma tan persuasiva, esta Organización cuenta con la capacidad de dirección y los conocimientos técnicos y especializados necesarios para garantizar que puede encenderse la antorcha que constituye la esperanza de la FAO en pro de la humanidad.

En efecto, un nuevo hálito de aire fresco atraviesa este edificio, y estamos totalmente de acuerdo con su Excelencia en reconocer la capacidad y la eficiencia con que nuestro Director General está illevando a cabo el noble mandato que le hemos confiado.

Su disertación, Sr. Presidente, abarca toda la gama de los problemas con los que esta Conferencia tendrá que enfrentarse y resolver. Su discurso, por tanto, Excelentísimo Señor, será para nosotros la guía espiritual en todas nuestras deliberaciones. Estoy, igualmente, seguro que su disertación quedará como una fuente viva y permanente de inspiración en los anales de la FAO.

Ruego, ahora, a la Conferencia que se una a mí en la expresión de un voto de gracias, al Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente, manifestándole además, nuestros más sinceros y cordiales deseos por una larga vida, felicidad y prosperidad, tanto para él, personalmente, como para Zambia.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

INTRODUCTORY-PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION (continued)

INTRODUCTION ET QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE (suite)

INTRODUCCION Y CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO (continuación)

4. Arrangements for the Session and Allocation of Agenda Items (continued)

4. Organisation de la session et répartition des questions inscrites à l'ordre du jour (suite)

4. Organización del periodo de sesiones y asignación de los temas del programa
(continuación)

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados; quisiera informar a la Conferencia que la región de América Latina ha designado los dos vicepresidentes que le correspondían; es decir, para la primera Comisión ha quedado designado el Estado Miembro de Granada y, para la Segunda Comisión Nicaragua. Estos nombramientos completan, pues, las vicepresidencias que habíamos aprobado en la tarde de ayer.

PART IV-APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS (continued)

QUATRIEME PARTIE-NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS (suite)

PARTE IV-NOMBRAMIENTOS Y ELECTIONES (continuación)

26. Applications for Membership in the Organization-Dominica, Samoa (continued)

26. Demandes d'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation-Dominique, Samoa
(suite)

26. Solicitudes de ingreso en la Organización-Dominica, Samoa (continuación)

EL PRESIDENTE: Pasamos, entonces, de acuerdo con nuestro programa, al tema número 26 "Admisión de nuevos Estados Miembros", sobre el cual acabo de recibir el informe del resultado de la votación que celebramos esta mañana para la elección de nuevos Estados Miembros. Ruego a la Secretaría que dé lectura de los resultados de esta votación.

REPORT OF BALLOT ON ADMISSION OF MEMBERS
RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN SUR L'ADMISSION DES MEMBRES
RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION SOBRE LA ADMISION DE MIEMBROS

ADMISSION OF DOMINICA
ADMISSION DE LA DOMINIQUE
ADMISION DE DOMINICA

1. Number of ballot papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas		120	
2. Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	1	5. Majority required Majorité requise Mayoría requerida	79
3. Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	1	6. Votes for Voix pour Votos favorables	118
4. Number of votes cast Nombre de suffrages exprimés Número de votos emitidos	118	7. Votes against Voix contre Votos en contra	0

DOMINICA HAS OBTAINED THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

LA DOMINIQUE A OBTENU LA MAJORITE REQUISE

DOMINICA HA OBTENIDO LA MAYORIA REQUERIDA

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

REPORT OF BALLOT ON ADMISSION OF MEMBERS
RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN SUR L'ADMISSION DES MEMBRES
RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION SOBRE LA ADMISION DE MIEMBROS

ADMISSION OF SAMOA
ADMISSION DE SAMOA
ADMISION DE SAMOA

1. Number of ballot papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas			120
2. Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	1	5. Majority required Majorité requise Mayoría requerida	79
3. Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	1	6. Votes for Voix pour Votos favorables	118
4. Number of votes cast Nombre de suffrages exprimés Número de votos emitidos	118	7. Votes against Voix contre Votos en contra	0

SAMOA HAS OBTAINED THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

SAMOA A OBTENU LA MAJORITE REQUISE

SAMOA HA OBTENIDO LA MAYORIA REQUERIDA

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

El PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: a la vista de los resultados de la votación tengo la satisfacción, como Presidente de esta Conferencia, de declarar admitidos a los nuevos Estados Miembros y ruego, en su consecuencia, se invite a cada uno de ellos a penetrar en la sala.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

El PRESIDENTE: En nombre de la Conferencia tengo el honor y la gran satisfacción de dar mi más calurosa bienvenida a los dos nuevos Estados Miembros de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I am very happy to extend a welcome to the new Member Nations: the Commonwealth of Dominica and the Independent State of Western Samoa.

The Organization's interest in them is far from new.

After the havoc wrought by the recent Hurricane David, Dominica appealed to FAO, which provided emergency aid through the Technical Cooperation Programme.

Several projects are in operation at the moment in Samoa in cooperation with the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

The admission of these two countries to our great family will but tighten bonds that already exist.

Today's vote is a solemn confirmation of the resolve of all FAO's Member Nations to include Dominica and Samoa in their community from now on. Thank you.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Gracias Señor Director General. Voy a proceder a dar la palabra en primer lugar al delegado de Dominica, El Sr. H. Williams.

H. WILLIAMS (Dominica): Mr. Chairman, Director-General, Delegates: The Governments of the Commonwealth of Dominica wish to express their thanks to you for accepting the Commonwealth of Dominica as a Member of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

This they regard as an honour and a privilege to be cherished. They wish to express their intention to uphold the principles and high ideals on which this Organization was established. They also wish to express deep gratitude to the Director-General for the prompt and valuable assistance given us for the ravages of Hurricane David, even though Dominica was not yet a member of the Organization. This generosity demonstrates the flexibility of this Organization and the concern for suffering humanity that motivates the Director-General.

Mr. Chairman, the Government and people of the Commonwealth of Dominica wish to pledge their loyalty to this Organization and to signify their intention to serve to the best of their ability in order to strengthen the Organization in its effort to make the world a better place for present and future generations. Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, ladies and gentlemen, we thank you.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Voy a dar la palabra ahora al Delegado de Samoa, el señor A. Sala Suivai.

A. SALA SUIVAI. (Samoa) (interpretation from Samoan):, Mr. Director-General, Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, I extend to you, Mr. Chairman, warm congratulations on your election. This is an historical occasion for Samoa, and your election adds to this unique moment. Indeed, this occasion has been heightened by the presence of His Holiness Pope John Paul II. For us this has been a moment of sober pride. We recall with warm memories the visit of Pope Paul VI to our country. His Holiness' address this morning has captured for us the significance of today's occasion on our admission as a member state of this Organization.

We welcome the admission of the Commonwealth of Dominica into this Organization and extend to them warm wishes in the task we all pledge to carry out.

Mr. Chairman, I stand here today not as a symbol of my nation's role in the world but as a representative of a nation that believes in the fundamental principles of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. Our admission as a member state of this Organization reinforces this belief. It also brings to bear the past relationship that Samoa has had with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, especially in ventures it has executed. In theory and in practice this relationship testifies to the need for us to join in the global efforts of harnessing the best possible means of bringing solutions to our common problems. There should be no conditions attached to helping the hungry individual, nor should there be a limit in our quest for tangible solutions to these problems.

I am most grateful to those who were actively involved in assisting the achievement of Samoan membership in this Organization. Their efforts underscore the essence of cooperation for us all and remind us that despite our individual experiences we must work together for the betterment of mankind.

Mr. Chairman, I take this opportunity to pledge on behalf of the government and people of Samoa to take part as fully as possible in the activities of the Organization and to accept the obligations of the Constitution of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Voy a dar la palabra a continuación al señor Ramadhar, de la delegación de la India, Presidente en ejercicio del Grupo de los 77.

RAMADHAR (Chairman, Group of 77): Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Group of 77, I have the privilege of felicitating Dominica and Samoa on their admission as members of this Organization. We know that Dominica became dependent in 1978 and joined the United Nations in December 1978. Samoa has been an independent sovereign state since January 1962 and became a member of the United Nations in December 1976.

Mr. Chairman, their joining the FAO as members is a reaffirmation of the faith and confidence of developing countries in the capability of this Organization to respond to their needs and aspirations. It is further testimony to the relevance of this Organization for the member nations, particularly developing ones. We are sure, Mr. Chairman, that Dominica and Samoa will play a fruitful and constructive role as members of this Organization and will significantly contribute to make this Organization stronger and richer. I once more welcome them to this family of the nations where the focus is on the eradication of the basic problems of hunger and malnutrition.

Today we heard two distinguished speakers, His Holiness Pope Jean Paul II and His Excellency President Kaunda of Zambia. Both the distinguished speakers gave clarion call for a more vigorous and concerted effort to fight hunger and malnutrition. I am sure that Dominica and Samoa along with other member nations of this Organization will continue this with greater perseverance and determination.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Gracias al señor Ramadhar por sus palabras. Voy a proceder ahora a conceder la palabra al Excelentísimo Embajador de Cuba que dará la bienvenida a Dominica en nombre de los países del Grupo Latinoamericano.

P. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): En nombre del Grupo Latinoamericano que me honro en presidir, en el mío propio y también a nombre de mi Gobierno permítame expresar las más sentidas felicitaciones a la República de Samoa Occidental y al Commonwealth de Dominica por su ingreso en nuestra Organización.

Con el mismo, se confirma aún más la universalidad que postulan los documentos constitutivos de la FAO y el cumplimiento de los postulados formulados por la Carta de las Naciones Unidas. Dos pueblos geográficamente muy lejanos el uno del otro, pero sin embargo, muy cercanos ambos en los propósitos y objetivos de lograr un mundo más justo y de superar el subdesarrollo. Por eso, estamos seguros que su ingreso en esta Organización será una valiosa contribución a nuestra lucha para que el hambre y la miseria desaparezcan de la faz de la tierra. En particular, nuestro Grupo Latinoamericano se complace en recibir otro miembro perteneciente a nuestra Región, como es el hermano pueblo del Commonwealth de Dominica, país que como todos saben, recientemente fue azotado por el huracán David, causando daños incalculables y muchas pérdidas humanas, aspecto sobre el cual consideramos oportuno llamar la atención de todos, y en especial, agradecer la rápida reacción que, en esa ocasión, tuvo la FAO.

Finalmente, deseamos ratificarles a los nuevos Miembros que todos los países de la Región Latinoamericana estamos dispuestos a brindarles nuestra colaboración y experiencia en las labores que juntos desarrollaremos en esta Organización.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias al señor Embajador de Cuba por sus palabras y quiero conceder la palabra ahora al delegado de Reino Unido que dará la bienvenida a ambos países.

L. C. J. MARTIN (United Kingdom): I would like to welcome equally both of our new Member States and our new colleagues. They are very, very welcome amongst us, but I am sure that the representatives of Samoa will understand me if I say a special word about the Commonwealth of Dominica.

It always gives us in the United Kingdom a special pleasure when a newly independent member of the British Commonwealth takes its full and proper place in an organization such as FAO, and that is why we specially welcome the Commonwealth of Dominica today, as we know that almost immediately on becoming independent Dominica suffered a very severe hurricane and that, as has been said, FAO was one of the first organizations to come to the help of this country that was afflicted in this way. So the ties between the Commonwealth of Dominica and FAO are already very practical and very close, and this is for me an additional reason for saying how very glad we are to see the Commonwealth of Dominica in membership of FAO.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias al delegado del Reino Unido. Tiene ahora la palabra el delegado de Nueva Zelanda que desea también dar la bienvenida a los nuevos países Miembros.

D. MCINTYRE (New Zealand): On behalf of Australia, Fiji, Papua and New Guinea, and New Zealand, it is my honour and pleasure to welcome Mr. Sala Suivai and his country, Western Samoa, to FAO. We of the South Pacific nations are delighted to have another voice at this forum. In some ways our problems are unique; agriculture, fisheries, and forestry are our lifeblood in food and trade. Western Samoa has a long history and a great culture. She has been an independent nation for many years. She is amongst the leaders of the far-flung Pacific peoples, and has a very useful contribution to make in our search for answers to which we have been listening today.

It is New Zealand's honour on behalf of the members of the South Pacific Region to welcome Samoa; and we also welcome Dominica, another island country.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Gracias al delegado de Nueva Zelanda por sus palabras. Para terminar voy a dar la palabra al Excmo. Sr. Embajador de Bélgica, que hablará en nombre de los países desarrollados dando la bienvenida a los dos nuevos Estados Miembros.

H. BAEYENS (Belgique): Qu'il me soit permis, au nom de ma délégation et au nom de toutes les délégations des pays industrialisés qui souhaitent s'y joindre, de dire quelques mots de bienvenue aux délégations de Samoa et de la Dominique, au moment où ces deux nations se joignent à notre Organisation. Nous nous réjouissons vivement de cet événement. Chaque nouvelle nation qui se joint à nous souligne davantage le caractère d'universalité de la FAO; chaque nouveau membre apporte une nouvelle contribution, parfois en termes de problématique humaine ou technique, mais également en termes de participation à l'effort commun qui tend à trouver une solution aux problèmes qui sont devant nous.

Nous nous réjouissons d'avance de la collaboration fructueuse qui ne manquera pas de s'établir avec ces deux nouveaux membres. Nous félicitons chaleureusement Samoa et la Dominique pour leur élection comme membres de cette Organisation.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias a todos los que han intervenido felicitando a los dos nuevos Estados Miembros y vaya para ellos, en nombre de toda la Organización, nuestra felicitación sincera diciéndoles que constituye para todos un honor y un privilegio el tenerlos entre nosotros.

Solamente una pequeña observación sobre la sesión de mañana. A las 9. 30 horas procederemos a la ceremonia de descubrir las lápidas de mármol con los textos en árabe y en chino, en relación con nuestra Constitución. Posteriormente a este acto se procederá a izar las banderas de los nuevos Estados Miembros en el exterior del edificio A.

Si no hay ningún comentario, levanto la sesión.

The meeting rose at 17. 30 hours

La sèance est levée à 17 h 30

Se levanta la sesión a las 17. 30 horas

conference

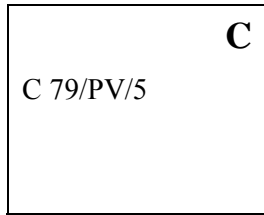
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

FIFTH PLENARY MEETING
CINQUIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
QUINTA SESION PLENARIA
(13 November 1979)

The Fifth Plenary Meeting was opened at 10. 15 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La cinquième séance plénière est ouverte à 10 h 15 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la Quinta Sesión Plenaria a las 10. 15 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

PRESENTATION OF B. R. SEN AWARDS FOR 1978 AND 1979

PRIX B. R. SEN POUR 1978 ET 1979

ENTREGA DE LOS PREMIOS B. R. SEN PARA 1978 y 1979

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Declaro abierta la Quinta Sesión Plenaria y vamos a pasar directamente a los puntos del Orden del Día, ya que tenemos durante todo el día de hoy un apretado programa de trabajo.

Dr. Sen: Estamos muy satisfechos, muy contentos todos de tenerle entre nosotros; puedo decirle que toda la Conferencia, todos nosotros, los funcionarios de la Organización observamos con profunda satisfacción que el Dr. Sen esté, como siempre, lleno de vigor y con su dedicación intacta a los ideales de la Organización. El Dr. Sen ha sido y es una fuente de inspiración y su presencia puede tener la seguridad que es para nosotros un feliz acontecimiento.

Como todos ustedes saben, los premios Sen fueron establecidos por la Conferencia hace 12 años para conmemorar el inspirado mandato del Dr. Sen como Director General de la Organización, así como la causa a la que tan brillantemente sirvió.

Yo quisiera pedir a toda la Conferencia en este momento un aplauso para el Dr. Sen aquí presente entre nosotros.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is not only a privilege but a matter of deep personal pride that Dr. Sen is present. He continues to inspire all those associated with the Organization with his profound wisdom, his disciplined energy and his selfless devotion to the ideals of FAO.

The B. R. Sen Award is an annual one. It is offered to the FAO or WFP Field Officer who has made the most outstanding contribution to the country or countries to which he was assigned. It commemorates Dr. Sen's achievements in promoting the economic and social progress of the developing world in the fight against hunger and poverty.

The B. R. Sen Award for 1978 goes jointly to Mr. Pierre Abert of France and Mr. Harald Perten of Sweden, in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the development of millet and sorghum products for industrial applications in the Sudan. The Governments of Senegal and Sudan have acknowledged their distinguished services and endorsed their selection.

The Award for 1979 goes to Mr. George H. Berg of the United States of America, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the establishment of effective plant quarantines as well as the organization and operation of specialized plant protection programmes in a number of countries in Latin America. The Governments of the countries he has served in Latin America have likewise acknowledged with appreciation the services provided by Mr. Berg.

EL PRESIDENTE: Ruego ahora a los Señores Harald Perten y Pierre Abert, así como al Sr. George H. Berg accedan a la Mesa para hacerles entrega de sus premios.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: A continuación señoras y señores delegados, les van a dirigir la palabra los ganadores del premio.

H. PERTEN (FAO Staff Member): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Dr. Sen, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am deeply honoured to have been given the B. R. Sen Award. This is especially appreciated because the FAO "Composite Flour Programme", the implementation for which I have been working since 1967, was established when Dr. Sen was Director-General.

As a Research Chemist in the Cereal Sciences I was very pleased when FAO offered to me thirteen years ago a challenging task to assist in the development of the newly-created "Composite Flour Programme" here at FAO Headquarters. A major objective of this Programme is to make better use of indigenous crops in the food supply, thus giving more employment in the rural areas. However, it was soon realized that the only way to improve on the new technologies for making bread from a wide variety of cereals, root starches, and oilseed flours, was to determine their acceptance by consumers in the field.

The research work on using millet and sorghum in bread-making was started in Senegal ten years ago where I met my young colleague-the joint winner of the B. R. Sen Award. Our team work was successful and now "Millet Bread", made from 15 per cent millet flour and 85 per cent wheat flour, has been officially introduced. This work has been continued in the Sudan, where in co-operation with our Sudanese counterparts, new technologies have been developed in a pilot plant for the processing of sorghum. In addition to the production of flours of excellent quality for making traditional foods, as well as bread, an attractive product to be used in cooking, named "Pearl Dura", has been developed through the pearling of sorghum. This product has a great potential in countries with low rainfall where only millets and sorghum are grown. These new technologies for the processing of sorghum are now ready for industrial application elsewhere.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Saouma, our Director-General, for this recognition and for his personal concern which has made it possible for our team to continue working until our objectives could be accomplished. My sincere thanks to the FAO staff who have supported us, to my counterparts in Senegal and the Sudan, and to my colleague with whom I have worked so closely for so long.

As I am retiring next year I am most happy that our research work in our host countries has been recognized in this way and that the results will continue to be applied in the future by the new generation, under the motto of our Organization: "FIAT PANIS"-"Let there be Bread".

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

P. ABERT (FAO Staff Member): Monsieur le Président, Monsieur le Directeur general, Dr. Sen, Excellences, Mesdames, Messieurs. En tant qu'employé de la FAO et en tant que français, je suis très honoré de recevoir aujourd'hui la haute distinction qui m'est conférée par le Prix B. R. Sen couronnant 10 ans d'un travail d'équipe réalisé au Sénégal et au Soudan.

Pour moi, ce Prix reçu aujourd'hui est une incitation à promouvoir tout au long de ma carrière la fabrication d'un pain de qualité adapté aux goûts régionaux en utilisant le plus possible les matières premières locales, et ainsi à apporter ma contribution à nourrir toutes les bouches affamées de par le monde.

Je voudrais remercier ici, puisque l'occasion m'en est donnée, tout le personnel FAO du siège et des différents bureaux régionaux pour leur aide apportée, ainsi que le personnel de contrepartie sénégalais et soudanais qui, par son efficacité et son enthousiasme fraternel, a permis d'arriver aux résultats obtenus.

Mes remerciements vont tout particulièrement à Monsieur Perten qui a su si bien guider notre équipe.

Encore une fois, je veux exprimer ici ma profonde gratitude pour ce prix qui vient de m'être conféré.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

G. BERG (FAO Staff Member): It is most gratifying to have this opportunity to publicly express my appreciation for having been selected as the recipient of the B. R. Sen Award for 1979, but before doing so, I briefly would like to present a few details to supplement the information already available in the Conference Document dealing with the B. R. Sen Awards for 1978-1979.

My activities in general have dealt with the establishment or strengthening of plant quarantine and plant protection programmes and services. For the information of those not completely familiar with what plant quarantine involves, it can be said that it refers to the presentation of those services, based on legally approved procedures, which are designed to prevent or retard the introduction of exotic plant pests and diseases into those countries or regions where they are not known to occur.

For example, many of us have heard of the coffee rust disease which was responsible for Sri Lanka becoming a tea producing country as a result of the destruction of its coffee plants by the concerned plant pathogen which was introduced into this country during the 1860's. This is an excellent example of what can occur when effective plant quarantine services and control measures are lacking. More recently, due to the efforts made to contain and control the coffee rust in Nicaragua, where it was first reported in November 1976, it has been possible to prevent its further spread from the original infected area to other parts of Nicaragua, other Central American countries, and Mexico for the last three years. Since estimated total losses could amount to US \$ 400,000,000 annually if the disease spread throughout Central America and Mexico, already US \$ 200,000,000 in possible losses have been avoided through the enforcement of strict quarantine measures in combination with an effective control/containment programme. I am pleased to be able to say that FAO has played an important role in this effort.

All too frequently the importance of preventing or retarding the introduction and establishment of exotic plant pests and diseases is overlooked, until such time as a disastrous outbreak occurs. I have made every effort to alert the concerned countries to the danger represented by this lack of foresight.

Before closing, I want to express my appreciation to the agricultural authorities of those countries in which I have carried out assignments for their understanding and cooperation, without which successful programmes would not have been possible.

In closing, I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. Saouma, Dr. Phillips, the Chairmen of the Council and of the Programme and Finance Committees, the B. R. Sen Award Review Committee, the Governments of those countries in which I have served and all others responsible for my nomination and selection as the recipient of the B. R. Sen Award for 1979. It also is most gratifying to receive this award with Dr. Sen present, who at the time I began my career with FAO in 1956, was then its Director-General.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Probablemente en este momento, algunas delegaciones de los países donde los premiados han prestado sus servicios o bien las delegaciones de sus propios países de procedencia desean hacer uso de la palabra.

C. BATAULT (France): Monsieur le Président, je voudrais vous remercier et remercier le Directeur général de me permettre de dire quelques mots à cette occasion. En effet, je voudrais également remercier vivement le Dr Sen pour cette initiative qui est un encouragement très précieux pour des chercheurs dont nous pouvons voir le résultat remarquable qu'ils ont obtenu.

En ce qui concerne M. P. Abert, je tiens à dire que l'honneur qui lui a été conféré rejaillit ensuite sur mon pays, et que nous sommes particulièrement heureux de le voir comme coréceptiendaire de ce prix Sen. Nous étions déjà au courant des travaux faits par M. Abert puisque, en 1972 à Paris l'Institut de technologie alimentaire de Dakar avait resu des mains de M. Chirac alors Ministre de l'agriculture, le Prix Innovation Recherche et Développement au cours du Salon International des Industries Alimentaires (SIAL), Prix couronnant la qualité du "pain de mil". Nous connaissions déjà l'intérêt extrême de ses recherches. Nous avons été particulièrement heureux d'apprendre que, depuis lors, une usine pilote a pu être mise en route au Soudan, et que l'on puisse panifier des mélanges blé/mil ou sorgho pouvant contenir jusqu'à 30 pour cent de farine "non-blé". J'ai également été très

heureux d'apprendre qu'à la suite de ses travaux le Gouvernement sénégalais avait décidé désormais d'inclure obligatoirement quinze pour cent de mil dans sa panification. Ceci représente pour ce pays une économie sensible de devises, et nous sommes particulièrement fiers et heureux de voir les résultats obtenus grâce aux travaux de ces deux experts, et en ce qui nous concerne en particulier, par les travaux de M. P. Abert.

M. ROSALES RIVERA (El Salvador): Vayan estas palabras de felicitación del Gobierno de El Salvador a los tres distinguidos galardonados de este día. Me van a perdonar si me dirijo, en especial, al señor George H. Berg, quien ha realizado una labor de investigación tan digna en el campo de la Cuarentena, principalmente en lo que se refiere a la Roya del café.

Saben ustedes que El Salvador tiene como principal producto de exportación el café y que es su base de economía y además, su principal fuente de divisas. En consecuencia, la labor invaluable del señor Berg es acogida con todo entusiasmo por el Gobierno salvadoreño, y no podemos menos que congratularnos nosotros mismos, por haber sido premiado en esta ocasión. Le renuevo los testimonios del Gobierno de nuestro aprecio imperecedero.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): On behalf of the Swedish Government my delegation would like to express its sincere appreciation and gratitude to FAO, to Dr. Sen and to Mr. Perten himself, a Swedish citizen, who has just received the B. R. Sen Award.

S. MADEMBA SY (Sénégal): Monsieur le Président, Messieurs les délégués, pour permettre de se libérer des contraintes de structures de production, avec pour objectif général l'accroissement du revenu du paysan, la réduction du déficit vivrier, le gouvernement du Sénégal a notamment, entre autres mesures, mis en oeuvre une politique incitative conduisant le paysan vers le choix de productions locales, qui se traduit par une augmentation de la demande notamment de mil et de maïs et corrélativement par un ralentissement de la demande de blé et de riz. C'est dans le cadre de cette politique qu'a été entreprise, il y a à peu près une dizaine d'années, la fabrication du pain comportant un mélange de farine de blé-ce blé que nous importons avec des devises et qui alourdit considérablement notre balance des paiements-et également de farine de mil-que nous n'importons pas mais que nous produisons directement sur place-. Cette expérience a été menée grâce au concours des experts de la FAO dans notre Institut de technologie alimentaire. On peut dire aujourd'hui que cela a été une expérience concluante et une brillante réussite, parce que le pain utilisé actuellement au Sénégal, et comportant

un mélange de farine de blé et de farine de mil, est devenu un aliment courant aujourd'hui dans la consommation de la population.

C'est pour cela, en tant que représentant du Sénégal ici, et à l'occasion de la remise du prix B. R. Sen à deux lauréats qui ont grandement contribué au succès de cette expérience, que je suis particulièrement fier et heureux de leur adresser toutes mes félicitations.

A. M. LIMAN (Nigeria): Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, my delegation would like to join others in congratulating all the winners of the B. R. Sen Award. We would like particularly to congratulate Mr. George Herman Berg for being a winner of the B. R. Sen Award this year. At the request of my Government, the post-entry plant quarantine station and training centre was re-established at Moor Plantation at Ibadan, Nigeria in the FAO/UNDP-assisted projects. Mr. Berg then assumed responsibility for the full execution of the project, having been assigned to it by this great Organization and with our full concurrence, as the Project Manager. He arrived at the project site on 1 November 1972. At the time of his departure on the same date and month in 1975 he had achieved a great deal. The training of several Nigerians and perhaps more importantly many plant quarantine officers from 12 countries of the Africa region in a number of national and international plant quarantine courses, completion of the main plant quarantine building, complete remodelling of three post-entry plant quarantine glass houses, including related supply facilities such as water and electrical installations, are some of the major achievements of Mr. Berg. These achievements brought into realization an aspiration long-cherished by my Government and the entire African Phytosanitary and Scientific Council. Working with Nigerian scientists, Mr. Berg through his personal diplomacy and subtle persuasion transformed the project into virtually achieving far more than ever envisaged at the time of its inception. Today the station as well as its overall plant quarantine training programmes are internationally acclaimed and recognized.

Rewarding relations were also established with OAU, STRC, WARDA, IITA and the Ford Foundation through the dynamism of Mr. Berg. These relationships remain warm and cordial. Counting on the achievements outlined in these few words of appreciation to Mr. Berg, we are now able to import a wide variety of

proven seeds and cultivars for use in boosting post-agricultural research, development and production without being too worried about the risk of introducing plant diseases heretofore either unidentified or nonexistent.

Mr. Berg is welcome to Nigeria any time. He will not only once again be exposed to our hospitality but hopefully find pleasure and satisfaction in observing for himself that our follow-up action starting from where he stopped has been fairly momentous.

In conclusion we would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to his wife and family without whom I am sure the working life for him in our country might have had an entirely different meaning.

SULIMAN SID AHMED (Sudan): (interpretation from Arabic): I would like to join Senegal in congratulating the eminent scientists who have helped in developing the production of sorghum in Sudan. As you know, Sudan is not a traditionally wheat-producing country, and despite the vast expansion in the consumption of this commodity, this of course was a source of great pressure to our balance of payments. The developments of the industrialization of the production of soybean and the introduction of a mixture of wheat and soybean has helped us to provide adequate quantities of bread to our citizens and has also helped save a great deal of foreign currency.

Therefore on behalf of my people, I would like to congratulate once again these two eminent scientists for the Award, and I would like to thank them for the services they have rendered to my country.

F. A. DEL PRADO (Suriname): My Government wishes to congratulate all three recipients of the G. R. Sen Award. A personal word of thanks should be passed on to Mr. George Berg with whom I worked personally as First Chairman of the Caribbean Plant Protection Commission. In many countries of the Caribbean the words "plant quarantine" were completely unknown until Mr. Berg came to our area, and therefore I wish to thank him not only on behalf of my Government but personally for the wonderful job he has done in our area.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Alguna otra representación desea intervenir en este otro punto?

Si no hay ninguna otra delegación, creo que no queda más, sino decirles a los señores Perten, Abert y Berg que han podido comprobar, en las palabras de las delegaciones que han intervenido, el aprecio, el respeto, la consideración y la admiración de estas delegaciones. Pueden tener la seguridad de que es el mismo aprecio, el mismo respeto, la misma admiración y la misma consideración que toda la Conferencia, que todos los Estados Miembros, sentimos por ustedes. Enhorabuena.

PRESENTATION OF A. H. BOERMA AWARD FOR 1978-79

PRIX A. H. BOERMA POUR 1978-79

ENTREGA DEL PREMIO A. H. BOERMA 1978-79

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, in recognition of the eminent services rendered to this Organization by Dr. Boerma, at its 18th Session the Conference decided to institute a new activity as a continued tribute to him. The Council has decided, at its 71st Session in June 1977 that the A. H. Boerma Award should consist of one biennial prize for one or more writers or journalists who have helped to focus public attention on important aspects of the World Food Programme and, particularly, on agriculture and rural development in developing countries.

The Award is now presented for the first time jointly to Lasse and Lise Berg of Sweden -- not of the USA, but of Sweden, unlike the first Berg of today who was from the USA -- and to Anil Agarwal of India. Lasse and Lise Berg have worked together as journalists since 1965 and have published nine books about developing countries and world food problems, one of which was described by one of the world's most prestigious newspapers as "perhaps the decade's most important book on India". They have also written in daily and weekly papers and taken part in radio and television programmes. Their single article submitted for the Award was published in a leading Swedish weekly.

Mr. Agarwal is a journalist carrying out much of his reporting in the field, especially in Asia. A former science editor of a prestigious Indian newspaper, Mr. Agarwal's entry consists of a cross-section of articles appearing in Asian and European publications, illustrating both his technical expertise and the range of his journalistic writing on agriculture and development.

EL PRESIDENTE: Vamos a proceder a la entrega de los premios al Sr. Anil Agarwal, al Sr. Lasse y a la Sra. Lisa Berg, a quienes ruego se acerquen a la Mesa.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

A. AGARWAL: Mr. Chairman, Dr. Saouma, Ladies and Gentlemen, It is indeed a matter of great honour to have been chosen for the first A. H. Boerma award. With your permission Mr. Chairman I would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about the role that my profession, the profession of science and development journalism, has to play in the fight against the twin problems of world hunger and poverty, which together afflict over one billion people, nearly a quarter of mankind. The very existence of this problem is a blot on the economic, political and social systems of the entire world. We increasingly recognise that hunger and malnutrition are essentially sustained not because we do not know how to produce food but because we do not know how to get over the obstacles that lie in the way of eradicating the associated syndrome of poverty.

Fortunately, we are now slowly beginning to abandon the belief that simple solutions like more aid, or more population control, or more food production by itself, can solve the problems of this one quarter of mankind. We are therefore just beginning to talk of development as a 'total' issue, just beginning to search for self-reliant development strategies, beginning to question the very values on which we based our past development efforts. It is within such an approach that the journalist has an important role to play because he is one of the few professionals who has the courage to take a world view of events, the courage to relate science to society, the economic and political systems. In a world increasingly dominated by science and technology where lay policy makers have to take decisions on scientific issues, he is becoming a partner of the policy maker. He is for instance greatly responsible for the environmental consciousness today and for creating the desire to search for more benign and renewable forms of energy.

But in all this the Third World science and development journalist faces a particularly difficult task. The 70 per cent of the people in the Third World produce 7 per cent of the world's industrial goods and account for three per cent of the world's expenditure on science and technology. It is easy to say that the Third World should not imitate the West in its development, but nearly impossible to put this in practice as the other 93 and 97 per cent are bound to affect the puny 7 and 3 per cents. The Third World can be careful not to imitate wrong things but only, and I stress only, if it has adequate information about what is happening in the production systems of the world, something which it lacks most. Will, for instance, the revolution in automation in the developed countries which is already here and making academics, technologist and trade unionists in the West talk about the collapse of work, affect Third World trade and development in such a way that it would become impossible to create those one billion new jobs that the ILO says are necessary by the end of this century?

Will it thus increase hunger and malnutrition in the Third World? We do not know and unfortunately few in the Third World are even aware of the pace with which microprocessor technology is developing. We therefore need a New International Information Order, an order that helps the Third World to understand the developed countries as well as the developed countries understand the production systems of the Third World, if equitable development has to take place and hunger and malnutrition are to be eradicated. In such an order Third World journalists have to provide policy makers with the signals the need to plan new strategies in time, to meet the challenges posed by new technical change.

With these words, Mr. Chairman, let me thank you and FAO once again for this award and the opportunity to speak to this important gathering.

L. BERG: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Ladies and Gentlemen, First of all we want to thank FAO for the great honour you have bestowed upon us today.

We believe the award should be regarded less as reward for something already accomplished and more as an encouragement to all of us to work harder and finally get something done.

In this connection I would like to quote Big Man Jiregari. I met him a couple of weeks ago in the depths of the rainforest of Papua New Guinea where he is leading his Binandere tribe in opposition

against the proposed exploitation of their forest by a big foreign transnational corporation. I asked him why they didn't accept the company's money, and he answered me something like this: "Money, young man, money has no future in this world. Only land, and what grows out of the land, has got any future. "

This, I think was a wise man who has taken the same philosophical standpoint as the physiocrats of the 18th century. They held that food and agriculture was the basis of all human development. This is no less true today when more people than ever before in the history of mankind are hungry or even starving.

The urgency of this situation places an enormous responsibility on FAO, since much of the effort to find world-wide solutions is channeled through this Organization.

The responsibility of the mass-media is no less heavy. It is not only our task to show vividly that the solution of the world food problem is the basis for all development. It is also our responsibility to cut forcefully through the myth that world hunger is a result of too many people and too little resources. The resources lie there, plentiful, dormant in man and land. The situation is desperate and hopeful. These are the natural resources, even-and especially-for the poor people in the poorest areas to feed themselves.

The reason that these resources are not used for the benefit of the hungry lies in the institutional impediments to growth, in the relations of power locally, nationally, and internationally. The task ahead is to break these chains on the development urge and the development possibilities of both man and land-whether these are the chains of a local landlord or a transnational corporation

So in a situation which is both desperate and hopeful, we can remember the words of Big Man Jiregari-"Money has no future, only land has future" and change our money into intensified endeavour.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Gracias, Sr. Lasse, por sus palabras. Probablemente alguna delegación de algún Estado Miembro desea intervenir en relación con la concesión de estos premios. Ha solicitado la palabra el representante de la India.

M. S. SWAMINATHAN (India): May I first of all congratulate FAO for having decided to give explicit recognition to the work of journalists who are devoting their lives to the cause of promoting agriculture and rural development. In fact, when we scan the entire area of journalism, there is still very little interest in developmental journalism, and still less in the field of agricultural journalism. On the other hand, we all know the power of modern mass media, whether for good or bad, and are therefore happy that in the name of Dr. Boerma this award has been instituted to recognise the work of devoted journalists.

We also would like to say how happy we are that all the three journalists who have been honoured today have their roots in work in India. Mr. Anil Agarwal of course, is an Indian citizen who worked with our leading newspapers, the first one, the Hindustan Times, which undertook the task of using journalism as a method of village transformation. In fact, it chose a village called Chatera very near Delhi for complete and total transformation, and this is one of the well documented stories of rural change.

We are happy Mr. Agarwal has continued in his endeavour, and since he is young I am sure we can expect much from him in years to come in terms of the application of science and technology for the eradication of hunger.

We are also happy Mr. and Mrs. Berg's outstanding work and their understanding of the problems of eradication of hunger in a country like India, which itself is a vast laboratory of experience, as we will find almost every kind of situation there, has been recognized today. We consider they are as much Indians as they are Swedish, and are happy that all these three journalists have been able to come and address us.

May I therefore, Mr. Chairman, once again hope this award may be the beginning of a larger stimulus for more and more journalists to enter the field of developmental journalism as applied to agricultural transformation? We would like to give them our very best wishes and hope that in the years to come they will see the imprint of the power of their words and of their writing. This cannot be under-estimated, the power of the written word as well as the spoken word. We hope they will continue on this path. May their tribe increase.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): On behalf of the Swedish delegation, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the authors, Lasse and Lisa Berg, for the important prize they have just received, which I am sure will serve as a great inspiration for their continued writings and studies on the world food problems and the problems of hunger in the world.

I would also like to express our appreciation to FAO and Dr. Boerma for the introduction of this new prize for journalism, which will focus public attention on important aspects of world food problems.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Alguna otra delegación quiere hacer uso de la palabra? Quisiera, entonces, pasar a nuestro punto siguiente del Orden del Día.

Felicito nuevamente a los Sres. Agarwal, Lasse y la Sra. Lisa Berg por sus trabajos y, efectivamente, coincidiendo con algunas de las palabras que se han dicho con anterioridad, todos confiamos en que este periodismo del desarrollo que, evidentemente, con su palabra puede llevarnos a cotas y a situaciones muy lejanas, sea el inicio de algo más importante, de algo más vasto y más extendido.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S STATEMENT TO THE CONFERENCE

DECLARATION DU DIRECTEUR GENERAL A LA CONFERENCE

DECLARACION DEL DIRECTOR GENERAL A LA CONFERENCIA

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL (Interprétation de l'arabe): Monsieur le Président, Excellences, Mesdames et Messieurs les délégués et observateurs, Mesdames, Messieurs,

Rôle de la Conférence de la FAO en matière de politique générale. Une fois encore, j'ai l'honneur de m'adresser à la Conférence de la FAO, organe directeur suprême de notre Organisation; c'est elle qui décide de ses politiques, de ses programmes et de ses relations avec les Etats Membres et avec les autres organisations et institutions.

La Conférence est en fait la réunion au sommet des ministres de l'agriculture du monde entier. Elle est la seule instance qui réunisse tous les deux ans une centaine de ministres pour traiter de toutes les questions d'alimentation et d'agriculture dont l'importance est fondamentale pour le développement économique et social du globe. Ce rôle de haute politique à l'échelle mondiale doit être maintenu et renforcé.

La situation alimentaire mondiale. Voici deux ans, quand j'ai passé en revue la situation mondiale, j'avais quelques éléments encourageants à signaler mais, dans l'ensemble, j'avais dû broser un tableau bien sombre.

J'espérais pouvoir relever aujourd'hui certains signes de progrès; hélas, il me faut souligner qu'à tous égards ou presque la situation s'est encore aggravée. A vrai dire, elle est effrayante.

Catastrophes et situations d'urgence. En particulier, ces deux dernières années ont été marquées par un nombre exceptionnel de catastrophes naturelles et de situations d'urgence.

Grâce à des interventions rapides, nous avons contribué à surmonter la plupart de ces crises. Le Programme alimentaire mondial ONU/FAO et notre Organisation elle-même ont joué un rôle de premier plan, et la communauté internationale n'est pas restée inerte.

L'aide alimentaire d'urgence. Pendant ces deux années, 108 allocations d'aide alimentaire d'urgence ont été attribuées à 53 pays pour secourir plus de 28 millions de personnes en danger et d'affamés; elles portaient sur 540 000 tonnes de vivres pour une valeur de 177 millions de dollars environ. Grâce à notre Programme de coopération technique, nous avons pu fournir à 49 pays une aide se montant à près de 9 millions de dollars pour répondre à des besoins d'urgence dans le secteur agricole; cette aide comportait notamment de l'équipement et des facteurs de production. D'autres montants encore ont été mobilisés sous forme de contributions spéciales et d'aide bilatérale.

Une prompt intervention a permis de maîtriser la redoutable menace que le criquet pèlerin faisait peser sur de vastes territoires du Proche-Orient et de l'Afrique. Il faut espérer que la fièvre porcine africaine et d'autres maladies animales seront semblablement tenues en échec.

Kampuchea. Mais rien n'égale la tragédie qui s'est abattue sur d'innombrables milliers de personnes au Kampuchea et dans les régions avoisinantes. Même en ce siècle de fer endurci par de terribles expériences-guerres, luttes intestines, tremblements de terre et inondations, périls mortels de la pollution nucléaire ou autre-on trouverait bien peu de circonstances où le devoir humanitaire ait parlé aussi haut et clair qu'aujourd'hui, devant le cauchemar que vivent ces populations.

Pour aider le peuple du Kampuchea, nous avons d'ores et déjà entrepris une opération de secours à caractère strictement humanitaire et non politique. J'ai approuvé l'envoi par le Programme alimentaire mondial d'une aide d'urgence portant sur plus de 36 000 tonnes. Nous avons commencé à fournir des semences et d'autres facteurs de production afin d'aider à relancer l'agriculture. Notre action s'inscrit dans le cadre d'un effort massif entrepris par le système des Nations Unies et par la Croix-Rouge; les contributions promises à ce titre dépassent déjà 200 millions de dollars.

En dehors des cas d'urgence, la tendance de la situation alimentaire mondiale ces deux dernières années n'a pas été satisfaisante.

La situation alimentaire. Les récoltes s'annoncent mal dans trente-deux pays. La production de blé et de céréales secondaires va diminuer de quelque 62 millions de tonnes en 1979; selon les estimations, elle sera de 3 pour cent inférieure à la tendance à long terme. On prévoit aussi que la production rizicole baissera d'environ 2 pour cent par rapport à l'an dernier. La production céréalière sera donc très en dessous des besoins de la consommation.

Dans les pays en développement, le nombre des mal nourris-essentiellement des femmes et des enfants-continue d'augmenter.

Parallèlement, les importations céréalières de ces pays ne cessent de croître. Au cours des années soixante-dix, elles ont progressé deux fois plus vite que pendant les années soixante. Qui plus est, les hausses récentes des cours des céréales risquent d'alourdir de 2 milliards de dollars leurs factures d'importation; or, les cours du jute, du caoutchouc et du thé n'ont atteint en 1978 que la moitié de leurs niveaux de 1960 par rapport aux prix mondiaux des articles manufacturés.

Aussi bien dans l'absolu qu'en proportion des importations céréalières totales des pays en développement vulnérables, l'aide alimentaire reste bien inférieure à ce qu'elle était vers la fin des années soixante.

Cette année même, l'échec de la Conférence de négociations des Nations Unies relative à un nouvel arrangement international sur les céréales a ouvert une brèche dangereuse dans la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

La sécurité alimentaire mondiale et le Plan en cinq points de la FAO. Estimant que cette brèche devait être colmatée, j'ai proposé cette année au Comité de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et au Conseil un Plan d'action en cinq points axé sur certains des problèmes les plus immédiats de la sécurité alimentaire, en particulier sur ceux des pays à faible revenu qui ont un déficit alimentaire.

Le Comité de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et le Conseil ont néanmoins appuyé ce plan. Comme l'a demandé le Conseil, je vous soumetts un rapport sur la mise en oeuvre du plan, assorti de propositions prévoyant à cet effet des mesures immédiates et à long terme.

Vous noterez à la lecture de ce document que les faits survenus entre-temps ne font hélas que confirmer et renforcer l'appréciation pessimiste que j'avais faite de la situation en présentant pour la première fois mon plan en cinq points.

Or, l'Arrangement qui avait été suggéré à l'origine ne répondrait pas aux exigences de la sécurité alimentaire dans la conjoncture actuelle et dans l'avenir prévisible. Les débats qui vont s'ouvrir au Conseil international du blé vont peut-être éclairer d'un jour nouveau les perspectives touchant les négociations futures.

J'espère cependant que l'on ne trouvera pas là un nouveau prétexte pour retarder la mise en oeuvre du plan déjà approuvé par le Conseil de la FAO.

Le nouvel ordre international piétine. En fait, on n'a encore atteint aucun des objectifs maintes fois réitérés-certains préfèrent parler d' "estimations"-concernant la sécurité alimentaire, la production vivrière, l'aide alimentaire (notamment l'aide d'urgence), les approvisionnements en engrais, les ajustements agricoles et l'aide publique au développement en faveur de l'agriculture. Il serait vain de chercher à dissimuler que les espérances soulevées au début de la deuxième décennie pour le développement ont fait place à la déception et à l'amertume devant cette absence de progrès.

Cela reste fondamentalement vrai, soit que l'on examine la mise en oeuvre des recommandations de la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation ou les effets sur les pays en développement d'un certain nombre de phénomènes: persistance et même renforcement du protectionnisme, dégradation des termes de l'échange, conséquences néfastes de l'inflation, fonctionnement équitable du système monétaire international, endettement, réduction (en pourcentage du PNB) de l'aide accordée à des conditions de faveur par la plupart des pays de l'OCDE, soit que l'on rapproche tout cela de l'augmentation monstrueuse des dépenses d'armement.

En réalité, la vie économique internationale reste une jungle où les forts, et en particulier les fauves du transnationalisme, dévorent les faibles, où les fourrés des privilèges et du protectionnisme ne sont éclaircis que par endroits, tandis qu'une instabilité monétaire permanente, la montée de l'endettement, une inflation incoercible, une récession et un chômage impitoyables menacent de nombreux pays.

Cette jungle s'étend plus loin que les tropiques. En Europe même et entre l'Europe et d'autres continents développés, ces phénomènes existent et déclenchent des accès de fièvre, voire d'hystérie, entre alliés et amis.

Dès lors, ce n'est pas du lait de l'humaine tendresse que les relations internationales peuvent se nourrir. Mais les dirigeants doivent avoir le courage de se dresser contre les puissances de l'ombre et de la réaction qui empoisonnent ces relations.

Voici venu précisément le temps où les pays développés ne doivent ni renforcer les barrières protectionnistes qu'ils dressent contre les pays en développement, ni réduire l'aide qu'ils leur accordent à des conditions de faveur. De telles mesures auraient pour les pays en développement des conséquences désastreuses en un moment où ils subissent de façon très amplifiée le contrecoup de l'inflation et de la récession qui sévissent ailleurs.

Pour les pays riches, prendre des mesures susceptibles d'aggraver la situation des pays pauvres, ce serait une véritable politique de Gribouille.

Le fait est que, si les pays développés sont perturbés par le chômage et l'inflation, ces maux conservent des dimensions relativement modestes par rapport aux problèmes que doivent affronter les pays en développement.

J'ose espérer que les initiatives prises en ce moment par les pays producteurs de pétrole en vue d'aider les pays du tiers monde porteront un remède énergique à cette situation complexe et difficile. J'espère de même que tous les donateurs d'aide alimentaire suivront l'exemple donné par les Etats-Unis, le Canada et les pays Scandinaves, en adhérant à une nouvelle convention élargie à l'aide alimentaire, sans attendre la conclusion d'une convention sur le blé.

Les pays riches ne peuvent résoudre leurs problèmes si ce n'est dans un contexte mondial d'interdépendance. Pour le moment, cette interdépendance n'est pas fondée sur l'équité, mais bien sur l'injustice et les inégalités.

CMRADR. L'existence de l'injustice et de l'inégalité tant à l'intérieur des nations qu'entre celles-ci a été l'un des thèmes essentiels de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural qui s'est tenue à Rome en juillet dernier.

A de nombreux égards, cette Conférence mondiale fut vraiment extraordinaire. Je n'en veux de preuve plus éclatante que le nombre et la qualité des participants, dont 4 chefs d'Etat, 88 ministres, et 1 400 délégués de 144 pays.

Malgré les réserves exprimées par certains sur divers points, la Déclaration de principes et le Programme d'action qui ont été adoptés possèdent une force morale profonde et constituent des objectifs que l'on ne saurait négliger qu'aux risques et périls de tous.

A la clôture de la Conférence mondiale, j'ai appelé l'attention sur le caractère unique de ce Programme d'action. En effet, les pays vont envisager de prendre des mesures pour se fixer à eux-mêmes des objectifs précis, de rendre compte des progrès réalisés dans cette voie, et d'autoriser la FAO et d'autres organisations des Nations Unies à contribuer non seulement à mettre au point la méthodologie nécessaire mais aussi à assurer la surveillance et l'évaluation des progrès accomplis à divers égards sur les plans national et international.

Mesure de suivi. Comme l'a demandé la Conférence mondiale dans son unique résolution, vous êtes saisis de mes propositions concernant le suivi de la Déclaration de principes et du Programme d'action.

Je suggère de fixer un objectif de contributions volontaires de 20 millions de dollars pour les deux à quatre prochaines années. Il est indispensable que ce très modeste objectif soit atteint.

Quand je repense maintenant, avec la pénétration que peut donner ce qui s'est passé depuis, à mon attitude à l'égard de ce problème et d'autres questions de programme et de budget, compte tenu des difficultés si nombreuses, pressantes, vitales que connaissent certains Etats Membres qui réclament de la FAO une action directe et concrète, et quand je songe à ma modération, je ne peux que ressentir un certain étonnement, teinté d'un soupçon de remords.

Changements intervenus à la FAO depuis 1976. J'y suis d'autant plus sensible que je vois le très large succès que remportent les nouveaux programmes, politiques et méthodes que j'ai proposés en juillet 1976 et que vous avez approuvés.

En présentant mes réformes en juillet 1976, j'ai bien souligné qu'il s'agissait de conceptions dynamiques et que je ne voulais pas que l'Organisation s'endorme dans le conservatisme et l'autosatisfaction. Ce que je voulais, c'est que la FAO évolue avec son temps et soit maîtresse de son propre développement.

Vous me permettez, je pense, d'affirmer en votre nom que nous sommes effectivement restés fidèles à une stratégie dynamique et positive et que nous lui avons imprimé l'élan nécessaire à une action concrète et efficace pour répondre aux besoins réels de nos Etats Membres.

Décentralisation. La décentralisation a été poursuivie d'une main ferme. Nous avons maintenant 47 représentants de la FAO en poste; si la Conférence y consent, nous arriverons au cours de l'exercice 1980-81 à un total de 62 représentants travaillant de concert avec les gouvernements auprès desquels ils sont accrédités et avec les représentants du PNUD et des autres institutions pour atteindre les objectifs de développement des pays.

Le Programme de coopération technique constitue un outil essentiel de la décentralisation traduite en action au niveau des pays. Au terme d'une évaluation exhaustive, il est apparu que ce Programme est bien conçu et administré efficacement, conformément au mandat qui m'avait été conféré.

J'irai plus loin: la mise en place des représentants de la FAO et la création du Programme de coopération technique apparaissent maintenant à la lumière de ce que j'avais à l'esprit, à savoir comme le moyen de mettre l'Organisation, sans nuire aux intérêts de quiconque, plus directement en contact avec les Etats Membres et de la rendre plus réceptive à leurs besoins concrets.

La FAO en action. Sans anticiper sur vos débats, je voudrais aussi souligner le succès des activités que, dans mon allocution à la soixante-quatrième session du Conseil, j'ai évoquées en parlant de "la FAO en action".

Je me référais en particulier à l'important rôle de catalyseur que joue l'Organisation dans le cadre de programmes d'action spéciaux tels que la lutte contre le criquet pèlerin, la mise au point et l'amélioration des semences, la prévention des pertes de produits alimentaires et l'aide à la sécurité alimentaire.

Parallèlement, je dois insister sur la nécessité d'augmenter les contributions destinées à ces programmes; je pense en particulier à la prévention des pertes de produits alimentaires, à l'aide à la sécurité alimentaire, au suivi de la CMRADR et à nos nouvelles initiatives dans les domaines des zones économiques exclusives et de la trypanosomiase.

Dans les projets qu'il prépare, notre Centre d'investissement essaie déjà d'obtenir la participation d'organisations internationales de financement à des investissements de vaste envergure pour assurer le suivi des programmes d'action, par exemple en matière d'entreposage des céréales et de pêches.

Investissements. La Banque mondiale, le Fonds international de développement agricole et les Banques régionales de développement allouent des crédits de plus en plus importants à l'assistance technique à l'appui des investissements.

Le moment est donc peut-être venu d'engager un dialogue avec ces organismes pour que cet élément de nos programmes d'action trouve aussi un soutien. Ils pourraient ainsi, pour un coût d'opportunité modique, remédier à des problèmes urgents, et aussi fortifier et élargir leurs propres politiques d'investissement.

En ce qui concerne l'investissement en général, je suis particulièrement heureux de pouvoir dire que la première priorité de mon programme de juillet 1974-l'augmentation des investissements destinés à l'alimentation et au développement agricole-a été suivie d'effet: sur un montant total de 13 milliards de dollars pour des projets formulés par le Centre d'investissement et approuvés par les institutions de financement depuis quatorze ans, près de la moitié ont été approuvés pendant ces deux dernières années. En d'autres termes, nous avons fait autant en deux ans qu'en douze.

Politiques alimentaires et agricoles. Notre rôle en matière d'élaboration des politiques n'a pas été négligé. Au contraire, nous l'avons renforcé ces deux dernières années.

Comité plénier. Le Comité plénier des Nations Unies n'a pas seulement accueilli avec faveur le Plan en cinq points relatif à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale; il a aussi, plus tôt dans l'année, adopté à l'unanimité des "Conclusions convenues d'un commun accord" qui, par des références précises, montrent combien les politiques et programmes de la FAO sont considérés comme pertinents et importants par tous ceux qui prennent part au dialogue Nord-Sud.

Je voudrais maintenant dire quelques mots sur le développement et l'aménagement des pêches dans les zones économiques exclusives des Etats côtiers en développement

ZEE: Bien que la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer n'ait pas encore achevé ses travaux, plus de 90 nations ont étendu leurs limites maritimes jusqu'à 200 milles pour nombre d'entre elles. Il s'agit des zones économiques exclusives dont nous allons parler maintenant.

Il s'est produit là un événement géographique simple mais tout à fait remarquable. Les pays ont fait passer sous leur juridiction une étendue aussi vaste que la superficie totale des terres émergées du globe.

La quasi-totalité des ressources ichthyiques marines se trouvent dans ces zones.

Le poisson fournit aujourd'hui à peu près la moitié des protéines animales consommées en Asie et le quart des protéines animales consommées en Afrique. D'ici l'an 2000, la demande de poisson pourrait fort bien doubler, la majeure partie de cette demande accrue provenant des pays en développement.

A l'heure actuelle cependant, ces pays obtiennent moins de la moitié des captures mondiales de poisson. Sans un aménagement efficace, ils pourraient se voir privés de la possibilité d'améliorer la situation nutritionnelle de leur population, les conditions de vie de dix millions de pêcheurs et de quarante millions de travailleurs à terre, ainsi que des recettes en devises que leur procureraient la distribution et la commercialisation de leurs ressources potentielles.

La manière dont, à mon avis, la FAO peut le mieux s'acquitter de sa tâche est inscrite dans le Programme général d'assistance. Je me félicite que le Comité des pêches et le Conseil aient souscrit sans réserve à l'approche que j'ai proposée.

Comme vous le noterez toutefois, des investissements et une aide technique considérables seront nécessaires au cours des deux prochaines décennies. Le Gouvernement de la Norvège a déjà généreusement alloué à cette fin un montant de 3,6 millions de dollars. D'autres promesses de contributions ont déjà été faites ou sont en discussion.

J'espère que la présente Conférence souscrira sans réserve à cette initiative et donnera l'impulsion voulue pour réunir les sommes beaucoup plus importantes encore qui seront nécessaires dans les prochaines années.

Trypanosomiase: Comme vous l'aviez demandé à votre dernière session, je vous soumetts aussi un programme de lutte contre la trypanosomiase animale africaine et d'aide aux pays africains dont les territoires sont infestés par les diverses espèces de mouches tsé-tsé qui transmettent cette maladie à l'homme et aux animaux.

Le dixième Conférence régionale pour l'Afrique, qui s'est tenue à Arusha en 1978, a vigoureusement appuyé le programme d'action proposé; elle a demandé qu'il bénéficie d'une haute priorité dans notre programme de travail et budget, et elle a approuvé les activités préparatoires.

Afin de soutenir le programme plus vaste que je vous soumetts, j'ai effectivement proposé que la trypanosomiase soit l'une des grandes priorités du programme de travail et budget pour 1980-81.

Pour avoir une idée des dimensions de ce problème, songez que non seulement 36 pays sont touchés, mais que la zone atteinte couvre environ dix millions de kilomètres carrés et qu'elle contient certains des pâturages et des terres labourables qui pourraient être parmi les meilleurs de l'Afrique.

Pour combattre ce fléau, il faut une stratégie qui tienne compte des problèmes écologiques et sociopolitiques. Il faudra que le soutien au développement porte sur tous les aspects: recherche, et notamment recherche appliquée, planification, formation, projets, coopération. Une coopération particulièrement étroite devra être instaurée avec l'Organisation de l'unité africaine avec laquelle nous travaillons en harmonieuses relations.

Il faudra également un puissant soutien financier et technique pour des activités de moyenne et longue durée. De nombreux gouvernements et organisations fournissent déjà une aide, mais j'espère que ce flux va fortement grossir de façon que, pour la première fois, notre action puisse avoir sur ce terrible problème un impact intégré et substantiel.

Si nous réussissons, l'Afrique et l'humanité en retireront des bienfaits énormes, non seulement du point de vue de la production animale et du développement rural, mais aussi parce que la maîtrise de l'homme sur les ressources de la terre s'en trouvera élargie.

Nous n'allons pas négliger bien sûr nos autres grandes priorités, parmi lesquelles la foresterie.

Foresterie: La foresterie au service de la population, voilà une de nos grandes priorités pour l'avenir. La Conférence mondiale y a vu un des côtés importants du développement rural. Elle le restera dans nos mesures de suivi.

La raréfaction du bois de feu dans les pays en développement est l'un des aspects de la foresterie qui exigera de plus en plus d'attention à l'avenir. Pour 90 pour cent des pauvres, c'est le principal combustible sur lequel ils puissent compter.

Or, la plupart des régions en développement connaissent une grave pénurie de bois de feu. Mais le pire c'est que les ressources en bois de feu s'épuisent plus vite qu'elles ne se reconstituent-d'où déboisement, inondations, érosion.

La pénurie de bois de feu représente pour les pays en développement un danger écologique beaucoup plus grave que la pollution de l'eau. Dans quelques années, si la demande continue d'augmenter à un rythme exponentiel, le problème pourrait prendre les proportions d'une catastrophe.

Voilà quelques-unes des raisons pour lesquelles nous ne pouvons permettre que la foresterie soit oubliée au milieu des nombreux autres problèmes qui nous attendent.

Les conclusions provisoires de l'étude préliminaire que nous avons intitulée "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" font ressortir l'importance de nos efforts.

Agriculture: Horizon 2000: Cette étude servira à élaborer non seulement les politiques de l'Organisation, mais aussi la nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement.

Elle n'est évidemment pas un recueil de prophéties à la Nostradamus. N'oublions jamais qu'il s'agit d'une analyse des incidences que peut avoir une trajectoire de croissance dérivée de certaines hypothèses sur les taux de croissance démographiques et économiques.

Les données et situations qui en résultent représentent ce qui pourrait se passer si les événements confirmaient effectivement les hypothèses.

Cela dit, je dois néanmoins souligner l'importance et la gravité des résultats obtenus pour l'instant.

D'après des prévisions des Nations Unies, l'accroissement de la population mondiale d'ici à l'an 2000 sera, à lui seul, à peu près égal au nombre total des habitants du globe en 1925. Et près de 80 pour cent de la population se trouveront dans ce que l'on appelle aujourd'hui les pays en développement.

Avec le taux de croissance économique normatif établi par les Nations Unies, le produit national brut (PNB) par habitant des pays développés continuerait d'augmenter de 3,8 pour cent par an. Dans les pays en développement, l'accroissement du PNB par habitant devrait passer de 3,2 à 5,2 pour cent par an.

Cela suppose, pour ces pays, un accroissement annuel de 3,8 pour cent de la production agricole, contre 2,6 pour cent seulement pour la période allant de 1960 à 1975 environ.

Cela exigera des investissements énormes, des facteurs de production, des recherches dans le domaine de l'agronomie, la diffusion de méthodes adaptées à l'environnement, des réformes institutionnelles et structurelles, et peut-être aussi des transformations profondes des modes de vie et des habitudes alimentaires.

Dans notre étude, nous posons comme hypothèse que 72 pour cent de cette augmentation pourraient provenir de meilleurs rendements sur les terres déjà cultivées et 28 pour cent seulement de la mise en culture de nouvelles superficies.

Les pays moins bien dotés en ressources agricoles devraient encore importer des produits agricoles, en particulier des céréales et des produits laitiers. Les importations céréalières totales des pays en développement devraient passer de 50 millions de tonnes au milieu des années soixante-dix à 115 millions en l'an 2000.

La proportion des personnes sous-alimentées devrait tomber de 22 à 7 pour cent de la population accrue des pays en développement. Mais leur nombre resterait: voisin de 250 millions. Et, d'après la Banque mondiale, ils seraient plus de deux fois autant à éprouver d'autres manifestations de la pauvreté absolue.

Cette sombre perspective pourrait d'ailleurs s'éclaircir. Sensiblement, car le problème de la faim ne provient pas d'un déficit alimentaire absolu dans le monde. Les riches mangent trop, tandis que les pauvres ont toujours faim.

Une nouvelle Révolution agricole: La question de l'agriculture en l'an 2000 m'amène à me demander: comment les pays en développement pourront-ils produire une plus grande proportion de leur propre nourriture? Comment pourront-ils, en fait, doubler leur production agricole d'ici vingt ans? Voilà le problème vraiment brûlant d'aujourd'hui et de demain.

Quelle est la route à suivre? Nous disposons à cet égard d'indications très précieuses qui se sont dégagées, d'un récent colloque de haut niveau organisé par le gouvernement suédois à Stockholm, et aussi de notre étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000".

D'abord et avant tout, nous devons nous acharner à faire converger les pratiques agricoles traditionnelles du tiers monde et la technologie des exploitations modernes.

La quantité d'énergie utilisée pour l'agriculture, même dans les pays riches, est relativement faible comparée à la consommation totale. Et même si tous les agriculteurs du tiers monde pouvaient se permettre d'appliquer un niveau égal d'intrants énergétiques, la proportion utilisée pour l'agriculture ne varierait pas de façon notable.

Partout, il est impératif de conserver l'énergie. Mais, sans un emploi judicieux de facteurs de production et d'un matériel exigeant de l'énergie, le tiers monde ne sera pas capable de nourrir ses populations. Une saine économie de carburant devrait procéder de ce principe: la moissonneuse-batteuse avant la Cadillac.

Mais les points forts de l'agronomie traditionnelle, en particulier dans les environnements écologiquement et socialement marginaux, doivent être beaucoup mieux exploités. Il en va de même du recyclage des déchets et de l'amélioration des systèmes biologiques au niveau du village.

L'avenir nous promet certains progrès scientifiques qui contiennent en germe les éléments d'où pourrait partir toute une nouvelle révolution agricole.

Les chercheurs sont déjà à l'oeuvre pour accroître l'efficacité de la photosynthèse chez les végétaux cultivés; pour permettre aux microorganismes fixateurs de l'azote de survivre dans les systèmes racinaires des céréales; ou pour utiliser l'ingénierie génétique à cette fin ainsi que pour adapter les cultures à des environnements défavorables ou recycler les ressources organiques et minérales; pour utiliser des méthodes biochimiques en vue de produire des aliments, de l'énergie et des engrais; enfin, pour utiliser le vaste domaine des cultivars encore inexploités.

Espérons que la réalisation pratique à grande échelle n'est pas trop lointaine.

Dans tous les cas, le succès ne viendra que si la recherche-une recherche qui n'interdise pas aux pays en développement la possibilité de succès dans l'adaptation et l'application-reçoit un appui soutenu et extrêmement vigoureux.

Ce qu'il ne faut pas oublier, c'est que les transformations scientifiques et technologiques ne sauraient ni remplacer les profondes réformes économiques et sociales prévues dans le Programme d'action adopté par la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, ni s'en passer.

Conclusion: Monsieur le Président, j'en viens maintenant à ma conclusion.

Je n'ai pu éviter, dans cette allocution, de peindre sous de sombres couleurs notre impuissance à faire reculer les problèmes alimentaires du monde au cours des deux années écoulées.

J'ai demandé une aide pour soulager la misère inconcevable de millions de personnes du Sud-Est asiatique et pour secourir les réfugiés d'autres régions.

L'absence si décevante de progrès dans la voie d'un nouvel ordre économique international fait ressortir, sur un fond d'amertume et de tristesse, les besoins toujours insatisfaits du secteur alimentaire et agricole.

J'ai de nouveau souligné la nécessité de réaliser une sécurité alimentaire mondiale solide s'appuyant sur notre Plan en cinq points et par la suite sur des accords internationaux.

J'ai aussi insisté sur la nécessité de réduire le protectionnisme, de redresser les injustices flagrantes qui existent au sein de l'actuel ordre économique mondial et d'affronter les répercussions qu'exercent sur le tiers monde l'inflation, l'endettement et l'insuffisance notoire de l'aide accordée à des conditions de faveur pour l'agriculture.

Les définitions précises données par la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, ainsi que l'importance de son apport, et celui de son suivi, sur le plan de l'éthique et des programmes, ont naturellement été au centre de mes réflexions. Nous n'avons pas le droit d'échouer, et surtout pas par manque de fonds volontaires.

Vous avez entre les mains un rapport sur les progrès accomplis par l'Organisation dans l'application de ses politiques et programmes au cours des deux années écoulées, notamment en ce qui concerne la décentralisation et l'investissement. Ces progrès sont à mon avis très satisfaisants et même, vu les circonstances, réconfortants. Ils se poursuivront.

Une grande part de mes propos a été bien entendu consacrée aux questions essentielles de politique générale que vous aurez à examiner au cours de la présente session. Les contributions de la FAO à l'aménagement rationnel des pêches dans les zones économiques exclusives, à l'éradication de la trypanosomiase, à l'amélioration de la nutrition et à la mise en valeur des forêts au service des populations, peuvent apporter énormément au tiers monde. Nous avons la capacité voulue, mais il faut votre soutien et des investissements adéquats, notamment à titre volontaire.

Notre étude provisoire sur l'agriculture à l'horizon 2000 a été examinée à la lumière des tâches formidables qui nous attendent pour nourrir une population bien plus nombreuse en l'an 2000, et pour améliorer ses niveaux de vie.

J'ai ainsi été amené à tenter d'examiner l'éventualité d'une nouvelle révolution agricole véritablement adaptée à la situation des pays en développement ainsi qu'aux contraintes écologiques, énergétiques et autres.

Il y aura peut-être des révolutions, mais il n'y aura pas de révolution scientifique et technologique valable ou durables en dehors des profondes transformations qu'appelle le Programme d'action adopté par la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Le plus grand problème qui se pose à nous a pour origine les divisions économiques et sociales du monde actuel, l'abîme qui sépare les riches et les pauvres aussi bien entre les nations qu'à l'intérieur des nations elles mêmes. Cela saute aux yeux quand on considère l'état des zones rurales du tiers monde.

C'est seulement quand cet état de choses sera devenu moins effrayant et moins odieux que nous pourrons dire que le monde est devenu meilleur à vivre.

Je suis convaincu, Monsieur le Président, non seulement que le développement de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture est le fondement indispensable de la paix et du progrès, mais encore que notre Organisation a une place essentielle et prépondérante parmi ceux qui s'efforcent de réaliser ce développement.

Celui qui aime son pays, on l'appelle un patriote; au pire, on le qualifie de chauvin. Celui qui croit aux idéaux et à l'utilité de la coopération internationale risque fort de s'entendre, au mieux, traiter d'utopiste.

Ce dédain à l'égard d'une coopération internationale véritable et généreuse risque d'empirer avant de s'estomper. Mais la situation s'améliorera et la coopération internationale grandira.

C'est ce dont je suis convaincu, et je ferai humblement tout ce qui est en mon pouvoir pour qu'il en soit ainsi.

Je ne suis pas un utopiste. Je ne flatte d'être un spécialiste et un administrateur réaliste et doté de sens pratique. Mais je suis fier aussi d'être un instrument de la coopération internationale, puisque je suis le chef de secrétariat que vous avez choisi et élu et puisque je suis le serviteur de notre grande organisation internationale.

J'ai foi en la validité, en la valeur de l'oeuvre que poursuit cette armée d'hommes et de femmes entièrement dévoués à leur tâche qui constitue dans le monde entier le personnel de notre Organisation.

J'ai surtout foi en vous, en cette souveraine Conférence de notre Organisation. J'ai foi que, à l'avenir, tous ensemble nous pourrons réaliser nos idéaux et nos objectifs, pour le bien durable de ce monde pauvre et affamé qui nous entoure.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Creo que interpreto el sentir de todos los delegados en esta Conferencia si dirijo en este instante unas breves palabras de felicitación y agradecimiento a nuestro Director General por su intervención. Yo tendría que felicitar al Director General por su intervención, por su magnífico discurso, pero también creo que debo hacerlo en nombre de todos por el trabajo realizado durante el período de intersecciones.

La exposición que nos ha hecho es realmente importante. No voy a analizar aquí todos los puntos que ha considerado: los socorros, los auxilios concedidos, la falta de progreso en el Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, los problemas de la seguridad o inseguridad alimentaria, la incidencia del proteccionismo, el análisis justo y real de los resultados obtenidos por la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria, y tantas y tantas importante cuestiones sobre las que el Director General nos ha hablado con rigor, con ese rigor y precisión a que aludía al final cuando se calificaba como científico.

Quizá lo que me ha llamado más la atención de su discurso, señor Director General, es que al principio del mismo nos ha dicho que esperaba podría hoy exponer algún indicio de progreso y, que, sin embargo, tiene el triste deber de subrayar la situación que, por el contrario, ha empeorado. Nos ha indicado, finalmente, que tiene fe en todos nosotros, que tiene fe en la Conferencia y que confía en el futuro que podamos tejer, que podamos construir entre todos nosotros.

Yo tengo la impresión, señor Director General, de que esta haciendo lo imposible por ello y le felicito por el hecho; en nombre de toda la Conferencia y quizá para que no desespere, me voy a permitir contarle una pequeña anécdota. Hace unos años, en un determinado programa de radio de un país Mienbro de esta Organización, las gentes llamaban por teléfono y formulaban preguntas distintas que el locutor de radio, el presentador, contestaba en uno o dos días. Una noche, una persona que estaba escuchando el programa, llamó por teléfono y formuló la siguiente pregunta: ¿Es posible hacer lo imposible? Aquella noche el locutor no contestó. A la noche siguiente volvió a llamar y volvió a preguntar ¿es posible hacer lo imposible? El locutor tampoco contestó. A la tercera noche volvió a llamar y volvió a insistir ¿es posible hacer lo imposible? Y el locutor contestó: Perdona, pero en este programa no hablamos de problemas agrarios.

Yo quisiera decirle, señor Director General, que todos los aquí presentes, todos los delegados sabemos que está haciendo lo imposible por hacer posible los objetivos de la Organización. Por ello, le puedo asegurar que no le va a faltar en su tarea, el apoyo de los países Miembros, el apoyo en definitiva, de toda la Conferencia y, por descontado, nuestra felicitación muy sincera por sus importantes palabras.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

The meeting rose at 12. 15 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 12. 15 horas

conference

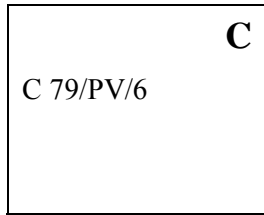
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

SIXTH PLENARY MEETING
SIXIEME SEANCE PLENIERE SE
SEXTA SESION PLENARIA
(13 November 1979)

The Sixth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14. 45 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La sixième séance plénière est ouverte à 14. 45 heures sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la sexta sesión a las 14. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Iniciamos nuestra sexta sesión plenaria. En primer lugar, ruego al Presidente independiente del Consejo, Excmo. Señor Bukar Shaib, pronuncie su discurso ante la Conferencia.

STATEMENT BY THE INDEPENDENT CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

DECLARATION DU PRESIDENT INDEPENDANT DU CONSEIL

DECLARACION DEL PRESIDENTE INDEPENDIENTE DEL CONSEJO

BUKAR SHAIB (Independent Chairman of the Council): This morning you heard a detailed statement by the Director-General on the State of Food and Agriculture and the activities of the Organization worldwide. I will therefore limit my statement to a brief account of the major activities of the Council during the biennium which is now coming to an end.

The Council is elected by you to over-see the activities of the Organization and deal with policy issues in the period between Conferences. The importance attached by member countries to the work of the Council is demonstrated by the fact that very senior officials have been assigned to lead Council delegations. We had no less than five Ministers of Agriculture attending our sessions in the past two years.

As a forum for the discussion of policy issues, the Organization has regained much of the ground lost a few years ago, and it can once again be said to occupy the central position as the International Body for food, agriculture and rural development.

When you first elected me as the Independent Chairman of the Council two years ago, I listed some of the measures which I intended to take in conducting the business of the Council. They included the following:

- persuading delegates not to make long speeches; to-limit the number of resolutions;
- to ensure that the game is played according to the rules;
- to act as a conciliator when the debates are dead-locked;
- to foster a spirit of compromise through the use of contact groups and other informal discussions, and
- to support the policies of the Director-General, where we believe such policies to be the correct ones.

I speak on behalf of all the Council members when I venture to claim that we have achieved a considerable measure of success in these objectives. Speeches have been short and to the point, and as a result, we have always finished our Agenda on time or even in advance on some occasions, thus saving valuable time and money. We have maintained a spirit of conciliation and compromise and we therefore had no insoluble or protracted problems in our procedures. We have kept: the number of resolutions to the barest minimum and we have given the Director-General strong support in the implementation of approved policies and programmes. We have also dealt expeditiously with new policy initiatives placed before and by the Director-General.

Apart from a high standard of debate on the State of Food and Agriculture, the Council also discussed: food aid policies and programmes and the problems of World Food Security. In this connection, the council endorsed the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action, which we believe will go a long way in solving these problems, if they are implemented by member countries.

We considered the FAO's contribution to the work of the Committee of the Whole of the United Nations General Assembly dealing with the New International Development Strategy, and progress towards the implementation of a New International Economic Order. We have also dealt with action arising out of the UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.

We have conducted a thorough review of the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP). Honourable delegates may remember that when this Programme was introduced by the Director-General shortly after he took Office in 1976, the Member Countries who are major contributors to the budget of FAO expressed some concern, which led to heated debates. I am happy to say that the TCP is no longer a controversial issue. It is now fully accepted by all concerned because of its proven effectiveness and successful implementation by the Director-General in accordance with the approved guidelines.

The Council was fully involved in the preparations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which most of you attended here last July.

The Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action adopted by that Conference are now before you for endorsement.

The other items of great importance to the developing countries considered by the Council are the Director-General's proposals for the development and management of fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone or EEZ which has evolved as a result of the series of UN Conferences on the Law of the Sea, and the Programme for the Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis which has its origin in the World Food Conference held in Rome five years ago. The Council has fully endorsed these proposals.

Finally, and most important of all, the Council has considered in detail the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for the 1980-81 biennium, which forms the principal item of the agenda for this Conference.

In the past, the debate on this subject was like the dialogue of the deaf, with neither side listening to the other's arguments, and as a result there was long and protracted debate without much agreement.

This time too there has been full debate but I am pleased to inform you that there the Council was unanimous in endorsing the Programme of Work, and only a few countries reserved their government's position on the level of the budget, which they promised to consider further at this Conference.

I sincerely hope that these countries would now reconsider their positions favourably so that the Conference can give an unanimous approval to the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for the coming biennium.

Yesterday, you heard a powerful plea from his Excellency President Kenith Kaunda to the rich industrialised countries to do more to solve the problems of hunger and poverty in the world.

At the World Food Conference held here in Rome in November 1974, the very same nations that are assembled in this room today solemnly pledged to eradicate hunger from the face of the earth in ten years.

Now, five years after that pledge, hunger and malnutrition are more widespread in the world than in 1974.

It would therefore require super-human efforts to eradicate hunger from the face of the earth in the remaining five years.

In spite of President Kaunda's plea, I do not believe that the necessary political will now exists in the world for such super-human efforts.

This does not mean that nothing is being done or nothing can be done. In fact a lot is being done but it is not enough.

This Organization, the FAO, is your organization and it is the Specialized Agency within the UN Family responsible for food, agriculture and rural development. In the Preamble to the Constitution it is implied that all the various activities of the Organization are aimed at ensuring freedom from hunger for all mankind. We only have to look at the marble plaques in the entrance;hall to see this statement.

We therefore have got an Organization through which we can do something and the least we can do is to give not only moral but also financial support to the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget.

These achievements of the Council, which I have just outlined, owe a great deal to the efforts of others. In particular, we are greatly indebted to the excellent work done by our main Committees, which are:

- the programme and Finance Committees,
- the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Forestry and the Committee on Fisheries,
- the Committee on Commodity Problems,
- the Committee on Food Security, Food Aid Policies and Programmes, and
- the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters.

Apart from the Chairmen of these Committees, I also had valuable assistance from the various Vice-Chairmen, Rapporteurs, and Drafting Committees of the Council and many individual members of the Council.

Above all, the success of your Council and its Committees was made possible by the personal and very dynamic interest taken in our work by the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma and his colleagues in the Secretariat. They spared no efforts to ensure that we had everything we needed to do our work. In this regard the Secretary-General, Mr. Almamy Sylla and his staff gave us calm and very efficient service.

On behalf of the Conference and the Council, I wish to thank all those who contributed to the success of our work in the past two years.

EL PRESIDENTE: Doy ahora la palabra al representante del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas, señor Maurice J. Williams, Director Ejecutivo del Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación.

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

DECLARATION DU REPRESENTANT DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL DES NATIONS UNIES

DECLARACION DEL REPRESENTANTE DEL SECRETARIO GENERAL DE LA NACIONES UNIDAS

M. J. WILLIAMS (Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations): It is a privilege for me to convey to you on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, his greetings and good wishes on the occasion of this Twentieth FAO Conference.

On behalf of the United Nations, Dr. Waldheim has asked me to deliver this message.

The biennial FAO Conference is an event of importance to the United Nations System, where ministers of agriculture and food meet to review and resolve food issues around the globe. This particular Conference is taking place at a time beset with difficult and frustrating emergencies. Only a few days ago Secretary-General Waldheim convened an extraordinary conference in New York to solicit humanitarian assistance for millions of starving people in Kampuchea whose catastrophe may have no parallel in history. Recently, the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development drew attention to the plight of hungry millions the world over. The dimensions of growing hunger are staggering. It is therefore difficult to exaggerate the urgency and importance of the tasks before you.

Five years ago this week, the World Food Conference, which was convened by the United Nations, adopted the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition. In this Declaration, as you will recall, the Conference resolved that "within a decade, no child will go to bed hungry, that no family will fear for its next day's bread, and that no human being's future and capacities will be stunted by malnutrition".

As you begin this Conference, the underlying question is: How far has the world progressed toward the goal? where do we stand?

The initial momentum generated by the crisis of 1973-74, led to action being taken in a number of key areas. There has been greater action on food production, reserves for emergencies and additional funds allocated for food and agriculture.

However, global action has been grossly inadequate in relation to the problems and to the needs at hand. Indeed, the few bright spots-as the Director-General pointed out this morning-have served only to accentuate the vast, dark areas of concern.

It is time to break free from the vicious chain of continued food insecurity, lost opportunities and the shattering effects of natural and man-made disasters. All our progress in technology and organization will remain suspect in the eyes of posterity if we do not succeed in the abolition of the "slavery of hunger".

FAO rightly places primary importance on marshalling investment resources, globally and nationally, for increased food production in developing countries. It is our hope that the resources will be forthcoming-indeed they must be-given the right policies priorities and strategies, structural and organizational changes and international political good will. Working in close collaboration, the international community should be able, as never before, to accelerate action commensurate with the human dimension of the problem. We are confident that the world can triumph over hunger.

This is an opportune moment to voice our continued concern at the failure negotiations in the International Wheat Arrangement. All participants must be urged to resume the negotiations at an early date, in a spirit of accommodation and understanding. In the meantime, a new Food Aid Convention must be concluded in order not to deny the world a semblance of food security until the grains arrangements are finalized. Any further delay in reaching the modest target of the International Emergency Reserve also in unacceptable. In this connection, Director-General Saouma's Five-Point Plan of Action for world food security deserves our full support.

Ministers and representatives of governments: may we take this opportunity to pay tribute to your governments for the steadfastness with which you are addressing your task. May we also congratulate those agencies, organs and institutions of the United Nations system and outside which, over the years, have given support to your plans and programmes and which include, in addition to FAO, the World Food Council, the World Food Programme, the World Bank, UNDP and IFAD, as well as the regional economic and social commissions and regional banks.

As we approach the Third United Nations Development Decade, as we seek to make the New International Economic Order a reality, our responsibilities in the food sector range from the plight of the boat people in South-East Asia and the hungry in Kampuchea to the victims of droughts, floods, earthquakes and other natural disasters, including chronic hunger. The task ahead is to ensure that the millions of women, men and children throughout the world for whom starvation is a permanent reality are enabled to overcome hunger and to lead healthy and creative lives as equal partners in the human society of tomorrow.

May our shared concern inspire your actions in this important Conference.

EL PRESIDENTE: Gracias doctor Williams por sus palabras y rogamos trasmita al señor Waldheim nuestro agradecimiento por su mensaje.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

DEBAT GENERAL

DEBATE GENERAL

- STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES

EL PRESIDENTE: Vamos a comenzar el debate general y podrán, a partir de este momento, hacer uso de la palabra los jefes de las delegaciones que hayan solicitado previamente su turno para hablar.

Recordaran ustedes, sin duda, que la Conferencia convino en aceptar la sugerencia del Consejo de que los jefes de las delegaciones como en las sesiones anteriores, limiten sus declaraciones a un tiempo máximo de 20 minutos. Hemos recibido muchas peticiones para hacer uso de la palabra y ésta es, realmente la única forma en que podemos proceder. Ruego a los señores delegados que lean el párrafo 21 del documento C 79/12-Rev. 2 que aprobamos el sábado 10 de noviembre. En vista del elevado número de oradores que deben hacer uso de la palabra, me permito rogarles que ciñan sus declaraciones al tiempo máximo indicado.

L. MARDONES SEVILLA (España): Señor Presidente, señor Director General, señores delegados: Tengo el honor de iniciar el turno de declaraciones de Jefes de delegación, y deseo en primer lugar, felicitar a todos los Miembros de la mesa así como a los Miembros de los restantes Comités que hemos elegido. Su capacidad nos permitirá desempeñar adecuadamente los cometidos importantes asignados a este vigésimo Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO.

En nombre de mi Gobierno, felicito también a las Representaciones de los dos Nuevos Estados Miembros de la Organización FAO, Dominica y Samoa Occidental.

Deseo dirigir un saludo muy especial a los representantes de los países árabes, a los de Latinoamérica y a los de la Comunidad Económica Europea, a los que nos unen, para España razones históricas especiales, vínculos y lazos de amistad que se prolongan en nuestro caso de civilización y cultura hasta las Islas Filipinas.

La delegación de España agradece al Director General de la FAO, doctor Saouma y a los Miembros de la Secretaría su eficaz labor preparatoria de nuestros trabajos, así como la completa documentación preparada al efecto.

En el marco de la cooperación internacional vienen perfilándose dos elementos modernos que conviene precisar y tratar de explotar beneficiosamente para todos nosotros. Se trata, por una parte, del imperativo de reajustes estructurales, y por otra parte, del concepto de gestión de la interdependencia global mundial. Son dos ideas de fuerza que considero genéricas y que subyacen en los principales planteamientos generados por el diálogo Norte-Sur y que deberían traducirse, en la práctica, en acciones políticas e instrumentos de concierto más operativos que los actuales. Una de las principales cuestiones que centran y deberán centrar este diálogo en 1980 es la preparación de la Estrategia Internacional de Desarrollo para el Tercer Decenio de las Naciones Unidas. Ello constituye, sin duda, una excelente ocasión para mejorar la mutua comprensión de los objetivos económicos y sociales de los países en vías de desarrollo, y para definir clara y responsablemente las esferas y modalidades que se revelen prioritarias para una mayor cooperación multilateral, y que como muy bien nos señalaba ayer el Papa Juan Pablo II, si queremos verdaderamente que tal estrategia para el Tercer Decenio de Desarrollo vaya por delante de los acontecimientos en lugar de ser su simple acompañante.

En este sentido cabe pensar que una buena aportación de la FAO durante el próximo decenio sería efectuar de modo sistemático un plan de seguimiento y de evaluación de los programas realizados en el campo de la Agricultura y de la Alimentación, en relación con los objetivos que defina esta Nueva Estrategia, elaborando la serie de indicadores cuantitativos y cualitativos más importantes. Subrayo la oportunidad de que se haya celebrado el pasado mes de julio y en esta misma Sede, la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural donde tantas ilusiones y de tantos pueblos política y socialmente están puestos.

Es forzoso reconocer que subsisten todavía importantes razones para tener que trabajar y avanzar más hacia los objetivos de un desarrollo rural integrado, que permita una mejor utilización de los actuales recursos disponibles, lo que obliga de manera especial a una mayor dinamicidad en el uso de la tierra y a unas mejores posibilidades de realización personal para todos los habitantes de las zonas no urbanas, y por tanto eminentemente rurales.

Parece hoy cada vez más evidente, que la existencia y continuidad de un sector agrario eficiente sólo resultará posible en los países que emprendan una decidida política de valoración social y defensa económica del medio rural. No es posible seguir formulando políticas agrarias aisladas, sin incluir con imaginación, y con responsabilidad y con la conveniente audacia, perspectivas de ordenación territorial, seguridad alimentaria y balances energéticos no solamente cuantitativos sino fundamentalmente cualitativos.

Por ejemplo, y sin que la sociedad acepte, porque finalmente lo llegue a comprender, que la brecha secular que existe entre la ciudad y el campo, y por analogía, entre los países industrializados y los que se hallan en vías de desarrollo, debe resolverse mediante las transferencias que sean necesarias para generar en el medio rural y pesquero unos mayores estímulos que conduzcan a una mejor calidad de vida.

Por todo ello, parece lógico que los programas de desarrollo que propicie una organización como la FAO, deben incluir las líneas operativas básicas para conseguir en los Estados Miembros una más eficaz y justa política de rentas económicas y sociales, para los trabajadores del sector primario, ya que hasta ahora las rentas agrarias se hallan irremediamente comprimidas entre un sistema de costos crecientes y de precios no suficientemente remuneradores en muchos casos y según la economía de cada país. Además, en ocasiones, las diferencias entre lo que el consumidor paga y lo que el agricultor percibe, llegan a ser excesivamente amplias en muchas localidades del mundo.

En resumen, preconizo la adopción de políticas de desarrollo económico y social en donde la Seguridad Alimentaria, la Adecuación Nutricional, la Calidad de Vida y la Ecología sean las disciplinas fundamentales que inspiren un nuevo modo de resolver la doble dialéctica entre campo y ciudad, entre producción y consumo, que todavía hoy, enfrentan a distintas categorías de los colectivos sociales. La seguridad en los abastecimientos, las reservas estratégicas y los niveles de precio y de calidad de los alimentos deben constituir un elemento de tranquilidad para las economías familiares, pero sin que resulten dañadas comparativamente, por ello, las rentas de los productos agrarios y pesqueros. Resulta preciso, a este respecto, considerar la conveniencia de remodelar y hacer más transparente el funcionamiento del complejo sistema mundial agroalimentario, tanto a nivel nacional como internacional, porque en las esferas de la producción, transformación y consumo de los productos alimentarios, creo que estamos asistiendo a alteraciones de equilibrio que se traducen, generalmente en que los operadores no primarios detentan una posición dominante en todo el proceso, sin la debida compensación para los productores. A nivel internacional, pienso, debería evitarse la progresiva consolidación de un sistema agroalimentario basado fundamentalmente en importantes transferencias de alimentos desde países industrializados a países en desarrollo, ya que así se estimularía un tipo de producciones de altos costos por unidad calórico/alimentaria obtenida, con evidente perjuicio para una más racional asignación de recursos a escala mundial.

Y hablando de costos de producción creo que debería ser preciso reflexionar documentalmente, y quizá en el seno de la FAO, sobre las consecuencias que las modificaciones previsibles en la disponibilidad y precios del petróleo y sus derivados, como fertilizantes, plaguicidas y plásticos, ocasionarán, o quizá están ya ocasionando en muchos países, sobre las políticas y objetivos de producción agraria y pesquera, así como sobre las repercusiones que las nuevas condiciones de la oferta energética internacional tendrán sobre el volumen y la distribución actual de los intercambios agrarios y alimentarios. En el caso concreto de mi país, las elevaciones de precios en fertilizantes, combustibles y plásticos, están creando serios problemas a la economía agraria que debemos intentar paliar en el futuro.

Mi delegación, señor Presidente, desea con sinceridad que el problema energético que nos afecta, y que muchos califican ya de crisis, no sirva de motivo para dividirnos, sino más bien para que agrupemos nuestras voluntades e inteligencias y responsabilidades en el convencimiento de que es necesaria una concentración y colaboración internacional más positiva que hasta ahora bajo el punto de vista de la solidaridad humana.

Uno de los grandes problemas que lleva a cabo esta Organización y que es un programa verdaderamente importante porque tiende a erradicar el hambre, es el de la pesca. Entendemos que la FAO debe favorecer la cooperación en materia del aprovechamiento y explotación de los recursos pesqueros entre países en desarrollo y países industrializados, con el fin de alcanzar una más racional ordenación de los recursos en las denominadas "zonas económicas exclusivas". Esta cooperación comporta una utilización óptima de los mismos, de manera que al mismo tiempo se contribuya a resolver el déficit alimentario mundial cuantitativa y cualitativamente hablando y al aporte de proteínas nobles, plásticas de la fisiología humana y evitando desequilibrios estructurales.

A estos fines es preciso que la Organización favorezca una cooperación internacional dirigida a la transferencia de la tecnología pesquera, bien en el marco de acuerdos bilaterales, bien a través de la constitución de empresas pesqueras conjuntas, o mediante otro tipo de acuerdos.

Mi delegación desea subrayar también la importante función que la FAO puede ejercer en los próximos años en el seno de las organizaciones regionales de pesca, contribuyendo a poner en práctica las normas del nuevo ordenamiento jurídico de los mares, que se debaten en la tercera Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Derechos del Mar.

Otro de los campos en los que la FAO podría desarrollar en los próximos años una actividad muy importante y significativa, es el referente a la conservación de los recursos genéticos. Estos creo que deben ser considerados como recursos naturales limitados y perecederos, que proporcionan unas materias primas, los genes cada vez más utilizados por los técnicos en mejora vegetal y animal, para su transformación en productos finales, como son las nuevas variedades de plantas y razas de animales o productos de hibridación o domesticación.

Mi delegación considera que dichos recursos constituyen realmente un patrimonio internacional, y por ello veríamos con agrado el estudio y la posible creación de un Banco Internacional de Genes de interés agrario y ganadero dependiente de la FAO donde todos los países que lo deseen puedan depositar duplicados en su materia y material genético, asegurando su salvaguardia, su utilización y su disfrute indiscriminado, tanto en el presente como en el futuro y a favor de los países que lo necesiten.

Para terminar, señor Presidente, deseo referirme al plan de acción sobre la seguridad alimentaria mundial. Ante la imposibilidad de llegar, por ahora, a resultados satisfactorios en la negociación sobre el Nuevo Acuerdo Internacional de Cereales, que contenga normas sobre constitución y gestión de reservas, ayuda alimentaria, y niveles de precios, el Plan de Acción de 5 puntos presentado por el Director General, y aprobado por el Consejo de la FAO, representa una iniciativa necesaria y realista que merece nuestra felicitación, pero está claro que se trata del sustitutivo temporal e insuficiente de unas cláusulas más eficaces sobre la seguridad alimentaria que, sin duda, todos deseamos ver reflejadas en el futuro acuerdo.

Nuestra posición de solidaridad con los principios que informa el Plan de Acción nos ha llevado a estar presentes en los foros internacionales en los que se ha debatido esta cuestión. Nuestro país no está exento de problemas. Es conocido que somos deficitarios en la producción de cereales secundarios. Por lo que se refiere al trigo, nuestra producción está equilibrada con el consumo interior, teniendo en cuenta la necesidad de mantener los stocks establecidos en las campañas para necesidades propias. Como indicó el señor Presidente de la República de Zambia, Dr. Kaunda, la solución a largo plazo para la seguridad alimentaria mundial estriba en asegurar la autosuficiencia del Tercer Mundo en productos alimentarios básicos y esta solución pasa por la ayuda al desarrollo en todos los órdenes.

Señor Presidente, los temas de nuestra agenda son todos muy importantes y actuales. Mi delegación tendrá ocasión de manifestar su postura al respecto en los trabajos de las respectivas Comisiones.

Deseo concluir estas palabras, reafirmando nuestra voluntad de utilizar al máximo las oportunidades que nos brinda este período de sesiones de nuestra Conferencia en la FAO para construir un sistema de convivencia concertada, que corresponda mejor a los imperativos, cada vez más evidentes de equidad y de justicia sociales con amplio sentido de la responsabilidad de una tierra que nos es patrimonio común.

XING CHONG-ZHI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): First of all, allow me, on behalf of the Chinese delegation, to congratulate you warmly on your election as Chairman of the present Session and sincerely wish our Session every success under your able guidance. I should also like to welcome cordially the Independent State of Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica as the latest members of this Organization. We believe that they will certainly make useful contributions to the activities of FAO.

The Chinese delegation has noted that within the framework of the struggle for the establishment of a New International Economic Order, the current Session will, in the light of the characteristics and requirements of the world food and agriculture situation at present, lay special emphasis on the discussion of action programmes on world food security and the development of marine fishery, as well as such important topics as long-term strategies of world agriculture and follow-up actions for WCARRD. The Programme of Work and Budget of this Organization for the next biennium will also be worked out in conformity with these activities. For an international organization to be so practical and action-oriented in its support and promotion of agricultural development in the developing countries is certainly a trend that merits commendation. The Chinese delegation is indeed very pleased to have this opportunity to compare notes with colleagues on the current state of food and agriculture so that we can benefit from each other's experience and deliberate together on questions of common concern.

Mr. Chairman, over recent years, a number of positive developments have evolved in the international food and agriculture arena. The promotion of food production in the developing countries has been recognized by the international community as a strategic task for overcoming global hunger and malnutrition. Many developing countries producing and exporting agricultural raw materials have organized themselves in the arduous struggle to improve their unfavourable position in the world farm produce trade, and put forward rational proposals at UNCTAD for reforming the old international structure of trade and establishing an Integrated Programme of Commodities. The WCARRD convened here last July adopted a Declaration of Principles and a Programme of Action which point out new possibilities for the development of rural society and economy. More and more countries have declared a 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. This new ocean regime has opened up new prospects for fishery production in the developing countries. TCDC has been gathering momentum in the agricultural realm. The burning task confronting us in agriculture is to translate these important policy-decisions into action benefitting the whole of mankind.

Mr. Chairman, it is universally acknowledged that the development of food production, especially in the developing world, is and will continue to be, for a long time to come, the pivot of action in the world food and agriculture sphere as well as an essential component of the NIEO yet to be established. I should like to take this opportunity to refer to some of China's policies and measures in this regard.

For years we have given priority to agriculture as the foundation of the entire national economy. This is not just because over 80% of our population live in the rural areas, but also because only the development of agriculture can provide enough food for the urban people including the workers, as well as sufficient raw material and markets for industry, speed up the accumulation of capital and guarantee the economic independence of the country.

By taking agriculture as the foundation, we mean that in planning the development of the national economy as a whole, we should proceed from the actual situation in agriculture, and coordinate the development of light, industry, heavy industry and other sectors of the economy accordingly. The Chinese government has recently decided to pursue a policy of "readjusting, restructuring, consolidating and improving" the national economy and adopted, for this purpose, "Decisions on Some Questions Concerning the Speeding Up of Agricultural Development". In accordance with these "Decisions", we shall further implement our basic rural policies, consolidate the system of rural people's communes with their three levels of ownership and with the production team as the basic accounting unit. In the meantime, the state has increased its investment in agriculture from 10.7% of its total investment last year in the national economy to the present 14%. If we add to this the 7.05 billion Yuan to be used in support of the rural people's communes and agriculture in general and the 2.55 billion Yuan of additional agricultural credit, the state's total expenditure in agriculture this year will exceed 17.4 billion Yuan (about 11.4 billion US dollars). Supplies of fertilizer, pesticides and other inputs have increased while their prices are lower as a result of reduced production costs. Agricultural scientific research will be energetically developed, more modern equipment and technology will be provided to agriculture, and policies and guidelines for agricultural production and technology will be drawn up in accordance with the economic and natural conditions of various areas, so as to develop agriculture more forcefully.

The development of China's agriculture depends chiefly on the endeavours of her numerous peasantry. The study "Agriculture: Toward. 2000" prepared by the Secretariat for the deliberation of our present Session makes a most interesting point when it says that investment, inputs and technology cannot by themselves increase agricultural yields, which are determined in the final analysis by those who work in the fields. Hence, we stress that the ownership and autonomy of people's communes must be respected. Within the commune, democracy, both political and economic, should be practised and leaders should be elected at all levels. The purchasing prices for cereals have been raised 20% this year with an additional 50% price bonus for what is sold above the quota, while purchasing prices for other agricultural and subsidiary produce are to be increased accordingly step by step. On the other hand, agricultural tax and procurement quotas are to be stabilized, with tax to be reduced or remitted in areas in economic difficulty. All this will mean an extra income of over 7 billion Yuan for the peasants. It is estimated that with the development of agriculture, the rural communes and peasants will earn considerably more. Concerning the distribution of income in the commune, the principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work" is practised, so that both men and women get equal pay, and income is distributed strictly in accordance with the amount and quality of work done. All these have greatly aroused the socialist enthusiasm of China's 800 million peasants.

In the thirty years since the founding of the People's Republic, much progress has been made in China's food and agricultural production. In 1978, our annual grain output reached 304.75 million tons, up 7.8% over the previous year. With industrial crops, animal husbandry, forestry and fishery all registering increases in output, the 1978 national agricultural output value amounted to 145.9 billion Yuan (\$95.3 billion), hereby fulfilling the planned target and by 102.7% and going up 8.9% over the previous year. The national plan for food production this year calls for an output of 312.5 million tons. So far the summer crops have yielded 5.5 million tons more than last year and with a good harvest expected for the autumn crops, the 1979 targets will probably be overfulfilled with most items exceeding last year's production.

However, China's agriculture has developed through ups and downs. The productivity of our agriculture remains low. We still have 800 million people working for the food supply of the nation. Our ability to control natural calamities is still rather weak. Yet we are confident that so long as the "Decisions" for speeding up agricultural development are implemented in good earnest, so long as the principle of taking agriculture as the foundation of the national economy is firmly pursued and the socialist enthusiasm of the broad masses of peasants brought into full play, China will gradually turn her backward agriculture into a well developed, integrated agricultural system, speeding up her agricultural development and thus having a rational layout of farming, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and sideline production, that will meet the growing needs of the people and of an expanding industry. By then, China's rural areas will have become prosperous bases combining agriculture, industry and commerce.

China has a population of over 970 million. To feed, clothe and provide such a huge population with other essentials of life, food security on a national scale is of special significance. As you know, we pursue a policy of planned purchase and supply of food with a view to gradually establishing food reserves after providing the urban and rural people with the necessary basic foodstuffs. The state fixes its reserve level annually in the light of the harvest, that is to say, it sets aside more reserves in good years and less in mediocre years, so that we can offset a bad year with reserves stored up in good years. Food is also stored among the people, that is to say, whenever possible, among the production brigades, team and commune members. In short, food security in China is placed on a relatively firm footing through increased production, equitable distribution, guaranteed and planned consumption and thrifty use of food, with reserves set up against natural calamities.

The development of agriculture in any country, as well as international food security, is bound to be interrelated with current international economic relationships. It follows that agricultural development and related problems of common concern cannot be discussed in isolation from existing international economic relations, nor from the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism and for social emancipation and progress.

It is our hope that more and more developed countries will face up to the reality, recognize the developing countries' right to participate fully in decision-making on international economic affairs, sit down to negotiate on an equal footing with them so as to break the deadlock in the current negotiations, strengthen their ties of co-operation with the developing countries on the basis of independence, sovereignty and genuine equality, and provide more economic and technical assistance.

The Chinese delegation will, as before, support other developing countries in their just struggle to increase food production, improve their position in international trade of agricultural produce and safeguard their sovereignty over their EEZs. We will endeavour to develop economic co-operation and technical exchanges with FAO. While upholding independence and self-reliance, we will strive to learn whatever is good from all countries and introduce urgently needed advanced technologies in a selective manner. We will strengthen economic and technical co-operation with other developing countries so that we can support each other and make progress together in our common struggle to set up a New International Economic Order in the food and agriculture sphere, which will be just, rational, equitable and beneficial to all.

B. BERGLAND (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Delegates, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, during the past thirty years, American food and agriculture policy has evolved from a patchwork of isolated solutions to immediate problems into a framework which integrates these parts into a more cohesive global strategy which encompasses trade, assistance, and development.

The United States' policies at times in the past have been largely reactive-successfully reactive, I must stress-to the short-term demands of domestic surplus or local famine.

Unfortunately, some of our domestic food and agriculture policies were carried out with too little regard for long-term global conditions.

In times past our food assistance programs had as their main goal the elimination of burdensome surpluses in the United States.

At times past the major tool of our domestic policies became massive land retirement schemes which reached the levels of 20-40 million hectares in some years.

At times we would either give away or sell our bounty at rock bottom prices, again with too little thought for the global need of the future.

In spite of this-primarily because of excellent weather conditions over which we had no control-we accidentally accumulated stocks during the 1950's and in the 1960's. In the early 1970's we disposed of these stocks in haste-largely ignoring world conditions and domestic producer incomes.

When in the mid-1970's our domestic production was inadequate to meet our worldwide commitments, due, again, to conditions over which we had no control, we at times resorted to the embargo of exports and at times reduced our food assistance to persons abroad.

In 1976, Jimmy Carter was elected President of the United States. He directed me, as his new Secretary of Agriculture, to change the direction of American food and agriculture policies and give them three concise objectives:

- first, to provide stability of price to encourage a healthy, productive industry at home while protecting foreign and domestic consumers from wild and unreasonable fluctuations in prices;
- second, to provide stability of supply that could overcome the vagaries of weather and reduce the pressures of shortages at home and abroad; and,
- third, to reshape our international food assistance programmes and make them a tool for world economic as well as agricultural development.

In short, President Carter sought to establish a market-oriented domestic policy that would meet producer and consumer needs in a global context.

The cornerstone of the President's program is the farmer-owned, farmer-held, grain reserve that is insulated from the whims of government intervention and unreasonable commercial market conditions.

It has worked successfully.

Because of weather and because of strong prices that encourage production we in the United States have been able to increase our commercial exports for the past year to a record-breaking 127 million metric tons with record-breaking yields in the United States that may reach 140 million metric tons this year.

The size of our farmer-owned, farmer-controlled domestic reserve is limited only to the difference between our total production and the size of demand, both foreign and domestic.

Because of the success of our own new reserve strategy, there will be no acreage restraints imposed upon farmers in the production of food or feed grains for the crop year 1980. We have financed and built adequate storage facilities to hold excess stocks during years of plenty to maintain reasonable prices and reliable supplies during the bad years, my friends, that will surely come.

Our reserve-backed by the productive ability of the American farmer-will allow us to meet our massive commercial demand without endangering our humanitarian commitments.

Because our reserve programme is working effectively, we believe an international plan of nationally held reserves-supported by producers and consumers alike-is essential to maintain stable prices and encourage additional production for our future needs. We also support-and have pledged 4,47 million metric tons of the annual 10 million tons total-a food aid convention to meet emergency needs.

This is not to say that the United States has solved all of our food and agricultural problems or that we can be a substitute for multilateral food security programs and accelerated internal agricultural development the world over.

That challenge is too great for any single nation or any single organization.

Our multinational energies must be directed, first and foremost, toward increased food and agricultural production, especially in the low-income, food-deficit countries. Eighty-five to ninety percent of the world's food is consumed within the nation in which it is produced. Without sustained production increases, particularly in the poorest countries, there can be no long-term food security for most of mankind.

One of the greatest threats to food security in these countries is the high and rising cost of energy. The alarming increases in the price of oil can only retard the expansion of badly needed farm power, irrigation and the use of fertilizers and other farm chemicals essential to sustained increases in production. What has become a difficulty to the more developed countries can become an unmitigated disaster for a developing nation.

There can be little doubt that increases in external aid are necessary. But external assistance is effective only if the developing countries are firmly committed to giving the food and agriculture sector higher priority in their own development plans. The developing countries in my view must commit more of their resources to agricultural development and provide greater incentives to their own food producers. They must consider policies and investments to increase employment in rural areas so that the small farmer and the landless poor can earn enough to buy the food they need.

The United States sees the development of food sector strategies as an important first step for increasing food production. Such strategies would help the developing countries coordinate their food production programs and use their resources more effectively. This Organization, FAO, can lend its talents in this area. We urge FAO to work with the World Bank, the Regional Development Banks, and the World Food Council in helping developing countries develop these strategies. The United States can also provide technical assistance in this area.

A second step in promoting food production is increased support for international agricultural research. Research is essential for the kind of technological innovation that can raise crop yields. We are pleased that FAO has recommended, in its medium-term objectives paper, greater support for national and international agricultural research.

We must finally increase our attention to maintaining croplands against erosion, depletion and degradation.

Most of the earth's lands suitable for cultivation are now currently being used. We cannot afford to waste this precious resource. We strongly support efforts by FAO and the UN Environmental Program to fight the degradation of croplands and encourage greater national and international efforts for this purpose.

Increasing food production is a critically important factor but not the only factor involved in reducing hunger and malnutrition.

Malnutrition is rooted in poverty and the inequitable distribution of food. We need a multifaceted approach to overcoming hunger and malnutrition. As I have said, developing countries will need to formulate policies and programs that link increased production and improved distribution.

Also, the United States believes that strengthening world food security is vitally important. We will continue to work toward stable grain supplies and adequate reserve stocks. We regret that negotiations toward a new International Wheat Agreement have not been successful, but we hope that a new agreement may be concluded.

We agree with Director-General Saouma that incomplete negotiations on the International Wheat Agreement should not discourage interim progress toward world food security. We think the time is ripe to move forward on two food security objectives: the completion of a new food aid convention and the establishment of food security systems in developing countries.

A New Food Aid Convention (FAC) will be an important step in assuring sufficient food aid. We support the 10 million ton target for annual food aid commitments and have pledged 4.47 million tons of cereals as our minimum annual contribution. We urge governments which have not yet agreed to separate Food Aid Convention negotiations to reconsider their positions. We also urge all countries in a position to contribute meaningfully to the convention-whether in cash or in kind-to do so. The effectiveness, as well as the quantity of food aid can be greatly enhanced by supplementary financial and technical assistance.

National food security systems in developing countries will help increase available reserve stocks and facilitate the rapid distribution of food supplies to needy areas. But these food security systems will require assistance in building food storage facilities and in designing systems to maintain and distribute food reserves. We encourage the World Bank to give increased emphasis to food storage facilities and food distribution systems. We also urge FAO to work with the World Bank wherever possible in this endeavor.

In the U. S. view, FAO is the major action organization in the entire United Nations System specifically concerned with world food and agriculture matters. Because the reduction of hunger and malnutrition should be FAO's principal concern, we urge that it direct a greater share of its resources toward the low-income, food-deficit countries.

As we have suggested, FAO can help these countries develop food sector strategies, undertake nutrition intervention programs, and assess food storage and food distribution needs. We also encourage FAO to more actively promote rural employment, with particular attention to the needs of the poorest and most disadvantaged. FAO has highlighted many of these same areas in its Medium-Term Objectives Paper.

It is clear, then, that FAO has a vital role to play in meeting the challenge facing us in food and agriculture over the next twenty years. But we must all strive together.

The work of this Organization can be enhanced by joint activities with bilateral agencies. The cooperative program between FAO and U. S. Aid in the Sahel illustrates the benefits of joint endeavours. FAO might also explore developing closer cooperation with non-governmental organizations, many of which have substantial resources and expertise in agricultural development programs. The United States will continue to help developing countries improve their own food production and distribution bilaterally and through international organizations. In the long term, food security means that developing countries can maintain and, preferably, increase their per capita food consumption. We allocate almost half of our bilateral economic development assistance to agriculture and rural development.

In fiscal year 1978, the U. S. allocated almost \$556 million of its bilateral aid resources to agriculture, rural development and nutrition. In fiscal year 1979, we devoted an estimated \$610 million toward these goals and gave requested \$715 million in our fiscal year 80 budget submission to congress.

In the years ahead we will seek to channel even more of our food and development assistance to those low-income developing countries which encourage increased domestic food production and more equitable distribution of food and agricultural resources.

All of us here are agreed that we must do more in the fight against world hunger. But the reality is that in today's troubled world economy, we must find ways of doing more with the resources already available to us. In this regard, the Director-General is to be commended in the efficiencies he has achieved in the operations of FAO. Those efforts must, and I trust, will continue.

I want to stress, finally, that the U. S. continues to seek ways to expand trade in food and agriculture products with the developing countries. The U. S. is now the largest single importer of agricultural commodities from the third world. In fiscal year 1978, U. S. imports of food and agricultural commodities from developing countries were almost \$9.4 billion-\$500 million more than our agricultural exports to them. In fiscal year 1979, our commodity imports from developing countries increased to \$10.6 billion. Concessions reached in the multilateral trade negotiations should bring even greater agricultural trade between developing countries and the U. S. , as well as the rest of the world.

The United States is and will remain a responsible partner in the world agricultural system. We will tailor our assistance to meet the diverse needs of the low-income and middle-income countries. We will continue to be the principal contributor to multilateral agencies while we also seek expand our bilateral programs. And we will shape our policies to assure both the food supplies a technical know-how which the world so desperately needs. Like you, we recognize the urgency of the challenge we face-to reduce hunger and malnutrition in the decades ahead. We look forward to working with FAO and all of you in this endeavor. Let us move forward together.

S. SUOMELA (Finland): On behalf of the Delegation of Finland, I have the honour to express our most sincere congratulations upon your election as Chairman for the Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference.

Since we are now living the last year of the current decade, it may be appropriate to look back at the development of the world food situation during the 1970's. It can be said, that even if the world recovered rather quickly after the severe food crisis in 1972-74, we do not really have any reason for self-complacency. We can also be sure by now, that the target set by the UN-system for an annual growth of 4% in the agricultural production of the developing countries during the 1970's will not be reached. According to FAO estimates, the number of people suffering from malnutrition is steadily growing.

The per capita production of food in all developing countries increased from 1970 to 1978 by a very modest 0.6 percent per year. Particular concern is caused by the stagnation of agricultural development in the poorest or MSA-countries. In these countries, food production did not even keep abreast with the population growth in the 1970's, but the per capita production decreased 0.2 percent per year. This indicated a deterioration in the situation compared with the 1960's. It really seems now, that the gap between the MSA-countries and other developing countries is widening all the time.

The main emphasis in the work of this Organization has always been the promotion of agricultural technology in order to increase food production in developing countries. However, it has become ever more evident that sheer increase of production by technological means is not enough, as necessary as it is in itself. Hunger and malnutrition have their roots in the poverty of the rural people. Therefore, also the existing structural problems in rural areas must be solved. All barriers to more equal distribution of resources and to better social justice must be removed.

The participation by the rural people in the institutions which govern their lives must be guaranteed. These problems require solutions, which are of highly political character.

All these very difficult and sensitive questions were illuminated and discussed in the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in Rome last July. That the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action could be adopted speaks for that the governments of the participating countries are determined to undertake those practical and political measures, which are necessary for the implementation of the action programme. It is self-evident, that the follow-up work of WCARRD at the national level is entirely up to the Governments. It is up to them to make the action programme a true reality.

Also the role of FAO is important in the follow-up of the WCARRD. In the view of my Government, the implementation of the action programme and the follow-up work should be one of the focal points in the programme of work of this Organization in the future. I want to point out that in our view the monitoring of the agrarian reform and rural development situation through appropriate socio-economic indicators will be a most important task. In this regard, as well as in the whole follow-up work, FAO should be able to render all assistance that member countries will be asking for.

Rural development requires a multi-dimensional approach in order to take care of the various interdependent problems involved. We see therefore with satisfaction, that also forestry aspects were included in the action programme of the WCARRD and that forestry measures are foreseen in this context. Based on its experience and expertise, my country wishes to draw attention to the impact forestry is able to give in favour of development activities for the good of the people in rural areas. I also welcome the emphasis laid on "forestry for rural development" in the Programme of Work for the next biennium, as well as in the medium-term objectives for forestry. The strong accent on rural development matters in FAO's forestry programmes is in our view all in line with the common tasks and objectives of this Organization with regard to the follow-up of WCARRD.

Concerning the World Food Security, the Finnish Government regrets that the negotiating conference on a new international grains arrangement was adjourned in February without results. My delegation sincerely hopes, that the negotiations could be started as soon as possible with a view of aiming at a new grains arrangement within the framework of which the objectives of the FAO International Undertaking on World Food Security could be realized. We greet with satisfaction the Director-General's proposal for a Plan of Action on Food Security, which was adopted by the FAO Council in June. Finland for its part is expanding its storage capacity of food and feed grains very considerably and has

increased the national stock target of food grains up to an amount corresponding to more than one year's domestic consumption.

As regards fisheries, Mr. Chairman, the new regime of the oceans, especially the extended national fisheries jurisdiction, provides a new basis for fisheries development for the coastal states. The regime allows the coastal states to develop their fisheries from a starting point, which not only offers them opportunities to get a greater share from living marine resources, but also makes them responsible to manage these resources properly. To meet this obligation and to benefit fully from rational exploitation, the countries concerned need assistance. FAO should and indeed must assume a leading role in assisting developing coastal states in all sectors of fisheries. In this respect, Finland fully supports the programme and objectives presented to the FAO's Committee on Fisheries at its last session, a few weeks ago. The Organization should also encourage bilateral agreements, including other arrangements between developed and developing coastal states, as well as joint ventures which would lead to better utilization of living marine resources and to their effective management measures. Also FAO's capacity to support and assist regional fishery bodies and their programmes relating to economic zones should be strengthened.

The new development programme in the field of fisheries is a great challenge to FAO, but I am certain, that the Organization will accomplish its task with success.

Finally, on behalf of the Finnish delegation, I want to assure the support of my country to the FAO in its important work for a better life for mankind, I want also to thank the Director-General and his staff for the fine work done during the last biennium.

S. HADISAPOETRO (Indonesia): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of my delegation I would like, first of all, to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, our warmest congratulations on your unanimous election to the chairmanship of this FAO Conference. We have every confidence that under your able guidance this Twentieth Session will come to a fruitful conclusion. I also wish here to congratulate the Vice-Chairmen and other officers on their election to their important functions.

Agriculture, in its widest sense, plays a fundamental role in the world economy and provides, directly and indirectly, the livelihood of more than half of the population of the world. Despite national as well as international efforts so far made to overcome the problems of world hunger and poverty, world food security is on a fragile footing, while millions of people are still living below the poverty level.

The problems of rural poverty, pressing food shortages and malnutrition are well known. As a first step to overcome these problems, increased efforts should be made to reach the target of 4% annual growth rate in food production, particularly in the developing countries. Besides, we all agree that a rapid acceleration of food and agricultural production is essential for their overall development. In this context special attention must be given to food-priority countries and to other developing countries with large potential for food production and agricultural development. We are pleased to observe that FAO has continuously supported the efforts to increase rice production as confirmed in the Programme of Work and Budget for 1980-81.

In this very connexion, world food security is therefore of fundamental importance and very urgent. Adequate food production is the basis for food security. The principles and objectives of the International Undertaking on World Food Security as adopted by FAO in 1974 are still valid. In this context nationally established food reserves at adequate levels are essential and constitute indispensable components of an internationally well coordinated overall system of World Food Security.

Being aware of the importance of concrete implementation regional food reserves within the framework of the World Food Security system, the Government of Indonesia and the other members of the ASEAN are making joint efforts to ensure the availability at all times of adequate regional supplies of basic foodstuffs, particularly rice, and to sustain a steady expansion of production as well as to reduce fluctuation in supplies and prices. We have established the ASFAN Food Security Reserve Scheme which includes Emergency Reserve in the amount of 50,000 tons of rice as a start. This is a good example to be followed in other regions of the world. The food policy of my Government is oriented towards securing adequate supply of foodstuffs in quantity and nutritive quality as well as maintaining a price level within the reach of all people in Indonesia.

In order to achieve World Food Security, may I invite the particular attention of the Conference to make adequate provisions for special international assistance in kind and cash to those developing countries which assume obligations to establish national food reserves, particularly in regard to the acquisition of food stocks, the carrying charges and the construction of storage facilities in strategic places.

In this connection, therefore, international organizations and individual advanced countries are strongly urged to support food security schemes in developing countries. Besides they also have to ensure the achievement of the agreed minimum target of 500. 000 tons of cereals for International Emergency Food Reserve.

In view of the increasing food deficits as anticipated for the 1980s, at least 10 million tons of cereals per year as food aid should be secured, but preferably even more, taking into account the estimate of the FAO Secretariat that it would be in the order of 15 to 16 million tons in 1985.

Agricultural production and trade are recognized as having a key role to play in the efforts to bring about a New International Economic Order. We all know that a rapid improvement of agricultural production in developing countries requires considerable short and long-term investment which cannot be entirely shouldered by the developing countries themselves. Increased international and technical assistance are therefore needed. In this connexion, it is therefore necessary to replenish on a continuing basis, the resources of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in addition to multilateral and bilateral aid by other financing institutions.

As a coastal state and particularly as an archipelago, Indonesia is considering seriously the extension of her national jurisdiction to 200 miles from the present boundaries. We are fully conscious of our responsibility for the rational management and optimum use of these resources not only to meet the growing protein requirement of our people, but also of other countries.

In this respect Indonesia fully supports the move made by the Committee on Fisheries to propose a programme for assistance to developing coastal states in the management and development of fisheries in exclusive economic zones. My delegation wishes to appeal to this Conference to endorse this proposal and to make the necessary arrangements to facilitate the implementation of the programme, particularly as far as the funding of these activities is concerned.

As far as forestry is concerned, Indonesia had the privilege to be the venue of the Eighth World Forestry Congress which took place in Jakarta from 16 to 28 October 1978. It was attended by more than 2,000 participants from 104 countries and 17 international organizations. For the Indonesian Government and

people it was indeed a great honour and pleasure to host this august assembly of distinguished foresters from all over the world and also experts and professionals in fields of activities related to forestry.

We were very pleased that the discussions went on smoothly and fruitfully. But more than everything else, we were most happy that the Congress gave birth to the "Jakarta Declaration" as inspired by the theme which was selected for the Congress, namely "Forests for People". We would like to appeal that follow-up action of the Jakarta Declaration be implemented by international organizations, in particular FAO.

We are glad to note that the Eighth World Forestry Congress has broken away from traditional approaches which separated foresters from rural people and forestry from rural development. This Congress has refocused the efforts on how forestry can enhance the life of the rural people and forests and forest lands can provide multivarious products essential for rural community life, such as wood for housing and fuel, as well as food and medicinal plant materials, and can stabilize the flow of streams of commodities which is indispensable for agriculture.

As outlined in the Basic Development Policy of our country, we believe that forests, where ever they are located and who ever manages and utilizes them, are a trust to be used also to meet the needs of the underprivileged majority and not merely the desires of the economically strong few. The growing awareness that forests can play a significant role in the land and water household of the earth, and in the maintenance of a healthy biosphere, that embraces our entire planet and which cannot be pigeonholed by national jurisdictions, will, I hope, deepen the sense of responsibility of all nations towards each other in their efforts to utilize and develop their forest resources, not only for their own individual benefit but also for the well-being of the human race at large.

In view of the technical know-how and experience gained by the developing countries during the past decades of development efforts, it has been found feasible and useful to stimulate technical and economic cooperation among these countries, particularly in the field of food and agriculture. As this Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme has proved to have very encouraging results in promoting close cooperation among nations, and accelerating development in practical fields, it should therefore be strengthened. However, supplementary technical and financial assistance is still needed from multilateral as well as bilateral sources to expand and intensify this Programme. In this framework, I am happy to report that in ASEAN as confirmed in our Manila consensus on the 29th August, 1979 we have adopted ASEAN Common Agricultural Policy in the field of:

Food Security Reserve; supply of fertilizers and pesticides;
Animal and Plant Quarantine;
Agricultural Research and Development, and resources on
Agricultural Education, Training and Extension.

This common policy will be implemented in various technical and economic cooperation programmes. As shown by ASEAN efforts my delegation strongly believes that concrete implementation of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries should be based on cooperation among regional grouping of countries.

Fully aware of the inequalities and imbalances of development in our country, which have emerged in the past, the Government of Indonesia is taking appropriate measures to eliminate these as already stated in our "Equal Distribution Policies" for the Third Five Year National Development Plan and the following ones. Our Transmigration and Land Development Scheme, the largest development programme of its kind in the world, plays an important role in realizing this policy measure. FAO and other international organizations are invited to participate in this scheme, I am confident that under Dr. Saouma's dynamic leadership, FAO will continue to play a leading role in supporting transmigration and agricultural development programmes in our country. Within the same policy framework, in the field of industrial development, the big entrepreneurs are to help the small industries through cooperative efforts.

We know that this cannot be accomplished overnight. But my Government is determined to pursue it.

In this connection the Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development is in line with our policies and programmes.

A very limited progress has been made so far towards solving the long-standing problem of international trade in agricultural products, particularly those exported by the developing countries. Trade protection as practised by advanced countries is still existing and even expanding, which jeopardizes economic development of the developing world.

If the strong find it necessary to protect themselves against the weak, would not the weak have the same right to protect themselves against the strong as it seems that the ancient Rule of the Jungle still dominates the international scene? But unfortunately, the weak are in an unfavourable position. And if they get together in order to strengthen their position, voices have been heard accusing them of "tyranny of the majority".

However, mankind has made one important step in the right direction with the Declaration of Human Rights. But human nature is still too strong to be regimented by this Declaration. It would seem to us that this Declaration of Human Rights should be balanced by a Declaration of Human Responsibilities which should be fully adhered to if the principles of human dignity are to be truly realized.

Nobody can deny that agriculture in its widest sense, is basic to human life. And yet, the producers of these commodities, particularly food, are always getting the worst end of the stick in economic life. They belong to the poorest among professions, unless they are supported by their governments through special policies and measures, such as price support and input subsidies.

In regard to the human society as a whole, if advanced nations are willing to help more adequately the developing countries which are generally agricultural producers, I am confident that the welfare of the human race as a whole will be more stimulated. Please do not misunderstand us. We are not begging for charity, but what we want is just a fair deal.

Being a strong advocate of FAO programmes and activities in the Region, on behalf of the Government of Indonesia, I would like to invite the forthcoming FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East in 1982 to be hosted in Indonesia.

In conclusion, I wish to congratulate Dr. Saouma for his clear and comprehensive statement this morning. We are satisfied with the progress made by FAO; we have confidence in the men and women of our Organization who are well qualified and well motivated for the job; above all we have faith in our Director-General, the ever-inspiring Dr. Saouma.

E. MORY KEITA (Guinée): Monsieur le Président, Monsieur le Directeur général, Monsieur le Président indépendant du Conseil, Messieurs les Ministres et chefs de délégation, Mesdames, Messieurs les délégués, nous voudrions tout d'abord nous acquitter d'un agréable devoir, celui de vous féliciter très chaleureusement au nom de la Délégation de la République Populaire Révolutionnaire de Guinée pour votre brillante élection à la présidence de la Vingtième session de la Conférence générale de notre Organisation, l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture. Vos qualifications pour une telle responsabilité et vos mérites personnels sont un gage certain de succès pour cette Assemblée.

Nous voudrions ensuite, à travers vous, Monsieur le Président, adresser nos félicitations aux trois Vice-Présidents, aux membres du Bureau, ainsi qu'à tous ceux qui, à des degrés divers ont été élus pour assumer des responsabilités si exaltantes durant cette Vingtième session.

Enfin, nous voudrions, de cette tribune, transmettre au Président indépendant du Conseil, à toutes les Délégations des Etats Membres et des Observateurs, le message d'amitié et de fraternité du Peuple de Guinée, de son Parti-Etat, le Parti Démocratique de Guinée, et son grand leader bien-aimé, le Camarade AHMED SEKOU TOURE, Responsable Suprême de la Révolution guinéenne.

Nous saluons tout particulièrement les deux nouveaux Etats Membres, le Commonwealth de la Dominique et l'Etat indépendant de Samoa-Occidental. En les saluant au nom de la Révolution guinéenne, notre pensée va vers nos frères de la partie sud de notre continent, les peuples du Zimbabwe et de l'Afrique du Sud, ainsi qu'au Peuple palestinien, qui luttent farouchement pour se libérer de la domination étrangère, de l'exploitation colonialiste et impérialiste.

Notre Parti-Etat et notre Gouvernement n'épargneront aucun effort pour leur apporter tout appui nécessaire à leur lutte de libération.

Monsieur le Président, nous parlons depuis quelques années, dans toutes les enceintes internationales, de l'instauration d'un ordre nouveau dans les relations entre les Nations, et entre les couches sociales, un ordre économique international éliminant systématiquement les structures de l'ordre actuel.

L'histoire contemporaine montre que la relative liquidation de l'ordre économique colonial ne s'étant pas opérée d'une façon consciente et délibérée de la part des tenants du pouvoir, cet ordre ne saurait s'effriter naturellement par une sorte d'évolution normale qui serait dans l'ordre logique des choses; mais bien au contraire, cet ordre d'iniquité empire son caractère et sa puissance d'exploitation.

Ainsi, si nous voulons parler de développement tout en tenant compte des évaluations sur les première et deuxième Décennies de Développement, il faut et il importe que nous ayons à l'esprit que le monde n'est pas réellement économiquement développé si seulement une de ses parties l'est au détriment des autres.

Les décisions prises à Rome, en novembre 1974 à la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation, et en 1979 par la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, sont un défi et une mise à l'épreuve pour le système politique et économique mondial.

Le Directeur général de l'OAA a attiré l'attention des Gouvernements sur les graves difficultés auxquelles la Communauté est confrontée, et rappelé de façon pertinente que l'impératif prioritaire est un effort général pour parvenir au développement économique et social.

La Communauté internationale dispose de moyens et de capacités techniques pour y parvenir, pour assurer des bases économiques viables et permettre aux pays en développement de résoudre leurs difficultés actuelles résultant du sous-développement économique, technique et technologique.

Monsieur le Président, sans entrer, à ce stade, dans le détail du Programme de travail que nous a présenté le Directeur général, nous tenons à souligner que c'est avec beaucoup d'attention, d'espoir et de confiance que notre Délégation participe aux débats de cette session.

Avec beaucoup d'attention, parce que nous n'avons pas besoin de rappeler à cette auguste Assemblée que la très grande majorité des populations du tiers monde vit de l'agriculture. De ce fait, l'OAA n'est pas pour nous une Organisation comme les autres, mais bien la plus importante, celle dont les activités sont les plus susceptibles de nous assister dans notre lutte constante pour l'indépendance économique et le mieux-être de nos Peuples.

Avec beaucoup d'espoir, car nous ne vous cacherons pas qu'après le souvenir amer que nous ont laissé certaines réunions récentes, nous voyons dans cette Vingtième session une occasion très importante de progresser enfin, de façon même si limitée mais tangible, vers la réalisation de nos justes aspirations.

Avec beaucoup de confiance enfin, car il nous semble que le programme présenté et les propositions formulées par le Directeur général sont de nature à être acceptés tout à la fois comme un progrès concret par les pays en développement, comme des mesures réalistes et prudentes par les pays développés.

Cette Conférence se doit donc de rappeler les engagements pris par les gouvernements des Etats Membres.

Les pays en développement s'orientent davantage aujourd'hui plus que par le passé vers le développement accéléré du secteur agricole et alimentaire de leur économie. Ainsi, ils font une place croissante à l'agriculture considérée comme la priorité des priorités dans leurs plans et programmes de développement, investissent davantage (ressources, personnel) dans le secteur agricole et alimentaire.

Sur le plan international, on s'est de plus en plus largement préoccupé ces dernières années de réduire la misère et la faim. Et la récente Conférence sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural a souligné le souci d'aller plus loin, d'aller vers une plus vaste stratégie du développement rural prévoyant notamment un accès plus large aux ressources de la part des pays les plus affectés et des masses rurales et une répartition plus équitable des revenus.

Et, dans cet ordre d'idées, l'objectif à rechercher est d'assurer la sécurité alimentaire pour une population en forte augmentation.

Il faudrait, par des faits, concrétiser le large consensus qui existe maintenant sur les principaux éléments d'une stratégie du développement du secteur agricole et alimentaire: accroître les capitaux extérieurs pour l'investissement, approvisionner de façon plus abondante en intrants matériels, soutenir le transfert de technologies et mettre en place des infrastructures institutionnelles répondant aux efforts fournis par les couches déshéritées.

Le Gouvernement de la République populaire révolutionnaire de Guinée attache une grande importance au rôle qu'est appelé à jouer la FAO quant à la politique visant à intensifier l'apport de ressources extérieures pour le développement agro-pastoral et halieutique. L'apport effectif actuel représente tout juste un peu plus de la moitié de l'objectif fixé par la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation en 1974 et entériné par la FAO.

En effet, Monsieur le Président, nous devons faire face à ces questions avec décision, persuadés de leur urgence, en les inscrivant dans le contexte des grands problèmes mondiaux qui manifestent la venue inexorable d'une étape historique du changement.

La croissance prodigieuse de la population du globe, le niveau de plus en plus élevé de la vie, engendrant des demandes toujours croissantes en nourriture, énergie et autres ressources, enfin, les progrès très rapides des connaissances scientifiques et techniques qui ont permis la prise de conscience du potentiel économique des mers et des océans et de leurs nouvelles utilisations, ont conféré à l'espace marin qui couvre 70% de notre planète, une importance incontestable dans la vie de l'humanité.

Voilà pourquoi le Gouvernement guinéen salue et appuie avec une fermeté sans faille le programme proposé par l'OAA. Cette politique de notre Organisation répond à la notre et représente une étape décisive dans la mise en application des nouvelles orientations issues de la volonté de nos Gouvernements de modifier radicalement l'ancien ordre inique et exploiteur et d'être maîtres du destin de nos peuples et de nos sources.

A cet effet, nous saluons et encourageons une participation effective de l'OAA, car il s'agit de créer, avec la nouvelle politique indiquée par le Directeur général, les conditions essentielles pour un développement harmonieux de nos Etats.

Le Président de la République populaire révolutionnaire de Guinée, le Camarade AHMED SEKOU TOURE, nous enseigne que: "le développement radical de l'économie africaine nécessite la modernisation des moyens de production, leur appréciation par le peuple, l'assainissement des circuits commerciaux en Afrique pour soustraire le commerce africain à l'inflation directe et indirecte du capitalisme étranger; elle exige la planification de l'effort productif de nos pays et l'harmonie des efforts des différents plans de développement des pays africains; enfin l'organisation des producteurs par secteur et au niveau de chaque nation africaine. La Révolution commande que chaque peuple qui se réclame d'elle fasse l'économie de son essence, c'est-à-dire l'économie de sa politique révolutionnaire, tel est le seul moyen de réaliser un progrès rapide de développement économique du pays.

Le développement des ressources rurales: agriculture, élevage, pêche, chasse et artisanat, constitue dans la phase actuelle l'élément déterminant de la victoire que nous devons et nous pouvons renforcer dans le domaine du développement économique".

On comprend donc pourquoi la République populaire révolutionnaire de Guinée, fidèle à la ligne de masse axée avant tout sur la promotion rapide des couches laborieuses de la campagne, a toujours accordé la primauté à la forme collective de travail au niveau rural. L'organisation rationnelle des masses paysannes en unités collectives homogènes apparaît en effet comme la meilleure voie conduisant au bien-être équitable de nos populations.

La récente création des fermes agro-pastorales d'arrondissement (FAPA) répond à cette politique et qualifie davantage l'organisation des travailleurs ruraux et renforce la productivité dans les campagnes. Les FAPA sont appelées à résoudre à leur niveau et à leur profit des problèmes de production et de commercialisation.

Ce changement qualitatif modifie les bases et les formes de la production et la dynamise en ce sens que désormais les producteurs sont soustraits à l'exploitation.

Parallèlement à ces modifications structurelles, le Gouvernement guinéen fournit un effort immense sur le plan des investissements: assistance aux masses rurales, importation de tracteurs (4 000 environ), moto-faucheuses-lieuses (environ 1 000), batteuses, décortiqueurs, charrues, fertilisants, Ce sont là des efforts matériels et financiers qui témoignent suffisamment la farouche détermination de notre Parti-Etat de liquider définitivement en Guinée la faim et la misère.

Il nous plaît ici de saluer l'apport si précieux de l'OAA, de la Banque mondiale, du FIDA, du PAM et du PNUD et de nombreux pays amis.

Monsieur le Président,

L'instauration d'un nouvel ordre économique répond à une nécessité née de la lutte des peuples exploités et des pays du tiers monde et ne saurait trouver sa fin en elle-même, mais dans le règlement en commun du développement de chaque société et par la consécration d'un principe de solidarité, de justice et d'indépendance pour tous les peuples et tous les Etats.

Un seul monde nous appartient et, en ce sens, nous participons tous de la même civilisation, dont nous percevons avec acuité les mouvements et contradictions qui l'agitent.

La profondeur de la crise, l'ampleur des problèmes, l'interrogation fondamentale sur la valeur et la portée des principes, voilà ce qui sollicite aujourd'hui notre inquiétude et, notre espérance à la fois.

Le bien-être politique, économique et social des générations présentes et futures dépend plus que jamais de l'existence entre tous les membres de la communauté internationale d'un esprit de coopération fondé sur l'égalité souveraine et la suppression du déséquilibre qui existe entre eux, de la rupture, et au plus tôt, avec la situation actuelle. Le système est inique, il faut lui substituer un autre, car s'il persistait à exister, il ne pourrait aboutir qu'à un affrontement brutal entre pays lésés et pays bénéficiaires de l'iniquité, affrontement qui engloutirait également ces derniers.

En tout état de cause, ce qui est certain, c'est qu'il faut replacer l'objectif du développement et surtout celui de la production alimentaire au centre des multiples problèmes importants auxquels le monde cherche à apporter d'urgence des solutions efficaces et compatibles.

Notre Organisation se trouve au centre de cette nouvelle stratégie et nous sommes forts reconnaissants à Monsieur le Directeur général de l'avoir perçue et de nous y conduire.

Nous tenons, pour terminer, à lui renouveler l'expression de notre plus entière confiance et de notre sincère félicitation pour la clarté et la chaleur avec lesquelles il nous exposé le programme et présenté le budget de l'Organisation. Ce ne sont pas des félicitations de circonstance, mais les encouragements militants d'un Gouvernement qui sait apprécier à sa juste valeur les efforts et le dynamisme d'un homme voué à la cause des opprimés, à la cause de progrès et du développement, à la cause d'une coopération loyale et sincère entre tous les Etats Membres de notre Organisation.

Qu'il trouve ici la ferme volonté du peuple de Guinée d'oeuvrer sans relâche avec l'OAA pour le bien-être de l'humanité tout entière.

J. J. LEIDO Jr. (Philippines): May I first of all offer the felicitations of my delegation and express our pride upon your well deserved election as chairman of the Conference. You come from a country with close historical ties with the Philippines. Some of our most cherished cultural and religious values came through Spain.

Also I would like to congratulate the Director-General and the FAO staff for the excellent arrangements they have made for our Conference.

The Republic of the Philippines, in pursuance of socio-economic reforms of the new society of President Ferdinand E. Marcos, is committed to the total development of man. Development, particularly, is directed to the masses of our population, the urban and rural poor. In brief, development is focused on the common man.

Our basic objective is to make man self-reliant and self respecting. In the pursuit of this objective, a number of policies, plans, and programmes were formulated and are now being implemented in key areas of concern, including the harnessing of the country's natural resources.

To date, significant advances have been made in food and agriculture, including forestry and fishery, and in agrarian reform, as well as in rural development. Allow me to cite a few of our outstanding achievements in making man and the country self-sufficient.

Today, the Philippines has attained self-sufficiency in its major staples and even generated a modest surplus for export to neighboring countries. The realization of this long-dreamt-of goal can be attributed to successful programmes no doubt. However, the more important power behind this is the unflagging will to succeed.

Other programmes and projects are now in their different stages of conceptualization and development to supplement existing projects. As envisioned, the Philippine food and agricultural strategy for the next decade revolve around three main thrusts, to wit: (a) Food and nutrition; (b) Agro-energy development; (c) Export generation and import substitution.

In the food sector, greater emphasis will be given to the identification and production of indigenous crops with high nutritive value and with the most potential for increased farm incomes. Also, in order to increase this calorie-protein nutrition among our people, food production will be redirected towards production of other carbohydrate and animal and vegetable protein sources.

To augment the usual sources of energy, such as oil, coal, water, and geothermal, we are developing non-traditional sources of energy for commercial, industrial, and domestic uses. The country has embarked on a program seeking the utilization of sugar, cassava, wood, such as ipil-ipil, and other biomasses, as fuel sources.

We are accelerating production of non-traditional exports, such as yellow corn and sorghum, fruits and nuts, spices, coffee, cacao, palm oil, and rubber. At the same time, the development of traditional exports, such as coconut and sugar, timber and fruits, shall be continued.

The forest has played a key role in our country's attainment of self-sufficiency in staple crops. Without forests, irrigation water could not be available for use on a year-round basis. Although we are still a wood-surplus country, we have adopted a forest conservation program that would insure the perpetual nature of our natural forests. At the same time, we are reforesting areas that have been damaged by shifting cultivation. The selective logging system prescribed for our dipterocarp forests minimizes soil erosion, ensures natural regeneration and at the same time maintains environmental integrity.

Self-reliance is likewise emphasized in our forest conservation program. Our communal tree farm program is intended to provide not only the fuelwood needs of the local community but additional income as well. On the other hand, the shifting cultivators are being contained in their present area and are assisted in making their lands more productive.

The Philippines looks forward to participating in the discussion on the Agenda item of the Jakarta Declaration of the 8th World Forestry Congress. This Declaration stresses the theme that forests are for people. We support this theme as it underscores the need for ensuring that the benefits of forestry accrue to the poorest sector of the communities.

Under the new society programme of president Marcos, started in 1973, agrarian reform and rural development became one of our more important priorities. Through land reform, tenant-farmers became owners-cultivators and/or agricultural lessees. The new status gives them the incentive to produce more since they realize that they do not have to give up half of the fruits of their labor to absentee landlords. Cooperatives are established to enable the farmers to obtain remunerative farming and land consolidation were also launched as support programmes.

Currently, new policies are being evolved to extend the coverage of land reform to crops, other than rice and corn. Corporate participation will be adopted in plantations, such as sugar, coconut, bananas and the like. This scheme allows tenants to share in the equity with landowners.

The Philippines wishes therefore to reiterate its support for the action programme adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We note that the countries of Asia have already met in Bangkok just before this Conference opened to devise specific ways and means to implement the Agrarian Reform Conference's recommendations. This reflects the political will of the region to help liberate the landless peasants. The Philippines participated in this useful exercise and gives credit to the Director-General for taking this initiative, so that the momentum of the Conference will not be dissipated.

Having attained self-sufficiency and self-reliance for the common man especially in rice and grain production our President, aware of the great potentials of our territorial waters, has started to shift emphasis towards the exploitation and development of fisheries and other aquatic resources. This shift has also been dictated by the need to find a cheap source of protein.

To highlight this shift in emphasis, President Marcos launched the "Biyayang Dagat" programme which literally means "bounty of the sea" programme. This programme aims to ensure not only the mere survival of the small-scale fisherman, thus making him a key participant in the drive for attaining self-sufficiency in food.

Under this programme, one billion pesos, roughly the equivalent of 125 million dollars, has been allocated from internal sources for a five-year period to benefit at least 100,000 families. This programme is being carried out through the fisheries extension service in order to ensure that appropriate modern technology is adopted by the borrowers. Each fisherman can borrow 15,000 pesos or roughly 2,000 dollars for acquisition of a better boat and motorizing it with appropriate gear. Five to ten fishermen organized in a group are eligible to package credit to finance the purchase of fishing vessels or other projects such as fish capture, aquaculture and fishmarketing.

To further highlight the shift in emphasis to fisheries as a major source of food, the Philippines has established the Philippine exclusive economic zone. The archipelagic Philippines has the second longest coastline on the Asean region and a great proportion of her labor force is employed in fisheries. Under a 200-mile resource jurisdictional regime, the Philippines will have substantial fishing grounds to exploit and conserve. Moreover, the Philippines is one of the countries within the region now trying to exploit its offshore potential of hydrocarbon deposits to assist in the worldwide search for energy. For a country that is almost totally dependent on imported crude oil, development of potential offshore hydrocarbons is of utmost strategic importance. To facilitate the implementation of this exclusive economic zone, we have to formulate the appropriate policies, plans, programmes, rules and regulations that would govern the management, conservation, research, exploration and exploitation of, and within, the zone.

Meanwhile, the country undertakes the required assessment and analysis of existing fishery resources. Under this programme, exploratory surveys, as well as oceanographic and biological studies, for determining characteristics and potentials of fishing areas, will be expanded. Improvement of fishing and biological data collections systems, and data analysis, will also be done.

The Philippines, in collaboration with other coastal states in the Western Pacific, specifically Papua, New Guinea, Indonesia and New Caledonia, is undertaking a tuna-tagging programme. Stock assessment of pelagic fishes especially tuna will be undertaken soon with the assistance of the South China Sea fisheries development coordinating programme or SCSFDC. Technical and financial assistance for these two projects will be required.

Since the SCSFDC is a temporary body engaged in the development of fisheries in the region, and while it has heretofore performed creditably in its intended tasks, the need for a more permanent body which would concern itself exclusively with the fisheries of the South China Sea is now urgently felt. The establishment of such a permanent body should now be considered by the FAO through its regional subsidiary, the Indo-Pacific Fishing Commission (IPFC) and with the support of other regional organizations concerned with fisheries such as the ASEAN, SEAFDEC and ICLARM.

If called upon, the Philippines is ready to initiate the formation of such a permanent body.

The Philippines welcomes the role of FAO in helping developing coastal states derive the maximum benefits from the extension of the jurisdiction over fisheries off their shores.

We realize the importance of the role the regional bodies have to play in the development of the exclusive economic zones, and are deeply aware of the need for funds in support for this development.

In this connection, the Philippine Delegation together with some developing coastal states will sponsor a draft resolution supporting the Director-General's program of assistance in the development and management of fisheries in the exclusive economic zones to ensure sound management of this renewable resource.

Furthermore, the Philippines is committed to support the proposed World Technical Conference on the Development and Management of Fisheries to be held in 1982. We believe this Conference will make possible the exchange of views and experiences among countries affected by the New Ocean Regime. We feel, however, the need for regional consultative meetings in preparation for this World Conference.

In this regard, we propose that such a regional consultative meeting for our region be held and we offer to host such a meeting in Manila in late 1980.

I wish to state that perhaps the dire predictions of Malthus were proven wrong when the advances of science and technology came to be applied to fisheries and agriculture in developed countries.

While the cassandra-like predictions of Malthus no longer hold true in the case of developed nations, the spectre of famine still hovers over many of the developing countries.

Despite the first signs of a worldwide drop on fertility, the momentum of earlier population growth is adding approximately 200,000 people daily to our world. More than one fourth of the population of developing countries suffers from varying degrees of hunger and malnutrition. Thus, according to the FAO study, "Agriculture: toward. 2000", the developing countries will have to produce about fifty percent more food at the end of the century just to maintain the present inadequate levels of consumption.

If the present trend continues, the year 2000 may prove to be truly apocalyptic.

The experience of many countries however shows that the problem of hunger and malnutrition can be solved. We are of the conviction that in the last analysis, it is only the developing countries themselves that can solve their own problems. They have to muster the necessary political will to break the vicious cycle of poverty, to reorder priorities, to invest the scarce resources of the nation into the critical inputs that can generate self-propelling growth.

While we realize the need for self-reliance and the need for countries to exert their utmost to develop themselves, we do recognize the interdependence between nations and the need for international cooperation, especially in the transfer of technology and the flow of resources, and the removal of the obstacles that thwart our efforts to develop ourselves.

Therefore, the Philippines in collaboration with Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore have come together in the association of Southeast Asian Nations.

ASEAN shares the aspiration of FAO in vanquishing hunger and uplifting the standards of living, especially of destitute people in the rural areas.

The association has therefore moved from policy declarations to specific action programmes.

ASEAN established last august, for example an emergency rice reserve scheme following the Director-General's call for a 5-Point Plan of Action for World Security.

ASEAN is conducting, with FAO assistance, a food supply and demand study for the sub-regions. We are also establishing an ASEAN Fertilizer Plan with Indonesia as a lead country and are moving towards collaborative arrangements for the production, distribution, marketing and purchasing of essential agricultural inputs like pesticides.

ASEAN is starting to work on establishing common quarantine protection rings to ensure livestock health and protection from disease.

The association is now in the process of setting up collaborative arrangements for coarse grains production, research, agricultural extension training and exchange of agricultural scientists.

In collaboration with FAO, ASEAN developed a Population-Rural Development Programme. The first phase was funded by United Nations Fund for Population Activities. The second phase which was also encouraged by FAO has just been formulated and assistance was committed last week by the Australian Government.

We foresee further collaboration in other vital agricultural sectors as we gain experience. In ASEAN we feel this is a practical example of technical cooperation.

Likewise we are of the conviction that international organizations like the FAO can play a critical role in the development of nations. This organization has access to the latest applications of the most modern developments in science and technology to agriculture, fisheries and forestry. It has a role to play in the transfer of this technology and also in the mobilization of resources.

We agree that in general the program of work and budget of this organization presented to this Conference reflects these objectives in its various fields of concern. This is the reason why we have given it our full support.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that peace and stability on this planet cannot be attained unless we first satisfy that most basic of human rights-the right to be free from hunger. Not until we have overcome and eradicated the spectre of hunger can we hope to aspire for a better and brighter world.

In closing, in his concern for the hungry, the Director-General has authorized substantial aid to the World Food Programme for Kampuchean Refugees. He has also provided support for the rehabilitation of agriculture in that unhappy country. This assistance given on a humanitarian basis and without political consideration merits the commendation and support of the Conference.

ABDEL-RAHMAN ABDEL-AZIZ AL SHEIK (Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of):(interpretation from Arabic): In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful; Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Distinguished Delegates: Before I start my statement it gives me pleasure on behalf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to give you my warm congratulations on the occasion of your election as Chairman of this Twentieth Conference, and to wish you Godspeed and success in bearing the burdens of this gigantic job. It likewise gives me pleasure to present my thanks and respect to the Director-General, Dr. Saouma, and all those working in FAO who have contributed their great efforts to all the arrangements and preparations they have made to facilitate the work of this Conference, its better coordination, and the success of its actions.

After the lapse of two years from our last Conference here we meet again for a noble and sublime objective on the fulfilment of which the developing countries in particular attach great hopes and they eagerly look forward, in their dire need, to the services which your Conference and the Organization can render to provide them with the means of a prosperous life and honourable living. The new world events, new facts, and the results of new food and demographic studies which have emerged during the past two years have lighted our path, clarified the framework of our policies and defined the features of the strategy to be adopted by the Organization, its Conference and various bodies in order to achieve their objectives and noble targets for the benefit of the countries of the world, particularly the developing countries who suffer from food shortages and lowering standards of living.

I am not here to speak in detail of what is being undertaken by the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the expansion and diversification of its production and the satisfaction of its basic food requirements. The dimensions of these have been fully comprehended by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and it is therefore devoting to them its entire attention and efforts, by the development of subterranean water resources, sea-water desalination, or the vertical and horizontal expansion in the two fields of research and agriculture. To this effect His Majesty's Government has developed ambitious plans to arrive at self-sufficiency in food commodities.

I wish to mention here however, that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia views with great concern the noticeable foodstuffs shortages being experienced by the developing countries, a shortage which has been increasing year after year as a result: of either the natural calamities which are destroying their food crops, the inflow of refugees or the lack of their full and optimum exploitation of their natural resources. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, fully convinced of the importance of its role in the international community and aware of its responsibilities, is extending with all its available powers and possibilities every help and assistance to the peoples of the developing countries both through the organs, programs and funds of the U. N. of which the Kingdom has been one of the founding states, or through the bilateral agreements as well as the Saudi Arabian and other joint Arab financing funds.

We in Saudi Arabia look at this international organization with appreciation and respect and follow with interest the great tasks and duties it undertakes in serving the developing countries for, indeed, it is an honourable work which deserves everybody's praise and appreciation if we were to compare its limited resources with the enormous task it is undertaking and the great objectives it is endeavouring to achieve for the prosperity and well-being of all peoples. We likewise consider with full satisfaction the organizational measures and practical efforts realized by the officials of the organization in the recent years such as the curbing or the termination of centralization, the promotion of agricultural investment among the developing countries both at the regional and national levels and the checking of staff expansion as shown in the Organization's budget as submitted to us for the 1980/81 biennium. We therefore support the program of work and budget and would propose that the Conference should recommend the expansion of the technical and technological assistance programs and that this expansion be provided for in the next budget of the Organization. To this effect the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia supports the work plan proposed by the Director-General for food security in the developing countries and invites all Member States to endeavour to do their utmost to secure their reserve stocks and to develop regional and sub-regional joint ventures along the lines of the Near East Technical Cooperation Program.

Many developments have taken place in the developing countries since the establishment of this organization as a good number of these countries have acquired technical experience while others have now material possibilities. This makes it difficult to arrive at a uniform pattern for the means of development in the least developed countries. It could be said nevertheless, that it is imperative that more attention should be given to the inputs of the means for an integrated agricultural production, and chiefly among these the farmer himself. I therefore appeal to the member countries, international bodies and institutions and to the development funds to orient and coordinate their efforts during the forthcoming Conference so that our slogan would be "Toward an Integrated Rural Development" that would provide the essential production components. These can be summed up by infrastructure, such as roads, communications and irrigation; social infrastructure, such as education, health, potable water and making available other agricultural inputs and the setting up of such necessary marketing institutions as would guarantee to the producers a remunerative income compatible with their efforts in the production process. Next to this we should find the appropriate channels for the transfer and adaptation of modern technology and for deriving benefits therefrom both in agricultural production and in food processing. I believe you will agree with me that such a program calls for the mobilization of all our common energies in order to activate the natural, human and financial resources in an accurate streamlined coordination which will overcome all bottlenecks and marginal obstacles. For achieving this target we should unify the efforts of the international organizations and bodies involved in the technical aspects of FAO who should be responsible, in cooperation and coordination with the other bodies at the international and national levels, for the preparation of such programs and projects as would guarantee an integrated rural development in all the developing countries that dispose of exploitable agricultural resources and potential. In doing so FAO should bear in mind that the emphasis on production should be made in the light of the relative economic advantage that resides in the production of a particular crop or other commodity, for this would guarantee, worldwide, an economic exploitation that would strengthen the volume of international trade and lead to a better prosperity. This effort should be made in a direct and close coordination with the international and regional financing bodies which should constitute a group for coordination between these bodies and the technical group under the FAO.

Such a measure, we believe, will accelerate agricultural development, an increased food production. It will also guarantee an optimum exploitation of the natural resources of the developing countries and consequently lead to the promotion of trade between all the regional and guarantee the transfer and adaptation of modern technology. It will likewise enable the international and regional financing bodies to pool their financial resources in order to concentrate their efforts on an increased food production and an economic prosperity among the rural population of the developing countries.

An effort of this nature will certainly have excellent and tangible economic and social effects on the rural population for it will improve their standard of living and social conditions, and will, in turn, guarantee their attachment to their soil and will consequently check rural migration and avoid its costly economic and social effects and complications.

I have noticed that the General Conference which is held every two years and gathers the highest authorities in the fields of agriculture and irrigation spends a considerable part of its time and effort in considering routine matters although FAO's Council had decided in November 1970 at its Fifty-Fifth Session to confine the Conference Agenda to the main and essential issues so that the debate may be more accurately concentrated and so secure that the participants efforts will be directed to such important and essential issues as would directly interest the organization's objectives. Allow me therefore to propose the following for adoption by our Conference:

First: That our Conference should have a clearly defined objective which will be considered and concentrated upon, the means of achieving it and what each member country is required to do for its achievement. As an example, the Secretariat's proposal under para. 17 of document 79/12 entitled "Arrangements for the Twentieth Session of the Conference" where the Council invites Ministers and Heads of Delegations to give particular attention to "Strengthening World Food Security" and "The Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones".

Second: Everybody is aware that there are statutory standing bodies the members of which elected by FAO's Council or other organs of the UN System. We consider that the resolutions of these committees as unanimously adopted or approved should be implemented without further submission to the Conference for discussion or debate, with the exception, of course, of the Program of Work and Budget.

Third: To curtail the number of resolutions and recommendations by the Conference as this will facilitate their implementation and follow-up by the member countries and FAO's executive bodies.

I shall not conclude without thanking His Excellency Edouard Saouma, Director-General of FAO, for his continued past and present efforts to fulfil the aspirations of the member countries, and of the developing countries in particular, and bring to materialization all the hopes which member countries attach to this Organization for their and their peoples' welfare and prosperity.

I conclude by wishing our present Conference all continued success and may God speed be with you.

EL PRESIDENTE: Antes de continuar con el orden del día, voy a conceder la palabra al Director General, que quiere decir algunas cuestiones.

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: J'ai écouté et noté avec beaucoup d'attention les importantes déclarations faites cet après-midi durant le débat général. Je voudrais remercier les délégués pour les paroles aimables qu'ils ont bien voulu avoir à mon égard ainsi qu'à celui de mes collaborateurs. Je dois, toutefois, vous informer, Monsieur le Président, distingués délégués et observateurs, qu'à mon grand regret, je serai obligé de m'absenter de cette salle durant les prochains jours.

Je dois, en effet, rencontrer les chefs de délégation qui ont exprimé le désir de me voir dans mon bureau. Ils sont très nombreux et je suis tout disposé à les satisfaire. Mon collègue, le Dr Phillips, me représentera d'ailleurs dans cette salle plénière et ne manquera pas de me rapporter toutes les interventions qui seront faites. Ceci sera d'autant plus facile qu'il me sera également possible de lire les comptes rendus de session, qui reproduiront de façon intégrale des discours des différents délégués et observateurs.

Je dois aussi intervenir en Commission II, ainsi qu'en Commission I et III. C'est pour ces diverses raisons qu'à mon très grand regret je ne pourrai pas être avec vous durant les prochains jours. J'attends trois ministres ce soir, dix demain; en fait je suis déjà en retard ce soir! C'est pour cela que je dois prier Monsieur le Ministre de la Hongrie de bien vouloir m'excuser; je suis d'autant plus navré de devoir partir maintenant que je sais que son texte, qu'il m'a communiqué, contient un passage qui m'intéresse tout particulièrement, comme vous allez le comprendre en l'écoutant. Veuillez donc, à nouveau, accepter mes excuses.

EL PRESIDENTE: Hemos escuchado al Sr. Director General y comprendemos perfectamente sus obligaciones puesto que, en definitiva, somos un poco cada uno de nosotros los que le ocasionamos estas obligaciones. Lamentamos su ausencia pero lo comprendemos. Le haremos llegar las comunicaciones y las situaciones por las que vaya pasando la Conferencia.

P. ROMANY (Hungary) (interpretation from Hungarian): Mr. Chairm

an, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic I am honoured to convey its respect to the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. The Hungarian delegation presents its good wishes to you, Mr. Chairman. I hope you are confident that the Hungarian delegation will lend its support to your important work.

Over the recent two years, since the 19th Session of the FAO Conference, the world food situation has not improved; in fact food shortage in the most seriously affected countries in emergency situation has also risen. All basic measures should focus on eliminating this backwardness.

The Conference documents make a comprehensive investigation into the cause of this insufficient progress and reach several adequate conclusions as regards the future. My delegation is not surprised but very sorry to note that the developing countries are lagging by at least one quarter behind the annual growth rate of 4 percent envisaged for their agriculture in the Second Development Decade of the United Nations; we are particularly sorry to see that progress in the least developed countries was still slower.

As I already mentioned, my delegation was not surprised by these facts; the reason behind this statement is that in my view no substantial progress has been made so far in the removal of fundamental backwardness, which could, however, contribute to the elimination of difficulties in medium or long term in the field of agriculture and food production. The Hungarian Government has already expounded its view several times that without substantial and thorough socio-economic reforms any measure can be considered as acting merely temporarily. Scientific research, which the Director General spoke about this morning, is badly needed.

In the current year several events occurred which continued to deteriorate agricultural and food position in the world and led additional burdens particularly on developing countries but on socialist ones alike. There was a sudden rise in the price of energy resources, the recession in developed countries, which affects the whole world, has become more extensive and in 1979 the terms of agricultural trade continued to deteriorate. Taking furthermore the 6 percent drop in cereal production in 1979 into consideration, then I think, the problems we are to tackle will keep growing. In spite of the current food situation which is far from being satisfactory, my Government highly appreciates FAO's activity and agrees with the Director-General's endeavour that the available resources should be more intensively applied to the implementation of concrete projects worked out for the developing countries in need. Therefore we support FAO's Programme of Work as outlined in the Director-General statement. Speaking about FAO activity, I should like to emphasize the document "Agriculture: towards 2000". For the first time since the establishment of this Organization, this study not only forecasts or indicates the growth necessary in the agriculture of developing countries but it also attempts to survey and systematize the resources required for this development. Hungary has been and will be ready, to transfer her experience to the developing countries, which may contribute to the development of their food production at a more rapid rate. Therefore having the gates of our universities open, we are about to train about 150 young agricultural experts from 6 African developing countries over three years in the organization and management of agricultural production oriented co-operatives. This project, which was signed on the 1st of March this year in Budapest, is a good example of the cooperation between Hungary and FAO.

My Government, in cooperation with FAO, expanding its assistance provided so far, is ready to examine the possibility for establishing a co-operative training unit for the benefit of developing countries, in cooperation with Hungarian co-operative associations, in Budapest.

The Government of Hungary cooperates with FAO in the promotion of the production potential of several developing countries; of these projects I mention only those concerned with the organisation of co-operative farm production and the establishment and updating of fresh water fisheries.

The Hungarian farm cooperative movement has had a positive influence on agricultural production and living conditions of people. Its adaptation in some developing countries-which is the objective of the project -- in my view constitutes an integral part of the ideas and action programme designed to implement the resolutions adopted at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. In Hungary economic and mansided assistance to small farmers is one of the main objectives of the Government's policies.

In addition to co-operative and management and fresh water fisheries my country is ready and able to hand over her experiences in a number of other areas as well. Such are among others: animal health; water management; phytosanitary; agrochemistry. At the same time, the Hungarian government-in accordance with its economic strength-contributes to the aid programmes too, and accordingly, a decision has been taken to increase our contribution by JO percent to the World Food Programme from 1980 on.

At the beginning of my statement I have already touched upon the unfavourable food production of this year. The deterioration in the economic environment and the adverse weather conditions have made a damaging effect in 1979 on the Hungarian crop harvest as well. Our cereal production is well below the 1978 record level and export expansion is decreasing.

Cancelling the cyclical tendencies in farm production does not appear to be an easy task. I must state, however, that the socialist large scale production and management methods, which are already widespread in Hungarian Farming, have greatly contributed to the restriction of our production losses to tolerable limits.

I do not intend to dwell on a review on the Hungarian agricultural situation. Nevertheless, I should like to mention two factors, which, I think, may deserve particular attention because they feature the flexibility and responsiveness of Hungarian agriculture to new influences. The first is its multisectoral and flexible character.

The Hungarian agriculture is such a socialist agriculture, where cooperatives, state-owned and privately owned farms perform production on the basis of mutual assistance. This multisectoral nature has also contributed to the elimination of several traditional production cycles, such as, that in pig production.

The second important element I should like to emphasize is the widespread introduction of production systems.

In my view the production systems are highly suitable for the introduction and propagation of new and advanced agricultural technology in order to increase production at a more rapid rate.

The unfavourable agricultural production and trade situation and the failure of the efforts aimed at the conclusion of the International Wheat Agreement have emphasized the FAO initiatives and contribution of FAO to a strengthening of the world food security. Food security in the world can only be established by taking long-term production measures. Having made this remark my government supports the Director-General's five-point action programme.

Cereals production in 1979 and the permanently growing grain prices and transport costs continue to maintain the dependence of some countries on aid programmes. The Hungarian government supports the justified requirements of needy developing countries. It repeatedly expresses its readiness to cooperate by participating in production-oriented projects in favour of the developing countries.

Finally I should like to deal with a very important condition for further progress; I was pleased to be told about indications that among governments of developing countries the awareness of the importance of their agriculture is gaining ground. This awareness should primarily lead to the elaboration of internal development programmes and to the availability of the necessary funds. It should be desirable that FAO proceed in making its views fully known both to member countries' governments and to other bodies of the United Nations.

The fact also deserved attention that the Nobel Prizes for Economics in 1979 have been awarded to two economists who, in their life-work, have attached central importance to the transformation of traditional agriculture in developing countries and who have made attempts at drawing more attention to agriculture in these countries.

The importance and complexity of agrarian problems would justify an even greater attention to be paid to agrarian policies and development of agricultural production. Therefore, it would be encouraging if a day of every year-perhaps the 16th of October, the day of the foundation of FAO-could be declared the World Day of Food Production and Agriculture. After having consulted the Director-General, we move Mr. Saouma prepare a draft resolution on the subject to be discussed by Commission I, and by the Conference, consequently.

My statement would not be complete without calling your attention to the fact, that food-security cannot be separated from international security. The safeguarding and development of the achievements of international detente constitutes a prerequisite for international economic cooperation and for peaceful development of agriculture in all countries. You may recall that the Hungarian government has many times

emphasized the proposal of the Government of the Soviet Union, namely that the 10 percent decrease in military expenditures of the permanent members of the Security Council should greatly assist in improving the world food situation and eliminating the food problems of developing countries. Therefore, I believe, that the SALT II will be an extremely important momentum in the lasting peaceful coexistence. I am convinced that the appeals for the reduction of armament is not only the concern of the military and of politicians, but is a wish of the world the fulfillment of which is indispensable for increasing the welfare of agricultural producers all over the world.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Con la intervención del Ministro de Agricultura y Alimentación de Hungría damos por terminada la sesión de esta tarde. Antes de levantar la sesión quiero dar la palabra al Sr. Secretario General que quiere decirnos algunas precisiones.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: J'informe les délégations que demain matin commencera la première réunion de la Commission II. Les documents qui feront l'objet de cette réunion sont indiqués dans le document C 79/INF/12. La Commission II se réunira dans la Salle verte au premier étage à 9 h 30, parallèlement à la séance plénière.

Je voudrais également annoncer à l'intention du Président de la Commission que le Directeur général a désigné M. Wright pour servir de secrétaire à cette Commission. Il sera secondé par Mlle Killingsworth.

The meeting rose at 17. 45 hours.

La séance est levée à 17 h 45.

Se levanta la sesión a las 17. 45 horas.

conference

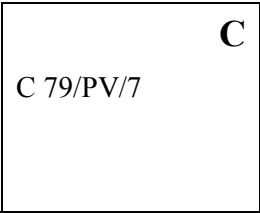
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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

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ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING
SEPTIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
SEPTIMA SESION PLENARIA
(14 November 1979)

The Seventh Plenary Meeting was opened at 9. 45 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La septième seance plénière est ouverte à 9 h 45 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la séptima sesión a las 9. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES FOR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

Roumanie, India, New Zealand, Sudan, Canada, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Pakistan, Maroc, Norway, Czechoslovakia

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados, vamos a continuar en la mañana de hoy con la lista de oradores que desean participar en el debate general.

A. ROGAJANU (Roumanie) (interprétation du roumain): Monsieur le Président, permettez-moi tout d'abord de m'associer aux délégués qui m'ont précédé pour exprimer au nom de la délégation roumaine nos félicitations pour votre élection en tant que Président de la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO. Je voudrais également adresser mes félicitations cordiales à toutes les personnalités qui ont été élus Vice-Présidents de notre Conférence. Nous sommes confiants que sous votre direction, étant connue votre activité aussi bien au niveau national qu'international dans le domaine de l'agriculture, les travaux de la réunion aboutiront à un succès, avec la collaboration active de toutes les délégations.

Je saisis cette occasion pour adresser une chaleureuse bienvenue aux nouveaux Membres de l'Organisation, le Samoa occidental et la République dominicaine. Leur activité au sein de la FAO sera d'une très grande importance.

La vingtième Conférence générale de la FAO a lieu dans une période où le monde est confronté à une série de problèmes complexes dont la solution doit être trouvée sans délai si nous voulons un climat de compréhension, de paix et de sécurité dans le monde.

Tout d'abord, je voudrais souligner que les phénomènes de sous-développement ne sont pas seulement persistants, mais que les décalages qui existent entre les pays en voie de développement et les pays développés continuent de s'accroître. La situation de l'agriculture et de la production alimentaire en est un exemple particulièrement approprié.

Comme l'a fait récemment remarquer le Président de mon pays, M. Nicolas Ceausescu, continuer à accepter ces différences constitue une cause permanente de la détérioration des relations inter-Etats, de l'instabilité économique du monde, des phénomènes de crise qui, à leur tour, ont des conséquences négatives pour l'évolution de tous les pays et pour la vie internationale dans son ensemble.

C'est pour cette raison que l'élimination du sous-développement devrait constituer l'un des principaux objectifs de notre temps.

Comme il a été mentionné dans les documents préparés par le Secrétariat de la FAO, tout particulièrement dans le document C 79/2 de même que dans le discours de Monsieur le Directeur général M. Edouard Saouma, la situation alimentaire du monde ne s'est pas améliorée par rapport à 1978. La production agricole a même été encore plus faible en 1979: un grand nombre de peuples continuent à se trouver dans des conditions de malnutrition. A notre avis, ce problème ne peut être résolu qu'en intensifiant les efforts en vue d'établir un nouvel ordre économique international, caractérisé par de nouvelles relations de justice et d'équité, qui assurerait un développement économique accéléré, en particulier pour les pays en voie de développement.

Eh ce qui concerne l'alimentation et l'agriculture, nous considérons, comme nous l'avons déjà dit en d'autres occasions, que les prémisses de base pour éliminer à jamais la faim et la malnutrition et pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale résident dans l'accroissement substantiel de la production agricole, tout particulièrement dans les pays en voie de développement.

Comme il ressort de notre expérience et de celles d'autres pays, atteindre cet objectif demande tout d'abord des efforts soutenus de la part de tous les pays en voie de développement eux-mêmes et l'utilisation au maximum de leurs ressources matérielles et humaines.

C'est la raison pour laquelle la Roumanie, pays socialiste en voie de développement, a fait et continue à faire de très grands efforts pour assurer un développement rapide de tous les plans de l'économie, y compris celui d'une agriculture moderne, en lui accordant un pourcentage important de son revenu national.

Permettez-moi de vous donner ici un très bref tableau de la situation de notre agriculture en 1979 basé sur les données dont nous disposons.

Nous estimons que la récolte de céréales de cette année sera de 20 millions de tonnes, c'est-à-dire supérieure à celle que nous avons obtenue l'an dernier. Nous avons obtenu de bons résultats pour la récolte de maïs: ce sont les plus importants rendements qui ont été enregistrés dans l'histoire de notre pays. Nous avons également eu de bons résultats pour les légumes, les fruits, les raisins. Dans le secteur de l'élevage, des accroissements importants de la production de viande et d'autres produits ont été obtenus. La production agricole à laquelle nous sommes arrivés cette année nous permet de donner à notre population des produits agro-alimentaires en quantités suffisantes pour faire face à nos besoins du point de vue économique national et d'avoir en plus certaines quantités destinées à l'exportation.

En dépit de ces bons résultats, nous sommes loin des productions obtenues dans les pays développés. Nous porterons une grande attention et nous intensifierons nos efforts dans le domaine de l'agriculture.

A cet égard, j'aimerais souligner certains des objectifs principaux pour le développement de l'agriculture dans notre pays pour l'année 1990.

Dans le programme de développement, nous nous sommes fixés l'objectif d'une plus grande productivité agricole. Nous voulons augmenter le revenu national et le bien-être de notre peuple. L'industrie chimique produit 290 kilos d'engrais en substances actives à l'hectare, de même qu'elle produit les produits nécessaires pour toute l'agriculture. Les régions qui seront irriguées atteindront en 1990, 4,5 à 5 millions d'hectares, que l'on peut comparer aux 10 millions d'hectares de terres labourées. Nous accorderons une place très importante aux céréales qui, en 1990, atteindront une production de 26 à 30 millions de tonnes, comparée aux 20 millions de tonnes de 1979. priorité sera accordée au développement du secteur de l'élevage. Sa part représentera, en 1990, environ 50 pour cent de la production agricole totale.

Convaincue de l'importance décisive de l'effort de tous les pays pour résoudre les problèmes alimentaires dans les pays en voie de développement, la Roumanie est consciente de l'importance de ce problème et de la contribution que peut apporter à cet égard la coopération internationale et l'appui accordé aux pays en voie de développement par les organisations internationales, en premier lieu par la FAO, de même que par les pays développés.

Nous considérons que les efforts remarquables réalisés au cours des dernières années par la FAO, comme il résulte entre autres des programmes concrets pour les pays en voie de développement, tels que le programme de coopération technique, le programme pour empêcher les pertes alimentaires et le programme nouvellement proposé ZEE, devraient être intensifiés au cours des années à venir par des actions et des mesures tendant à augmenter la production agricole et de produits alimentaires dans les pays en voie de développement.

De telles actions devraient, à notre avis, porter tout particulièrement sur la construction et l'utilisation de moyens de production et de techniques modernes dans l'agriculture et l'industrie alimentaire. Elles devraient également faciliter l'accès libre et sans limites des pays en voie de développement aux technologies modernes agro-zootecniques; planifier de façon rationnelle et utiliser au mieux les ressources internes en augmentant le potentiel productif des terres ayant une faible productivité; introduire sur une large échelle des variétés de plantes hybrides et procéder à une sélection animale en tenant compte des conditions climatiques; diminuer les pertes de récoltes; développer les industries agro-alimentaires; établir des centres régionaux, sous-régionaux et interrégionaux pour la formation de personnel aux niveaux moyen et plus élevé; établir des centres de recherche scientifique aux niveaux régional et inter-régional; utiliser les ressources financières afin d'accélérer la coopération entre pays en voie de développement; opérer des réformes de structure sociale et augmenter la participation des femmes et des jeunes dans les villages dans le processus de développement rural; assurer un libre accès aux marchés agricoles des pays développés de la part des pays en voie de développement; établir des relations équitables entre les prix des produits agricoles et ceux des produits manufacturés.

Toutes ces mesures devraient, à notre avis, être conçues comme faisant partie d'une nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement qui sera adoptée lors de la prochaine session spéciale de 1980 de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies consacrée au Nouvel ordre économique international.

Nous sommes particulièrement heureux de voir que cette approche a prévalu au sein de la FAD lorsqu'elle a élaboré le document C 79/24 sur l'agriculture vers l'an 2000, qui est la contribution de l'Organisation à l'établissement de la nouvelle stratégie internationale pour le développement.

Nous aimerions féliciter le secrétariat de la FAO pour l'excellent travail qu'il a réalisé en mettant à notre disposition ce document. On peut voir ainsi la préoccupation de l'Organisation d'intensifier les causes réelles qui ont conduit à la situation alimentaire et agricole actuelle, et les efforts qu'elle a réalisés pour élaborer sur cette base des propositions concrètes pour l'avenir. Eh tenant compte du fait que ce document servira de document de base lors de la prochaine session spéciale de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies, nous considérons qu'il pourrait être encore amélioré, en particulier en ce qui concerne les propositions d'action concrète au cours des vingt années pour résoudre le problème alimentaire et éliminer à la fin de ce siècle la faim et la malnutrition. Nous considérons très important que, sous l'égide des Nations unies, la FAO avec le FIDA, la Banque mondiale, l'ONM et d'autres, établisse, comme partie de la nouvelle stratégie internationale de développement, un programme spécial à long terme pour le développement de l'agriculture dans les pays en voie de développement. Un tel programme devrait tenir compte des recommandations et des décisions de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire qui s'est tenue à Rome en juillet dernier. La délégation roumaine présentera en détail son point de vue sur ce sujet à la Commission appropriée de la Conférence lorsqu'on arrivera à ce point de l'ordre du jour. Nous nous référons au programme de travail et de budget.

De même, les objectifs à moyen terme proposés par le Directeur général, M. Edouard Saouma, correspondent selon nous dans leur ensemble aux besoins des pays en voie de développement. Nous voulons les appuyer. Nous voudrions cependant souligner que dans les objectifs à moyen terme on devrait tenir compte des caractéristiques de toutes les régions. Nous pensons que la FAO devrait accorder toute son attention à l'avenir des activités au niveau européen, *en* tenant compte du fait qu'il existe des pays en voie de développement sur ce continent également, et d'autre part à la contribution que l'Europe pourrait apporter pour accélérer le développement agricole dans les pays en voie de développement dans d'autres régions.

Eh ce qui concerne la coopération entre pays en voie de développement, nous sommes satisfaits du fait que la FAO ait accordé son attention à ce problème. La consultation qui a eu lieu en juillet cette année a montré les possibilités dans ce domaine, de même que la nécessité d'organiser des réunions visant à identifier de nouveaux moyens pour renforcer encore davantage la coopération entre les pays en voie de développement dans le domaine de l'agriculture. Comme on le sait, la Roumanie est prête à convoquer une telle réunion.

En ce qui concerne les autres questions inscrites à l'ordre du jour de notre Conférence, j'aimerais mentionner que la Roumanie trouve très positives les activités entreprises par la FAO pour atteindre la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Elle apprécie tout particulièrement les propositions de M. Edouard Saouma se référant au plan d'action dans ce domaine.

J'aimerais également mentionner que tout en appréciant de façon positive les activités du programme alimentaire mondial, la Roumanie se prononce en faveur du renforcement de ces activités.

Mon pays s'est également intéressé à intensifier sa collaboration avec le programme alimentaire mondial.

Monsieur le Président, j'ai présenté simplement quelques objectifs sur lesquels la FAO et la communauté internationale devront concentrer leur attention afin de contribuer à la solution des problèmes agricoles et alimentaires auxquels doivent faire face les pays en voie de développement et l'humanité en général, et permettre ainsi l'établissement d'un nouvel ordre économique international. Nous espérons que cette Conférence constituera un pas important dans cette direction.

Eh ce qui nous concerne, la Roumanie souhaite participer de façon active aux délibérations de la Conférence et contribuer à identifier et à adopter des mesures concrètes qui, si elles sont mises en pratique, pourront conduire à l'amélioration de la situation alimentaire dans le monde et permettre d'augmenter le niveau de vie de tous les peuples.

B. PERKASH (India): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies and Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel privileged to have this opportunity of addressing the Twentieth Session of the General Conference of this great Organisation. I am particularly happy that this Conference is being held under the guidance of His Excellency Dr. Jaime Lamo De Espinosa, Minister of Agriculture of Spain. May I on behalf of our delegation offer to you Mr. Chairman, our felicitations and best wishes. Spain is one of the countries which has had relationships with India ever since man learnt to cross oceans in simple boats. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, you will bring the atmosphere of the same crusading spirit in the deliberations of this Conference. May I also offer my sincere congratulations to Their Excellencies the Ministers of Agriculture of Colombia, Pakistan and Morocco for being elected as Vice-Chairmen of this Conference.

This Conference is being held on the eve of a new development decade. It has to consider and approve the budget of FAO for the first two years of the next decade which is to usher in a new International Economic Order. I would like to congratulate Dr. Saouma not only for introducing a sense of urgency and dynamism in the programmes of FAO, but also for trying to mobilise resources within the Organisation itself for responding to urgent calls for help. On behalf of my Government and myself, I would like to offer our gratitude as well as felicitations to the Director-General for the leadership he has provided to rid humanity of the fear of hunger. This was the goal set for the Organisation by Lord Boyd Orr and Dr. B. R. Sen and we are happy that concrete steps towards achieving this goal have been proposed in the activities and programmes of the Organisation for 1980-81.

Today, also happens to be the 90th birth anniversary of our first Prime Minister, the late Jawaharlal Nehru. I would, therefore, like to recall what Jawaharlal Nehru told us soon after became independent. He said "everything else can wait, but not agriculture" thereby emphasising that political freedom has no meaning if people do not have adequate food. The same sentiment had been expressed many centuries ago by the great Roman philosopher, Seneca, who said that a hungry people will not care for reason nor for religion. Therefore, the more we delay the arrival of the day when, as resolved by the World Food Conference in 1974, no child, woman or man will go to bed hungry and no human beings' physical and mental potential will be stunted by malnutrition, the nearer will be the day of widespread political and social chaos. A grave responsibility rests on all of us who individually and collectively are responsible for achieving the goal set by the World Food Conference to which I have just made a reference. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research, which is now one of the largest scientific and educational organisations in agriculture in the world, completed 50 years of useful service this year. It has chosen "Lab to Land" or the rapid transfer of technology from the laboratory to the field as the principal method of commemorating the Golden Jubilee. I would suggest that a global "Lab to Land" programme designed to bring benefits to the rural poor from the vast untapped production reservoir should be included as one of the important instruments of achieving a new international economic order. Obviously, an economically viable technological package will have to be supported by appropriate packages of services and public policies to ensure that all farmers, irrespective of their input mobilising and risk-taking capacity derive benefit from the technology. Remunerative pricing policies for farm products and promoting parity between prices of agricultural and non-agricultural commodities constitute important components of agriculturally oriented public policies.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, in six weeks from now, we shall have entered the decade of the 80's. When we look back upon the 70's, we find that it has been a decade of unfulfilled sentiments and promises. Thus, the picture on the production front is disappointing. In contrast, the desire to help poor nations is also drying up. This is evident from the fact that the target of 500,000 tons of cereals for the International Emergency Food Reserve during 1979 has not yet been met. An international food security system is yet to emerge. In contrast to the slow pace of agricultural growth, the cost of inputs is galloping. Naturally, the price of foodgrains is also going up. The desire to make profit out of poverty is yet to be vanquished. How then are we going to face the challenge of the 80's, if not the challenge of 2000 AD for which an excellent publication has been prepared by the FAO?

India is a country committed to the philosophy of bread with freedom.

I am convinced that this can be done only by strengthening the cooperative movement. An outstanding example of the power of cooperation is provided by the history of dairy development in my country.

We now have 10 million farming families organized into dairy cooperatives.

We are now working on a similar project for organizing fishermen and I do hope that "Operation Aquaculture" will become a reality soon. Under "Operation Aquaculture" we wish to organize fishermen families engaged both in inland and marine fisheries into cooperatives which will undertake capture and culture fisheries and promote the growth of integrated production and processing systems.

We are convinced that what will happen to global agriculture in 2000 A. D. will largely depend upon how speedily we are able to spread scientific land and water use as well as organic recycling practices.

In our view, an important feature of agricultural development programmes for the 80's should be detailed attention to the optimum use of land and water in addition to renewable forms of energy. For doing this, attention will be necessary to the following four major groups of areas:

- a) Ecology, with particular reference to soil crop-water-weather relationships;
- b) Energy with a view to developing integrated energy supply systems based on an optimum blend of renewable and non-renewable forms of energy;
- c) Economics, with reference to stable income from units of land, water, air space, time and cultural and solar energy; and
- d) Employment, through multiple and intercropping, mixed farming and integrated production and post-harvest technology systems.

I would appeal to FAO to initiate during the 80's a global "Man and Land and Water Resources development project" on the lines of the "Man and Biosphere project" of Unesco.

The urgent need for better land and water management has become particularly clear during last year when we have been experiencing severe drought in large parts of India. There will hence be a shortfall in foodgrain production during 1979-80.

The first component of our strategy relates to mitigating distress to human population in the drought affected areas. Widespread drought could result in the unholy triple alliance of famines of work, water and food. The famine of work results from the failure of the single crop usually grown in un-irrigated areas. Consequently, both farmers and landless agricultural labour are deprived of work. Since we had built up a grain reserve of over 20 million tons as a part of our National Food Security Programme we have been able to allot 2.5 million tons of foodgrains for initiating food-for-work programmes in all the drought affected areas. The need for work as well as for food is simultaneously met through this programme. This is probably the largest food-for-work programme ever undertaken in human history. This programme is designed to strengthen the production infrastructure in villages like lining water conveyance channels, deepening wells, planting trees and developing more ground and surface water irrigation facilities.

In order to insulate the old and infirm, pregnant and nursing mothers and young children from hunger, we have introduced a "Food-for-Nutrition" programme.

The famine has created a scarcity of water for drinking purpose. This is the most important factor which results in migration of people from drought affected areas. Fortunately, we have had extensive ground water investigations in India which have revealed considerable untapped ground water potential both for drinking water supply and for irrigation in many of the drought affected areas. The Central Ground Water Board of my Ministry has over 3,500 national water level monitoring stations for a continuous evaluation of the behaviour of the aquifer. Unfortunately, the number of rigs available with us for boring wells in hard rock formations is inadequate. UNICEF has been generously providing several down-the-hole hammer rigs for making arrangement for drinking water supply. The Government of India will be extremely grateful to countries and organisations which may be in a position to make available immediately down-the-hole air operated rigs. This will enable us to ensure that in all affected areas the minimum quantities of drinking water needed for human and animal use are provided. As a long term strategy for drinking water supply in the most seriously affected areas, we are examining the possibility of establishing a grid of ground water sanctuaries, which will be tapped only when the normal sources of water supply get dried up.

I have so far spoken about the steps that we have taken to alleviate the adverse impact of scarcities of food, water and work. Let me now briefly describe our strategy for achieving stability of crop production under adverse growing conditions as well as saving farm animals. Modern genetic research resulting in the breeding of crop varieties relatively insensitive to temperature and number of hours of sunlight has made the cultivation of crops in non-traditional seasons an economically viable proposition. Thus, crop life saving techniques, contingency planning and compensatory programmes in irrigated areas and non-traditional seasons form the three pillars of our crop output stabilisation programme. The response of our farmers has been excellent and I am confident that they will produce as good winter crops as seasonal conditions may permit.

In the absence of an adequate global food security system it is our duty to de-link the fate of agricultural production in developing countries from the vagaries of weather to the extent scientifically possible. This is why my delegation wishes to urge FAO to develop as a complement to its Early Warning System a "Timely Action Programme" to promote corrective measures which will help to avoid the human tragedy and crop loss implied in the early warning. For this purpose FAO should strengthen its agro-meteorological capability so that it can assist developing countries to provide to farmers applied climate services as envisaged in the World climate programme of the World Meteorological Organisation.

It is clear from the documents produced by FAO that global agriculture is at the cross roads. In the developed, centrally planned as well as high-income developing countries, the demand for food is increasing both as a result of income growth and higher levels of meat consumption.

What then are the prospects of achieving the World Food Congress goal of eradicating absolute hunger by 1984?

In the view of my delegation, we have to look at this problem not so much from the statistical aspect of rates of increase in agricultural production and gross national product but from the point of ensuring within the next four years a measurable increase in the welfare of the millions of the rural and urban people. It is in this context that we congratulate the Director-General on his initiative in organising the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. The recommendations made at this Conference, if implemented, would help to bring about a more equitable distribution of the fruits of economic and agricultural development, as was stressed in the inspiring address of President Kaunda.

Equitable distribution will have to receive as much importance as increased production. I would like to urge on behalf of my Government the Director-General of FAO not to relent in his efforts in achieving the World Food Conference nutrition goal by 1984. In our view, this can be achieved, as we hope to try in our country, through the following measures:

- 1) Promotion of voluntary health care and nutrition services in villages with community participation in sanitation, drinking water supply, organic re-cycling and soil, plant, animal and human health care.
- 2) Promotion of Nutrition Gardens which can provide simple botanical remedies to the major nutritional maladies of each area: Programmes like "a Tree for Every Child" organised under the International Year of the Child Programme should become integral parts of the activity of every school and college.
- 3) Social security measures like Food-for-Work, Food-for-Nutrition and Employment Guarantee projects involving the payment of a human wage.

Obviously, to introduce measures like Food-for-Work and Food-for-Nutrition on a scale large enough to wipe out hunger from the 800 million people who are undernourished today in the world, we must step up our efforts in bridging the gap between potential and actual farm yields. This can be done through the introduction of National Minimum Yield Guarantee Projects in major crops backed up by efficient extension and input supply services. The "Lab to Land" project of research institutions should be supported by an efficient extension methodology such as the "Training and Visit" System recommended by the World Bank. Credit becomes a key input in such an endeavour and this is why we are planning to establish a National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development. Producer-oriented marketing and the preparation of value-added products within the village itself are the other needs. If these broad groups of action plans can be integrated in the form of a new Freedom from Hunger Campaign, I believe that we can still achieve the goal of making hunger a problem of the past in the near future.

Our contribution in this area will be to make India self-reliant in its food requirements. While we are determined to achieve this task through our own labour and resources, we certainly welcome such assistance others are in a position to extend to us. We shall also not be found wanting in sharing what we have with others. Love is given to us to give to each other. Let this be the motto of this Conference which has been blessed with an address by His Holiness the Pope. Let us decide that at the end of the deliberations of this Conference we will see not only volumes of learned documents but also the beginning of expanded action which would keep man as the supreme consideration in all our efforts.

E. H. HALSTEAD (New Zealand): Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, the Assistant Director-General, Ladies and Gentlemen, firstly I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election and to express my country's pleasure to see Spain in such a position of honour and responsibility. I apologize for the absence this morning of my Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Duncan McIntyre, who has asked me to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, his personal congratulations and good wishes for success in your chairmanship. Mr. McIntyre unfortunately had to leave last night. He was to have spoken on behalf of my country here this morning, but he has an important meeting with Commissioner Gundelach up north and when industrial troubles cancelled his aircraft at midday today, he decided that the appointment with Commissioner Gundelach was very important; and I think most people-- and this Conference-- will understand the importance which we attach to our relations with the Common Market.

I speak as the representative of a small country, a group of islands in the South Pacific: New Zealand. In this area of the world the countries have banded together so that we can help each other. We have banded together formally and institutionally in the Pacific forum. We in New Zealand are an amalgam of the original Polynesian explorers, the Maoris who discovered the land, and the peoples from around the world who have since settled there, European, Asian and Polynesian. The ecologists would have said the land was an original paradise because before the Polynesians discovered it about 2000 years ago, the only animals we had were seals; some would say a perfect world!

Our natural resources are poor soil, a very mild climate, a vast area and clean air and, now, considerable natural gas yields. Everyone is descended from ancestors who had decided to move from their original homelands to discover New Zealand; from Polynesia, from Europe, from Asia. We are a country where several new experiments were tried and tested. For instance, we are the first country to adopt the policy that women are people in so far as voting rights are concerned. We have a theory that no person is more equal than any other person when it comes to decisions. How many here in this forum know the peoples of the South Pacific? Even the map in the foyer of FAO shows a portion of our area, our territories and our people.

This Conference was opened by two men of world renown and celebrity: His Holiness the Pope and President Kaunda. Both reminded us very forcefully why we are here. Hunger and malnutrition are greater forces than national or political boundaries. The ultimate answer to the existence of man is the distribution of food.

Time was when many in America or Europe came to believe that the near paradise was to live in a South Sea island. Since the north discovered these islands they have had to struggle to try to adopt the ways of the north and give away so much of what was so fine in their own way of life. In the South Pacific group we stretch from the equator to the Antarctica, from the coconut palm to the iceberg. We are a grouping of peoples working out destiny. We depend for income on exporting the products of the soil. We are farmers. We have to go to the market with our goods and say: what will you give us for this? The fate of all producers of primary products rather than the industrialized countries who can say: if you want this, the price is so and so. A very different story!

By world standards, New Zealand is comparatively well-off. We produce meat, wool, dairy produce, timber and fish, but at a price which limits our markets. We suffer, like so many other countries, from the pressures of agricultural protectionism. So much is said about free trade for manufactured products, industrial trade, while at the same time barriers are built against free access of primary products.

In recent years, realizing our limitations for giving bilateral aid, we have deliberately concentrated on our own area, the South Pacific and South-East Asia, for much of what we do. At the same time we have given aid to countries as far afield as Malta, Egypt, Tanzania, Chile and Peru. So we do our best to spread our efforts when we have something to contribute.

As we sit in this Conference, having listened to President Kaunda, we will have made an audit of our resources. "Give him an axe and a hoe we are told" I also like to recall the ancient Chinese statement which suggests that if you give a fish to a man you feed him, but if you teach him how to fish you support a generation. I believe that New Zealand's greatest contribution is to teach some people how to fish by educating the younger generation who come to us to learn and by offering our expertise to those who ask for it. Our skills are limited; pasture and animal production, geo-thermal generation, some engineering, food storage, research into improvement of a limited number of staple crops, irrigation. We have also developed the largest man-made forests in the world and have developed production of a wide range of timber products, pulp, paper and newsprint. In doing this we have developed a technology which we are happy to share with the developing countries.

Wool is useful if you live in a cold climate. We are so far away from any other country that with the introduction of the Law of the Sea we find ourselves in command of a vast area of ocean, not all productive. We have joined with other countries in joint ventures to harvest the crop from our exclusive

economic zone. We have joined with the countries of the South-Pacific as the South-Pacific forum, to share our experiences and to assist each other, and we welcome those countries that have formed joint ventures with us to harvest the crop of the sea. We are conscious of the countries that have no access to the sea, the land-locked countries. As I once told the Prime Minister of Afghanistan, we are a sea-locked country. He said he would prefer to be in our position than in his position.

We in New Zealand benefit from the vast investments made in research by the countries of the Northern Hemisphere. We learn, adapt and do our own investigations. We benefit from the distribution of knowledge from FAO and other world agencies and we try to repay this assistance to those who ask by passing on our experiences, our technology, not only agricultural and primary technology, but in adapting the large-scale production of the industrial world we have developed special technologies in small-scale production and we are pleased to pass on our experiences to the developing countries in this respect.

The great contribution that we in New Zealand make to help solve the world food shortage is not so much in products as in answering the calls that are made on us from time to time for assistance and advice. I sometimes think that New Zealand's greatest export is New Zealanders, professional people, technical

people and just people. You will find them all over the world. If we can continue to answer the

many calls made on us to help grow two blades of grass where one grew before; to produce a cow that gives twice as much milk for a given intake; to show how to rear and farm fish to increase the stocks in the sea, then we will be happy.

We all face the diminishing supplies of fossil fuel. We have all in the last fifty years come to rely on this form of energy and the best scientists in the world are working on the question of "after oil, what?". We must meet these challenges, not run away from them in panic. President Kaunda made reference to this in his address to us. We, like every other country in this forum, are faced with this problem; it is so intimately tied up with food production. Without energy our dreams of surplus food fade into oblivion. There are many avenues that we can take, nuclear, solar, biomass and techniques as yet undiscovered. Fortunately in New Zealand we have discovered substantial fields of natural gas, but we will have to pay very dearly to the industrial countries for technology, equipment and infrastructure to develop them, but this we must do and borrow the money to do so, but it behoves us all to realise that when we meet and talk about food and agriculture we must include energy. No longer can we rely on finding it in a barrel or a pump.

We in New Zealand support FAO and its active work to disseminate the technology of food production and storage. The excellent work it does to try to forecast shortages and to level out inequalities and we congratulate the Director-General on the new emphasis, on the great emphasis he places on field development. This is so important and we welcome this emphasis, and will be pleased to assist in emphasizing the work in the field.

We have in recent years concentrated more on our own area, as I have said before, South-East Asia and the South Pacific. Although we are largely European people we do not forget we are in the Asian zone and we are proud to be full members of the Economic Commission for Asia and the South Pacific.

Within our limited knowledge we are keen and willing to help that man I spoke about, to fish, in preference to feeding him fish.

We in New Zealand look upon the FAO as an Organization with a great potential for finding the formula for man's continued existence, happy existence here on earth. If we can be of assistance, it is our desire to answer what calls we can.

A. A. ABDALLA (Sudan) (interpretation from Arabic): In the name of Allah the Compassionate and the Merciful, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Ladies and Gentlemen: On behalf of the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, and in my own name, it pleases me to address you, wishing your august meeting every success.

I would like also to avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate you for chairing our meeting and I have no doubt that with your aptitude and able guidance, our Conference will successfully conclude its work and adopt resolutions and decisions that will enhance our efforts in the fields of food and agriculture.

I would like also to seek this opportunity to welcome Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica to our international community and I look forward with confidence to the day when all our brothers who are fighting in the occupied areas under the yoke of oppressive colonialism and foreign rule, in occupied Palestine, in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South-Africa will join us. Let me hail their patriotic struggle against oppression and aggression, assuring them of the support of my country until they attain their legitimate right to freedom and peace, and until they fill their vacant seats among the international community.

This Conference has a particular significance since it follows the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which outlined the general principles and laid down the programme of work by which our developing countries can be occupied in laying down their policies and programmes during the coming decade. The World Conference has put our countries face to face to bear responsibilities and has underlined the political tasks which should be undertaken for achieving agrarian reform in a way that suits each country concerned. Following the World Conference my country has adopted long-term policies for reforming agricultural institutions, involving farmers in the management of agricultural projects and schemes and establishing several rural institutions with the objective of grouping farmers in vital farming groups and training them on how best to use agricultural inputs, including intermediate technology.

In the meantime we are adopting economic and financial policies aimed at reducing the prices of agricultural products, reducing agricultural taxes and granting progressive incentives to farmers according to productivity.

On the other hand, the State has laid down an investment law that grants several exemptions and facilities to those national and foreign institutions, a law which allows for the re-exportation of capital and profits and gives investors rights to open accounts in local and foreign currency. The main purpose behind this is to provide the best possible conditions for investors so that they can cooperate with us in utilizing our vast natural resources and promoting developments in our extensive country.

In all this we have a leading role for FAO to play due to its great experience which dates back to more than thirty years relying on the expertise of several thousands of experts, and due to its extensive world activities we will depend heavily on FAO in promoting our rural development programmes and in providing the technical assistance necessary to rectify the process of development in our country.

On the other hand, we will support any resolution that will enable FAO to continue its leap forward until the recommendations of the World Conference are achieved and we hope that these recommendations will constitute a salient feature of the FAO programmes in the next decade.

The new approach of work in the Organization which has been adopted by the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma, is based on the decentralization of work and the establishment of country offices. The centres enjoy certain functions of the Director-General which help to extend FAO's services to include investment and technical studies in addition to development projects such as the Technical Assistance Programme.

The considerable success that the Technical Cooperation Programme has achieved calls for the extension of the programme and the provision of financial and technical resources.

We also request the extension of the Director-General's functions to enable him to provide all the possible services to all developing countries. In this respect I would like to express my appreciation of the efficiency of the work being carried out in the region, which reflects the quick and effective response of the Director-General in time of emergencies and disasters to which our countries have been exposed recently.

In regard to the policy of decentralization, FAO has established a country office run by an efficient and active man who spares no effort to provide technical assistance to our country. In spite of the fact that his presence dates back two years only, nevertheless we have gratefully profited from his presence and we are among the foremost countries which enjoy the assistance of FAO. We are indeed grateful to the Director-General for his continuous response and his understanding of our problems.

During the Committee on Agriculture discussions our delegation has adopted the guidelines of the Programme of Work for 1980-81. In spite of its modest figures which amounts to 271 million dollars only we support the Programme of Work and Budget, particularly the importance given to Special Action Programmes such as the International Fertilizer Programme, Seed Improvement and Development Project, Prevention of Food Losses and the Food Security Assistance Scheme. The more the Organization allocates appropriations for these projects in the regular programme and the more efforts are solicited to mobilize external services the more voluntary contributions flow.

In our country the productivity of agricultural and food crops, especially in the rainfed areas, is very low. Production hardly measures the costs at the farm level which is due to low-quality seeds, lack of fertilizers and the spread of pests and diseases. For these reasons we support the Special Action Programmes, which stress the importance of providing financial resources.

We also support the introduction of technical cooperation in the regular programme and the special attention that should be given to it.

We note with satisfaction the attention given to water management in the new programme. The production costs in the irrigated scheme form, where water is scarce, an obstacle to production increase. Any improvement in irrigation practices and management should lead to doubling the cultivated area without additional costs.

The new programme emphasizes the controlling of Trypanosomiasis, which constitutes a major constraint for animal production in our country and in neighbouring countries. The control of animal diseases cannot achieve its objectives except through regional projects. As most of the livestock belongs to nomads, to focus control in one country would not stop the spread of disease to neighbouring countries. In the Sudan we have adopted a disease-free area and animal production projects were initiated with the aim of exporting meat to the world market.

FAO supported one of these projects and we appealed to the meat importing countries to review their regulations in respect of importing meat from countries which declare disease-free zones in them.

One of the most important aspects of the new programme is the support given to the activities related to nutrition. Such activities will help in evaluating nutritional conditions at the national level as well as the impact of development projects of nutrition as well as the rural poor and those who are vulnerable to malnutrition. Without such activities the number of the hungry will increase in the world.

Again I would like to confirm our support of the Programme of Work and Budget and request all members to endorse it to enable the Organization to achieve its noble objectives.

The Democratic Republic of the Sudan is unique in that it has common boundaries with eight countries sharing the same tribes and ethnic groups. On the other hand, our country shares the cost of the Red Sea with various other countries. The great River Nile with its numerous tributaries and sources also connects the Sudan to its neighbours in the North, South and East. This situation provides wide opportunities for economic and technical cooperation among these countries especially in the fields related to agriculture, forestry and fisheries. We have already embarked on this road. We are sharing with some of our neighbours our experience in irrigated farming, breeding of cotton and planting wood trees. We are also likewise benefitting from the experience of our neighbours in animal husbandry by the use of advanced technology. However, the existing scope of operation is still narrow and does not correspond to the potential possibilities. This situation highlights the leading role of FAO, which helps countries to define their requirements, determine their capacities and provides them with useful information for the mutual use of technical experience prevailing among these countries. This activity should be given its rightful place in the Programme of Action and the competent bodies should be given all the means to play the role in strengthening technical cooperation among developing countries.

The questions related to food security are among the central issues which deserve special attention. FAO documents show that the stocks of cereals in the developing countries are on the downgrade since 1977. This is a serious indicator of imminent danger for the people of these countries. Developing countries are still subject to the hazards of natural conditions. The rising costs of agricultural inputs as a consequence of world inflation do not allow for the help of increased production in these countries in the near future. Equally, the rising costs of transports and storage have a direct bearing on increasing the possibilities of importing food to developing nations in time of crisis. For all these reasons intensive efforts should be exerted to help the increase of production in developing countries, especially those countries which possess rich natural resources, so that they may actively participate in securing food security.

The document "Agriculture towards 2000" shows that the ratio of per capita income in rich and poor countries is one to twelve. To decrease the difference by one half of what it is requires the acceleration of the rate of growth of income in developing countries at almost 30 per cent. To achieve such a rate agricultural production has accordingly to increase by more than 5 per cent annually, which is an unprecedented rate of growth. The agricultural sector in our country does not grow by more than 3.5 per cent each year in spite of the active participation of the international **community**. The situation in many developing countries is not much different from ours. So how shall our people be able to decrease the difference of incomes and standards of living between rich and poor countries? The world has to discover a formula to be relieved of this vicious circle.

For the development of our countries we need tools and implements and all other agricultural inputs but for the time being we do not have the necessary resources to purchase them from the rich countries which own technology but cannot extend their economies to cover the demand expressed by our countries just because we do not own sufficient resources. One outlet from this dilemma may be that FAO adopt an international scheme for providing agricultural tools and implements through easy terms or facilitates or perhaps donations from some countries, as well as organizing aid among developing countries so that they may extend the list of their products. FAO is entitled to carry out this job, and all the circumstances are favourable for carrying out this great task.

Before concluding I would like to commend the great achievements of the Investment Centre in promoting external and local investment, particularly in the agricultural sector. One of the greatest achievements of FAO and the Director-General is the establishment of close relations with the financing institutions, development banks, the Arab Fund and the World Bank, which is the main multilateral source of funds to agriculture.

My delegation would like to praise, as it has always done, the great support that we receive from the World Food Programme in implementing major rural development projects and in overcoming the consequences of disasters and crises and for the settlement of refugees, hence our gratitude to the international community and the World Food Programme for the assistance which they have rendered to my country.

There are thousands of refugees now in my country who fled their homes as a result of political circumstances or as a result of drought. Their presence is exhausting our thin resources in consumption, employment and housing fields. Thus, my Government decided that 1980 will be the year of refugees in Sudan. We will try to recruit all available national and international resources.

To conclude, I would like to reiterate my praise to Dr. Edouard Saouma, the Director-General, and to express my country's appreciation for what he has done to strengthen FAO programmes and efficiency and to turn this Organization into a real pioneering international centre in the field of food and agriculture.

I would also like to convey to the Director-General and his assistants our people's appreciation of their contribution in promoting development in our country.

Mr. Chairman, thank you once more; peace and Allah's blessings be upon you.

J. WISE (Canada): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Deputy Director-General.

Mr. Chairman, I join my fellow delegates in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of the Conference, and I should also like to extend those congratulatory words to the Vice Chairman as well.

In our participation in FAO, Canada likes always to remember that the founding Conference of the Organization was held in my country in Quebec City in 1945. Since then, Mr. Chairman, I believe that my country, Canada, has played an active role in world food and agricultural matters. We share the noble objectives of this organization FAO. I therefore welcome this opportunity *co* participate with yourself, Mr. Chairman, and other delegates, in shaping the policies and plans for the period that lies ahead of us.

The Director-General has suggested that we give particular attention to food security and fisheries. Both topics are timely and are interlinked and interrelated. Mr. Chairman, I note that on a global basis the current and prospective harvest of cereals-and it is important to recognize that they must be combined with existing stocks-indicates that the world food security situation continues to improve somewhat. It is heartening that farmers all over the world are responding to the need for more food production. But global figures mask the exceedingly wide variation in performance in the regions, and the extreme hardships of millions of people all over the world. As a dairy farmer, I am well aware of the hazards that farmers face both from natural and man-made forces, and of the need to introduce as much stability as possible into the industry. Farmers are prepared, I believe, to take the necessary risks to produce increasing amounts of food for the world's needs, but it is important for us to recognize that they must be given the assurance of relatively stable markets and the necessary technical and institutional framework within which to do so.

As head of the Delegation from my country, which prides itself on the achievements in its primary production sectors, let me say that I am aware that in FAO when we say agriculture, we are referring not only to farmers in the narrow sense, but also to those in the fisheries and forestry sectors. Let me repeat then, that we need to provide economic opportunities to our farmers and to our fishermen and foresters. But in our efforts to increase production, we must also be good husbandrymen we must protect and we must enhance the resource base and the environment so that we always build a better world.

We must ensure that any progress which we make in increasing food production is done on an ecologically sustainable basis. I am please that the Secretariat's study "Agriculture: Towards the Year 2000", recognizes the importance of safeguarding our environment.

The report on the state of world food and agriculture reports that total production in this year, 1979, is likely to be down, after the record performance in 1978. On a per capita basis, the long-term trends in world food production are disappointing indeed in many areas. We will provide the latest estimates for production in my country, Canada, in the discussion under the appropriate item of the agenda, but for the moment, it is useful for me perhaps to comment briefly on the grain situation.

Canada's share of the world's 1978-79 wheat and flour exports remains substantial. Although Canadian grain production declined in 1979 because of poor planting conditions in the spring) however, a carryover of 15 million tonnes results in total supplies of 32.5 million tonnes for domestic use, commercial exports, food aid and emergency use. This total is basically the same as we have had for the previous three year period. This production and this stock and our marketing system under the Canadian Wheat Board represent in our view a very substantial and indeed very practical contribution to world food security.

The level of Canadian wheat exports for the coming year are dependent not only on world demand, but also on the capacity of our domestic transportation and handling system. We are making every effort to upgrade and enlarge our handling system including terminal facilities in order to meet the demands that may be placed upon us in the future. This problem of storage and handling facilities for basic goods both in terms of the exporting countries and the receiving countries is an important issue as part of the world's food security system. We want to assure the Conference that we are fully aware of the importance of our transport link in the international trade in the area of grains, and it is for this reason that I make a point of referring to the improvements in our domestic system now under way.

Last September, Canada had the honour of hosting the Fifth Ministerial Session of the World Food Council in my capital city of Ottawa. At that time, I announced that Canada would set aside a \$2million fund to assist developing countries to prepare long-term national food sector strategies or plans for the 1980's. We hope that this initiative will help to lead to an integrated food system approach which we believe is also an important means of moving towards achieving greater world food security. In the long run, world food security can only be founded on increasing the production and productivity in the developing countries. Much of Canada's development assistance is directed towards progress in these areas.

Mr. Chairman, we know that food aid can be a valuable development tool. Canada supports the \$1,000 million target for the two years 1981/82 as proposed by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme. During the Ottawa Session of the World Food Council, last September, I also indicated Canada's intention to provide 600,000 tonnes of grain annually in a new Food Aid Convention and our willingness to negotiate a new Food Aid Convention separately from a new Trade Convention, although it would remain linked to the 1971 International Wheat Agreement. These are positive contributions towards world food security. The contribution of \$5.5 million which we will make in 1980 to the International Emergency Food Reserve, and the \$95 million worth of commodities and cash which had previously been pledged to the World Food Pro-

gramme (WFP) for 1980, are other concrete expressions of our continuing commitment to world food security.

Canada will continue to cooperate with other countries within the International Wheat Council to examine what possibilities exist for successful resumption of negotiations for a new International Wheat Agreement. A balanced wheat trade agreement, in our view, would ensure meaningful stock commitments. It should contain economic provisions which would ensure adequate returns to our producers and supply availabilities to our consumers.

The question of food security cannot be divorced from the question of food production. Food security is impossible without maintaining continual high levels of production. It is essential therefore that markets provide producers with adequate incentives to continue to produce. I said much the same thing earlier but it is worth repeating. In order to encourage our own farmers and our own producers, we must provide them with the necessary economic incentives.

Also, Mr. Chairman, we must distinguish between the level of stocks required for, for example, world food security needs and the level of stocks which might be required for stabilization purposes. The former, i. e. world food security needs, can be defined in terms of meeting the needs of a relatively small number of developing countries in times of acute shortages of supplies. This would, in our view, be a much smaller figure than the 18 to 20 percent of production suggested by the Secretariat.

This brings me, then, to Canada's position with respect to the Five Point Plan as outlined by the Director-General and endorsed by the FAO Council and the World Food Council. As you are all aware, and as I pointed out earlier, Canada favours measures to enhance world food security. To this end, we supported the 1974 International Undertaking on World Food Security. In the several fora where the Five Point Plan has been discussed, Canada has reserved its position. We appreciate that most developed and developing countries which have endorsed the Five Point Plan noted that it is interim, and not intended as a permanent substitute for a new International Wheat Agreement. There are many points in the proposed Plan with which we fully agree, but there are others which give us difficulty. Canada already has proven stocking and marketing policies. No question about that. Because of the importance of grains to our national economy we must consider all issues before we enter into any undertaking, voluntary or otherwise.

We will be speaking more fully on this subject under Agenda Item 7. However, we would like to advise the Conference that after the most careful analysis of the proposals under the Five Point Plan, Canada's position is to accept the plan with reservations. Our reservations are consistent with the positions which Canada has taken in the past on aid, on trade, and international financing. It is our intention to present a written statement on these reservations during the discussion of world food security under Agenda Item 7.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation has studied the Proposed Programme and Budget for 1980-81 and we have noted with appreciation the efforts of the Director-General and the FAO Secretariat to streamline the work of the Organization and to redirect its efforts.

In addition to all FAO work in Agriculture, we are interested in the activities in the Fisheries sector and Forestry as well. As we all know, "The Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones" is one of the main themes of this Session of the Conference. Canada believes that fisheries are a particularly valuable resource whose proper management is vital to us all. Because of our experience in fisheries, Canada is well placed to assist FAO in its work in this field, and to assist developing countries to manage the stocks in their Exclusive Economic Zones. We therefore support the FAO Comprehensive Programme of Assistance in this area.

We were pleased to hear that additional resources under United Nations Development Programme and other sources are to be provided to developing coastal states for this sector. Canada also welcomes the shift in the Forestry Department's programme towards more emphasis on forestry for rural development and increased focus on the integration of forestry with food production. It reflects a strong endorsement of the Jakarta Declaration at the recent World Forestry conference.

Before closing, I would like to comment briefly on the Canadian economic situation, since it is an important factor which influences our perspective and participation in international institutions. I will not review all of the specific economic indicators for Canada but these are difficult economic times for all of us. What is important, however, is that in view of our own experiences in Canada, the Government and Parliament are sensitive to cost effectiveness and efficiency, in the programs which they support both nationally and internationally. At home, we are committed to a policy of government growth in expenditures below forecasted growth in the Gross National Product. One result is that throughout the entire Canadian government, considerable attention is focused on reallocation of resources. Overlapping and duplicated resources are being identified and we are in the process of reviewing all our priorities. Under such economic constraints, you will appreciate why we take what we call a very hard look at the proposed budget for the 1980-81 biennium, and why we are equally careful in all of the other international institutions in which we participate.

Canada has a very strong concern about the need for an effective and harmonious relationship between agencies and governments in the international development process. We are opposed to the birth of new funds and opposed to the birth of new organizations without ending or modifying some of the existing ones which may have largely completed their tasks.

With this in mind, I would suggest that any new bodies or programmes be given a limited lifespan with a commitment to reassess their usefulness within a reasonable period of time.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I do not view the members who make up FAO and who concerned that it be the best possible international organization serving the world's food and agricultural industry, as split between the reluctant donors and militant recipients. No, Mr. Chairman, rather, I see us all, as the prime minister of Zambia pointed out at the beginning of the conference? As interdependent countries which are contributing to their best possible extent, but which differ in their opinions of the priorities and resources which must be applied at this particular time. An analysis of our economy indicates that Canada shares some of the characteristics of the developing countries, such as our partial reliance on primary products for our livelihood, and our vulnerability to world price fluctuations. At the same time, we are an industrial nation facing a period of rather slow independent economic growth.

However, taking a longer view, we can see that definite progress has been made in the past thirty-five years in overcoming hunger and malnutrition. This is clearly demonstrated when one considers the substantial increase in world population since 1945, and indeed the formation of about 100 new countries. Many of these new countries lacked not only capital and experienced people, but also the necessary infrastructure for an integrated agricultural system. In this progress, FAO has played a substantial role. Canada also is fully committed to the goal of eradicating hunger and malnutrition from the world, and providing the basic needs for peoples all over the world. But let us not forget that food is an expensive item, both for individual families and individual nations, whether they be importers or exporters. Let us, therefore, all work together to ensure that agriculture, and to ensure that forestry and fisheries are given adequate priorities internationally and within our own countries. It is only by working together we can ensure that there is bread for all.

S. M. AL-RAGABANI (United Arab Emirates) (interpretation from Arabic): In the name of Allah the All-Merciful, Mr. Chairman and Director General, Heads of Delegations and Representatives of Organisations, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to ask the Chairman to accept my congratulations for the trust that was shown in him when he was elected the Chairman of this Conference. I would also like to congratulate the Vice-Chairmen of this Conference, and may the Conference work be crowned with success. I also express my hopes for the prosperity of the peoples of this world.

We are very happy today to be able to participate-that is to say, the United Arab Emirates are happy to participate in the work of this Organization while such great responsibilities will be taken in respect of the food security and further development.

The Conference is particularly important because as far as the present situation is concerned there are problems which constitute a barrier to agricultural development, especially in developing countries which suffer very considerable problems which the international community as a whole must face today, and the gap between developing and developed countries is increasing because the population growth has absorbed the modest growth rate achieved in the national production of these Countries.

Furthermore, the population growth has had an enormous effect on the international economy, and thus provide a structural imbalance and an imbalance in the creed of these countries. Thus the GNP has dropped and the flow of investments has dropped. The imbalance in the economic sectors has increased, and this explains the low economic growth rate. One thus can understand fully the responsibility one has in order to present these gaps widening even further, and also in order to adapt the necessary positions in order to set up the necessary economic plans.

One must use in the best possible way the existing ways and means for development as well as a technical know-how available at national and international levels.

The United Arab Emirates are fully aware of the dimensions of the roles they have to play thanks to Sheikh Zayed B in Sultan, Head of State, and thanks to the setting up of agricultural strategies promoting the diversification of national economies. The Emirates have participated at Arab level in a status concerning the coordination and complementarity of work for agriculture. The Emirates have taken part in all world development efforts via these institutions, as well as via the Arab and Islamic financing institutions.

We find the participation of the Emirates as far as external assistance is concerned has now reached a level of 20 percent of its national revenue. This is one of the highest in the world. Furthermore, the ABU DHABI Development Fund has, between 1974 and 1978, contributed to 650 million dollars granted to Arab and African countries by about fifty development projects.

May I be allowed now to picture rapidly what the agricultural development is, as far as the United Arab Emirates are concerned. The overall national production in fisheries and agriculture has reached 659 million lira, that is almost 200 million dollars, that is an increase of 80 percent over 1974. The growth rates realized between 1977 and 1978 have reached close to 27 percent, and the agricultural area now is 47,000 hectares.

The United Arab Emirates attach great importance to the development of water resources and the rational utilization of water. The first stage has been set up, and we have a general inventory of resources. The State undertook the building of dams in order to promote irrigation and to increase the water table.

Furthermore a process is underway to set up a laboratory for the development of research in animal resources, plant diseases and combatting various disasters as well as setting up regulations concerning quarantines and veterinarian and phytosanitary measures. The State is setting up a 5-Year Plan for 1980-85, first of all contributing in the field of services, using the best modern methods and then there will be a vertical expansion of crops and then we will also have Very modern projects.

We want to have central regulations for irrigation, taking into account the regulation concerning the distribution of water in order to set up modern villages and settlements and organizing rural areas. These projects have provided excellent results which will become more general in all regions of our countries, in conformity with the ideas discussed at the Conference on Agricultural Reform and Rural Development.

As far as food strategy and security is concerned, for production of animal foodstuffs and grain, an agreement was made between the Ministers of Agriculture of the Gulf States. Varied efforts have also been made in private institutions. In 1979, storage capacity was increased by creating new silos. There has also been an increase in the animal foodstuffs industry as a result of the recommendation of the 19th Conference and the Conference of Arab Ministers of Agriculture who adopted the recommendations made by the 19th Conference concerning a common agricultural policy.

As other speakers have said, we must find a solution for the problem of providing technology for developing countries, especially when it comes to protecting and rationalizing water resources. Many industries are threatened by drought and furthermore a very great number of Asian countries find that their agriculture could really feed their populations but they suffer under certain meteorological conditions. International programmes should be set up in order to strengthen the alarm system in these countries. There must be meteorological surveillance via satellite, in order to make better use of existing data and to prevent floods and to make the best possible use of rain.

We fully support the Regular Programme and the solutions for the future and we wish to extend our thanks to the Director-General for the overall proposals made in his declaration yesterday. We very much hope that this problem be given the importance it deserves, will be fully recognized and we hope therefore that we will have contributed towards meeting the lack of food throughout the world.

We support the cooperation programme and also the programmes intended to counteract the lack of food. We wish to express our thanks to FAO and its Director-General as well as to the Secretariat for the documents they have produced and to all those people who are contributing towards this work for the benefit of mankind. We very much hope that this session will adopt recommendations and resolutions for fulfilling our objectives.

D. S. AHMAD (Malaysia): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Deputy Director-General, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is with great pleasure that I join the other Delegations to this Conference in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your election, as Chairman of this Assembly. Your experience, no doubt, will contribute in no small way to the smooth and effective proceedings of our Conference. I would also like to congratulate the three Vice-Chairmen who will, I am sure, share the same difficult task with you during the deliberations for the next two weeks ahead.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to place on record Malaysia's congratulation to the Director-General Dr. Edouard Saouma and his staff, may they be at Headquarters, or at Regional Offices throughout the world, for their systematic approach to awaken the whole world over the problems of rural poverty and pressing shortages of food production as well as malnutrition among the world's population.

We note that leaders and statesmen throughout the world, whether from the developed or developing countries, are getting more and more sensitive and concerned about the problems of food production. FAO has organized a number of meetings, seminars and workshops to find solutions to these problems which were identified during the 1974 World Food Conference. In July this year FAO organized a "Summit Meeting" of Ministers of Agriculture on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. At the conclusion of this meeting the Ministers adopted the WCARRD Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. This document will be tabled at this Conference for further discussion and endorsement. At the same time, FAO, as the lead agency, has drawn up a series of activities designed to facilitate the implementation of the Programme of Action. This implementation has been divided into two phases. The preliminary or first phase will be carried out in 1980. In order to ensure its smooth implementation, the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Far East recently organized an Inter-Country Consultation in Bangkok.

Mr. Chairman, Malaysia is of the opinion that the deliberations and the conclusions of the Inter-Country Consultation were extremely useful in clarifying the thoughts of not only officials of member countries but also FAO officials on many aspects of the WCARRD Programme of Action.

Further, FAO has commissioned a special study of the world agricultural situation together with forecast on food production up to the year 2000. These forecasts are important, because, to plan for increases in food production requires long term programming and at times we tend to forget or under-estimate the linkages of agriculture with all sectors of the economy of a country. We must recognize that agricultural development and industrialization are complementary to each other. The whole world today should acknowledge that food production is more of a humanitarian problem than a political one; but we must have the political will to see that innocent people are not deprived of their rights to food accessibility and we should not allow any room for errors in our judgement. We shall be failing in our duty if we permit this to happen.

It is a well-known fact that the acreage of land available for agriculture and food production around the globe remains the same while population continues to increase. This is putting tremendous pressure on the urgent need to improve productivity of the farmer and his land.

Malaysia is a small country with a population of just over 13 million people. Though my country, as a whole is free from hunger and starvation, we are classified by the United Nations as in the low middle income group, and as such we are bound to be affected directly or indirectly by what happens in the world, particularly in our region. In the world today when we are entering the age of supersonic travel, no single nation can live alone or in isolation and therefore developed and developing nations will continue to be inter-dependent.

Bearing all this in mind, Malaysia is striving hard, and leaving no stone unturned, to ensure that her small farmers, particularly the rice growers, are able to increase their production through proper application of science such as the correct usage of fertilizers, the development of better and high yielding rice varieties and the reduction of pre-and post-harvest losses. In addition, high support prices, effective marketing arrangement and provision of agricultural credit at reasonable rates of interest, and farm mechanization are all incentives to the small farmers to raise their productivity.

Agriculture is labour-intensive and requires vast sums for investment. It also requires improved technology for increased output. Transfer of modern technology which includes expertise and equipment is necessary and essential to almost all developing countries; and these have to be imported from the advanced countries. I am not advocating that food-producing countries reduce their export earnings to help others, but merely asking that technological knowledge and equipment for increasing food production be shared among us and be made available to the developing nations at reasonable costs. Such technical cooperation will go a long way in solving world shortages in food production.

Malaysia is already involved in a number of international organizations dealing with agriculture, food production and rural development, such as the Commonwealth, ESCAP, FAO, ASEAN and CIRDAP. I consider that the activities of all these organizations and agencies should be coordinated so as to avoid unnecessary duplication of time, effort and resources. This is necessary, and a mechanism must be found so as to draw up a formula which will ensure such non-duplication at the global, regional and sub-regional level.

Our belief on this is all the more strengthened as evidenced from the success of our efforts in ASEAN, which has resulted in establishing an ASEAN Rice Emergency Reserve of 50,000 tons which will act as food security measure for ASEAN countries during the emergencies; and under that set-up the rice stockpiles of individual countries of ASEAN will constitute the ASEAN Food Security Reserve. This is the joint commitment of ASEAN to the global problem of food security. Another example of sub-regional cooperation is the recent agreement of ASEAN Agricultural Ministers to establish a common Quarantine Ring around the member nations to prevent the spread of plant and animal diseases into ASEAN region. A third example of sub-regional cooperation is the Bilateral Agreement between Thailand and Malaysia which aims at the development of the border areas in the field of agriculture, fisheries, livestock, as well as drainage and irrigation.

Food security is an important topic which demands serious consideration during this session. Though Malaysia is neither a major importer nor a major exporter of food, we have never been in short supply of food. However, we are in full agreement with the concept of, and the necessity for, ensuring an adequate food supply to feed the world's population. Malaysia knows that the maintenance cost of a food stock is a colossal sum because we have been maintaining a rice stockpile but it is a cost that is often fully justified when the food stock prevents hunger and starvation among people. In this spirit, therefore, we support the Plan of Action of the Director-General in his efforts to promote global food security. To Malaysia, the SAOUMA PLAN is definitely a plan that is worthy of the unqualified support of all nations, both developed and developing.

In the past fishing has been confined mainly within the inshore waters. However with the recent development in world fishery scene, that is the declaration of the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone I can say categorically that developing countries which lack knowledge and experience to develop deep sea fishing not only requires large capital investment but also assistance.

We are pleased to note that FAO has taken the initiative to develop a comprehensive programme for the development and management of fisheries in the EEZ. We have examined this comprehensive programme designed by FAO and Malaysia feels that while it is necessary to have such a programme for the total benefit of the coastal developing nations, the implementation of this programme should not however be carried out at the expense of existing fisheries development programmes of FAO.

In this regard Malaysia feels strongly that the FAO should intensify and accord high priority to its present efforts in the development of aquaculture and inland fisheries for the benefit of rural poor and small scale fishermen. These programmes are gaining momentum and should be treated as sources of supplementary income to the fishermen and farmers.

Malaysia has developed a national economy based on the internationally well-known commodities, namely rubber and palm oil and of course without exception food crops mainly rice. In the early 60s we launched our Rural Development Programme with the view to stabilizing our agriculture economy. This stabilization effort includes diversification into other crops such as coconut, cocoa, coffee, pepper, fruit trees and other perishable commodities.

This is an integrated rural development programme which is based on the twin pillars of new land development and in-situ development of existing farm land, aimed at providing infrastructure and raising the income level of the rural people by raising their productivity. Thus, Malaysia stands committed to the aims and objectives of the WCARRD Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action. To us, this concept means the development of the rural areas by way of new and improved technology designed to raise the productivity of the small farmers, combined with guaranteed access to modern inputs like credit, fertilizers and pesticides at reasonable prices, and to market outlets where their produce can be sold at equitable prices. Land ownership *per se* is unimportant to us in eradicating poverty in the rural areas. What is pertinent is that he has gainful employment which generates him a regular source of income, and giving him a decent standard of living. Based on the objective of a gainful employment, the productivity of the rural population will be increased through the introduction of new technology and techniques.

Malaysia feels that FAO should emphasise the need to include technological cooperation among developing countries when it formulates the agricultural aspects of the New International Strategy for the 1980s. We consider TCDC as a key variable in the development model for developing countries.

Research is an essential activity for the programme of any society and it is in the application of the results of research that the hallmark of progress is made. Developing countries often lack the capability to conduct research on their own, particularly due to the lack of trained manpower. This is where international organizations have a definite role to play in ensuring the continual development of developing countries. Malaysia has recognised and experienced this problem, and in her efforts to build up her research capability, she has taken a World Bank loan to send research staff abroad to be trained in every field of agricultural research.

Mr. Chairman, I would therefore like to urge FAO to assist developing countries to expand their research capability in their national and rural development programmes. This can be done in the form of expanding research and training facilities in the recipient countries themselves as well as in the form of providing training opportunities for young professionals to equip themselves for their roles in national and rural development.

It is in encouraging research efforts that success can be obtained in most seriously affected countries in their efforts to grow more food. Traditional farming methods need research to improve and this is the key to agricultural progress.

Therefore, I would like to conclude my statement by saying:

"Give a man food and he eats for a day but teach him how to grow food and he eats forever"

Not only that,

He is also able to feed many others.

M. F. JANJUA (Pakistan): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. On behalf of the Pakistan delegation to the 20th Session of the FAO Conference, please accept, your Excellency, our sincere felicitations on your election to the August office of the Chairman of the Conference. We are confident that under your leadership and capable guidance the Conference will find satisfactory solutions to the numerous and complex problems confronting it.

May I also avail myself of this opportunity to extend to the newly elected members, the Independent State of Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica our heartiest welcome.

FAO is today better equipped and well poised to meet the challenges of the future within the framework of a New International Economic Order owing to the review of its programmes, structures and policies undertaken by the Director-General and authorized by this Conference in 1977. We commend the Director-General on his pursuit of these objectives and assure him of our support in meeting the challenges facing the FAO.

I would like in this context to mention here specially the great effort that went into the Organization of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development that dealt with matters of supreme concern to all countries of the world. It was of special importance to my country in which rural masses constitute nearly 75 percent of the population. The World Conference was a great success and we look forward to its follow up action and implementation of its Declaration.

Much has taken place since the last FAO Conference. There have been some significant developments in the field of food and agriculture. 1978 was a good year for world food and agriculture. Production increased substantially and there was a distinct improvement in the world food supply situation. Unfortunately, this trend has not persisted through 1979. Already there are disturbing indications of poor weather conditions resulting in bad harvests. But what is a matter of even more profound concern is the fact that fundamental improvements have yet to materialize. Production trends in developing countries are still well below the 4% annual target set by the World Food Conference in 1974; food imports continue to increase in volume, prices of vital inputs like fertilizer continue to escalate, food aid in cereals remains below the target of 10 million tons, there is little evidence that increased world grain stocks have been converted into reserves for world food security terms of trade of most developing countries have not shown any improvement and in some cases may even have deteriorated.

Under these circumstances, the Pakistan delegation feels that while concern has grown, while issues have been carefully delineated there is not enough evidence of practical implementation. Five years have elapsed since the World Food Conference and the enunciation of a grand global food policy. Surely, it is now time to move purposefully and determinedly from mere pronouncements to action oriented programmes -- from the conference table to the field where the many millions sweat and toil to bring in good harvests. It goes without saying that the main burden and the primary responsibility for developing food and agriculture production rests with the developing countries themselves. Growth in agriculture is crucial not only for the realization of an overall income increase for developing countries but also on consideration of income distribution and the broad sharing of economic gains by the masses. The objective of removing the worst manifestation of poverty can thus be achieved only through a rapid growth of agriculture. To do this developing countries have perforce to accord food and agriculture sector the highest priority in their development plans and to provide the necessary financial, administrative and policy support. Happily, there is increasing and firm evidence that developing countries are conscious of this obligation and are making earnest efforts to the extent possible to provide the required support.

I would like to present briefly the position in my own country. Agriculture is a basic industry which employs 57% of the total labour force and provides sustenance directly or indirectly to about 75% of our total population. It contributes 34 percent of the gross national product and 70 percent of our foreign exchange earnings are obtained through exports of processed or raw agriculture products. Naturally, therefore, agriculture has a very special priority in our Fifth Five-Year Plan. Our current agricultural development programme is a rational mix of technological change, economic measures and institutional restructuring. It seeks to achieve a more effective and enlarged use of modern inputs with a view to achieving substantial increase in per acre yields. This is combined with an effort to build institutions and infrastructure in the rural agricultural sector to sustain growth in future. The modern system of extension services based on training and visit method and providing linkage with research form the core of these programmes. Direct investment in agriculture will be substantially increased during the current Plan period. This would be further supported by agriculture-oriented investment in other sectors. The entire activity in the rural agriculture sector will be backed up by the institutional and administrative changes conceived as part of a comprehensive rural development thrust.

The main objectives of agricultural development are given in the paper circulated to the Conference. I shall not, therefore, take your time in asserting them. I would merely say as a result of the

measures taken to implement the objectives narrated by me we have reaped a record crop of wheat. Production this year has been in the neighbourhood of 10 million tons as against 8.3 million metric tons in the previous year-an increase of about 24 percent over the last year. As a result, the import of wheat during 1979-80 has been reduced to approximately one million metric tons as against 2.2 million metric tons for 1978-79.

We are grateful for the assistance that has been so readily forthcoming from the FAO. I would like specially to mention here the extremely useful and timely help that we received in obtaining rust resistant wheat seed and locusticides for controlling the locust menace. I take this opportunity of thanking the Director-General on behalf of the Government of Pakistan for responding so promptly to our requests and also for the efforts that FAO has made and continues to make in raising the standard of living through increasing agricultural production and in bettering the condition of the rural population in my country.

I have elaborated upon our efforts to demonstrate that developing countries like Pakistan are fully committed to increasing agricultural and food production within the resources available to them. The food problem, however, still continues to be a formidable one. Pakistan is still, to a certain extent, dependent upon food imports. Although the gap between demand and supply is decreasing, it is not decreasing fast enough. While we feel that the only solution to the problems of developing countries is increasing self-reliance, meaningful external assistance could play a vital role in bringing about the desired change more efficiently and rapidly. Unfortunately, the flow of development assistance has fallen short of requirement in volume direction and terms. We do not wish to enter into a debate on this subject but would merely remind the developed countries that they too stand to benefit from the comparatively low cost of production in developing countries and should, therefore, in the larger interest help developing countries to attain a greater degree of self-reliance. It is only then that both the developed and developing countries would be able to march forward as partners in progress.

On the subject of world food security, we are somewhat alarmed by recent developments. The indefinite adjournment of the United Nations Negotiating Conference on an International Wheat Agreement of 1971 has left the world precariously poised on the brink of a situation which has the making of a crisis similar to the one which faced the world in 1972-74. It is now estimated that world wheat and coarse grain production would not be sufficient to meet the consumption requirements in 1980-81 and it would be necessary to draw upon existing stocks. According to other estimates the brisk demand and latest crop expectations are creating a tight world grain market. It is estimated that the increase in international grain prices and freight costs would mean an extra expenditure of US \$ 2 billion on commercial wheat imports by developing countries. We would, therefore, strongly urge a resumption of negotiations to reach a New International Wheat Agreement as soon as possible. At the same time we feel that it is vital to endorse the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security. Under the present circumstances, and during the interregnum the Director-General's Plan of Action holds out some hope for a large number of countries who otherwise would be at the mercy of an uncertain and rapidly changing world food situation.

The GATT Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the Fifth Session of UNCITAD were held earlier this year. Many countries have already expressed their deep disappointment with the very limited progress achieved in trade matters. Trade restrictions hamper the possibilities of expanding exports of developing countries. International production policies in some developed countries have further aggravated the situation and damaged the potential of developing countries to expand their trade. Since the economic development of developing countries is the only genuine solution to the overall problem of poverty, hunger and malnutrition we would strongly urge the developed countries to demonstrate the necessary political will to arrive at equitable and fair resolution of the problems facing the developing countries in the field of trade.

I would also take this opportunity to make a reference to the World Food Programme. We are satisfied that the programme has proved to be a true example of partnership between developing and developed countries, and has firmly established the success and value of the concept of multilateral food aid and has, in the process, won the trust of recipient countries. We hope that this concept of multilateral food aid will be greatly enlarged in the future and an increasing volume of resources will be channelled through this programme. However, we are dismayed to note the recent difficulties in the programme's resource situation and the resultant effect on its commitments. We hope that this will be only a passing phase and that additional support will be forthcoming from existing as well as potential donors to enable the programme to meet its commitments and to mount a much larger effort in the future.

We note and applaud the increased emphasis on strengthening FAO's investment activities and its efforts to develop and refine its own investment support capacity. This must continue to be a major medium term objective of the Organization. In fact, we would urge that this expertise be utilized in identifying suitable investment opportunities for economic and technical cooperation amongst developing countries.

The diminishing availability of fertilizers is a matter of profound concern to all developing countries. The recent increase in prices of fertilizers has added to this anxiety. The decline in pledges to the FAO International Fertilizer Supply Scheme has also complicated the situation. We would therefore urge donor countries to increase their contribution to the IFS as well as to substantially increase their direct fertilizer aid to the MSA and LDC countries faced with balance of payment problems.

In the field of nutrition there is an imperative need to move from words to deeds and from discussions to action. The number of malnourished is increasing even while there is plenty in the world. We feel that a lot has to be done particularly in the field of Data Generation and Identification of Problems, Nutrition Intervention Programmes and most importantly for developing countries Nutrition Education and Training.

The Pakistan delegation would also like to make a special mention of the new programme of the FAO to help third world coastal nations exploit fisheries resources in their exclusive economic zones. We feel that FAO has a unique and leading role to play in assisting coastal states in their efforts to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities created by the new regime of the sea. In this connection, the most urgent task for which developing countries should get help is the locating, identification and quantification of fish stocks lying in their exclusive economic zones. We would urge all donor countries to respond generously to finance this programme during the 1980-81 biennium.

Mr. Chairman, it is indeed ironical that the world today despite breath-taking technological progress and spectacular development in human affairs continues to grapple with the task of the most vital human requirement of adequate food. Hunger and malnutrition are now attaining critical proportions. It is, therefore, the earnest hope of my delegation that this Conference will be instrumental in creating a better understanding of the food problem facing the world today and in ushering in a new era for agriculture and for the farmers of the world. This is a challenging task but we owe it to posterity to rise and boldly meet this challenge.

In conclusion my delegation is confident that if member states work with a spirit of cooperation and good-will which they have always displayed the deliberations of our Conference will lead to meaningful conclusions and achieve substantial results for the ultimate benefit of those millions who toil in the fields. Towards this end, Mr. Chairman, I would like to assure you of our fullest cooperation.

A. GHISSASSI (Maroc) (interprétation de l'arabe): Une fois de plus, ma délégation se retrouve au siège de cette Organisation et nous connaissons le rôle qu'elle joue dans le domaine de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation. C'est une occasion très heureuse pour moi que de prendre la parole devant cette auguste assemblée et j'espère que je pourrai donc participer aux débats. Je suis sûr que nous pourrions arriver à des résultats très réalistes et appuyer toutes les activités de l'Organisation dans le domaine agricole.

Je souhaite tout d'abord féliciter, de la part de la délégation marocaine, le Président de cette Conférence. Nous sommes persuadés que sa sagesse et ses hautes qualités permettront de mener à bien les travaux et les activités qui nous incombent ici.

Cette Conférence se réunit à un moment critique, dans des conditions économiques mondiales également difficiles et nous devons suivre les discussions en toute objectivité, et avec un sens des réalités, de façon à évaluer la situation actuelle correctement et de voir quels sont les moyens qui nous permettront de résoudre les problèmes imposés par ces conditions.

Nous avons pu constater dans les documents qui nous ont été distribués pour les réunions de cette année, et surtout lors de la Conférence sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, les essais entrepris pour réviser les difficultés du secteur agricole et du secteur alimentaire. C'est une situation qui se détériore continuellement dans les pays en voie de développement en dépit des grands efforts faits tant au niveau national qu'au niveau international. Ces difficultés sont encore plus complexes depuis un quart de siècle en dépit des efforts qui ont été réalisés depuis la fin de la Seconde guerre mondiale sur la productivité, la mise au point de nouvelles techniques. Tout cela est de la plus haute importance. Mais nous n'avons malheureusement pas été en mesure de résoudre les problèmes de la production agricole dans de nombreuses régions du monde, c'est-à-dire le fossé qui existe entre les pays développés et les pays en voie de développement ainsi que les lacunes ou les fossés qui existent entre les besoins qui s'accroissent chaque jour, et les possibilités.

Le monde en voie de développement doit faire face à une croissance démographique extrêmement importante: D'après les dernières estimations nous voyons que cette population mondiale augmente encore. Il nous faut donc intensifier nos efforts dans tous les domaines pour pouvoir faire face aux problèmes qui se posent à nous et qui continueront à se poser au cours des années à venir. Dans chacun de nos pays c'est-à-dire au niveau national nous devons vraiment essayer de réduire la pénurie de denrées alimentaires. La grandeur de ce problème demande des efforts combinés au niveau national, et un examen plus approfondi des relations qui existent entre les membres de la communauté internationale et le besoin de restructurer cette communauté sur une base plus équitable et plus juste. Nous arriverons ainsi à un nouvel ordre économique international.

Sans aucun doute les organisations internationales, et les chefs de ces organisations, ont un rôle vital, crucial à jouer grâce à des études entreprises, et en fournissant à la communauté internationale un forum où tous les pays riches et pauvres peuvent discuter des problèmes et leur trouver une solution.

C'est mon devoir de dire combien nous sommes satisfaits des efforts incessants de la FAO qui essaie de remplir de façon adéquate son rôle. Nous sommes très satisfaits des documents et tout particulièrement du document 'Agriculture-Horizon 2000'. C'est une preuve éclatante que l'on traite de ce problème avec beaucoup de sérieux.

Je voudrais exprimer l'avis du Royaume du Maroc concernant certains problèmes qui se posent à nous avant de passer en revue les défis qui nous sont lancés du point de vue sécurité alimentaire.

Les délibérations de cette Conférence sont en réalité importantes depuis qu'elles suivent les réunions internationales qui ont traité du problème des denrées alimentaires. Nous avons sous les yeux une stratégie intégrée pour faire face aux problèmes de la faim et de la malnutrition et pour appuyer les résultats que nous avons obtenus après la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation qui s'est tenue en 1974, de même qu'après celle de la réforme agraire et du développement rural.

Nous voulons insister sur le rôle positif joué par notre Organisation de même que sur les efforts de personnes responsables, tel que le Directeur général, M. Edouard Saouma.

Nous prenons conscience au niveau international du fait qu'il est nécessaire de faire face aux dangers et aux menaces que l'on peut voir apparaître dans le monde. Nous savons que des millions de personnes dans le monde souffrent de la faim et de la malnutrition, alors qu'il existe des techniques extrêmement sophistiquées: tout ceci est une contradiction.

Nos progrès sont entravés par de nombreux problèmes et l'humanité, en réalité, doit surmonter ces problèmes comme elle l'a fait par le passé: elle a éliminé par exemple certaines maladies. Il est étonnant de constater les fossés qui existent entre le niveau de consommation de pays riches et les besoins de pays pauvres. Ces besoins se font encore davantage sentir. Et c'est une situation qui a été mise en lumière, non seulement par toutes les études, mais également par toutes les allocutions que nous avons pu entendre. Et je crois qu'il faut donc modifier quelque peu le processus du développement: il nous incombe de rejeter les tendances passées, de rejeter la répartition injuste des moyens de production, non seulement au niveau national mais également au niveau international. La communauté internationale doit rejeter une situation qui plonge des millions de personnes à vivre dans des conditions de nutrition inacceptables.

Nous ne sommes pas du tout pessimistes même si les pays en voie de développement n'ont pas encore fait face à leurs besoins et n'ont pas encore réussi à satisfaire leurs propres nécessités, et qu'ils aient jusqu'à présent eu recours aux importations. Si cette situation se poursuit, elle ne fera qu'augmenter la dépendance et limiter la liberté de ces pays du point de vue économique et même politique.

En conséquence, les pays en voie de développement doivent faire face à ce défi. Ils doivent affronter ces problèmes comme ils avaient à affronter l'exploitation coloniale. Le spectre de la faim et de la malnutrition s'imposent à nous, et je crois qu'au cours des dernières décennies nous avons essayé de mettre en oeuvre les différentes résolutions et recommandations que nous avons acceptées. Mais ce n'est qu'au cours des années 1970 que les peuples ont clairement pris conscience de la situation mondiale. L'une des causes principales de cette situation vient du fait que les ressources sont très mal réparties entre les différents secteurs de l'économie. Le secteur de l'agriculture est certainement l'un des secteurs importants pour la plupart de nos pays. Il n'y a pas doute que les efforts réalisés dans le domaine agricole pourront porter des fruits à moyen terme ou à long terme. C'est la raison pour laquelle les investissements des pays en voie de développement ne pourront porter leurs fruits qu'au cours des années à venir.

Nous avons de larges surfaces cultivables qui ne sont pas encore exploitées: 200 millions d'hectares. Nous voyons donc la productivité à laquelle on pourrait tendre si de nouvelles techniques étaient utilisées. Nous pourrions par exemple augmenter le rendement des produits céréaliers par hectares.

Cet aspect du défi que j'ai mentionné doit être très clair pour tous les pays en voie de développement. Ce défi va au-delà des limites des frontières de chaque pays.

Les divergences qui existent entre le niveau de consommation des pays développés et des pays en voie de développement sont énormes. Nous lançons un appel au monde pour qu'il fasse preuve de solidarité. Tous les indicateurs économiques montrent que la consommation de calories par habitant représente, pour les pays développés 150 pour cent de plus que pour les pays en voie de développement. Les personnes qui souffrent de la faim et de la malnutrition sont nombreuses. Et les chiffres que je viens de mentionner nous en donnent un aperçu.

Nous ne devons pas non plus oublier un aspect négatif qui est la mauvaise répartition des ressources. Et le principal des défis auxquels nous devons faire face est de savoir comment satisfaire nos besoins sans cesse croissants. Nous avons enregistré dans les pays en voie de développement une augmentation de la production agricole: 2,8 pour cent au cours des cinq dernières années. Tout ceci est encourageant mais ne nous permet pas de faire face à tous les besoins de nos pays; et ces besoins sont en relation avec la croissance démographique dans notre pays. Nous avons un taux de croissance démographique de 2,6 pour cent.

En plus de ce taux d'augmentation de la population nous pouvons voir que les pays en voie de développement doivent faire face à des difficultés sans cesse croissantes de demande accrue de produits alimentaires de 3,2 à 3,7 pour cent annuellement.

Les besoins des pays en voie de développement ne pourront être satisfaits que si on leur donne les outils nécessaires pour essayer d'éliminer cette dépendance par rapport aux pays développés. Il faut donc mettre à leur disposition des ressources et leur permettre d'augmenter leur production alimentaire par différents moyens: utilisation d'engrais, de pesticides, semences améliorées, etc.

La solidarité internationale est un problème complexe étant donné les difficultés auxquelles doivent faire face tous les pays en voie de développement. Nous devons donc surmonter les difficultés internes afin d'augmenter la production agricole et afin d'atteindre une augmentation de quatre pour cent par an.

Nous devons augmenter les hectares de terre cultivés, nous devons utiliser les crédits, les possibilités d'investissement, mobiliser la main-d'oeuvre, et suivre une politique de crédit appropriée. Nous devons également mettre l'accent sur l'irrigation et éviter toute détérioration de la commercialisation des produits agricoles, évitant donc la pénurie d'investissements dans ce domaine. Les chiffres que nous avons pour le commerce international des produits agricoles montrent que la situation des pays en voie de développement se détériore. Le rapport d'experts des pays en voie de développement montre que les échanges entre pays en voie de développement sont de 82 pour cent, alors que pour les pays développés il est de 5,6. Les pays en voie de développement doivent donc faire face à de nouveaux problèmes (barrières tarifaires et non-tarifaires, mesures protectionnistes) même si beaucoup de nos pays sont membres du GATT et ont essayé de libéraliser les échanges commerciaux, en dépit des efforts réalisés dans les forums tels que la CNUCED ou le GATT. Je veux dire que la situation au lieu de s'améliorer s'est encore détériorée; elle est alarmante, les négociations visant à conclure de nouveaux accords internationaux sur des produits de base ont échoué. Les pays en voie de développement doivent faire face à des contraintes, à des limites lorsqu'ils souhaitent commercialiser leurs produits agricoles, Le prix des intrants augmente sans cesse et provoque un déséquilibre de leur économie.

Il est donc peu facile pour nous de comprendre la logique des pays développés qui essaient de limiter l'exportation des pays en voie de développement, alors que ces pays peuvent remarquer que la balance des paiements et des échanges est en leur faveur.

Le secteur agricole nécessiterait 115 milliards d'investissements pour faire face à ces besoins; les investissements demanderont 17 pour cent de plus que le PNB actuel. Ceci ne peut se faire que si les institutions de financement augmentent les prêts de capitaux aux pays en voie de développement.

Les barrières intérieures et extérieures ont provoqué l'échec des pays en voie de développement, qui n'ont pu faire face à leurs besoins. Cette situation est alarmante, mais nous espérons que nous pourrions surmonter ces difficultés en intensifiant encore nos efforts, et en déterminant de façon très claire une stratégie qui tiendra compte de la situation de chaque pays. Au niveau intérieur, une telle stratégie devrait accorder une priorité importante au secteur de l'agriculture, sans oublier l'équipement et la possibilité d'enseignement, d'éducation, de formation. Nous devons essayer de mobiliser tous

les facteurs nécessaires qui permettront de promouvoir la coopération, c'est-à-dire réorganiser le marché des produits, et offrir des prix rémunérateurs qui encourageront le producteur agricole et lui montreront qu'il bénéficie des fruits de son travail. Il faut aussi maintenir au niveau international les denrées alimentaires à des prix raisonnables.

Cela doit être accepté à l'unanimité par les communautés internationales. Nous devons éliminer les barrières tarifaires pour les produits en provenance des pays en voie de développement. Les pays développés devraient aider nos pays à atteindre une certaine autosuffisance. C'est la raison pour laquelle je dois dire que votre Organisation a de très grandes responsabilités. Il convient de se baser sur des études pour formuler une stratégie. Il faut qu'il y ait des consultations entre les différents membres de la communauté internationale, et nous estimons que l'ordre du jour des réunions de votre Organisation montre clairement que cette Organisation accepte son rôle et qu'elle est prête à l'assumer pour améliorer la situation actuelle. Notre ordre du jour comprend des points très importants, points d'ordre pratique: élevage, foresterie, pêche, engrais, etc.

Nous apprécions également les efforts déployés par l'Organisation, tout particulièrement ceux qui visent à atteindre la sécurité alimentaire à tous les niveaux. Nous savons que le Directeur général a pris des mesures dans ce but, et toutes les parties intéressées doivent s'engager à faire face aux objectifs tracés et essayer de conclure de nouveaux accords sur les produits céréaliers. Nous espérons que nos préoccupations sur la sécurité alimentaire seront reflétées dans les buts et objectifs de notre Organisation.

Nous devrions nous concentrer sur les problèmes qui sont importants pour les pays en voie de développement qui souffrent davantage de la crise alimentaire. Nous estimons que notre Organisation, grâce à ses activités et à ses études, devrait permettre un financement plus important aux pays en voie de développement pour consolider leurs programmes. Les organisations telles que la Banque mondiale, le FIDA, les Fonds de développement régionaux, devraient également participer à ce financement important.

Monsieur le Président, après vous avoir dit ce que nous pensions des différents points de l'ordre du jour, je voudrais vous donner une idée plus ou moins claire-ou assez claire-ou un tableau de la situation qui prévaut au Maroc. Mon pays joue un rôle très important dans le développement agricole, et nous avons accordé une haute priorité au développement agricole qui permet d'augmenter sans cesse notre produit national brut. Aujourd'hui la population est de 18,8 millions; le taux de croissance démographique est de 2,9 pour cent, beaucoup plus élevé que dans beaucoup d'autres pays. Pour les zones cultivées, nous avons 32 millions d'hectares, 7,5 millions d'hectares non cultivés, le reste étant des pâturages et des forêts.

Etant donné le manque de temps je vais exclure de mon exposé l'expérience marocaine. Je distribuerai le document à tous les délégués.

Pour conclure, je souhaite vous dire qu'au cours des deux prochaines décennies nous devons faire face à un déficit considérable, non seulement dans tous les pays mais également dans mon propre pays. Si nous voulons arriver à exploiter au maximum le potentiel que nous avons à notre disposition, nous devons donc, au cours de la mise en oeuvre du programme de développement, relever le défi qui nous est lancé. Les problèmes qui se posent sont très importants, très nombreux. Nous nous heurtons à des fluctuations économiques, à des taux d'accroissement démographique importants, mais nous devons avant tout et par dessus tout assurer un niveau de vie décent à nos peuples. Nous devons pour cela faire un bilan de nos ressources naturelles, nous devons également montrer qu'il est possible de faire face au défi qui nous est lancé. Le Directeur général, dans son exposé, nous a montré quelle était la situation mondiale et quels étaient les programmes qui pourraient être mis au point pour assurer le bien être de tous.

O. OKSNES (Norway) (interpretation from Norwegian): Mr. Chairman, the Twentieth Conference of FAO is taking place directly after the successful World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. I should like to congratulate Director-General Saouma and the Conference participants on this Conference, which may well prove to be a milestone in the efforts to improve conditions for the millions of poor people living in rural areas.

The declaration of principles and the programme of action adopted there form a basis for securing both a more equitable distribution of resources and an increase in food production. A healthy and dynamic rural development, with more job opportunities and with the local population having a greater influence on development would doubtlessly lead to more people choosing to go on living in rural areas. This would, in turn, ease the pressure on the towns, with a resultant reduction in slums and their consequent debasement of human life.

In order that the results of the Conference will be successful, the prerequisite is that the proposed programme of action should be adequately followed up, both at the national and the international level. *For* Norway's part, great emphasis was placed on this very point, and our view is that the discussion of this question is one of the most important items on the agenda for this Conference.

As far as follow-up at the national level is concerned, this will naturally depend on the individual country's political will and ability to put the recommendations into effect. The various countries start out with different premises, but my impression from the Conference is that most countries adopted a positive attitude, and they wished to follow up the intentions of the Conference—for example, by attaching relatively greater importance to agriculture, forestry and fishing in future development.

I have reason to stress that the struggle against rural poverty is to a high degree a political question. The positive effect of aid from rich to poor countries is dependent on the existence of a political will to achieve an equitable distribution of existing resources and future benefits at the national level

As regards the international effort, the FAO was charged with a leading role in the form of the follow-up of the Programme of action. It is important that the FAO, in cooperation with the other agencies in the United Nations System, is capable of carrying out the great task for which the Organization has been made responsible. This presupposes giving priority to those questions within the limits of FAO's total resources, and the technical development in the FAO with greater weight on the socio-economic aspects of the development process.

Norway strongly supports the item in the Programme of action relating to the setting of specific targets for development, followed by monitoring and subsequent evaluation. The purpose must be to have yardsticks for judging the results of the policies followed in the various countries.

FAO should intensify the work of formulating criteria for such an evaluation. The indicators for measuring results in the individual countries should be of an appropriate nature, including literacy, distribution of income and nutrition. Norway is at present actively considering in which way we could support the follow-up of the Conference, technically and financially.

Many member countries will require assistance in setting targets and formulating strategies for rural development. In order to participate in an evaluation process, the member countries will also need to develop data coverage for the various aspects of rural development. Assisting the member countries with this work of analysis will be a major function of FAO.

Mr. Chairman, it was disappointing that the negotiations on a new wheat agreement broke down in February of this year. In the absence of a wheat agreement, Norway has supported the five-point plan as a means of improving world food security. An important element here is the work of FAO on the Food Security Assistance Scheme. Taking the years 1977, 1978 1979 together, Norway has contributed Nkr 3. 5 million for this purpose.

Norway has also signed the protocol concerning an extension of the Food Aid Convention from 1971, and from 1980 she will contribute 30,000 tons of wheat in conformity with the provisions in the 1971 convention.

Mr. President, the world's supply of wood is a subject of central interest for the FAO The Forestry Department of the FAO has in fact carried out a number of valuable analyses of future supply and demand in respect of wood.

These analyses seem to indicate that in only 20-30 years from now there may already be difficulties in satisfying a reasonable level of demand and that the shortfall in wood will become more marked in subsequent years.

In many countries the area of forest land is too small to be able to produce enough wood for domestic use. However, in the world as a whole the area of forest is so large that it can produce much more than needed to meet demand. This can be accomplished without any serious competition with agriculture over areas suitable for cultivation.

It is an obvious pre-condition, however, if enough wood is to be obtained both for fuel and industrial products, that investments in afforestation are substantially increased.

Besides the effort made towards meeting local needs, it is therefore essential that the analyses carried out by the FAO are followed up by discussion on how to finance greatly increased investment of this nature.

Apart from the funds which the individual countries can earmark for this purpose, here it will no doubt be necessary to mobilize international capital on quite a considerable scale.

I would like to mention that Norway has legally established that a certain share of the gross income by sale of industrial wood should be reinvested in the forests. Experience has shown that these measures have proved successful for our reforestation.

Planning in the forestry sector must be on a long-term basis. To cover a shortfall in wood in the first half of the next century, we are already too far behind to make the investments clear enough to show that no time is to be lost in finding financing sources capable of solving the problem.

I realize that the FAO is aware of this problem, but it is hard to see that the programme and budget, as they have been presented to the Conference, pay sufficient regard to this long-term aspect.

I would request that the Director-General take steps to see that the Forestry Committee in the FAO initiates comprehensive discussion on the financing problems connected with silviculture, with a view to finding out how the necessary capital can be raised.

Another important question is the FAO's programme for a better utilization of the enlarged economic zones in fisheries. For the coastal states fishing in the economic zone could constitute an important element in food self-sufficiency, which is desirable both from the point of view of the countries themselves and in the international perspective. I would emphasize that the establishment of 200-mile economic zones is a necessary, but not sufficient, prerequisite for ensuring that the coastal states in the Third World can utilize the potential which the fisheries represent.

There will now be a great need to identify and plan suitable development projects. Here, naturally enough, it will be necessary to give the developing countries both technical and financial assistance-to help them both meet the immediate needs and create the basis in the longer term for their being able themselves to plan their own fishery policy and achieve their goals.

In this work, the FAO can play an important role and the Norwegian Government has already given substantial support to the FAO's special programme for the development of the economic zones. In this connection we would emphasize that the developed fishery nations have a special obligation to make expertise and experience available in this field.

It should be a goal for the international community to see to it that the world's fish catches as far as possible are utilized for human consumption. The development of suitable products therefore should be given high priority, Norway has gained valuable experience from the work done on development and acceptability testing of fishmeal (fish protein concentrate PPC type B) in food aid. We have now had this product included in the Norwegian commodity contribution to the World Food Programme,

The development of PPC is an example of ways in which fish can be used in the global food supply. Increasing effort as well as ingenuity are called for in order to develop cheap and simple products and processes so that the amounts and kinds of fish to be used for human consumption can be increased in the future. From a nutritional point of view as well, this has its importance.

An aspect of FAO's work to which Norway attaches great importance, is nutrition in its most comprehensive sense. We feel that the recent development here is a step in the right direction, as it has been agreed that nutrition becomes a permanent item on the agenda of the meetings of the Committee of Agriculture,

The Committee of Fisheries ought to deal with the topic of nutrition on a regular basis as well. The various nations should endeavour to be represented by experts in the field of nutrition when the subject is to be dealt with in the Standing Committees,

I would like to underline the importance of having a comprehensive view of all aspects of nutrition, especially within the UN system. The work of the ACC Sub-Committee on Nutrition, now well under way, is a positive development to this end,

I cannot too strongly emphasize that I see a full integration of women as a prerequisite of successful rural development, I wish to refer to the Programme of Action in the report of the World Conference, on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and stress that FAO must pay full attention to rural women in the future work of the Organization, Norway will give high priority to projects where this aspect is taken care of.

The important role of women in food supply clearly indicates that they should be actively integrated into education as well as the general economic and social development. That is to say, it should be made easier for women to obtain credits for agricultural investments. It should be recognized that

women in many countries possess the key to a more rational use of land, improved harvests as well as a more balanced diet. Too much emphasis on commercial agriculture must not interfere with food for immediate, local needs.

In this connection, let me add that the development of rural technology must be based on the needs of the small farmers-female as well as male. Even simple improvements in equipment give results

Before this Conference, the FAO prepared a document entitled "Agriculture Toward 2000". In the Norwegian view this will represent useful background material when we come to the planning of agricultural policy in the Third Development Decade.

I expect that this document will also be of central importance in discussions held in other United Nations fora apart from the FAO. Through this study the foundation has been laid for assessment of the interrelationship between the target-directed production of food and vital factors such as manpower, technical and financial inputs. Although this study can only be regarded as a first step it seems to me that according higher priority to the development of agriculture in rural areas is a necessary element in any future-oriented development policy. This study may become a new instrument in both multilateral and bilateral development assistance work.

There is one important area, however, in which I feel it necessary for the study to be taken further. Only slight attention is paid in the document to the socio-economic factors connected with the distribution of incomes and resources within the various countries. I regard it as necessary and important to place the requisite emphasis on this aspect in the further work on the document.

The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development expressed the hope that the financing institutions in the United Nations system, together with other sources, would increase their support to the agricultural sector. I agree with this, but at the same time I would point out that it is just as often the lack of good projects as the lack of capital that hampers the work of development.

As the North-South Conference in the United Nations declared, food, nutrition and agriculture are key factors in the development of the Third World. The endeavours made in this field with the poorest segment in the rural areas in mind will release energy for economic development in general.

It is a greater effort of this nature, combined with a growing political will to achieve more equitable conditions in the individual countries, which in the course of the Third Development Decade will be able to bring us closer to reaching the targets we have set for ourselves as our ideal aim.

M. PETRIK (Czechoslovakia) (interpretation from Czech): Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, let me, on behalf of the delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, congratulate the Chairman upon election to his high post; my sincere congratulations also go to the Co-Chairmen and other officers of the bureau. I would also like to congratulate our two new members upon their admission to the FAO.

General conferences provide the best opportunity for balancing world agricultural production, food policy, and work of the Food and Agriculture Organization for the past biennial period. The comparatively favourable trend of increasing the volume of world agricultural production has been affected by unfavourable weather conditions this year. The situation requires increased efforts for providing enough food for mankind. Some warning signal can be seen in the failure to meet the expected objectives and development rates of the Second Development Decade.

We therefore fully support the justified and realistic requirements of developing countries for a general reconstruction of international economic relationships, for strengthening their economic independence, and adjustment of international trade as indicated, in the respective parts of the Programme of Action on the establishment of a New International Economic Order and other United Nations documents. This task does not appear to be easy and solutions will be hard to find now that inflation trends continue in some countries of the world, with economic depression and instability. I would like to note that in our view the effectiveness of some international documents which are to be in favour of the developing countries is impaired by the fact that the reality of the present-day world is not fully taken into account-the existence of the socialist and capitalist socio-economic systems-and that the differences in the approaches to the problems of the developing world are not fully respected, including historical responsibility for the present state.

A special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on economic problems in 1980 will discuss all these questions.

I would like to express my support to the programme orientation and policy of the FAO and its Director-General, aimed mainly at meeting the requirements for securing food in developing countries, particularly the least developed. We therefore welcome efforts for strengthening the coordinating role and importance of the FAO, and support any initiative for securing mutually advantageous international labour division. In this connection, my country also welcomed the decision to elaborate, in the FAO, objective studies envisaging the future, aimed at prompt and practical use.

I appreciate this intention, documented by the study "Agriculture Towards 2000", which is regarded by us as an exhaustive source of information on the present state and possible development of world agriculture. Although we do not fully agree with all conclusions stated in the report, and have some reservations in relation to it, we regard the whole study as a work deserving high appreciation.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, let me express my disagreement with the statement of the authors of the report that the causes of the lack of food in some developing countries are not exactly known. We believe that the causes rest mainly in the surviving socio-economic structure of these countries.

I declare again, on behalf of the delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, what we already said at the recent World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development: without socio-economic changes, including the democratization of the ownership of land, no greater improvement of the situation can be expected in these countries.

Another cause, as we see it, is the division of the gross national product which reduces the purchasing power of the broad masses of population, restricts the sources for food import; and all this is combined, in many of these countries, with the persisting monoculture form of agricultural production, etc.

Let me make some remarks on the proposed budget and programme of work of the FAO.

The level of the budget is always one of the key problems at the General Conference, and all countries are interested in it. Our delegation will support its structure and volume; however, like the representatives of some other member countries, I would like to emphasize the need for maximum economy in the administrative and operational items. We note with satisfaction that some purposeful rationalizing measures were taken in the FAO Secretariat and in the style of its work, and I believe that further measures will follow, in order to improve the general effectiveness of the economic management. We also supported the earlier measures of this nature, e. g. the decentralization trends based on the transfer of a certain part of responsibility to the regional representatives of the FAO.

In this connection, however, I wish to call your attention to the fact that if the rate of decentralization is exceeded, the central coordinating role of the FAO would be weakened, however necessary it is in the existing complicated situation in world agricultural production to retain this leading role.

We have no fundamental comments on the plan of activity for the next year and in general, we agree with its structure and content. We support the integrating efforts of the FAO for close cooperation and reasonable division of work within the respective bodies of the Economic Commission for Europe.

I would like to note that, within the scheme of cooperation in the European region, we are involved in five tasks of the joint research programme on selected subjects, and we would welcome, in future, an expansion of this cooperation.

Now let me add some remarks on the agricultural situation and problems of my country. The present stage of building socialism has greater requirements for the whole society, including the different branches of the national economy. The new problems which are to be solved arise from the higher requirements of the socialist society and from the complex situation in the world economy. These are objective facts constituting the starting point of our effort for more effective utilization of the internal potentials, material and labour resources and economic reserves, aimed at a purposeful and thorough realization of the objective of our agriculture and food industry: to increase the quality and effectiveness of production and to contribute, in this way, to an improvement of the living standard of the people.

The requirement for the use of the internal reserves and resources for supplying the home market with food in the needed quantity and assortment is augmented by the fact that, owing to the unfavourable weather conditions of the year 1978 and of this year, it is a more complex and difficult task to fulfill the planned objectives.

The level and successes of Czechoslovak agriculture are known to the leading FAO officials and specialists from different countries who have visited Czechoslovakia. Our possibilities in agriculture, forestry and water management, in pisciculture, and agricultural education are also known. All this gives prerequisites for an enhancement and extension of our involvement in all-round cooperation with the FAO in realizing FAO projects in developing countries and in the sending of experts. My delegation appreciates and fully supports the proposal made yesterday by my Hungarian colleague on the World Day of Food Production and Agriculture.

One of the main prerequisites for being able to fulfill the objectives and mission of the FAO is world peace, an intensification of the process of the alleviation of international tension-détente halting of armament race which uselessly swallows enormous amounts of capital and material resources, and speeding up the process of disarmament. Like other socialist countries, Czechoslovakia makes great efforts for achieving these basic objectives of mankind. We are interested in wide international cooperation, based on the principles of mutual advantage and non-discrimination.

In conclusion, I would like to assure you of Czechoslovakia's sincere intention to continue in supporting the general line of the FAO, in active cooperation on solving the problems of world agriculture and food, and to make, as an advanced country, an adequate contribution to FAO's noble endeavours.

EL PRESIDENTE: Si no hay ninguna observación más, levantamos la sesión que continuaremos a las 14. 30 horas, a las dos y media de la tarde.

The meeting rose at 13. 15 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 13. 15 horas

conference

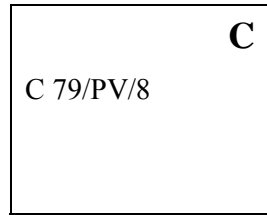
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING
HUITIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
OCTAVA SESION PLENARIA
(14 November 1979)

The Eighth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14.45 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La huitième séance plénière est ouverte à 14 h 45 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la octava sesión Plenaria a las 14. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)

DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)

MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados. Vamos a dar comienzo a la sesión de la tarde continuando con la lista de oradores incluidos en el debate general. Tiene la palabra, en primer lugar, el señor Eyskens, Ministro de Cooperación y Desarrollo de Bélgica.

M. EYSKENS (Belgique): En prenant au nom de la Belgique la parole devant la vingtième Conférence de la FAO, une interrogation s'empare de mon esprit. Quelle contribution mon pays, que l'on range parmi les plus riches du monde, peut-il fournir à cette réunion, qui a inscrit à son ordre du jour le problème le plus pressant et le plus universel qui soit, celui de la faim. La Belgique sait-elle se souvenir du temps où-il y a un siècle à peine-la famine sévissait chez elle. A-t-elle un rôle à jouer, un espoir à offrir, des leçons à apprendre? Je prends la parole avec une grande modestie, impressionné que je suis par l'ampleur du problème tel que les orateurs qui m'ont précédé l'ont rappelé à cette tribune, et en particulier par le Directeur général de la FAO et par sa Sainteté le Pape.

A la face des millions d'hommes qui souffrent et meurent de faim, affrontés qu'ils sont aux abîmes de problèmes apocalyptiques, je crois pouvoir apporter à ce débat la contribution de mon pays dans l'espoir qu'elle apportera quelques remèdes à ce terrible mal de la fin du siècle.

Nous non plus nous ne voulons pas nous contenter d'appels aux bons sentiments ni exhaler des bouffées sporadiques et inefficaces d'indignation. Nous nous garderons de même de toute rhétorique indécente. Mais nous constatons que, malgré son doublement au cours des vingt-cinq dernières années, la production alimentaire mondiale par tête d'habitant a baissé. Les documents préparés par le Secrétariat en diagnostiquent les causes. Vous connaissez ce diagnostic: la population mondiale augmente de près de 2 pour cent par an et en l'an 2000 elle pourrait atteindre 6,3 milliards d'habitants. Ce qui veut dire qu'il faudrait une croissance d'environ 50 pour cent de la production alimentaire mondiale. Mais, compte tenu de la croissance démographique et de l'augmentation des revenus, il faudra probablement une augmentation de la production alimentaire de 75 pour cent.

Certes, il n'y a que la surpopulation qui doit nous préoccuper, il y a aussi du côté de l'offre, comme de la demande, une série de problèmes pour lesquels les économistes n'ont pas prévu de solution. Les multiples causes de la malnutrition et de la faim sont énumérées dans des rapports érudits comme ceux de la Banque mondiale, d'Interfuturs et d'Agriculture 2000, pour ne citer que ceux-là.

Depuis la Conférence alimentaire mondiale, qui s'est tenu ici même il y a cinq ans, les rapports et les discussions consacrés à ces mêmes causes se sont multipliés. D'autre part, la dimension des phénomènes agricoles et alimentaires a gagné en précision implacable.

Sa Sainteté Jean-Paul II lui aussi fait observer avec pertinence que la faim ne provient pas uniquement de circonstances géographiques, climatiques ou agricoles défavorables. Elle provient aussi de l'homme lui-même, des déficiences des organisations sociales qui empêchent l'initiative personnelle, voire de la terreur et de l'oppression idéologiques.

Tandis que nous discutons, un milliard de personnes sont affectées par des carences alimentaires et 500 millions souffrent de malnutrition grave. Au Parlement européen, à la fin du mois dernier, le problème de la faim a fait l'objet d'un débat décevant. Et à la trente-quatrième Assemblée générale des Nations Unies, on a voté une nouvelle résolution. Il faut agir. Mais que faire? Force est de constater que ce n'est pas à coups de résolutions européennes ou onusiennes qu'on rassasie les affamés. André Gide n'avait-il pas raison de soutenir sous la forme d'une cruelle mise en garde qu'il y a peut-être une satisfaction esthétique à dissenter de la faim?

C'est dans le cadre de la FAO qu'il nous incombe de trouver la solution, d'autant plus qu'il apparaît tous les jours que les gouvernements nationaux sont trop petits pour résoudre les grands problèmes et trop grands pour venir à bout des petits problèmes.

Sur quoi se fondent les prétentions d'une affirmation aussi radicale? On peut, nous semble-t-il, se reporter avant tout aux négociations sur l'Accord du blé et sur la Convention de l'aide alimentaire, au plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire approuvé par le Conseil, aux résultats de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural qui s'est déroulée dans cette même salle il y a trois mois, et du Conseil mondial de l'alimentation d'Ottawa de septembre dernier.

Ce qui ne nous laisse pas en repos, c'est que de plus en plus, au fil et au rythme même de nos réunions, alors que la connaissance du problème gagne en profondeur et que les spécialistes assurent que techniquement la solution est possible, on continue à se demander: qu'est ce qui fait défaut?

Dès lors, qu'est-ce qui fait défaut? Pour notre part, nous croyons entrevoir trois voies qui conduisent vers un début d'action globale, concrète et efficace:

- la réforme agraire et le développement rural;
- la sécurité alimentaire;
- la contribution de la FAO à la Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement. La réforme agraire et le développement rural:

Le développement rural doit se trouver au centre d'une véritable politique d'aide au développement, toutefois, en amont de cette vérité, il faut compter avec la sensibilité des pays en voie de développement portés à craindre un manque de respect pour leur souveraineté nationale provenant des décisions prises par les pays industrialisés qui font porter leur aide sur cette branche de l'économie primaire plutôt que promouvoir l'industrialisation, et en aval on se heurte à une préoccupation qui se fait jour dans l'opinion publique de nos pays industrialisés. Une certaine interprétation de la notion d'interdépendance et de croissance solidaire voudrait faire accroire que les "investissements" réalisés dans les pays en voie de développement leur font retour à la faveur d'un "flow back" régulier. Mais pour ce que le développement rural produit comme dividendes en vaut-il vraiment la peine?

Et cependant la Déclaration de principes et le Plan d'action, issus de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire ont créé une véritable "Charte du paysan", définissant les droits des ruraux et les obligations de leurs gouvernements. Cette déclaration va plus loin dans la voie des réformes qu'aucun autre document international.

Il nous paraît évident que notre Conférence devrait donner suite à la résolution sur la Réforme agraire et le développement rural, et cela dans l'esprit du discours que le Pape a prononcé le 14 juillet dernier.

Pour sa part, la Belgique examinera avec grand soin toutes les propositions que le Directeur général de la FAO nous soumettra à cet effet, y compris celles qui impliqueraient le principe d'une contribution volontaire permettant le démarrage du Plan d'action issu de la Conférence mondiale.

Une réforme agraire ne sera pas achevée avant la fin de notre génération. Ainsi y a-t-il lieu de mettre en oeuvre, dans les plus brefs délais, le Plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire. En attendant la conclusion d'un nouvel accord sur le blé, la Belgique, Etat Membre de la Communauté Européenne, a pris une série d'initiatives dont les plus importantes se résument comme suit. Toutefois, elles ne concernent pas notre contribution au stockage résultant des mécanismes de la politique agricole de la CEE.

Pour l'aide alimentaire: dans le cadre de la Convention alimentaire existante, la Belgique est prête à porter sa contribution de 33 900 tonnes à 43 700 tonnes; suite aux recommandations du Conseil à Ottawa, la Belgique a, elle aussi, pris la décision de ne pas retarder les négociations de la nouvelle Convention alimentaire et de ne pas attendre la négociation sur l'accord du blé. Je puis annoncer que, moyennant certaines garanties juridiques portant sur le lien entre les deux Conventions, la Belgique prendra ses responsabilités au sein de la Communauté européenne, afin qu'elle puisse, dans les meilleurs délais, participer comme telle aux nouvelles négociations et, partant, augmenter substantiellement son aide alimentaire.

- Parmi les programmes FAO auxquels nous participons en vue de réaliser une sécurité alimentaire réelle, mentionnons les 5 000 tonnes de blé qui seront mises à la disposition de la Réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence. Une participation d'un demi-million de tonnes à l'"Engagement international" sera ainsi pour la première fois réalisée.

- Pour le Programme d'assistance en vue de la Sécurité alimentaire et celui des "pertes après récolte", nous mettons des lignes de crédit à la disposition de la FAO afin de concourir au financement incessant de ce projet.

Votre Organisation, depuis 1960, a lancé son programme d'engrais, de pesticides, de semences améliorées, de crédits et de formations agricoles.

La Belgique peut se féliciter d'assumer la responsabilité d'environ un quart du budget total annuel de 5 millions de dollars de ce "trust-fund" engrais.

Permettez-moi, Monsieur le Président, de citer encore quelques exemples de la manière dont la Belgique soutient la politique et les programmes de votre Organisation pour améliorer la qualité de l'alimentation et la situation nutritionnelle des pays en voie de développement.

- recherche appliquée et diffusion de ses résultats à raison de 110 millions de Francs belges en 1979 et 130 en 1980 dans la lutte contre la faim;
- augmentation de la production;
- rémunération avant et après récolte;
- contribution aux réserves de sécurité;
- le programmé Sahel.

Il y a aussi le programme Sahel et le soutien au Comité Inter-Etats pour lutter contre la sécheresse qui y sévit et la menace; et il y a encore le projet de reboisement des îles du Cap-Vert. Il y a enfin un des programmes de collaboration dont la réussite est des plus éclatante et qui concerne les jeunes experts. Il associe nos efforts et nos ressources au programme de la FAO, dans l'esprit de notre Organisation autant que des pays hôtes.

Je crois dès lors, Monsieur le Président, que les rapports entre la FAO et mon pays sont bons. Ils le sont aussi bien sur le plan du personnel qu'à travers les programmes grands et petits.

Je saisis cette occasion qui m'est offerte pour déclarer que la Belgique est prête à approuver le budget 1980/1981, dont l'augmentation par an, en termes réels, se limite à 2,6 pour cent. Ce nouveau taux représente un effort qui nous rapproche du plafond de croissance budgétaire de 2 pour cent que mon gouvernement a fixé comme objectif pour les principales organisations spécialisées des Nations Unies. Je vous félicite, Monsieur le Directeur général, et je vous demande de bien vouloir poursuivre vos efforts dans ce sens. Continue en anglais.

This conference is taking place at a time when the International Community is beginning to get used to the idea of a series of global negotiations with the aim of relaunching the North-South dialogue. The General Assembly in New York is discussing this question this very month. It is self-evident that a fundamental aspect of the development strategy which we will be preparing during 1980 will be devoted to the world situation in food and agricultural, and it is the FAO which will contribute to this priority factor in the new development strategy.

In this connexion, you might remember that in the speech that I delivered at the UNCTAD V in Manila earlier this year I stated that the transfer of the aid resources to developing countries seems to be a very crucial issue of the Third Development Decade and of the New Development Strategy. I think that fresh ideas are needed in this respect, and that is why I came up with my suggestion of the negotiation of an agreement on common growth among the countries of the developed world, the industrialized world, and I meant more precisely the Western countries, the Socialist countries and perhaps some oil-producing countries.

It seems to me that the recommendations of the study Agriculture Horizon 2000 represent a most worthwhile contribution. How can we not share the concern of the authors of this paper at the realisation that, even assuming a significant upturn in economic growth, hunger will not have been defeated by the end of this century? Unless, that is, the world were to follow the radical recommendations suggested in the report.

For our part, we share the analysis in this study because food requirements are a fundamental part of the strategy of basic needs and this explains why rural development has been given an absolute priority. The implications of such a political option take us very far indeed. The strategy of basic needs should be defined more clearly and applied more and more intensely.

This policy both nationally and internationally should, as of now, give priority to small farmers. In effect, our aid projects for the improvement of the situation in the field of infrastructure of this category of workers gives us a direct guarantee of employment, of the elimination of poverty and above all, of the new production of food products. I could tell you about our happy experience with our partners, the developing countries, in a whole range of bilateral Belgian projects.

When now planning new projects on the productive potential of local populations, we have firmly abandoned all large-scale projects in order to concentrate on what is required eventually to feed the greatest possible number. Thus, for example, in the field of animal breeding some projects aim at improving output by improving the breed and by introducing zootechnical procedures which have been adapted to the rural environment. I admit that their effect is less spectacular, but it is certainly much more lasting and accordingly more productive.

The same reasoning guides us in our cooperation with establishments for higher education, where in the field of agriculture Belgium enjoys a reputation of which I can be proud; our assistance will be all the more effective as applied research increases.

We are promoting this concept of rural development through intergovernmental organizations as well as through cooperation between the Belgian government and the non-governmental organizations of our country. The Belgian system of joint financing allows me to contribute 75 percent of the total for a project 25 percent financed by an approved non-governmental organization.

Mr. Chairman, the "Agriculture Horizon 2000" report shows beyond any doubt that hunger presents the most serious problem of our time. This report puts forward radical proposals to eliminate this problem of hunger through increasing food production and the redistribution of resources. We are asked to change trade-structures in the framework of the New International Economic Order. According to the report, the developing countries must increase their agricultural exports while becoming independent of imported food products. Moreover, the agricultural policies of the industrialized countries should relate to the needs of the developing countries.

This is a very courageous paper. It asks of us, as do so many millions of starving people, that we examine it together and try to give it some implementation with conviction of presentation.

G. HAIDEN (Austria) (interpretation from German): Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Austrian delegation I should like to congratulate you, Mr. President, and your Vice-Presidents, on your election to your responsibilities, and I wish this Conference much success. I would also like to congratulate the Director-General of FAO, Edouard Saouma, who has been responsible for the preparation of this Conference and has in fact made for its success. On behalf of the Austrian delegation I would like to say we highly appreciate the initiative of Mr. Saouma, who has provided new impetus to FAO.

During the last decades agriculture of all European countries and industrialized countries proved its adaptability and achieved, while undergoing structural changes, an increase in productivity which is in excess of most other economic sectors. This also applies to the Austrian agriculture, and in the last 20 years this was characterized first by a strong decrease in persons employed in agriculture and forestry; by the increase in part-time farming, and finally by a substantial mechanization and rationalization, with the result of a major increase in productivity and in production.

After 1978 Austrian agriculture shows excellent development. With an increase in agricultural production of 6.6 percent, 3.6 billion dollars of the whole, the increment in real income by 4.7 percent is a highly satisfactory result. The improvement of the infrastructure of production, enterprise, and the market structures were areas of concentrated effort in 1978, and as a result the regional economic growth in Austria was enhanced and a contribution was also made to preserve the natural environment.

The high agricultural output of production standard in the industrialized countries is in remarkable and striking contrast to the problems concerning us at this Conference.

According to estimates of FAO, some 500 million people are still suffering from malnutrition. While the daily caloric intake in the developed countries is considerably above the physical requirements, the trend in the developing countries is nothing but uniform and on the whole unsatisfactory. In a number of countries the per capita income is still below 300 US dollars per year. The problems of improving the food and income situation in many developing countries are so substantial that they can only be damaged in concerted and internationally coordinated actions. In spite of the praiseworthy

efforts of the investment centre of FAO, IPAD, the World Bank, Regional Development Banks, as well as bilateral activities to improve the rural infrastructure of Third World countries, the results so far achieved are anything but satisfactory. Hunger in the world cannot be regarded merely as a problem of production policy only. Rather is it a matter of unequal access to technology and of different stages of development of infrastructure. It is also a distributional problem of highest political order. food aid is necessary, and we could only wish that the industrialized countries could be more generous.

But food aid alone does not solve the problem. In the long run, hunger in the developing countries can only be fought if these countries are enabled to produce the food they need themselves. This is a real challenge to both the developing countries and the Ministers of Agriculture attending this Conference. As Ministers of Agriculture of industrialized countries, we must mobilize the support needed to achieve this objective.

As regards the Programme of Work and Budget, 1980-81, I may point out that Austria fully endorses the proposed programme expansion in the technical and economic field, and the assistance to be given to development programmes as well as the technical cooperation programmes. Their impacts on the budget appear to be moderate. The Austrian delegation will therefore vote for the adoption of the budget amounting to a total of 271 million US dollars.

Austria appreciates the fact that a number of the activities of FAO specially focuses on the needs of the individual countries. As for the strengthening of field activity, Austria has always held the view that budget allocations for administrative purposes should be kept at the minimum required level. My delegation has noted with satisfaction that the technical programmes mainly focus on such priorities as investment-oriented activities and inputs, such as quality seed, the improvement of plant protection, and the reduction of post-harvest losses. The Austrian delegation is satisfied that agricultural research receives special priority, and that FAO's technical assistance to the preparation of investment projects, especially of the World Bank and the Regional Banks, is being increased.

Starting with a resolution on the strengthening of the activities in the European region, which had been unanimously approved by the 19th FAO Conference, Austria has closely followed the activities of the European region and their significance for the other regions of the world. In this connection, the activities of the scientific networks seem to deserve special mention, as well as the utilization of the scientific networks for the benefit of developing countries. We also attach importance to the activities of FAO's Division of the Home Economics. This opinion was also confirmed by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, which stressed the importance of the role of women. Furthermore, my delegation welcomes the increased research on alternative energies to be obtained from agriculture, which we see as a high priority problem for the future.

Apart from that, also the use of "adapted technologies" seems to us to be of special importance. The activities of FAO to improve the infrastructure of the developing countries as follow-up measures of the World Congress on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development seem to us to deserve full appreciation and recognition. Important as the World Food Programme may be and accepting the need for continued food supplies, self-reliance measures by developing countries are needed to achieve a genuine autonomous development in their infrastructure including the required infrastructure.

The situation of the people in Kampuchea should rouse us all. The Conference held on November 5, 1979 in New York under the Chairmanship of Secretary-General Dr. Waldheim, during which 210 million US dollars were pledged as emergency aid to Cambodia should motivate all countries capable of giving the urgently needed assistance to do so both promptly and effectively. Apart from these measures that should secure the survival of the local population, immediate steps should be taken which would enable Kampuchea to produce a crop during the coming season.

I would like to repeat here that Austria fully supports the Programme of Work and Budget submitted by the Director-General. In view of the need to undertake additional production-oriented actions, the Austrian Government, after discussions I recently had with Edouard Saouma, decided last week to provide a special contribution amounting to about 300 thousand US dollars for such special measures.

From the Austrian viewpoint, we considered the follow-up measures of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, which are described in Document C 79/28, to be expedient and consistent with the needs of developing countries. Austria supports in principle those measures of FAO which focus on an integrated development activity in developing countries such as Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and suggests that a close link be established with investment-oriented measures, and that the cooperation with the World Bank, Regional Development Banks and IFAD be intensified.

Mr. Président, Ladies and Gentlemen, with an increasing productivity and a production already exceeding the national demand in many industrialized countries, a growing process of displacement in the world market arises at the expense of the developing countries—that is to say, industrialized countries tend to promote their exports, but at the same time this is at the expense of the developing countries, including the smaller industrialized countries that are not quite of the larger economic politics. Very often these developing countries have developed their production with the active help of international organizations and industrialized countries, and now they are endeavouring to sell their products to achieve foreign exchange earnings to foster their own real economic development projects, but are finding it increasingly difficult to compete in the world markets with or against subsidized agricultural exports from industrialized countries. The concern voiced by many developing countries in the CCP, for example to find more and easier access to the markets of industrialized countries, is therefore basically easy to understand. Austria will advocate this view within the framework of the international trade organizations taking similar standpoint.

In view of the process which has been described, industrialized countries could also pay attention to the aspect of self-restraint in production. Austria has followed this approach, which obviously finds its rational in economic considerations, and her measures in the field of a restrained dairy production and in the grain sector may be mentioned here as cases in point. In particular, the Austrian measures in the field of the dairy market may well contribute to the relief of international markets for dairy products.

All industrialized countries disposing of the required financial resources have the obligation to support the long-term mobilization of the production capacity of the developing countries, thus contributing to the elimination of the worldwide disparity between the developed and developing regions. Even today it is widely agreed that a new international economic order is needed, as one of the most important prerequisites to establish better and more equitable social and economic conditions in the world. Such an economic order, aiming predominantly at satisfying the basic needs of man, will call for new forms of international cooperation, with high priority for the establishment of the infrastructure required for the social and economic progress in developing countries. All people must be granted access to the fundamentals of economic and social development. This also includes better education and jobs apt to provide a living for the job-holder and his family as well as an equitable distribution of land and other income sources.

The results of economic and social development have to benefit all population groups uniformly and more equitably than in the past. This does not only apply to the income of the individual, but also to his education possibilities, to the security of his job and other fields of social insurance, such as health and old age insurances. An improvement of the living conditions for the majority of the population in the developing countries calls for an intensified promotion of agriculture and an industrial development that is geared to a harmonious development process of their economy.

Let me assure you that Austria will continue in the future to support actively all efforts of FAO to solve the critical food problems in the world.

The Austrian Federal Chancellor, Dr. Kreisky, in his recent statement before the General Assembly of the United Nations, reiterated the need for increased loans and a revolving system which would allow a repeated use of the injected resources by the country concerned. Furthermore, Chancellor Kreisky held the opinion that economic and political cooperation is only possible, if the industrialized countries are in a position to assist in establishing the needed infrastructure in the developing countries by means of a comprehensive and joint action, based on an overall design.

Let me conclude by reiterating the firm intention of the Austrian Federal Government to attribute greatest importance to the work of FAO and to endeavour to make constructive contributions to the work of this Organization. I believe that in so doing my country will contribute to the promotion of agricultural development and to the further development and the continuation of peace and security in a world of justice.

KWANG-HO AHN (Korea, Rep. of): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of my delegation, I wish to express my warmest congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your unanimous election to the chairmanship of this important Conference. My congratulations also go to the Vice-Chairmen for their well-deserved elections. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that your excellent guidance and outstanding leadership will lead this Conference to a successful conclusion.

My delegation wishes to heartily congratulate the Commonwealth of Dominica and the Independent State of Western Samoa for becoming new members of the FAO.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the Director-General of FAO, Mr. Edouard Saouma, for his dynamic leadership and commendable contribution to the strengthening of FAO activities. This Conference is being held at the threshold of the 1980's, when we are in a position to review our efforts and achievements of the 1970's and, at the same time, to define our new challenges for the coming decade.

During the 1970's, we have devoted all our national and international efforts to solve the evergrowing world food and agricultural problems facing us.

In spite of the improvements in international cooperation through effective guidance of the FAO and other international bodies, and steady development in agriculture through individual country efforts, many disquieting features still remain in the world food and agriculture situation.

Agricultural production in the developing countries has shown a rate of only 2.8 percent per annum, short of the target of a 4.0 percent growth rate during the Second United Nations Development Decade. There are still 400 million people who are suffering from hunger and malnutrition. In such a world food situation, we are facing rising food prices coupled with likely decline in the world grain inventory in 1980.

Furthermore, a FAO study, Agriculture: Toward 2000 shows us that we have to produce about 50 percent more food just to maintain the present intake level, which is still inadequate.

Considering all these facts and projections, the world food needs and the desired welfare level of the rural population in the 1980's emphatically demand our common endeavours both nationally and internationally. In relation to this matter, I would like to draw your attention to the importance of national efforts to solve the agricultural problems in developing countries.

With your permission, may I briefly introduce the Korean development efforts to tackle the agricultural problems and comment on difficulties which our agriculture is facing today.

Looking back over the past twenty years of agricultural and rural development in Korea, we have learned a lesson that an increase in agricultural production and food security on the one hand, and a reduction in rural poverty on the other, can be achieved through well-coordinated efforts of agrarian reform, technological innovation, and deliberately designed rural development policies.

Firstly, land reform, which was realized in the early 1950's under the principle of land-to-tiller, provided political and social stability for our nation and contributed to the improvement of the income distribution among farmers, thus encouraging farmers to increase their agricultural productivity.

Secondly, the Green Revolution has greatly improved the food situation to the point of self-sufficiency in staple food grains. The Green Revolution has been achieved by various supporting policies such as the introduction of new farming technology and high-yielding crop varieties, the improvement of the agricultural infrastructure including irrigation and land consolidation, the increased supply and timely distribution of agricultural inputs, the expansion of extension services and the continuation of price supports and related programmes.

Thirdly, the "Saemaul Undong" in Korean the New Community Development Movement during the 1970's also has infused the spirit of self-help, diligence and cooperation into farmers, and has become a main driving force in encouraging farmers to participate actively in the integrated development of rural environment and living conditions.

As a result of such development efforts, agriculture in Korea has recorded approximately 4 percent annual growth rate during the past ten years, and the average farm household income has been doubled. During the same period, the national economy has grown at an average annual rate of 10 percent, and exports have increased by 43 percent per annum.

Although Korea has made considerable progress in agricultural and rural development, she is now facing new challenges of reorganizing her agrarian structure, readjusting her resource allocations, and redirecting her agricultural policy to meet new demands generated by the rapidly changing socio-economic environment.

In recent years, the demand for high-protein food has been growing fast while the domestic supply has not been sufficient. This, in turn, has significantly increased the import and meat and feed grains. We are trying to increase the domestic supply of these products, but our dependence on imports in these areas will continue.

The expanded industrial development has also taken the labour force, especially the younger people, from the rural area. This has caused a considerable shortage in rural labour force. Therefore, an expanded long-term programme to facilitate farm mechanization is under implementation.

I would say that Korea is in the process of searching for a sound agricultural policy package that is compatible with the equitable growth of the national economy. We believe that this challenge can be approached not only by our own efforts but also by mutually beneficial international cooperation which makes it able to share the experiences of other developed and developing nations.

At this point, I would like to turn my attention to the problems of international cooperation, and to make a brief comment on the specific issues of world food security and development of marine resources which we have been facing in recent years.

Despite our sustained efforts so far to establish the world food security system, I regret to point out that we have not yet been able to take proper actions to materialize the recommendation of the World Food Conference in 1974 on the International Undertaking on World Food Security, and that we have failed to conclude a new International Grains Arrangement which was anticipated by both exporting and importing countries.

The Korean government therefore strongly supports the Five-Point Plan of Action of World Security which has been timely proposed by the Director-General and adopted by the Council of the FAO. My government already has subscribed itself to the Undertaking and has adopted national cereal stock policies and achieved its target of stockpiling of 1.1 million tons of staple grains, or 2 months of normal yearly consumption.

At this moment, I sincerely hope that the pending New International Grains Arrangement, with its stock and price agreement and its special provisions for importing developing countries will be resumed in the near future and be successfully concluded with mutual understanding and cooperation among the countries concerned.

We wish that all individual countries and the relevant international organizations, including FAO, will cooperate in a more tangible way for the rapid implementation of this plan.

Concerning the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones, the rational development and utilization of fisheries resources should be given a higher priority so as to secure an important source of food and nutrition.

However, considering the fact that most of the coastal nations have declared a 200-mile exclusive economic zone, my delegation is convinced that the FAO Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones is necessary for the better utilization of these coastal marine resources.

To share our experiences in the development and management of marine resources, the Korean Government has already provided a technical training programme for eleven developing countries, and we are prepared to expand this kind of technical cooperation in the future.

At this point, I would like to emphasize the need for international cooperation, particularly technical and economic cooperation among developing countries in the coming 1980's, because many developing nations face common environmental problems and their experiences can be shared more easily in terms of their economic scales and stages of development.

In recent years the Republic of Korea has been expanding her technical cooperation programme. Korea has developed training programme in the fields of land consolidation, irrigation, crop cultivation, rural development and fisheries.

In this connection, I am pleased to note that, since the establishment of the TCDC action programme, the Republic of Korea will be the first country to join the FAO in formulating an extensive training program for irrigation technicians and rural extension workers from eight Asian developing countries. For the more effective promotion of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, the relevant international institutions, including the FAO, and the developed countries are urged to participate more positively in the cooperation among developing countries.

I highly recognize the valuable contributions made by the member countries of this organization for the elimination of hunger and malnutrition in the world community at the call of the FAO. We must continue our roles in the same direction.

Furthermore, I believe that the future emphasis of FAO activities should be placed on expanding its initiating catalytic role to efficiently improve international cooperation at all levels towards a solution of global food and agrarian problems.

In this connection, the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for 1980-1981 reflects well conceived and realistic approaches. My delegation fully supports this programme.

The Republic of Korea has been benefiting from the assistance of the other member countries and the FAO. However, as a developing country, we are willing; and preparing to do our part in the future world agricultural and rural development programmes of the FAO.

So far I have touched on problems in the world food and agriculture, importance of individual country efforts, and need for international cooperation.

Finally, I would like strongly to emphasize that the major issue facing us is not a search for new ideas but practical implementation of already proposed plans and programmes.

In the light of this view, I hope with all sincerity that the conference will bring about fruitful results through the active participation of all the delegates in the discussions with a deeply motivated sense of responsibility to solve the global problems of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. Let us put all of our efforts to make the third Development Decade be an epoch-making period for eradication of hunger and malnutrition from the world.

J. c. PIOT (Suisse): Une haute responsabilité vous a été confiée, Monsieur le Président. Je vous en félicite. A vous même, aux présidents des Commissions et à tout le Bureau de notre Conférence vont mes meilleurs vœux de succès pour le dur travail qui vous attend et aussi mes remerciements pour votre disponibilité à assumer ces fonctions importantes.

Ma reconnaissance va aussi à M. Saouma, notre Directeur général et à son secrétariat. Vous avez exécuté un travail considérable et de qualité, en vue de cette Conférence, mais aussi afin de maintenir bien haut la place de la FAO, la place de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation dans les grands débats internationaux. Les autorités suisses et ma délégation vous en remercient vivement.

"Renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale", c'est l'un des sujets qui nous sont proposés pour ce débat général. A notre avis, c'est la sécurité alimentaire (S. A.) pour tous les individus qui doit finalement constituer notre objectif. Qu'implique alors cette S. A. pour tous, en particulier pour le demi-milliard d'êtres humains qui sont sous-alimentés indépendamment du niveau des approvisionnements alimentaires? Nous pensons qu'une S. A. pour les individus requiert la réalisation de trois conditions fondamentales:

Premièrement: toute famille devrait disposer d'un revenu ou d'une superficie productive permettant de satisfaire ses besoins alimentaires et ses autres besoins fondamentaux. Si cette répartition du travail productif et rémunérateur sur tous les individus en de travailler n'est pas assurée, les niveaux de la production, des stocks ou des importations alimentaires, aussi élevés soient-ils, ne permettent pas de réaliser la S. A. des individus.

Deuxièmement: tout pays importateur alimentaire net devrait être à même de mobiliser un potentiel de production agricole propre lui permettant de couvrir, en cas de rupture des importations et dans un délai approprié, la totalité de ses besoins alimentaires minimaux. C'est une des conditions de l'indépendance économique et de l'indépendance politique nationale. Nous pensons que tous les pays du monde disposent des ressources naturelles leur permettant de mettre en place cette capacité de production vivrière minimale, mais insuffisante. Sa mise en place peut certes nécessiter, dans les zones climats extrêmes, des investissements importants dans l'aménagement des eaux et des terres, mais elle reste indispensable.

Troisième condition de la S. A.: L'existence de capacités nationales de stockage permettant d'équilibrer les irrégularités de la production et intégrées à un système de commercialisation efficace et équitable. Un système international ou régional de réserves alimentaires peut soulager quelque peu le volume et le coût de ce stockage national, mais ne saurait s'y substituer.

La S. A. nationale aurait ainsi trois piliers:

1. une répartition équitable du pouvoir d'achat, donc du travail productif, sur toutes les personnes actives, et par là sur toutes les cellules sociales de base qui ont la responsabilité de satisfaire aussi aux besoins des enfants et des vieux;
2. le maintien d'un potentiel de production vivrier pouvant garantir un auto-apvisionnement alimentaire minimum si nécessaire et,
3. des stocks vivriers nationaux de régulation du marché, complétés si possible par un système international ou régional de réserves.

Le premier pilier, soit la répartition du pouvoir d'achat, est essentiellement du ressort de chaque pays. Le Programme d'action adopté à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural contient à ce sujet des recommandations pertinentes que nous approuvons pleinement.

Le deuxième pilier, l'agriculture et le développement rural, est la première priorité de notre assistance publique au développement.

Les stocks vivriers enfin, troisième fondement de cette S. A. , reçoivent la majeure partie de nos contributions extraordinaires à la FAO, par le canal des programmes pour la sécurité alimentaire et pour la réduction des pertes alimentaires. Mon gouvernement souhaite également participer à un système international de réserves alimentaires, mais dans le cadre d'un nouvel accord sur les céréales.

La FAO nous soumet son étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000"; elle servira de base à la Conférence pour une discussion sur la stratégie future du développement. Nous partageons l'avis du secrétariat selon lequel les perspectives pour l'an 2000 sont inadmissibles en matière de nutrition si les tendances actuelles persistent. Mais le scénario normatif que nous expose l'étude ne convainc pas par son réalisme. Il présuppose la réalisation de plusieurs conditions essentielles:

1. Les pays en développement devraient accorder la priorité à l'investissement dans le secteur agricole;
2. les pays industrialisés devraient importer beaucoup plus de produits agricoles bruts et transformés en provenance des pays en développement (PVD);
3. l'aide publique à l'agriculture des PVD octroyée par les pays industrialisés devrait s'accroître considérablement;
4. de nombreux pays en développement devraient réorganiser leur structure administrative et politique dans le sens d'une décentralisation et d'une délégation des pouvoirs jusqu'à la base, afin d'assurer la participation de cette dernière aux décisions, et sa mobilisation, indispensable à l'effort national de construction;
5. pour combattre efficacement la faim il faudrait une sensible redistribution des revenus dans les PVD.

Satisfaire à toutes ces conditions c'est, pratiquement, la quadrature du cercle. Nous aurions cependant aimé que la FAO étudie aussi d'autres scénarios. Ne pourrait-elle pas élaborer, notamment avec l'OIT, par exemple une stratégie qui cherche en priorité à mobiliser l'immense potentiel inutilisé que constituent les êtres humains au chômage ou sous-employés ? Etudier les investissements productifs qui peuvent être réalisés avec ce potentiel humain et trouver des systèmes de production qui permettraient une haute productivité du sol avec un emploi aussi limité que possible de moyens de production qu'il faut acheter.

Nous ne pouvons pas entrer ici dans le détail, mais nous pensons qu'il serait souhaitable d'examiner ce que le terme "agriculture moderne" ou "agriculture productive" peut et devrait signifier dans les contextes socio-économiques variés d'Amérique latine, d'Afrique et d'Asie. Pour de nombreux pays il ne peut pas s'agir de reproduire tout simplement le modèle européen ou américain alors que de nouveaux emplois agricoles doivent être créés et non supprimés. Existe-t-il des stratégies cohérentes de développement de la petite agriculture dans des pays où prévalent des structures agraires très hétérogènes ? C'est une question qu'il est également urgent d'étudier.

Ceci nous conduit à réfléchir sur les types de projets que prépare le Centre d'investissement de la FAO en particulier sur les critères retenus pour ses projets. Vous savez sans doute que le FIDA a une peine considérable à trouver des projets qui correspondent aux principes et critères qu'il s'est donnés. Ces principes demandent qu'un projet engendre des emplois et profite aux petits agriculteurs, ou

tout au moins qu'il ne leur nuise pas. Nous souhaitons que la FAO, si elle accorde une haute priorité à l'investissement, donne autant de poids à la qualité qu'au volume de l'investissement. Le Centre d'investissement devrait lui aussi respecter certains critères sociaux lors de l'élaboration de projets. Produire plus, d'accord, mais pas à n'importe quelle condition.

Les autorités suisses accordent une haute priorité à la promotion de l'agriculture et au développement rural des pays du tiers monde. Cette priorité s'exprime entre autres par nos contributions annuelles d'environ quatre millions de dollars aux activités extrabudgétaires de la FAO et par la croissance annuelle de quelques 14% de nos contributions au PNUD. Les moyens alloués au PNUD profitent à l'agriculture dans la mesure où les pays bénéficiaires accordent la priorité à ce secteur.

La décentralisation de la FAO au niveau des pays a progressé rapidement et nous souhaiterions qu'un temps de réflexion et d'évaluation soit intercalé avant une nouvelle augmentation rapide du nombre de représentants FAO dans les pays. Les 47 missions établies correspondent à environ 350 postes nouveaux. Ceci devrait apparaître clairement dans le document C 79/3, et il faut se demander si ces effectifs accrus dans les pays n'auraient pas permis de réduire ceux du siège et des bureaux régionaux. Il faudrait aussi examiner si les pouvoirs délégués aux chefs de mission sont suffisants et permettent de valoriser pleinement le coût élevé des missions. Il nous semble en outre important que si la collaboration entre les organisations des Nations Unies au niveau des pays soit poursuivie et renforcée et que la FAO y contribue pleinement.

L'examen du programme ordinaire fait par le secrétariat est intéressant. Sa fusion avec l'examen du programme de terrain devra cependant être envisagée, ce qui permettra de mieux illustrer les liens étroits entre les deux programmes. Nous pensons que l'évaluation du travail effectué est indispensable. Elle doit guider le Directeur général et ses collaborateurs dans leurs propositions d'amélioration et d'innovation. Mais à notre avis cet auto-évaluation ne saurait se substituer à une évaluation indépendante dont les résultats seraient transmis directement aux organes directeurs de l'Organisation. Le législatif que nous sommes en quelque sorte en tant que Conférence ne peut se contenter de contrôler le travail de l'exécutif qu'est le secrétariat à l'aide d'examens que ce dernier élabore sous sa propre autorité. Nous désirons qu'il soit régulièrement procédé à des évaluations indépendantes d'un nombre limité de programmes, à l'aide des services du corps commun d'inspection par exemple, qu'il s'agirait de solliciter davantage à l'avenir.

Monsieur le Président, après ces quelques critiques que je pense objectives, j'aimerais toutefois exprimer aussi notre satisfaction quant à l'impulsion et l'orientation qu'a données le Directeur général à la FAO. Concentration sur les activités de terrain et l'investissement, remise à leur place, certes importante, des études théoriques et des réunions, décentralisation au niveau des pays, élagage du taillis bureaucratique, utilisation accrue des capacités locales des pays en développement, formation de cadres à tous les niveaux, voilà des orientations que nous approuvons dans leur principe. L'utilisation des cadres et des ressources des PVD, l'appui de la FAO à la coopération économique et technique entre ces pays afin qu'ils soient en mesure d'élaborer eux-mêmes leurs programmes de développement nous paraissent des priorités importantes. Nous pensons que le Directeur général, dans nombre de ses initiatives et de ses déclarations, a fait preuve de courage politique, et nous l'en félicitons.

Nous souhaitons que la FAO inscrive toujours plus ses activités techniques dans un grand projet commun: l'élimination de la faim et un développement rural harmonieux. Les programmes et les projets d'investissement de la FAO ne peuvent donner leur pleine mesure que s'ils s'inscrivent dans des politiques globales et cohérentes visant l'amélioration des conditions de vie de la population et l'éradication du paupérisme. Je pense que la FAO gagnera à expliciter les choix socio-économiques nécessaires à une large ré-partition des effets bénéfiques de ses programmes. Le Directeur général s'est déjà engagé sur cette voie et nous l'encourageons à la poursuivre résolument.

Je vous remercie de votre attention.

A. M. IZADI (Iran): Mr Chairman, Mr Deputy Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is a privilege to address the twentieth Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization Conference of the United Nations. I would like, first of all to congratulate you, Mr Chairman, on your unanimous election to the chairmanship of this conference. It is also a source of particular satisfaction for me to represent the Revolutionary Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran at this international forum.

Nine months ago the massive waves of the Revolutionary forces toppled a regime which had, for long, been boasting of its so-called unique integrated development program, misleading the world to believe that Iran will soon be the fifth most powerful nation in the world. What we inherited was

a country on the verge of total economic collapse. Its industry, mainly a series of assembling plants, prestigious projects and unjustified units, were absolutely dependent on foreign raw material, spare parts and technology.

Its agriculture turned from a self-sufficient enterprise into one in need of massive imports of food items. Available data indicate that the value of food stuff imports reached an unprecedented figure of 1.2 billion U. S dollars in the first nine months of 1977.

Social and morale standards had been deteriorated to the point that human values were subject of mockery. The urban society had been induced, to the highest degree, to strengthen its consumption habits, thus preparing an ideal market for foreign imports.

To sum up we were left with literally a plundered country and a distressed but faithful nation who had just rivalled a mighty armed power with bare hands, suffering a casualty of some seventy thousand martyrs.

Turning back to the main topic of discussion, agriculture, comparatively speaking our agriculture, had experienced a sharp downfall right after the implementation of the Land Reform Program in 1963. This program was of course based on the highlighted Article of the ex-shah's so-called "white revolution". Iranian farmers were given title deeds which endorsed their ownership over their farming lots. Cooperatives were to be established to replace the Landlords. But these coops which were meant to give managerial and credit assistance to farmers were soon turned into consumers' stores, offering, in recent years, kerosene only. The Agriculture Bank started giving loans to farmers who received the loans and in most cases decided to take pilgrim tours or purchase transistor radios rather than spend the money on their farm development. On the other hand, the regime initiated a number of farming systems, namely: Agricultural corporations and Agro-Industry units which required capital investment of millions of dollars, forcing at the same time thousands of rural families to give up their farm lands. Despite the huge amount of capital investment, nearly all of these Government-made systems failed to even be self-sufficient.

These factors and the false boom of industrialisation induced migration of rural population to urban areas at an alarming rate. Farm Products further declined, demands for foodstuffs increased and government subsidies on imported items were incredible. As an example, the Regime had to pay a subsidy of nearly 300 dollars on every metric ton of imported wheat. Similar policy was pursued for every item of imported food.

The rush of migration of rural population to urban areas further intensified the problem of housing shortages. Land speculation thus became the most profitable enterprise, to which almost 80 percent of the private investment capital within the city limits was directed.

The village community, our traditional agricultural economic unit, had thus been dismantled. Inflation was mounting by the day.

This may give you just a vague picture of what we have inherited. However, prior to implementing any basic long-term program we have to solve numerous problems which have been created by the ex-regime, in the course of establishing government agro-industry units, agricultural corporations and other such institutions which simply violated centuries-old rural life criteria and traditions.

Nevertheless, we have established our goals and objectives and outlined our agricultural policies. Iran has a tillable land surface of 20 million hectares, of which only 8 million hectares are utilized under irrigation, dry farming and fallow. With the available water resources, efficiently used, we are able to produce enough food for a much larger population than what we have today.

Our goals and objectives are: Increase in production and promotion of social welfare in rural communities. Our policy is based on such principles that will encourage people's participation in the planning and implementing process and terminate government interference and competition in the production operations. To this end, the Law of Councils which was recently passed by the government, requires every village to establish a Council which will be the only responsible body for all phases of community development in the village. The Ministry of Agriculture's responsibility will only include research, training and provision of technical and financial assistance to farmers.

In this respect we have planned to establish some 1500 Agricultural Service Centres in rural areas. These centers will have a nucleus of specialists and technicians who will provide all necessary inputs and services including credit and training facilities.

Planning will be originated in the village and submitted to the government for coordination and budget allocation.

Almost all Government, agro-industry units and farm corporations are now being turned over to the farmers and private sector with the provisions that will hopefully guarantee their efficient operation.

Tillable land within and outside the villages' limit is being transferred to farmers and interested individuals who will undertake to bring it under cultivation within a period of three years. The government will provide technical and financial assistance and will closely check the development operations.

Based on our Islamic teachings, a Public Property Fund will be established in every village. Religious payment and offerings such as Khoms and Zakat, and government financial assistance will constitute the Fund's resources. The village council will be entrusted with the responsibility of spending the money on social welfare projects and assisting the needy people in such a way that an accepted level of living standard is maintained for each individual in the community.

Mr Chairman, despite the biased reporting by certain mass media sources, the Islamic Republic of Iran, not only honours and respects private ownership right but encourages private investment by means of offering incentives and credit facilities. Similarly, we do not question the use of modern technology but intend to employ technology within the framework of our culture and traditions. The development programs are drawn on the basis of the national potential capacities and the socio-economic factors.

We do intend to stay self-reliant, and in reaching this objective we must be self-sufficient in food products.

On the international scene, Mr Chairman, the Revolutionary Government of Iran, inspired by its Islamic teachings and with a strong sense of responsibility, will support all international institutions and programs which are truly directed to eradicate hunger and poverty. In this respect we give top priority to all programs that tend to mobilize potential capacities of the developing world, enabling them to exploit their own resources. This Organization, Mr Chairman, has the experience and the capability of assisting member countries in preparing action-oriented programs towards this objective.

Finally, Mr Chairman, I would like to refer briefly to the somewhat neglected idea of establishing a world government as a means of solving the problem of poverty and world unrest.

This idea, however, seems too idealistic an objective to be attained. But the next possible alternative which takes awareness, dedication and political will on the part of the nations, is to lift the man-made boundaries and allow free exchange of manpower products, capital and technology among the world communities.

A united world will deepen love and respect for human beings irrespective of race, colour or origin, and at the same time all productive inputs will be utilized where and when they are most efficient. The European Common Market may be referred to as an example of such unity. We, as the representatives of nations with different economic and political systems, can propagate this sacred idea of world unity among our people and thus try to divert all potential capabilities to the production of food and not deadly arms. It should be our aim to put our nations side by side and not face to face. This seems to me a sound basis on which we can plan to ascertain a just distribution of the world physical, moral and cultural wealth.

I realize, however, that this is a far-reaching objective, but then it is not unattainable.

Let us therefore play our share in this sacred campaign and rest contented to watch a great, prosperous and happy community which enjoys equally the resources of our planet.

M. ZIDAR (Yugoslavia) (interpretation from Serbo Croat): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, distinguished participants at the Conference, it is not out of mere courtesy, Mr, Chairman, that I am expressing my pleasure upon your election, which symbolizes once again that Spain, after a long time, has re-assumed its place in the international community. Knowing your outstanding abilities, Mr. Chairman, I am convinced that the Conference will end in success. May I kindly ask you, Mr. Chairman, to convey my congratulations to the other officials of the Conference.

Mr. Chairman, we are meeting at the end of a decade which shall be remembered by a series of crises of global proportions which have more conspicuously than ever before pointed to the necessity of radically changing international political and, in particular, economic relations. I believe that you would agree

with me that we are facing the profound crisis of the international system, created immediately in the wake of World War II—a system which has, consciously or otherwise, resulted in a growing polarization of the world to the minority living in affluence, and an overwhelming majority deprived of the most essential needs; a system that has strengthened national egoism, which President Kaunda so properly qualified by saying "Not only the desire to hold and protect but also the tendency to acquire more even than those who do not have". Experience has shown that the crises under given circumstances actually lead to conflicts and devastation. Now, however, new relations must be built up through cooperation because, otherwise, the survival of mankind will be at stake. Therefore, there is no alternative to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. Unfortunately, resistance to the necessary changes persists, generating a marked stagnation in international economic cooperation. I deem it necessary to point out that recently the Summit Meeting of the Non-Aligned Countries in Havana expressed its deep concern over the standstill in international economic cooperation and asserted its determination to continue the struggle for new relations, for which, as I already stressed, there is no viable alternative.

It is not the first time, Mr. Chairman, that we meet in this ancient city in order to face the most fundamental of all the needs of mankind—the problem of food. Exactly five years ago, in this very city, we all agreed that food constituted a paramount problem for the entire international community; a long-term strategy was adopted, and a minimum international programme of urgent national and international action was also adopted. It was then that we solemnly pledged to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in the next ten years. Half of this period has already gone by while we remain almost as far away from solving this problem as we were half a decade ago. Is it necessary at all to mention to what extent the external conditions of development have deteriorated for developing countries, in particular for those least developed and most seriously affected, and how much this has reduced their capacity to improve their own food situation? Is further evidence needed to testify that only initial steps have been undertaken for the implementation of the international programme to which I have referred? I do not think it necessary to analyse here what has been and what has not been achieved. At the threshold of the new decade, the question arises whether we should be concerned only with the implementation of this minimum programme.

The study "Agriculture Toward 2000" helps us understand better the extent to which past agreements have lost their value, and that much greater and longer-term efforts are now necessary to solve the world food problem. We want to believe that this valuable study will have a substantial bearing upon our decisions at this Conference, now as well as in the future. It has confirmed our belief that the only solution to the food crisis lies in an increased food production in the developing countries. However, this increase, while essential, is not in itself sufficient to resolve the problem of hunger and malnutrition.

We highly appreciate the fact that the study does not have a narrow sectoral approach. It has been clearly demonstrated that agriculture constitutes only a part, vital, as it may be, of the overall development efforts. Also, of exceptional importance is that the food problem can only be resolved within the framework of the economic development of developing countries, which should be rapid enough to start bridging the huge gap existing between the developing and the developed world. I should add that widespread hunger, with all its tragic consequences, is a real shame and degradation not for those who suffer, but for the international community as a whole. Yet, Mr. Chairman, the world food problem cannot be reduced to hunger only. The study has also clearly pointed out the need of making great efforts in the next 20 years, much greater efforts than we thought were required, much greater than those on which we based our agreements five years ago. This applies, above all, to the scope of investments required, to non-agricultural inputs, research and development services, rural infrastructures etc. Therefore I believe new standards are imperative for the assessment of national and international efforts. Here, the time dimension is of crucial significance. The process of implementing measures in this field, primarily investments, is extremely long. That is why it is of such vital importance that national and, more particularly, international endeavours, be undertaken without delay. The first step would have to be the urgent and consistent implementation of the programme agreed upon five years ago.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that we all accept that FAO has a leading role within the international organizations, particularly the UN family in solving food problems. Having said this, I do not merely bear in mind that the FAO Conference is the most competent and representative international forum for agriculture and food, but also that FAO has accumulated knowledge and experience which, notwithstanding the relatively modest total overall funds at its disposal, enable this organization to render general and practical support to the efforts of the developing countries.

Now, Mr. Chairman, allow me to underline once again the satisfaction of the Yugoslav Government with the new FAO orientation. We are convinced that an adequate balance has been found between the general or global programmes and practical actions, and that a significant step has been made towards substantial decentralization, through a reorientation in most of the programmes. This new trend is intended to increasingly provide direct support to the developing countries through a growing tendency to cooperate with national and regional institutions, above all those from the developing countries; through the Technical Cooperation Programme; through FAO's country representatives, etc.

In our opinion, the proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 1980-1981 fully reflects the logical evolution of the policy adopted at the last Conference. In the light of the considerations of the Programme, made so far by the Council and its Committees, one can hardly expect any great discrepancies regarding the proposed substance and contents of the Programme, the priorities, work methods, etc. ; the budget level will be, as it has always been, one of the dominant issues. Allow me, therefore, Mr. Chairman, to express the view of the Yugoslav Government with respect to this issue. To do this, I feel I have to stress two points. Firstly, the Programme of Work is financed by the full membership, more or less in compliance with their economic abilities; and secondly, the difficulties faced by the developing countries, particularly those least developed and most seriously affected, are incommensurable with the current economic difficulties of other countries. The more so when we deal with an Organization with such a vital role in the solving of the food problem, an Organization whose primary task is to respond to the requests of the developing Member States for various forms of assistance. And finally, one should certainly bear in mind the magnitude of the food problem, and also the extremely unsatisfactory level of international cooperation. All these are reasons on the basis of which my Government supports the proposed budget.

Allow me now, Mr. Chairman, to briefly touch on the situation in the field of development assistance and in this context, the issue of technical assistance in regard to food and agriculture. The documents prepared for this Conference clearly show the deplorably low level of official development assistance in general, and in this vital field, in particular. As we all know, the level is lagging far behind the agreed target for this decade. Another point that also attracts our attention is the generally low and declining level of technical assistance to agriculture. It can be inferred, and this is what we particularly deplore, the present level of technical assistance extended by FAO on the basis of extra-budgetary resources, in real terms hardly exceeds the level attained at the beginning of this decade. In this context, I cannot but illustrate this situation by two FAO Action Programmes which have been on a number of occasions internationally approved and verified by the UN General Assembly. I am, of course, referring to the programme for reducing harvest and post-harvest losses, and the programme for seed production development. The implementation of the agreement concerning the former is incomplete and inconsistent, whereas in regard to the latter, no progress has been made at all. This situation is deplorable because the programmes are excellent and the funds that would be required are comparatively modest. I would like to believe, Mr. Chairman, that the Conference will, among other things, seriously consider this question which is, as has been stressed, quite indicative of the grave and serious situation in international cooperation.

I deplore the fact, Mr. Chairman, that I have to continue in the same vein. However, it is impossible to hide the disappointment of the Yugoslav Delegation with the abortive attempts to achieve progress in the field of food security. In this context, special stress should be placed upon the unsuccessful outcome of the negotiations on a new international grain agreement, including a new international food aid convention. The impression is gained that the immediate future holds no prospects for a successful termination of the negotiations.

What has been pointed out here serves to explain why we gave such full support the proposal of the FAO Director-General formulated as the "Five Point Plan", and adopted last June by the Council. The Yugoslav Delegation expects that, not only will the Conference endorse the Five Point Plan, but that also the FAO Member and even non-Member States will do their best to implement it.

Another question that we consider of crucial importance refers to the role of FAO in the implementation of the recommendations of the recently-held World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Although at the World Conference reservations were made with respect to many of the important recommendations, the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action are, nevertheless, encouraging and call for vigorous national and international action to reform agrarian structures and develop agriculture and the rural regions. The World Conference has, among other things, reaffirmed the position and role of FAO within the UN system, and left FAO a legacy to follow up and stimulate the implementation of the recommendations, in cooperation, of course, with the respective parts of the UN system. A special World Conference resolution calls upon us to elaborate an action programme pursuant to the proposal made by the Director-General. My delegation fully supports the proposal, and I especially agree with the section of the proposal asking for adequate funds to be provided by the financing agencies of the UN system to support the FAO programme in carrying out the recommendations contained in the Final Act,

To one of the issues salient at the World Conference, the Yugoslav Government also attaches special importance. I am referring to cooperation among the developing countries TCDC in the sphere of food and agriculture. On this occasion, I cannot, of course, expound at length what my country has been undertaking in this field. I shall only mention that in recent years we have appreciably promoted our cooperation with a great number of countries. However, many possibilities remain, as yet, untapped. Yugoslavia, being one of the coordinators for food and agriculture of the Non-Aligned Movement, considers it an obligation to make all possible efforts for the further

promotion of this cooperation with as many of the non-aligned and other developing countries as possible. We consider that the whole UN system, and in this particular case FAO, should give maximum support to endeavours aimed at increasing their individual and collective self-reliance.

In conclusion, I cannot "but reiterate that this meeting is being held at a critical time. We cannot stand aside and be satisfied with a decade that is full of crises, and even further deteriorates the situation in the developing countries. International cooperation in this field is of paramount importance. I want to believe, Mr. Chairman, that we are all fully aware of the much greater efforts needed between now and the turn of the century, if we seriously want to solve the world food problem and eradicate hunger from this planet. We can only hope that this Conference shall make a positive contribution towards this end.

Y. UCHIMURA (Japan): Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure for me to have this opportunity to attend the 20th Session of the FAO Conference as the delegate of the Japanese government and to exchange views with the representatives of other member countries.

I would like, first of all, to offer my deepest congratulations to you, your Excellency, Mr. Lamo De Espinosa on your election as Chairman of the Conference. Under your outstanding leadership and with the constructive discussions which will be undertaken, this meeting will surely be most fruitful to all FAO member countries.

I would also like to express my deepest appreciation to the Director-General, Dr. Saouma, for his very significant contributions to FAO activity, and to join my colleagues here in offering a warm welcome to the new members of the Organization, the Commonwealth of Dominica and the Independent State of Western Samoa.

The world food production, which is largely affected by natural conditions, has also come under the constraints of social and economic situations. Even today when it is generally thought that the food supply/demand situation is improving on the whole, the fact cannot be ignored that there are in the world more than 400 million people who do not have a reasonable amount of food. The latest long-term forecast shows that food supplies in developing countries will not be able to meet their increasing domestic demand.

Bearing these points in mind, I would like to speak about the problem of food and agriculture in developing countries.

Since agriculture forms the basis of economic development in many developing countries, agricultural development also plays a decisive role in promoting the economic development of these countries. Japan's economic development since the latter half of the last century is a typical example of this process.

As you know, Japan is a small mountainous country. Consequently, Japanese agriculture is characterized by small-scale farming with an average of one hectare of farmland per farming household, which cannot compare to agriculture on the large scale of other developed countries. Japanese farmers, by increasing productivity through intensive and diversified utilization of their limited farmlands, have contributed to the accumulation of capital needed for industrial development from the latter half of the 19th century into the present century.

Today there are numerous small farmers engaged in the production of food crops in developing countries. Based on the experience of Japan, I believe that, with effective assistance in regard to the development of high-yield crops, improvement in irrigation facilities and financial credit for farming, it would be possible for the small farmers to even excel large farmers in land productivity. In order to promote the effectiveness of such assistance, it is highly desirable to realize the necessary agrarian reforms, the principles of which were declared at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

In this connexion, I may say that for raising the productivity of small farmers, it will also be necessary to expand extension services for the diffusion of agricultural techniques. And, as stated by Prime Minister Ohira at the UNCTAD V, it will be indispensable to tap human resources for the promotion of economic and social development. In the field of agriculture, it is important to make every effort for the cultivation of talent who will engage in the work on extension services.

Furthermore, in order to ensure successful co-operation in the field of agriculture by developed countries and international organizations, detailed preliminary surveys and careful planning by experts, and efficient investment allocation on the basis of such surveys and planning, are considered essential.

Japan has been striving to strengthen her bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the form of financial and technical assistance for agricultural development.

The Japanese government is currently implementing the medium-term program of doubling its official development assistance within three years.

Under the program the Japanese government will increase its efforts to expand its agricultural cooperation in view of the importance of increasing food production in developing countries, hoping that developing countries will strive for the attainment of self-reliance in their efforts to increase food production.

I would now like to say a few words about some of the main items on the agenda.

First of all, in regard to the eleven guidelines for international agricultural adjustment which were adopted at the 18th Session of this Conference, the Japanese government, in view of the fact that agriculture plays an important role in employment and environment development, and not merely in food supply, considers that these guidelines should be applied in a flexible manner. With this in mind, the Japanese government has given adequate consideration to the guidelines.

Secondly, in regard to the FAO five-point plan of action for World Food Security, it can be said that this plan is of particular importance today when the negotiations concerning the new international grains agreement are not making satisfactory progress and when the world's grain production is showing a sign of decrease.

Thirdly, as for FAO's study on 'Agriculture: Towards the Year 2000', the Japanese delegation fully appreciates the efforts made by the FAO Secretariat for drawing up the study, which is really a most comprehensive analysis of the production outlook and capital needs for the development of the primary industries in developing countries, as well as of the problems concerning employment, nutrition, marketing and price policies. I think that it is quite useful for framing the new International Development Strategy and it will also give effective guidance for long-term development of agriculture in the world. From this point of view, it is a highly valuable document and I hope that the final report on the study will be duly completed.

Fourthly, regarding the management and development of fisheries in the two-hundred mile zones, a project which FAO is now promoting, Japan highly appreciates FAO's programme and hopes that it will be carried out without delay and with success. I would like to emphasize that the countries which have established a two-hundred mile zone have responsibility to efficiently utilize and preserve fishery resources in that area.

Japan, which has hitherto contributed to the management and development of fishery resources in developing countries, will continue to co-operate in this field as much as possible, through economic development assistance, dispatching technical experts and receiving trainees.

Fifthly, I would like to refer to the medium-term objectives of FAO activities.

The Japanese government has no objection to FAO giving priority to the promotion of food and agricultural production in developing countries, to the improvement of food consumption and levels of nutrition because the number of FAO staff and funds available are limited. Therefore, it is desirable to take a practical approach based on detailed surveys and researches, concentrating more efforts on selective areas of activity.

As to the order of priority, the Japanese government is of the opinion that emphasis should be placed on the following: firstly, integrated rural development; secondly, strengthening of food and agricultural information system; thirdly, promotion of fisheries development in the Exclusive Economic Zones of the developing countries, and fourthly, measures for increasing cereal production, particularly rice.

Finally, in regard to the various FAO programmes and budget for 1980-1981, I would like to refer to the TCP and the establishment of funds for post harvest loss which were approved at the last Session of this Conference. It must be stressed that, from the viewpoint of the effective utilization of limited resources, these programmes should always be evaluated as to whether or not they are effectively being carried out. I would also like to mention that continued efforts should be made to reduce general expenses.

The international community has identified the most urgent and important problems involved in agrarian reform and rural development, problems which remain to be resolved in the present century. At the same time, it is making a study in regard to development strategy for the coming decade. With the 21st century arriving in only twenty years, a comprehensive study on the outlook for agriculture and industry is also being undertaken.

It is by no means an exaggeration to state that whether mankind could enter the new century with hope depends upon how well we will be able to contribute to the cause of this Organization,

I have no doubt that a successful outcome of the present meeting will make a significant contribution to the welfare and happiness of mankind.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Señor Presidente, señores Ministros, señor Director Adjunto, señoras y señores. Esta será la última Conferencia de la FAO en el Segundo Decenio de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo. Cuántas frustraciones nos deja este período que empezó con promesas e ilusiones y ya va a terminar con desencanto y amargura.

Con la autoridad que lo caracteriza el Director General de la FAO ha afirmado reiteradamente el carácter sombrío de la situación actual y del futuro de la alimentación y la agricultura en el mundo.

El incremento de la producción agrícola tiene lugar solamente en los países desarrollados. Aumenta el número de personas desnutridas y con hambre. Los países en desarrollo deben cada día importar más alimentos. Se acentúa el deterioro de la relación de intercambio entre los productos exportados por los países en desarrollo y el precio de los bienes de capital que estos necesitan importar. Los precios de los fertilizantes han aumentado notablemente. El proteccionismo sigue desalentando a los países que tienen condiciones para aumentar la producción de alimentos, pero que carecen de acceso a mercados estables, con volúmenes importantes y precios remunerativos.

Los Organismos Internacionales tienen que evolucionar, en busca de su justa y adecuada ubicación dentro de las inquietudes que agitan a la comunidad universal. Por ello celebramos y apoyamos la forma franca, categórica y decidida como el Director General de la FAO ha venido señalando las graves consecuencias que genera el proteccionismo, con enormes costos para consumidores y productores, acelerando el proceso inflacionario, produciendo excedentes ociosos frente a carencias angustiosas; todo ello en deterioro del comercio mundial y causando considerables limitaciones al desarrollo agrícola de los países del Tercer Mundo.

Reciba usted, Señor Director General de la FAO, nuestra voz de aliento, para que prosiga en el empeño de condenar el proteccionismo, actitud plenamente justificada como parte de sus altas funciones, ya que indudablemente existe una estrecha relación entre el mejor acceso a los mercados para las exportaciones agrícolas de los países en desarrollo y la adquisición de recursos necesarios para aumentar la producción en esas Naciones. El Gobierno Colombiano dedica especial atención a la Comunidad Económica Europea, porque es una agrupación económica y política muy respetable-integrada por Naciones a las cuales nos unen vínculos de afecto, respecto y admiración-cuyos mercados son de gran significación para el desarrollo de nuestro comercio internacional.

El Presidente de la República de Colombia, doctor Julio César Turbay Ayala, en julio pasado, visitó Bruselas y habló ante la Comunidad Económica Europea, en nombre de los cinco estados que integran el Grupo Sub-regional Andino: Bolivia, Ecuador, Perú, Venezuela y Colombia. El mandatario colombiano expuso la necesidad y conveniencia de celebrar un acuerdo entre esos dos grupos de países, dirigido a mejorar el precario estado actual de nuestras relaciones comerciales con la Comunidad.

Como consecuencia de las propuestas concretas que hizo el Presidente de Colombia, durante la primera semana del presente mes de noviembre una Comisión del Grupo Sub-regional Andino sostuvo entrevistas en Bruselas con altos funcionarios de la Comisión de la CEE. Fue un primer intercambio de puntos de vista, particularmente en el campo de los productos agrícolas. Ojalá ese acercamiento conduzca a resultados positivos comunes que mejoren nuestras relaciones con la Comunidad Económica Europea, como yo lo deseo. Por fin ahora...al transcurrir ya más de ocho años del Segundo Decenio de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo...los documentos...en cuyas páginas han proliferado siempre las vanas esperanzas...empiezan a reconocer que no se conseguirá el objetivo fundamental fijado para el decenio que agoniza...y que, en el mejor de los casos, el aumento de la producción sólo superará ligeramente el decenio anterior.

Hechos como éstos deben plantearnos serios interrogantes: ¿Cuáles son los verdaderos resultados de la labor de una Organización como la nuestra, que reclama estar ahora, como nunca, apoyada en sus planes y programas por la unanimidad de los Estados Miembros? . . .

¿Hacia donde vamos?...¿Es que en realidad sirven para algo los esfuerzos que venimos realizando con el decidido apoyo de la FAO, agencia de las Naciones Unidas especializada en la Agricultura y la Alimentación?...

Esta última ocasión en que los Ministros de Agricultura de los Estados Miembros nos encontramos en la Conferencia de la FAO, antes de que finalice el Segundo Decenio, yo creo que es propicia para pedir que en el informe de esta reunión se consigne con claridad y firmeza el desaliento de los países en desarrollo, la protesta airada del Tercer Mundo contra la carencia de voluntad política que viene impidiendo el alcance de los objetivos del Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional. Que se consigne igualmente la necesidad apremiante de que el diálogo constructivo desplace la confrontación estéril.

Es evidente que la seguridad alimentaria mundial depende de la decisión de los Estados poderosos que poseen los medios y los recursos suficientes para manipular el crecimiento o la disminución de la producción, según las conveniencias políticas que aconsejen grandes transacciones comerciales o ayudas de favor, todo ello dirigido a conservar el predominio del cual no quieren desprenderse. Los países en desarrollo somos-tenemos que ser forzosamente espectadores pasivos de ese proceso que se cumple en ciclos periódicos, con indiferencia desconcertante, frente al hambre y la malnutrición que padecen más de 500 millones de seres humanos.

En efecto, la grave crisis alimentaria mundial de 1972 a 1974, prácticamente fué conjurada a fines de ese último año, cuando se celebró la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación. Después se logró cierta estabilidad hasta las buenas cosechas de 1978. Ahora, a partir de este año, nuevos signos de preocupación nos asechan. El Gobierno de Colombia piensa que la seguridad alimentaria mundial no podrá seguir dependiendo del buen o del mal tiempo, ni de la menor o mayor ayuda alimentaria. Esa seguridad solo se logrará con el aumento de la producción de alimentos en los países en desarrollo. La labor de la FAO en este campo debe estar dirigida a asistir a los gobiernos para lograr bases sólidas y permanentes, sobre las cuales pueda asegurarse un incremento continuo y creciente de la producción en las Naciones del Tercer Mundo.

El Plan de Acción de cinco puntos presentado por el Director General de la FAO, representa un esfuerzo imaginativo y otra demostración de la atención con que esta Organización sigue el grave problema de la seguridad alimentaria mundial. El Gobierno de Colombia exalta la buena voluntad que caracteriza ese plan, pero cabe preguntarse si esos buenos propósitos, enmarcados en su carácter voluntario, podrán superar las razones incomprensibles y lamentables por las cuales no se han reiniciado las conversaciones rotas desde hace ya mucho tiempo, para adoptar un nuevo acuerdo internacional sobre cereales y el indispensable programa de ayuda alimentaria. Deseo reiterar el más pleno apoyo del Gobierno Colombiano al Programa Global de Asistencia para el desarrollo y ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas.

En esta forma la FAO ha respondido al deseo de los Gobiernos que consideran los productos de la pesca una fuente de alimentos que aún no ha sido debidamente explotada. Está muy bien que a ese programa se le conceda alta prioridad en los planes de trabajo de esta Organización, que debe desempeñar una útil función coordinadora y de asistencia a los Estados ribereños para aumentar la capacidad de éstos en la explotación de sus pesquerías y promover el uso racional y el pleno aprovechamiento por los países en desarrollo de sus recursos pesqueros.

El Gobierno colombiano está plenamente satisfecho con la manera dinámica y eficiente como la FAO viene ofreciendo su asistencia a nuestro País. Particularmente quiero expresar mi reconocimiento a la forma ágil y oportuna como el Programa de Cooperación Técnica ha respondido a las solicitudes del Ministerio de Agricultura de Colombia a mi cargo.

Igualmente, deseo reiterar nuestro apoyo al Programa Mundial de Alimentos, de cuya asistencia seguimos beneficiándonos, pues no obstante los esfuerzos que hemos venido realizando en nuestro país, aún no es completamente satisfactorio el estado de nutrición del pueblo colombiano que requiere la valiosa ayuda de ese Programa.

En Colombia y creo que en toda América Latina, se ha recibido con expectativa y confianza el inicio de actividades del Fondo Internacional de Desarrollo Agrícola. Confiamos en que este único Organismo Mundial de financiación dedicado exclusivamente a la agricultura, podrá pronto realizar una acción dinámica y positiva en todos los países latinoamericanos, a fin de que consolide el carácter de universalidad que todos auspiciamos para el FIDA.

En Colombia el sector agropecuario es parte fundamental de la economía nacional. Los objetivos de la política agropecuaria en mi país están dirigidos a garantizar una oferta adecuada de alimentos en condiciones que consulten los intereses de productores y consumidores, así como la generación de divisas en aquellos productos con ventaja comparativa.

El Ministerio de Agricultura en Colombia ha aplicado estos principios básicos, con resultados que demuestran cómo el crédito abundante y oportuno, en vez de ser inflacionario, se convierte en un estímulo para los agricultores y ganaderos.

Estamos empeñados en aumentar la producción y la productividad agropecuaria, en fomentar la agroindustria, la investigación y la transferencia de tecnología, con la principal preocupación de mejorar y elevar el nivel de la producción y procurar el bienestar de los productores rurales y de los consumidores.

Como resultado de esa política, en materia de producción agropecuaria nuestra situación es satisfactoria, no obstante la disminución del 2 por ciento en el área sembrada este año, debido a una crisis aguda que se presentó en el sector algodonero.

Registramos un incremento del 6 por ciento en la producción de 24 renglones, sin incluir el café. Los aumentos principales fueron en los cultivos de arroz, cebada, soya, papa, yuca, cana de azúcar y tabaco.

Las perspectivas para el futuro son buenas. El Gobierno colombiano continúa asignando alta prioridad a la agricultura en sus planes nacionales de desarrollo.

El Gobierno colombiano sigue impulsando el proceso de Reforma Agraria. En este año 1979 hicimos 6 854 nuevos propietarios sobre una extensión de 234 910 hectáreas. A los beneficiarios, además de ser titulares del dominio, se les asegura el más fácil acceso al crédito y a todos los servicios indispensables para dignificar la vida de las gentes del campo.

Además, estamos adelantando proyectos integrales de asentamientos campesinos, como manera adicional para incorporar racionalmente al proceso productivo áreas que antes estaban improductivas en manos de terratenientes.

Señor Presidente: Como Ministro de Agricultura de Colombia es un gran honor para mí ser uno de los Vicepresidentes de esta Conferencia que usted preside con tanto acierto e inteligencia. Usted sabe cuán gratos y estrechos son los nexos que unen mi país al suyo, España, tierra de nuestros mayores y fuente principal de nuestra cultura y civilización.

Al señor Director General de la FAO y a la importante organización que usted dirige, con brillo y eficacia, reiteramos el pleno apoyo del Gobierno de Colombia.

En nombre del Gobierno y del pueblo colombianos, doy la más cordial bienvenida a los distinguidos representantes de los nuevos Estados Miembros, Dominica y Samoa Occidental, con la esperanza de que aquellas poblaciones que en distintos lugares del mundo luchan por su libertad, puedan pronto incorporarse a esta Organización como naciones soberanas.

A todos ustedes, señores delegados, mil gracias por la atención que han dispensado a mis palabras. En nombre del pueblo colombiano-que tiene vocación económica eminentemente agropecuaria-hago llegar el mensaje de fe y esperanza en días mejores para toda la comunidad internacional, particularmente para las sufridas poblaciones del Tercer Mundo, y del mundo en desarrollo, a cuyo servicio debe estar consagrada esencialmente la función de la FAO.

S. TATARIDIS (Greece): Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my delegation, I wish to express to you our warm congratulation for your election to this high Office. I am certain that under your able guidance the deliberations of this Conference will be fruitful. We also extend our congratulations to the Vice-Chairman for their election.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, a few months after the world Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, we meet here again to discuss agricultural developments and food problems.

During the Conference on Agrarian Reform in a brief statement I had the opportunity to point out that the world society is entering a new era of evolution; the problems tend to take more and more of an international character and any effort of facing and solving them within the narrow national levels, seems to have a small probability of success.

The successive crises which faced the world Economy since the beginning of the 70's, have not been overpassed and while we are at the end of the decade, a new phase of recession seems to be possible.

The economic problems are not isolated and therefore cannot be confined to national boundaries. As it is known, these problems are characterized by direct and strong interdependence within the frame of an international economic coincidence and, consequently, only the common effort of all nations will lead to the minimization of both time and costs in facing effectively this new economic recession and establish the necessary preconditions for a continuous economic development. This cooperation could, and therefore must, be extended to all activities and sectors of the economy.

The Agricultural sector continues to play an important role in every economy. The appropriate action against the problems of this vital sector can offer the framework for the recovery and further development of economic activity, particularly in the developing countries.

The past three decades were marked with quick and stable growth rates, while inflationary pressures were kept at very low levels. In this development the contribution of the Agricultural sector was significant, in spite of its sensitivity and instability.

Although the level of the development of Agriculture was, on the whole, encouraging, the development of this sector in some individual countries or groups of countries, according to FAO's data, was not satisfactory. Furthermore the terms of trade, as far as agricultural products is concerned, were against the developing countries.

Among the latter, there is still a significant number of countries where the population growth exceeds the rate of increase of the agricultural production, thus leading to an increase in the number of people suffering from malnutrition.

It is a fact that during the recent years there was a considerable increase in food production. In 1978 there was an increase of about 3%, while the same picture prevailed in the two previous years. But this growth rate was below the target set on a world level, which is 4% annually. Furthermore the provisional estimate of the 1979 food production is by no means encouraging, because of the extensive drought in some African and S. Asian countries, as well as in Central Europe.

At present about 450 million people in a significant number of developing countries are under-nourished.

The prospects for the coming biennium are rather disappointing. With respect to the long-run period the continuation of past and present trends in food production will create even more crucial problems of malnutrition and famine than those we presently confront.

The fight against the problems of production and nutrition in the Developing countries must cover both the short-run and the long-run periods. The contribution of FAO, and of the various other Organizations in the past, was very important in assisting the developing countries and coordinating international cooperation in agricultural and food issues. This contribution must be more positive and effective in the future.

As regards FAO's Programme of Action in 1980-81, the Greek delegation expresses its satisfaction for the form in which the Programme of Work and Budget of FAO is presented.

The presentation, in a single document, of the short-term action of FAO offers a comprehensive analysis of the future work which the Organization intends to undertake during the coming biennium, after the evaluation and consideration of the already executed projects.

The Director-General in his introductory statement, underlined with great clarity the strategy which the Organization will follow during the above mentioned period. We are convinced that the priorities given will contribute in the best possible way to the fight against the serious problems of agricultural development and will satisfy the urgent needs of the world population for increased food production and particularly the needs of the people in the developing countries.

We fully support the effort made to increase food production and the level of international food security. For the promotion of the above goals we believe that it is necessary to extend investment expenditure in Agriculture, mainly in the most suffering developing countries.

This will certainly lead to increased food production and subsequently to the substitution of a great part of imported quantities of food in favour of imported capital goods.

Specific measures which will inevitably lead to an increase in food supplies, such as evaluation and better utilisation of the factors of production, technical education of the farmers, proper credit facilities to the farmers, and improvement of the trading structure of food products, should be encouraged both in national and international levels.

The consistent evaluation of the projects which are included in the programme of technical cooperation will offer the basis for better planning and shall increase the effectiveness of the programme.

We endorse the new strategy of the Organization, which aims at the creation and implementation of small scale, but of practical nature, projects for rural and regional development, instead of the old theoretical form.

The effort undertaken towards decentralisation of the FAO's services by reinforcing its activities on a national level, is also welcome, because we believe that this fulfils and meets the real needs for a quicker and more effective aid of the organization to the member states.

Mr Chairman, the complete elimination of famine and malnutrition all over the world must be indeed a long-term goal. To this direction the document prepared by the FAO secretariat "Agriculture Towards 2000" offers a comprehensive analysis of long-term agricultural and food development. In this document FAO offers general guidelines to the member-states to shape their policies accordingly and defines the long-term goals of world production, towards which the FAO programmes and policies are directed.

In the frame of this long-term plan, a number of goals must be pursued, such as: the stabilization and acceleration of food production in the developed and the developing countries, the achievement of an acceptable standard of living, the regulation of exchanges and the securing of higher technical and financial aid to the developing countries.

Another issue on which we agree with the FAO Director-General is the contributions to the WFP and the international Emergency Food Reserves. In both cases it is necessary to realize the targets set by the WFC, given that the appeals for aid are increasing on a permanent basis.

With regard to the International Phytosanitary Convention my country agrees with its ratification. Especially in the case of article 5, paragraph 2, we are of the opinion that phytosanitary certificates must accompany not only plants but also crop products.

Mr Chairman, we propose that the FAO participates in a regional programme for the application of solar energy in agriculture. We are firmly convinced that the whole issue is urgent and needs immediate action. We mustn't forget that the energy problem has caused difficulties all over the world, with unknown consequences for the future.

In addition, the problem of fertilizers must be emphasized, since the quantities of the raw materials on which their production is based are decreasing and their prices are considerably increasing.

Energy and fertilizer shortages are already making it more difficult to attain the desired levels of production and productivity in agriculture.

The new ocean regime created by the establishment of the 200 nautical miles economic zone is a fact.

The FAO's decision to provide developing coastal states with technical assistance and financial aid to take full advantages of fisheries within the zone of their jurisdiction will substantially contribute to the further development and rational management of fishery resources in their exclusive economic zones.

Coastal countries on the other hand should consider closer cooperation with existing fishing fleets in order to achieve a better utilization of invested labour and capital in this field.

Greece adopts the DJAKARTA Declaration of 1978 on forestry and proposes the promotion of the solution of the following problems which are very important for world society.

- a) The development of forestry on a world level, must in the future be seriously taken into account, in view of the acute energy problem.
- b) The confronting of torrential phenomena needs more effort all over the world, simply because torrents set up a major barrier against extensive forestry.
- c) The utilisation of total forestry production all over must be of major concern to FAO, especially towards the establishment of suitable industries.

I would now like to refer briefly to food production in my country. The GAP increased during 1963-78 with an average annual rate of 3.0% (in 1970 prices) and during 1970-78 with 2.1%. The decline during the 70's was a result of bad weather conditions.

In 1978 agricultural production was quite satisfactory after two successive bad periods, i. e. in 1976 and 1977. Relatively low is also expected to be the agricultural production during this year, due to bad weather conditions.

Greece is self-sufficient in wheat, with small surpluses for exports, while experiencing deficits in feeding-stuffs. In general there is self sufficiency in crop products while there are serious shortages in livestock products, especially in dairy products and beef.

The future targets are to increase the production and productivity in agriculture with special interest in the mountainous and semi-mountainous areas and small farmers.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that my country is in favour of assisting the developing countries towards a more effective economic growth. In 1976 our agricultural exports to developing countries amounted to 19.3% of the total while our imports from these countries amounted to 32.2% of the total. This simply means a net surplus in favour of the developing countries.

E. L. SENANAYAKE (Sri Lanka): Mr. Deputy Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to be here once more after our last meeting in 1977. On behalf of Sri Lanka, I wish to thank His Excellency the Director-General and the Secretariat for the excellent arrangements made to hold this conference here.

We have been fortunate to be associated with the activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization for a long time. We are proud of the achievements it has made so far in continuing to draw the attention of the international community on the need to promote collective action to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living of people and for taking effective steps to improve the efficiency of production and distribution of all food and agricultural produce grown in all parts of the world thereby helping to improve the living conditions, particularly of rural populations, and ensuring that people are free from want all over the world.

Our discussions at this Session are appropriately centered around two very crucial issues which are of the greatest concern to all present here. I refer to the review of the world food situation and the drawing up of a plan of action to strengthen world food security.

One of the greatest challenges facing us today is the provision of adequate food for an ever-increasing world population. At the current rate of growth of population, which is around two percent annually or the addition of two babies to the world population every second, the six billion mark in world population would be reached by the year 2000. The increase in food production, however, has not demonstrated the same steady pattern of growth. While there has been some increases in food production in the recent past, there have also been instances of net decreases in the global food production during the same period.

The trends in world food and agriculture production have been very comprehensively discussed in Document 79/2 which is an excellent analysis of the world situation relating to this very important subject. The short-term forecast of reduced production and availability of wheat and coarse grains by the end of 1979 of less than 6 percent below last year's performance and the long-term forecast of escalation of fertilizer prices and transport costs due to increases in energy costs could certainly worsen the situation unless very urgent action is taken to counteract their effect.

All of us agree that the faster growth of food production and an increase in purchasing power of consumers is the main answer to improving standards of nutrition in low income countries, some of which even have a comparative advantage for producing agricultural crops for export. In some countries, the performance in food production between 1950 and 1979 has been commendable. Food grain production in the low income countries taken as a group has been rising at about 2.58 percent per annum over the past quarter century as against an increase of 2.63 percent by all developed countries. Contrary to most expectations, this trend has not slowed down either, although there are countries which have not reached the average in both developed and developing countries. Where potential exists for accelerating the growth of food production its realization requires a resolution of a number of issues.

Some of these issues could be identified as: (i) a high population growth of approximately 2.5 percent per annum; (ii) a high income elasticity of demand for grains; and (iii) a rise in income, though not very high, but sufficient to push up the demand for food grains.

A sharp decline in population growth is unlikely during the next ten to fifteen years because although family planning measures are being advocated very actively in most of these low income countries, they will take time to adjust to the social and cultural practices prevailing in these countries. At the same time, advances made in public health will cause a faster decline in mortality rates thereby working contrary to the achievement of this objective. Secondly, a rise in per capita income will increase the demand for grains not only for human consumption but also for animal feed. For example, countries like Indonesia and Nigeria which have benefited immensely from increased exports of oil have shown an upward trend in the demand for food recently. Even in my own country, the liberalization of imports and the creation of an economic climate conducive to investment in the private sector have helped to push up the per capita incomes considerably. The demand for food grains is likely to increase further when the oil producing countries begin to invest their profits in some of the developed countries. Repatriation of capital by those employed in oil producing countries has also contributed to a rise in incomes.

Although these constraints are inevitable, it does not necessarily mean that solutions for increasing production cannot be found. We should ask ourselves whether any undeveloped potential exists in the low income countries and whether it cannot be tapped, because the problem is not only one of limited natural resources but also one of under-utilization of production potential in most developing countries. We have not exhausted all the arable land that exists in most parts of the world. There is still room for extensive production of crops in hitherto uncultivated lands. For instance in Asia with the exception of Japan, less than one third of the ultimate potential has been utilised. In Africa, it is 25 percent and in Latin America 19 percent.

We agree that the low income countries cannot live on commercial or concessionary imports of food grains as we do now. While this appears to be one short-term approach, it is limited by other constraints like balance of payment difficulties and limited exportable supplies in countries which have so far traditionally provided food for the developing countries which depend on them. Therefore we have to look for further exploitation of available arable land in the world and the intensification of production per unit of area. It is here that the need for investment on water development becomes a matter of paramount importance.

In countries where the rainfall is unreliable projects to irrigate more lands should be encouraged. Contrary to popular belief in the so called drought stricken areas in the Sahelian countries of West Africa, the area with potential for cultivation is so much more than what has been cultivated up to now. According to F. A. O.'s own estimate 3 million hectares of land could be cultivated as against the present 350,000 hectares. The same is true of Asia, where 30 percent of the total land is cultivated under irrigation. It has been estimated that the gross irrigated area in Asia could be increased to 90 million hectares from the present 55 (a 64 percent increase) with the exploitation of both surface and ground water resources. We have realised that the only insurance against irregular rainfall and drought is through irrigation. My Government has placed the highest priority on the Mahaweli River Development Scheme costing Rs. 18 billion which when completed would bring 900,000 acres of land under cultivation of food grains within the next six years, thereby increasing the total cultivable area under paddy and food grains in Sri Lanka to approximately two million acres. The expenditure of such a vast sum of money on an irrigation scheme demonstrates the importance and value that my Government under the dynamic leadership of our President has given to food production with the aim of making the country self-sufficient in rice in the shortest possible time.

There is a school of opinion manifest mainly in the aid-giving agencies which desist from heavy investment in major irrigation on account of the very high expenditure on infrastructure, such as high dams and channels, on account of lack of skilled man-power and of the know-how to undertake these major irrigation development schemes in developing countries. I am gratified that Institutions which have been set up recently, with the collaboration of both developed and developing countries, such as IFAD, do not share this view. They have adopted some modified criteria which promotes investment on major irrigation projects. Countries like India and Sri Lanka have to rely on further and greater investment in irrigation, if they are to increase their productivity to raise the standards of living of their people.

I wish to comment next on the importance of increasing the yields of crops in the low income countries. The average yields obtained in these countries in rice and wheat are low compared to what is harvested from the rice producing farms of Japan and the wheat farms of North America. One reason for this low output is the low level of fertilizer application per hectare and the failure to adopt high standards of management and other inputs. The increase in the dependence of most developing countries on improved technology which relies heavily on non-renewable nutrients like fertilizer, will retard in most developing countries their agricultural progress. While we accept that it is necessary to ensure optimum fertilizer application levels, we are at the same time just as other developing countries experiencing severe difficulties due to the escalation in fertilizer costs. We consider that we should annually increase the amount of chemical fertilizer that is applied to agricultural crops while

encouraging at the same time the use of supplementary inorganic fertilisers available locally. We appreciate the assistance given along this line by the PAD. All encouragement including technical advice should be given to farmers for increasing the use of locally available organic as well as chemical fertilizers.

We fully endorse the recommendations made by this Council at its June meeting this year for the further strengthening of the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme. We would also request countries which are in a position to do so to contribute liberally to the JFSS, both from the developed as well as OPEC countries. We expect the FAO to take steps to stabilise prices of fertilizers through price stabilization measures such as the Options Scheme, and the Long Term Agreements to help the Most Seriously Affected countries who are experiencing serious difficulty in obtaining their requirements of fertilizer.

We are also aware Mr. Chairman, that recent evaluations have shown that there is no shortage in the availability of Phosphates or Potash and that the cut-backs in fertilizer production between 1972 and 1974 were not due to the energy crisis but to the slackening of demand between 1965 and 1970. Fertilizer production is increasing with rates of output in the range of around 60 percent in countries like Mexico, Nigeria, Venezuela, Indonesia and the Persian Gulf countries. What is worrying us are the logistical problems such as the increase in transport costs and handling between the producer countries and the recipients, over which we have no control. For instance recently, the Conference Lines operating in my own country increased their freight rates by 15 percent in March this year and although my Government is committed to supplying subsidised fertilizer up to 75 percent, the heavy burden cast on us on account of increased fertilizer prices as well as freight rates would very considerably affect development programmes, which are now in hand.

There is also the question of the use of other inputs such as improved seed. An FAO/UNDP Project which has provided technical assistance and training for sustaining national seed production programmes has been quite successful. In my country this programme has contributed effectively towards supplying a considerable number of our farmers with good quality paddy seed and steps are now being taken to expand this programme to cover other crops as well. We have also been able to supplement to a great extent the traditional rice producing techniques of our farmers with modern scientific information and research. Although there is a diversity of conditions under which rice is grown in Sri Lanka, the recent achievements in developing, through breeding, some varieties of rice with yields of over 140 bushels per acre have amply demonstrated that our rice breeding programmes have been successful. There is a need for further capital investment in this field of specialised skills.

Apart from rice there is a wide range of important crops where very little research has been done with the aim of increasing their usefulness as subsidiary crops. I am referring to cereals such as tropical millets and legumes such as cowpea, green gram and black gram which are rich in proteins, and yams and tubers such as sweet potato, cassava and a wide range of horticultural crops such as vegetables and tropical fruits. These are crops which are in abundance in the tropical countries, almost 90 percent of the total area where these are grown lying in the tropical belt. Therefore, it is time that we realise the importance of improving the vast potential of these crops to supplement the nutritional requirements of our people.

In recent years there has been a very steep increase in the price of fish, meat and dairy products. An FAO/UNDP sponsored soya bean project in my country has come in at a very timely period. We have been able to demonstrate that soys could be grown very effectively in certain regions of my country and produces yields favourable in comparison with those obtained in advanced countries. This programme is making a very significant impact on our rural dietary requirements.

Under a related CARE/Unicef sponsored programme a great proportion of the soya bean produced in the country is being processed into "Thripasha" a product which is being distributed free to young school children whose needs of protein are considered to be critical at their age.

In order to increase the incomes of small farmers my Government has actively supported programmes for crop diversification on marginal lands hitherto cultivated with such cash crops as tea and rubber. With the assistance of the World Bank and based on work undertaken with the help of FAO, my Government has taken up the diversification of 26,000 acres of land in the island-country which were originally under tea and rubber.

We in Sri Lanka are conducting experiments in a small way on alternate sources of energy such as Bio gas and Solar energy. The energy crisis has taught us one important lesson and that is not to rely too much on conventional sources of energy but to intensify research on alternate means of energy.

While on the subject of energy, I wish to lay emphasis on the rapid denudation of forests which has caused a scarcity of fuel wood in many developing countries. The clearing of jungles and opening up of new lands for cultivation without a complementary reforestation programme can lead to very serious repercussions. The trees that provide shade also provide fodder and fuel wood to the family. Last year my Government promoted a tree planting drive in which both the Government and voluntary organisations including school children participated in creating a public awareness of the need to conserve trees. I commend the contents of your Document on Forestry for bringing forth very encouraging proposals for adoption by developing countries.

I referred at the beginning, Mr. Chairman, of my speech to the other important subject under deliberation at this Conference, viz: the need to ensure World Food Security. According to present indications, by the year 2000, we would have over 450 million people either undernourished or at near starvation level. World food security could be achieved in two ways. The first course I have already elaborated in the first part of my Paper with emphasis on Food Production by continued and enhanced investment in agriculture, both on a country's own resources as well as external assistance. The break-down of talks on reaching a New Grains Agreement and the setting up of a Food Aid Convention make it all the more necessary to channel the surpluses in production from developed countries as well as developing countries to meet food shortages which could arise in the future. We should strive to reach the target of \$950 million for food purchases under the International Food Emergency Reserve.

In this context, we would like to commend the adoption of the Director-General's Five point Plan of Action on World Food Security by this Conference.

While we are on the subject of the need to produce more food to build buffer stocks for the future we also realise that our task has been made more difficult because of the inability of food deficit countries to prevent food losses, both before and after harvest. High harvest losses resulting from inefficient methods of pest control, inefficient processing and storage practices together with losses resulting from inefficient transportation systems which are unable to handle grains and particularly perishable products should also receive consideration and after careful study suitable remedial measures should be taken. Estimates of pre-harvest and post-harvest losses run into billions of dollars. According to your own studies in Asia for rice alone it is in the region of 10 to 37 percent or 85,000 million tons of food grain. This is equal to the cereal deficit projected for the low income countries in 1985.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say I came across a quotation from Charles Birch in his book "Next Hundred Years" which is an appropriate comment on which to end my speech. "The World is one life-boat with first class passengers at one end and steerage passengers at the other. If one end sinks the whole life-boat sinks. "

G. DEBELE (Ethiopia): Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates. Oh behalf of the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia and my Delegation, I would like to join other Distinguished Delegates in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. The Ethiopian Delegation wishes to express its deep appreciation for the efficient arrangements made by the Secretariat in various sectors of this Conference. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend our warmest welcome to Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica on their admission as Members of this Organization.

The very presence of the delegates from the world's family of nations at this Session of the FAO is in itself significant. As the purpose of this Session is to examine our performance in the outgoing biennium to learn from and set our shortcomings aright and to deliberate on the programme and budget for the following biennium, I hardly need to emphasize that the decisions taken and policies formulated at this Session, under your able guidance, Mr. Chairman, and with the benefit of the Director-General's experience and that of his staff, would have an important influence on the outcome of the present Conference as well as on our efforts to solve the problems of world food and agricultural production

This year's Conference acquires additional importance since we meet in an atmosphere, where, though immediate international food crisis have temporarily been averted, yet, the horrifying possibility of their recurrence still exists. Although it is not my intention to present to the Conference a review of the World Food and Agricultural situation, nevertheless, I feel strongly the need to highlight a number of issues of international dimension, which must keep our concern open and our anxiety alive.

The Director-General's report on the state of food and agriculture for 1979 indicates unfavourable prospects of food and agricultural production. FAO's latest forecast, as of early July 1979, is that world production of wheat and coarse grains in 1979 is likely to be about 6% below the 1978 level and 5% below the longer term trend (1970-78). In the developing countries, the long term rate of increase in agricultural production during the nine years of the Second Development Decade is more than one quarter below the target of 4% a year. In the area of International Agricultural Adjustment, some limited progress has been made although agreed targets have still not been achieved. The 18th session of FAO agreed transfers to developing countries of resources estimated to be at least US\$8.3 billion per annum during the period 1975-80 for investment in agricultural production. While the Director-General's continuous efforts to monitor progress towards International Agricultural Adjustment is appreciated, my Delegation calls upon all concerned to exert maximum effort towards realizing adequate transfer of resources from developed to developing Countries.

This Conference is also invited to review the proposals for the development and management of fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones, particularly with reference to the role of FAO, and to comment on the basic priorities indicated for future action to secure their implementation.

As one of the founding members of the FAO, we have always upheld its noble aims and worthy achievements. Nevertheless, we are forced once again to reiterate our position regarding the so-called Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fisheries Development which was organized by the Arab States bordering this water with the assistance of FAO at the exclusion of and without consulting my country. My Government continues to consider this step as a violation of Ethiopia's sovereignty over its territory as well as violating international obligations. For this reason, we strongly object to FAO's proposal for future action programmes "that cooperation at regional, sub-regional, and inter-regional fisheries development and management as key solution of problems relating to Economic Zones." On the other hand, my delegation once again expresses its deepest gratitude to the Democratic Republic of Yemen for its support of Ethiopia's unalienable right to any collective development of the Red Sea fisheries.

Though not always the ideal form of assistance, Food Aid is nevertheless indispensable in bridging the gap between the present and the future needs when recipient countries will have raised their production and purchasing power to the level of self-sufficiency. During the outgoing biennium poor performance prevailed in the Food Aid Programme, emergency reserve stock of cereals and in terms of food assistance for development. Despite the fact that Food Aid in cereals recovered in 1978/79, it still fell short of the World Food Conference minimum target of 10 million tons.

As long ago as 1973-74 which were the times of physical shortages of grain supplies, very definite pronouncements were made and a large number of countries even committed to action in the form of undertakings. The need for an internationally coordinated system of national reserve stock was agreed on in the International Undertaking on World Food Security which has subsequently been endorsed by 75 individual governments as well as by the EEC. Since that time, the agreed system of reserve stocks was not formally embodied in a new international grains arrangements. As a result, the Director-General of FAO proposed in March 1979 a Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security. The expected reduction in cereal production in 1979 reminds us of the bad situation in 1973-74. The Socialist Government of Ethiopia calls attention to the urgent need for the immediate implementation of the Five Point Plan of Action. We fully support the Five Points of the Plan and the Director-General's proposals for any further measures required to achieve the objectives of the World Food Security.

A point of fundamental interest to all developing countries is the assessment of Progress Towards the New International Economic Order. The Ethiopian Delegation believes that unless far reaching measures are taken to restructure the economic relationship between the developing and developed countries, in particular in the area of trade relations, the plans and programmes for development of the developing countries may indeed prove to be illusory.

The efforts to realize the world's agricultural potential must be looked upon as an issue of international concern, calling for effective structural changes in the World Economic System and also for increased international cooperation in financial and technical assistance. We have, in fact, agreed two years ago, at the 19th Session of FAO, that maximum food production cannot be possible without increased flow of technical and financial assistance from the most developed towards the least developed countries. The transfer of adequate resources is further called for in the light of the rapidly escalating costs in the basic agricultural inputs and because of unstable export markets and trade barriers against primary products from developing countries. These factors contribute to declining export earnings and increasing import bills which in turn bear negative influence on development effort of developing countries.

It is, therefore, the view of my Delegation that in consistence with the functions of FAO Article 1 paragraphs 2. e and 2. f to energetically work towards increasing the flow of capital into agriculture and to attain fair and equitable agricultural commodity arrangements.

I feel it is appropriate now to say a few words on what we have been doing in Ethiopia during the outgoing biennium. Agriculture being the major sector in the economy of the country, our choice is to intensify our efforts in the production of food and agricultural products.

Since the beginning of the Ethiopian Revolution in February, 1974, a number of fundamental and far-reaching measures have been taken by the Socialist Government of Ethiopia to create a just and equitable socialist society and to remove, once and for all, the fetters that have for so long retarded development of my country. In so doing my Government has created conditions for the release of the creative and dynamic potential of its people for the challenging and arduous task of nation-building.

As our Delegations reported, to this august body during the 18th and 19th Sessions of the FAO Conference as well as at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, in the economic realm major steps towards the creation of a socialist economy have been taken through nationalization and reorganization of major industries, banking and financial institutions and urban land and extra houses.

In the area of agriculture the most important measure taken has been the far-reaching and revolutionary land reform proclamation of March 1975, strengthened recently by an order for and mode of establishment of Farmers' Producer Cooperatives and Service Cooperatives. These are further supported, among others, by a proclamation establishing in November 1978 the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council whose goal is to implement the economic, social and political objectives of the National Democratic Revolutionary Programme, among others, by:-

1. efficiently allocating national resources among the many competing programmes through a system of democratic centralism;
2. setting development priorities;
3. developing action-oriented programmes for implementation through mass participation; and
4. establishing efficient follow-up systems so that shortfalls are corrected in time.

Substantial results have been achieved in the industrial and social sectors of our economy since the feudobourgeois government was toppled in Ethiopia in 1974. In spite of these significant achievements, nevertheless, I will be limited to address myself only to agriculture.

In the past few years of the revolutionary history of Ethiopia, we have witnessed considerable concrete changes in the field of agricultural development. Noteworthy among these are the establishment of approximately 25,000 peasant associations throughout the country covering the whole peasant sector totaling about 7 million families. In particular, during the last one year period of the establishment of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council more significant developments have been realized.

Several Farmers' Producer Cooperatives have been organised in order to improve the economic, social and political conditions of their members through, among others, collective self-government and modernization of the agricultural sector including the use of high yielding inputs. Moreover, Farmers' Service Cooperatives are set up-to-date with the aim of collective purchase of farm inputs and sale of their produce thus improving the peasants' bargaining position and their farm income.

In 1979/80 cultivated land increased by 12% over that of 1977/78 and agricultural production is expected to grow by 8% for the same period. This has been made possible through the Provisional Military Government's consistent and devoted effort and full participation by the broad masses to raise agricultural production and improve the social condition of the rural poor. The budget for agricultural development increased by 200% in 1979/80 over that of 1977/78.

To further enhance the above mentioned achievements, the former Ministry of Agriculture and Settlement, which proved to be too large an organisation to be managed under one Ministry, was restructured into various ministries leaving a Ministry of Agriculture catering purely to the peasant sector and for a speedy agrarian reconstruction and rural development.

These achievements, may not appear at first sight, impressive in themselves. Nevertheless, in view of the too short period and the conditions under which these results were obtained and the need for development of appropriate organizations before reasonable level of increased agricultural production can be expected, their importance cannot be overlooked.

In attaining these achievements we have been assisted by socialist countries by FAO/UNDP, SIDA, World Bank, and by a number of other bilateral and multilateral agencies. To them all my Delegation extend my Government's sincere appreciation and gratitude and we are convinced that their assistance would continue in our struggle to increase food and agricultural production for the betterment of the living conditions of the rural masses of our people.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate the view, which is gaining wide acceptance, that the best way to overcome the world's food and agricultural problems is to assist developing countries in their own major efforts in food production and agricultural development. Further, I wish to express that the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia and my delegation have confidence that FAO, with its vast experience in agriculture and with intimate knowledge of rural problems of developing countries, will no doubt be able to make valuable contributions and play a vital role in achieving the desired goal of producing adequate food and agricultural products to satisfy the needs of the rapidly growing human population of the world.

Finally, I would also like to express our general view about the budget and work programme of the FAO which was prepared and sent to us in advance by the Director-General.

Though the Commissions will have to examine and comment on the specific points, it is our impression that the budget and work programme of the FAO for the ensuing biennium is generally acceptable to be endorsed by this Conference.

EL PRESIDENTE: Agradeciendo a todos los esfuerzos que han hecho y que nos han permitido liberarnos de esa sesión de noche, levantamos la sesión hasta mañana a las 9. 30 horas.

The meeting rose at 18. 15 hours

La séance est levée à 18h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 18. 15 horas

conference

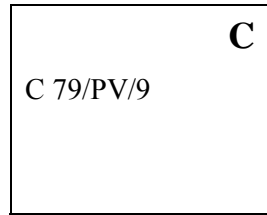
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

NINTH PLENARY MEETING
NEUVIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
NOVENA SESION PLENARIA
(15 November 1979)

The Ninth Plenary Meeting was opened at 09. 35 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding.

La neuvième séance plénière est ouverte à 9 h 35, sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la novena Sesión Plenaria a las 09. 35 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuacion)

- STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS IBS CHEFS DE DELEGATION (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES IE LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

A, QABALAN (Syria): (interpretation from Arabic): In the name of the Lord Almighty and Merciful, Mr President, Distinguished Heads of Delegations and Members of Delegations, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great honour for me to address this Conference on behalf of the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic, which is attending this important Conference to which we attach special importance at this place in which we find that the world food problem is increasing in acuity as well as a threat of hunger which faces millions of men.

It is a great pleasure for me to bring the warm felicitations and congratulations of the President of the Republic ASSAD as well as that of the Secretary-General of the Baath Arab Syrian Party. I also carry with me their warmest wishes for success at this important Conference. I would also like to forward my warm congratulations to the Minister of Agriculture from Spain on his election as President of this Conference. I would like to congratulate him on the trust you have placed in him. This has been a well-founded trust, as it has expressed a firm desire for this Conference to conclude its work with excellent results. I would also like to extend a warm welcome and congratulate the new Members who have just joined this Organization. I would like to wish that they will be able to participate effectively in the work of this Organization. It is a very welcome occasion for me to express my appreciation to you, Mr. President, and to express my pleasure in our meeting here at this Conference which acquires with other conferences organized by the FAO a special importance. This Conference is a complementary one to previous ones as far as results are concerned and as far as evaluating its various achievements, and the interest expressed in this Conference is due to the fact that most of the agricultural ministers of the world are meeting here where they may exchange views and ideas on agrarian reform and rural development.

We also meet here with a specific target in mind; that is to say to identify the common problems that face us to seek possible solutions. We shall also endeavour to coordinate these problems and to eliminate the negative aspects which have impaired our work. We shall also seek to consolidate achievements we have made as a result of our long endeavours in this field. I therefore consider this Conference as an economic summit for a world seeking to solve the food problems it faces today. Our world today has a number of positive incentives which are represented in a variety of organized forms of international cooperation. This cooperation increases our faith and confidence that we shall be able to further improve our efforts to overcome the food problem of this world.

The solving of this problem has now become the responsibility of all the nations of the world. It requires us to pit all our efforts together in order to avoid the threats of impeding famine. This problem has become the community's main concern, and can no longer be considered in relation to other problems, be they in the industrial or technological field. The food system has itself acquired a technical dimension which requires us to resort to technological methods in agriculture and animal breeding in order to develop a sounder nutrition for the world.

We find that we, the countries of the developing world, consider that the establishment of an international cooperation in the field of nourishment is an important step in this field of cooperation, but this field lacks the objective aims which will enable it to rise above the aims of certain countries in the developed world. An international cooperation must seek to introduce and develop the liberation of weaker countries from economic and social backwardness. We must also seek to achieve equality, to make a response to the needs of the developed and the developing countries.

The main target of the international cooperation is to achieve the production of food, which should be covered by an internationally concluded agreement which would cover the provision of financial investments and technical aid, and reinforcement of aid in training.

We should also seek to eliminate all aspects which are impeding the country, developed or developing, in overcoming the future hazards, that is to say, hunger, lack of productivity, population increase. The peace of the world is based on an internationally founded food security system. Despite this, the fact is that this conference is a meeting ground, and we cannot neglect the importance given to certain items by the agenda. The items on this agenda require us to adopt important resolutions on, for example, the international strategy of the economy by the year 2000, commodity and trade problems impede the movement of food between the countries of the world, The items on the agenda also seek to find a better balance between agriculture and the main problems of forestry and fertilizers, also the problem of the development of fisheries and their management in the economic zone. I suppose we also have to give an account of the follow-up actions of the Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, as well as the programmes of action adopted by that conference, which seek to remove the economic and

sociological problems of the population of the world. The agenda also requires us to set down the methodology that should enable us to achieve overall economic and social development in developing countries.

We will not refer to the various items on the agenda, but nevertheless we would like to stress the importance of various items, and would like the right to express our views on the various points when they are discussed in the different committees of this conference.

However, we would like to make a brief statement on the following items. First of all, our delegation listened with great interest and Careful attention to the opening statement made by the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saourma. In this statement, he reviewed the situation in the world. He reviewed the guidelines which he considered are essential to overcome the problems of the world. We would like to congratulate him on this clear and concise statement in which he placed before us our responsibilities towards the nations of the world, where hundreds of millions are suffering from hunger and malnutrition. We share his concern and pity as the current food situation in the world is still a source of great concern, despite the achievements of the last few years. The figures are clear, and require the establishment of a new food strategy, one which is necessary to establish a new economic order which is needed by all.

We endorse the continuous efforts undertaken by the Director-General to alleviate this suffering and to close the increasing gap between the industrialised and developing countries. He is seeking to do so through the various policies and strategies of the action taken in the field. We can only commend the extreme priority he has granted to these elements, mainly through increasing investments in agricultural and food projects.

We consider that world food security is a main element for the establishment of a new international economic order. We also consider the establishment of a long term food security system depends on establishing systems in developing countries, as it is these which have the most adequate involvement towards increasing the amount of food, especially as they have been deprived of doing so for a very long time.

We support the appeal of the Director-General to the countries with adequate technology and resources to provide voluntary aid which has been estimated at one billion dollars to be provided to the World Food Programme. We would also like to express our appreciation for the Technical Cooperation Programme, which has proved it is an adequate mechanism for the developing countries to achieve an agricultural target. However, the increase proposed for this programme is rather limited, and we consider we should allocate further sums to meet the urgent needs of a number of nations.

We also think the stepping up of the animal breeding programme will help the member countries to improve their animal resources which have suffered a great reduction in numbers as a result of endemic diseases in a number of countries.

We also hope we can establish a new programme for the development of fisheries, to which 35 million dollars were allocated for the establishment of a new international order.

The key phase of our work requires us to give extreme priority to the question of forestry and combating desertification, as this helps to increase food production, although we fully appreciate the impediments the Director-General has referred to, but we nevertheless find that the budget amounts stated do not meet the requirements of the member states, and do not enable this organisation to undertake the task allotted to it in an adequate manner. It is our opinion we should consider increasing the budgetary allocations in order to enable the organisation to undertake its responsibilities adequately, and to participate in the establishment of the new economic order.

We now find we also have to transfer the Regional Office of the Near East as the result of the circumstances which had in the past affected its activity. It has also rendered it unable to achieve the services to the countries of the region which have boycotted the country which hosts this regional office. We therefore urge the member countries attending this office to appreciate and understand the circumstances which have led us to submit such a request, and that they should not consider such a request as undermining or diminishing their status. We consider they should be able to see our own point of view, that member countries of a region should be free to determine their own rights or policies in this area. This should enable the office to undertake the policy for which it has been established.

We also request the conference to grant the Director-General the proper authority to transfer this Regional Office, in accordance with the agreement achieved with the members of the area.

Distinguished delegates, we have made great efforts to improve the level of our citizens. Our citizens have continued a great deal of these efforts. However, the Israeli occupation, and the continued

threat of that occupation to Arab lands continues to impede our efforts and prevent our citizens from benefiting from the efforts and the possibilities we have at hand.

Our Syrian nation under the leadership of President Hassad, should on every occasion and within the framework of international legality, participate fully and positively towards the achievement and establishment of a just peace on a sound basis, which is established on Israeli withdrawal from all Arab occupied territories, as well as the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab-Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and the establishment of a nation on its own lines.

However, all these efforts are still encountering the obstacles laid down by Israel, which have been impediments to all efforts in this area. As you may all know, this matter has laid further burdens on our nation. They are economic and sociological in nature, and have affected in one way or another the economic development of our country, but despite this impediment my country has granted a special priority to the development of the agricultural sector. This has special importance in our national economy, as agriculture accounts for 21 percent of our net national product and 27 percent of our total export. In order to improve our exportation of our limited agricultural resources of the Arab Syrian Republic, our country has adopted an overall agricultural-planning policy. It has also allocated a fair amount of our budgetary resources to the investment in our five-year economic and social development plans.

I would also like to speak further on other achievements in the agricultural sector in my country. However, the time factor prevents me from doing so, and therefore I shall leave this subject aside and move to the end of my statement, which I hope will be distributed amongst the delegates.

The food security of my country goes into vast dimensions, and has great importance in our economy in general. It is of special importance, as it helps us to provide adequate foodstuffs to our citizens.

I have said earlier on that agricultural production is a main foundation of our economy. It also depends on the annual rainfall, be that on a regional basis or according to the seasonal systems of cropping in my country. We fully appreciate the efforts undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization through its cooperative efforts in our country. This cooperation has been clearly evident in the constructive participation of our organization in the achievement of development targets in our country. This has been undertaken through the implementation of projects either, through UNDP or WFP. This has been implemented on a national or a regional level.

We believe that the policy adopted by the Director-General, which is based on the efforts of regional organizations, has had an excellent impact on eliminating obstacles which have impeded cooperation with the organization.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all delegates for their kind attention, and this is also referring to Dr. Edouard Saouma and all his assistance as well as the assistance of the staff in this organization and for the efforts that they have undertaken to prepare this conference which undoubtedly will be of great help towards the success of this organization. I would like to wish this conference all success in continuing its aims.

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias al Sr. Ministro de Agricultura y Reforma Agraria de Siria. Antes de continuar con el orden del día quisiera hacer una pequeña observación.

Habrán podido comprobar que en el Diario de la Conferencia se incluyen como puntos primeros del orden del día de la mañana de hoy el Segundo Informe del Comité General y el Segundo Informe del Comité de Credenciales.

Quisiera manifestar que ha habido un error material, ya que dichos temas corresponden a puntos del orden del día de la reunión del Comité General que ha tenido lugar previamente a las 8 y media.

Eh este momento se están elaborando los documentos aprobados por el Comité General, y por tanto el debate de estos dos puntos tendrá lugar a lo largo del día de hoy. Ya les indicaré en su momento la hora del debate tan pronto como dispongamos de la documentación que se está elaborando como consecuencia de la reunión de las 8 y media de la mañana del Comité General.

Nada más. Me interesaba precisar esa circunstancia porque quizá pudiera haber habido alguna confusión en relación con el particular.

Continuamos, pues, con el debate general. Tiene la palabra el Sr. Ministro de Agricultura y Defensa Nacional del Líbano.

J. ISKAFF (Liban) (interpretation from Arabic): Je suis heureux, Monsieur le Président, de vous adresser mes chaleureuses félicitations au nom de la délégation du Liban à l'occasion de votre élection en tant que Président de cette Conférence au cours de sa vingtième session. Nous connaissons votre foi, vos qualités personnelles, votre sagesse et votre grande expérience en tant que Ministre de l'agriculture de l'Espagne. Si l'on ajoute à cela la bonne volonté des Etats Membres et la coopération qui existe entre vous et vos Vice-Présidents, nous sommes sûrs que cette Conférence aboutira à des résultats fructueux.

Je suis également heureux de participer, au nom de mon pays, à cette Conférence générale en raison de l'importance de ses résultats et de ses résolutions, car les espoirs et les aspirations des Etats en voie de développement ont atteint un niveau qui ne permet pas des attermoissements et des hésitations. Nous devons faire face à nos responsabilités pour lutter contre la faim et la malnutrition et construire un monde meilleur pour les peuples que nous représentons.

Le discours qui a été fait par Sa Sainteté Jean Paul II et le discours prononcé également par Son Excellence le Président Kaunda, ont une répercussion toute spéciale sur nous car ce qu'ils ont dit contenait des idées humanitaires d'une grande élévation, qui nous ont entraîné vers un niveau très haut de sérieux et ont donné au débat de cette Conférence un halo qui n'aurait pas existé autrement. La visite toute spéciale qu'ont bien voulu nous faire Sa Sainteté et Son Excellence dans une enceinte aussi importante nous ont rappelé les souffrances que vivent les malheureux sur cette terre. L'homme ne peut être sauvé qu'en s'aidant lui-même et avec l'aide de Dieu également. Il faut que l'homme se développe dans tous ses aspects et on ne peut se débarrasser de la faim et de la pauvreté que par la coopération, l'amour et la justice. Il ne peut y avoir de vraie paix sur cette terre si la famine continue à exister, et la faim de certains est en fin de compte la faim de tous.

Je profite de cette occasion pour souhaiter aux nouveaux Membres, les délégations de Samoa et de Dominique, le plein succès dans leur collaboration aux travaux de cette Organisation internationale.

Messieurs, je vous prie de m'excuser si je prenais un peu de temps pour broser le tableau sombre que vit mon pays. Les derniers événements que nous avons vécus depuis 1975 sont caractérisés par la violence et la destruction. De nombreux fils du Liban ont été tués alors qu'ils étaient pour la plupart innocents. Beaucoup ont été dispersés. Les structures d'existence ont été détruites et ces Libanais sont devenus des réfugiés dans leur propre pays. Le Liban est la victime des conflits internationaux et régionaux, la victime du non-respect des principes des Nations Unies et du jeu de l'équilibre au Moyen-Orient, la victime de la politique d'agression qui est impitoyable. Le Liban autrefois était confiant. Il croyait dans la liberté, avait adopté comme Constitution la Charte des droits de l'homme. Il ne souhaitait aux autres que ce que les autres pouvaient souhaiter. Le Liban est le pays de l'amour et de la coexistence pacifique. C'est le pays des grands idéaux et de la coexistence entre toutes les religions et toutes les sectes. Ce pays qui est le seuil de l'Orient a été touché par la main froide de la mort qui l'a détruit sans aucune pitié et sans aucune justification. Il a failli être complètement ravagé. Ce petit pays a exporté dans le monde la civilisation et l'alphabet. On lui a donné en échange la fausse civilisation et les moyens du mal et de la destruction. Il est resté blessé et il a essayé de panser ses blessures pour se remettre sur pied. Le Libanais continue à résister à tous les complots qui sont faits pour détruire son pays. Il est conscient de son patriotisme et de son authenticité et il pourra reconstruire son pays beaucoup mieux qu'auparavant. Il mettra fin à cette longue nuit que a tant duré chez nous. Nous espérons que la conscience internationale s'éveillera et se mettra à côté de ce peuple qui lutte, qui refuse d'être la victime des complots, et qui espère recevoir une aide morale et économique, si cela est possible.

Voilà l'appel que nous vous lançons à vous, délégations du monde entier.

Avant ce drame, et au cours des cinq années qui ont précédé les événements du Liban, la plupart des secteurs de l'économie libanaise était en développement, et surtout le secteur agricole dans ses deux sections: la section des plantes et la section animale. Nous étions arrivés à une augmentation annuelle de 6 pour cent de la production agricole et le Liban était devenu exportateur de légumes, de fruits et également de production animale. Dans le cadre de la Communauté arabe, il était cité en exemple pour le développement rural et agricole. Les événements qu'il a vécus ont abattu les structures économiques et également les réalisations qui avaient été construites par ses enfants et par les initiatives personnelles des citoyens libanais.

Je saisis cette occasion pour remercier la plupart des pays frères et amis et également les Organisations internationales qui ont senti nos souffrances et nous ont offert leur aide. Je voudrais tout particulièrement citer la FAO, le PAM et également le PIDA pour la rapidité de leur réponse et leur aide au Liban. Au nom du gouvernement de mon pays, je voudrais leur exprimer tous nos remerciements pour les efforts déployés dans le passé et qu'ils déploieront dans l'avenir.

Je voudrais en outre remercier la FAO du geste humanitaire qu'elle accomplit lorsqu'elle apporte rapidement son aide à toutes les parties du monde qui subissent des inondations, des sécheresses, des tremblements de terre ou des séismes. Le Liban est heureux de se considérer comme la patrie de tout homme sur cette terre, et nous sommes heureux également que le rôle du Liban soit renforcé.

Nous voulons en outre remercier tous les pays qui nous ont accordé leur aide et qui ont aidé le Directeur général à établir certains programmes, comme le programme de lutte contre le criquet pèlerin qui menace tout le Proche-Orient dont le Liban fait partie. Nous voulons tout particulièrement parler de l'aide accordée par notre frère, le Royaume de l'Arabie Saoudite, et le Fonds spécial des pays exportateurs de pétrole. Je voudrais à ce propos citer un mot d'un sage arabe qui concerne ceux qui donnent généreusement. Il a dit que Dieu demande aux riches de donner aux pauvres et que le pauvre n'a faim que par le manque de générosité du riche.

Permettez-moi maintenant de vous présenter quelques observations sur le discours du Directeur général et le programme de travail et de budget pour 1980-1981.

Le discours fait par Monsieur le Directeur général Edouard Saouma a exposé des sujets qui visent tous au bien-être de l'humanité. Il a indiqué le niveau minimum du bien-être pour tous les peuples du monde. Il a montré les efforts déployés pour aboutir à plus de justice et pour faire face aux problèmes de la famine et de l'ignorance.

Nous sommes surtout préoccupés par la réduction de l'aide financière du PNUD au secteur de l'agriculture et du développement rural alors qu'on a augmenté les participations financières par le truchement des comptes du secrétariat et des autres programmes de la FAO. Nous voyons que la participation du PNUD a été très réduite en tenant compte du fait que l'inflation monétaire a atteint un niveau auquel elle n'était jamais arrivée auparavant.

Malgré ces obstacles financiers, nous enregistrons avec satisfaction les efforts déployés par la FAO pour l'exécution des projets techniques et agricoles. Il faut donc particulièrement apprécier ces travaux qui sont faits dans des conditions difficiles. Nous notons la réalisation importante obtenue par l'Organisation en établissant des cadres et des programmes de travail pour le développement rural et la réforme agraire dans le monde. Vous savez tous que les pays en voie de développement ont besoin de nouvelles méthodes de développement, car à côté du développement agricole dans son sens le plus étroit les régions rurales et les populations rurales ont besoin d'irrigation, d'eau potable, de vêtements, de routes, d'écoles et d'habitations, et l'agriculture seule ne peut pas offrir tout cela. Nous devons trouver d'autres revenus et nous ne pouvons arriver à un meilleur niveau de vie si nous ne pouvons pas augmenter le pouvoir d'achat des populations rurales. Voilà pourquoi nous devons féliciter la FAO, car elle a réussi, par l'intermédiaire de la Conférence mondiale sur le développement rural et la réforme agraire, à établir des principes et des programmes dans ces domaines. Nous pouvons dire que la déclaration de principe exprime une philosophie spéciale du développement rural qui vise à augmenter le niveau de vie des populations rurales.

La déclaration de principe a pris aussi en considération les droits des populations rurales, ce qui n'avait jamais été fait. Je suis heureux que ce point ait été mis à l'ordre du jour de la FAO. Je note en outre que les nombreux programmes qui ont été établis par le Directeur général et que la Conférence a adoptés, comme le Programme de la coopération technique et le Programme des pertes après récoltes, doivent être un point de rencontre des programmes sur le terrain et des programmes au siège.

Nous sommes-heureux de voir que l'alimentation a une place toute spéciale dans le budget et les programmes de l'Organisation, mais vous admettrez avec moi que l'alimentation ne sera qu'un mot vide s'il ne se traduit pas en programmes et en projets que nous pouvons réaliser au niveau des Etats pour que la plus grande partie des populations puisse en profiter.

Enfin, nous considérons que le programme de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale est un des programmes les plus importants réalisés au sein de la Communauté internationale. Nous enregistrons avec satisfaction la réponse favorable donnée par tous les Etats et l'appui qui est accordé au programme présenté par le Directeur général.

Nous appuyons pleinement le plan en cinq points et les autres programmes qui nous ont été présentés dernièrement par le Directeur général, à savoir la lutte contre la trypanosomiase et les programmes d'exploitation des pêcheries dans les eaux territoriales. Nous espérons que les pays pourront participer à ces programmes et financer ces projets dans le cadre du programme extra-budgétaire de l'Organisation.

Je ne peux que remercier totalement et rendre hommage à la FAO qui a été la première, dans le cadre des Organisations des Nations Unies, à réaliser l'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000". Cette étude a éclairci notre vision de l'avenir et établi les bases de la lutte contre la faim et d'un nouvel ordre économique international. Cette étude a également montré les principaux problèmes que nous aurons à

résoudre dans l'anvenir, à savoir la surpopulation et la dégradation de l'environnement, ainsi que le déficit alimentaire qui va augmenter au cours des années à venir. A cet égard, je remercie encore l'Organisation qui a répondu à notre appel en envoyant des experts au Liban pour nous aider à établir une stratégie pour le développement agricole jusqu'à l'an 2000.

En ce qui concerne le point 25 de l'ordre du jour qui contient une étude globale établie par le Directeur général sur la possibilité de transporter le bureau régional dans un autre endroit, suivant les directives que m'a données mon gouvernement qui s'est engagé à respecter les résolutions de la Conférence de Baghdad, après les échecs obtenus par ce bureau ces derniers mois, ma délégation propose, pour appuyer le développement du secteur agricole au Proche-Orient, que la Conférence demande au Directeur général de trouver le lieu où sera transféré ce bureau régional pour qu'il puisse avoir toutes possibilités d'action et pour qu'il puisse mettre son efficacité au service des pays du Proche-Orient.

Avant de conclure mon discours, je voudrais, du haut de cette tribune, enregistrer avec fierté et satisfaction que l'Organisation déploie ses efforts sous la direction d'un homme dont nous sommes fiers parce qu'il est Libanais et qu'il a toute notre confiance et notre appui. Nous lui souhaitons un plein succès dans ses travaux et nous souhaitons à l'Organisation qu'il dirige le plein succès dans ses politiques et ses programmes. Qu'il continue dans la voie qu'il s'est tracée et cela sans aucun doute servira les pays Membres.

L. C. J. MARTIN (United Kingdom): I have to inform the Conference of the fact that the Minister who was to come and lead my delegation at the very last moment yesterday evening had to decide that because of other important business in London he would not be able to come here and he has asked me to give his speech for him.

First, Mr. Chairman, we want to offer you our warm congratulation for the election as the Chairman of the Conference. We know very well, especially by now, how much you are fitted to help through our work in the next few weeks and, on a more personal note, may we say how much we look forward to receiving you in our country quite soon after the Conference. I am sure that again we shall have mutually profitable discussions.

We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to the delegations of Western Samoa and Dominica as the newest members of our organization. We in Britain have close ties with both of these countries.

Now I continue exactly as the Minister would have continued had he been here. Until a short time ago my colleague, the Minister for Overseas Development publicly affirmed at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development the continued support of my Government for FAO and I can repeat this again today. The contribution of FAO to the work of the international community in the fields of natural resources and rural development will continue to be of the greatest significance and so we are concerned to help FAO to continue along the right lines. But I will not conceal from the Conference that like some other countries we have problems with the programme and budget. When we came into office in May of this year we inherited an economy which needed urgently to be revitalized. Real growth had fallen away almost to nothing. Much needed investment was lacking. Inflation, was and still is, far too high. Faced with all this we had to decide that creating a healthy economy in our own country must take the highest priority over any other policy aim, however desirable. We think that this decision was right, not only for ourselves but also for the part that we can play in the whole economy. A country in a poor state of health cannot play as full a part as a healthy one. And so, if for a time we have to do a little less than we have been able to do before, it is so that we shall have the strength to do more in the future.

To a large extent our problems arose from having to finance big and growing public expenditure programmes. This has meant taking too much money, too much from the taxpayer through higher rates of taxation and borrowing too much to finance the deficit that still remained. High taxes destroy incentives. High government borrowing fuels inflation. All of this must be reversed and we must check the outward march of public expenditure.

A short time ago we announced our plans for reductions in public expenditure in the current financial year and at the beginning of this month we published a White Paper with plans for next year. We are reducing the spending programmes from what the previous administration had had in mind. I must be frank and say that we have not been able to exempt our aid programme from this process. But I want to be clear. We are not cutting back below the real levels of the past. On the constant price basis on which we work there will be virtually no difference in public expenditure on aid to the developing countries between what we spent last year and what we hope to spend by the end of this year and during next year. Our gross aid programme this year will come to more than 840 million and will be similar next year. This is still a substantial and worthwhile programme. But the fact that we have had to forego growth obviously limits our ability to expand growth in the constituent parts of the programme.

We have had to look hard at all our aid expenditures and amongst them is our contribution to FAO. If there is a limit to what we can spend we must use what is at our disposal in the most effective way.

We approach the proposed programme of work and budget of FAO for 1980-81 in this way. It is more than a question of ensuring that the programme is in line with the basic strategy and priorities on which most of us are agreed. It is also a matter of ensuring that increases in the budget should be clearly justified by need and that the whole of the programme should be administered with the utmost efficiency.

For our part we welcome and appreciate the practical and immediate relevance of programmes of FAO which are intended to help the poorest countries. We see particular value in the special action programmes such as the programme for the prevention of food losses and the technical cooperation programme.

As my colleague the Minister for Overseas Development told the House of Commons in London on 30 October, an aid strategy which emphasizes the needs of the poorest is a principle which the present Government accepts as the basis for developmental criteria. It is accepted by most aid donors, and the United Kingdom has gone a great way towards implementing it. However, neither we nor any other donor government is likely to devote the whole of its aid to the poorest countries. A whole range of considerations requires aid to be provided to countries which do not count among the least developed, or the poorest, or any of the accepted criteria, and this must always be the case. Nevertheless, we should continue to give due emphasis to aid to the poorest. I am glad to think that in this direction there is no contradiction between what we are trying to do and what FAO itself is also trying to do. We all know that channelling aid in this way can create problems, but those problems must be faced and overcome and we shall support FAO's efforts in that spirit.

We were very glad to participate last July in the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development under the auspices of our organization here. We were able to give our general support to the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference. We can offer investment resources and skills for a variety of purposes. But it is clear that the major initiatives for putting the Programme of Action into effect must lie with the governments of developing countries. They alone can decide whether to allocate more resources to the rural sector and to pursue schemes of land reform. It is increasingly recognized that many constraints faced by rural people in their agricultural activities are more susceptible to changes in internal government policy—for example, in the areas of prices, import controls, tariffs, export levies and so on—than to investment programmes as such. It is for governments themselves to decide what steps to take to improve incentives and generally to make the economic environment more rewarding so as to encourage farmers to plough back their own resources in a determined effort to attempt to increase food production in areas of greatest need.

Another major concern of my Government, which we share with FAO and practically all countries in the world, is the difficult question of world food security. Rural development, while desirable in itself, will mean little if people still go hungry. And far too many people, especially in the poorer countries, still do go hungry. Eradication of hunger from the world must remain a major preoccupation of FAO.

Our view, which we made clear in the World Food Council last September, is that the first need is to increase food production in those among the developing countries which cannot meet their own food needs. As the leader of our delegation said in Ottawa: 'It is better to enable a man to feed himself than to send him food aid'. Much has been achieved. The picture in some other developing countries is much less good; food deficits are increasing rather than decreasing. We believe that it must be a high priority to help such countries to increase their production. This must depend first of all on the efforts of their own governments and peoples. But they will need help from outside, and the United Kingdom will be ready to play its part in providing such help within the limits of its resources.

Having said this, Mr. Chairman, and without wishing in any way to under-rate the problem of hunger in the world I think we also have to say that while the food situation remains very uncertain, it does seem better than it was a few years ago. We fully accept, of course, especially in the light of the slightly disappointing harvest figures for the current year, that this comparative prosperity may not last and that if we are to avoid a repetition of the terrible conditions of the earlier part of this decade we must devise new methods of food trade and the stocking of food which enable international trade to be effectively run and financed, and food aid to continue at an acceptable level.

This is why the United Kingdom continues to support the idea of a new International Grains Agreement and is working hard, along with our partners in the European Community to achieve a satisfactory and successful Agreement. Our objective is to arrive at a workable Agreement which will make a real contribution to World Food Security through the stabilization of wheat prices in the world market, but no agreement can be regarded as meeting these objectives unless it attracts the support of a significant number of developing countries, since these countries account for over 50 percent of world trade in wheat.

Equally any new Agreement must recognize the legitimate demands of efficient exporters in seeking to ensure that prices on the world market are sufficient to cover production costs as otherwise there can be no certainty that supplies will continue to be available to the market. It must be recognized, however, that prospects for a successful negotiation do not, at the moment look good, and recent developments on the world market have not made the task any easier. Against the background of increasing production costs the price range favoured by the developing countries would, in our opinion, militate against any immediate accumulation of stocks. In view of this such a price range must be considered to be quite unrealistic, but we continue to have an open mind on the solution to the problems facing the negotiators in this difficult and complex field and we listen carefully to any proposals voiced. But there is, as yet, no indication that our friends in the developing countries are prepared to reconsider their position and it must, therefore, be apparent that there is little hope of progress in the near future.

In the absence of a new Agreement we have supported the adoption of the interim plan for World Food Security proposed by our Director-General and accepted by the Council of FAO at its 75th Session last June. We continue to hope that a new Agreement will be forthcoming and in the meantime we trust that the interim measures will help to avoid the worst of the problems faced in previous difficult years.

I have talked so far about FAO itself and its central role in dealing with the world situation in food and agriculture both as an aid agency and as a body of great technical competence in dealing with specific problems facing agriculturists at all levels. We are always pleased to take part along with others in FAO's major technical committees, namely the Committees on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. We also hope that we play a fruitful and constructive part in the other technical meetings which experts attend from all parts of the world and which deal with such long standing problems as locusts and trypanosomiasis. These gatherings of experts focus on problems of real and deadly relevance to the poor farmer throughout the world.

We regard the Committee on Agriculture as of particular importance because it provides a forum for the exchange of views between agriculturists the world over. FAO is well placed to organize such discussions and it is carrying out a valuable role. We are grateful to the Director-General for placing before the Committee so many major issues on which it can bring its technical competence to bear. We wonder, however, if some further thought needs to be given to the timing of meetings of this important Committee so that the results are more readily available at the right time in the biennium than they have sometimes been.

The point I have just made about the proximity of Committee meetings to the date of the Conference applies also to the Committee on Commodity Problems which concluded its last meeting only shortly before the opening of the Conference. We consider this Committee also to be an important forum, but we are becoming increasingly concerned about its lack of application towards the international commodity problems affecting production, trade, distribution, consumption, and related economic matters. It would seem that, irrespective of the agreed Agenda, this Committee is becoming a forum for repetitive debate on well-known general issues and it is our view that it would be more constructive if all participants worked together to find solutions to the problems facing world commodity markets.

While we continue to attach high importance to the activities and technical expertise of FAO, we sometimes feel that not enough account is taken in many international fora of the availability throughout the world of other sources of expertise. This is particularly true in respect of agriculture. On the one hand, there is the question of the technical information that is available and the means of disseminating this in a direct and practical way to the farmers of the Third World-especially the poorer farmers. On the other hand, there are scientific units or university departments in most developed countries. The vital need is to bring this range of expertise to bear on the problems, essentially that of feeding the hungry in the less developed countries.

This is therefore a problem of pooling the available resources to see that these are used to the best possible practical effect. This is perhaps one of the most important of FAO's roles in dealing with the world situation in regard to food and agriculture.

At this point, Mr. Chairman, I would like to refer to the wide-ranging report Agriculture: Towards 2000. This takes a global view of the development of all natural resources during the next 20 years and it is to be commended for its comprehensive coverage of the different aspects of agriculture. However, I hope that such an important document will be assessed by the major technical committees and that governments will have ample opportunity to consider and evaluate it, before the proposed policies and technological changes come to be implemented. We must not hurry needlessly.

One obstacle to more rapid progress is the shortage of trained personnel in developing countries. FAO itself is very much aware of this and I know that a good deal of its work in particular countries consists in one way or another of training. I would just make one general comment. If there is to

be real progress in the future, training must now be concentrated more than in the past on middle management training. Here is one important key to success because the people in middle management are those who are really in a position to make things happen on the ground. So often they will have reached their present positions on the basis of the practical experience which they have gained but they lack the specific training which would make them more effective.

I would like to make one last point, which is essentially the point that I began with. I would like to emphasize the concern of the United Kingdom for all the problems with which FAO has to deal and to assure the Conference and the Director-General of our continuing support for the Organization.

J. FOUCHIER (France): Je tiens à féliciter notre Président pour son élection à la tête de cette Conférence générale: je me réjouis personnellement que nos travaux soient conduits par une personnalité aussi dynamique que M. de Lamo de Espinosa, qui oriente avec efficacité l'agriculture de son pays.

Je tiens également à remercier le Directeur général, M. Saouma, pour l'excellent discours qu'il a prononcé au début de nos travaux et pour la qualité des documents qu'il nous a présentés, je cite en particulier:

- son rapport sur l'application du plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale,
- le programme de travail de la FAO pour 1980 et 1981,
- et l'étude approfondie sur les perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale à l'horizon 2000;

tous ces documents constituent des instruments de travail précieux tant par la valeur des études techniques sur lesquelles ils sont fondés que par la clarté de leurs orientations.

L'analyse de la situation alimentaire mondiale et de ses perspectives qui nous est présentée par le Directeur général est, certes, pessimiste, en effet, l'objectif d'augmentation de la production agricole de 4 pour cent par an est loin d'être atteint et le nombre de victimes de la faim et de la malnutrition s'est encore accru. Ce pessimisme est malheureusement réaliste. Il est même à craindre que certaines hypothèses formulées par le rapport sur "l'agriculture: horizon 2000" soient au contraire trop optimistes: au moins pour les prochaines années, les taux de croissance économique envisagés paraissent plus élevés que les hausses successives du coût de l'énergie ne le permettront.

Dans l'ensemble du monde, et plus spécialement dans les pays en voie de développement non producteurs de pétrole, l'augmentation incessante des prix de l'énergie est un facteur de perturbation profonde; comme l'a rappelé le Premier Ministre français, M. Raymond Barre: "Si tous les pays-producteurs et pays consommateurs ne manifestent pas dans les circonstances actuelles un exceptionnel esprit de responsabilité, le monde peut s'acheminer vers le désastre".

Dans le remarquable discours qu'il a prononcé au début de nos travaux, le Président Kaunda a, lui aussi, souligné la gravité de ce problème:

I- LES PROGRAMMES D'ACTION DE LA FAO CONSTITUENT UNE REponse APPROPRIÉE A LA SITUATION ALIMENTAIRE MONDIALE, et c'est ce que je voudrais développer maintenant.

Pour répondre au défi que représente la situation alimentaire mondiale, le Directeur général de la FAO a pris ses responsabilités en lançant des programmes d'action dont la France apprécie le réalisme.

Plusieurs de ces initiatives méritent une attention particulière. Ainsi, le programme d'action pour la prévention des pertes de produits alimentaires correspond à une nécessité dans de très nombreux pays puisque 32 projets ont été retenus à ce titre. La France a une grande expérience des problèmes de conservation des récoltes, acquise aussi bien en métropole que dans les pays tropicaux avec lesquels elle coopère: elle est prête à coopérer avec la FAO, notamment pour la formation des personnels qualifiés dans ce domaine, où de nombreux services français sont susceptibles de former des spécialistes, soit en France soit dans les pays bénéficiaires des projets de la FAO. Elle suggère également de faire appel à l'expérience du groupe d'assistance au stockage des grains après récolte (GASGA) dont le secrétariat est assuré par le Royaume-Uni et par la France.

Le programme de lutte contre la trypanosomiase s'attaque à une autre cause du retard du développement de la production animale dans les pays en développement: la France dispose également dans ce secteur d'équipes de chercheurs et de vétérinaires spécialisés dans la lutte contre les maladies tropicales qu'elle est prête à mettre à la disposition de la FAO.

Les programmes lancés ne visent pas seulement à supprimer des freins au développement de la production alimentaire mais organisent directement aussi l'expansion des cultures.

Tel est le cas dans le secteur de la forêt où le congrès mondial de la FAO à Djakarta a retenu des orientations ambitieuses d'intensification de la production: il s'agit de produire chaque année 40 millions de mètres cubes de bois au lieu de 30 millions, pour contribuer au développement de l'emploi, dans les zones défavorisées. La France, qui cherche actuellement à mieux tirer parti de sa propre "filière-bois", attache une grande importance à cette orientation et a proposé d'organiser en 1980 une réunion à Grenoble sur ce thème.

De même, le programme global de développement et de gestion des pêches dans les zones économiques côtières a fait l'objet d'une réunion du Comité des pêches de la FAO. Il est évident que les ressources de la mer-et notamment l'aquaculture-constitueront dans les années à venir une part grandissante de l'alimentation humaine. La procédure la plus adaptée au développement de ces ressources et à la coopération entre les Etats côtiers et les Etats non côtiers, est la constitution d'organisations régionales spécialisées: mon gouvernement, qui coopère avec succès avec plusieurs Etats africains désireux de développer leurs pêcheries, est disposé à prêter son concours à de telles initiatives.

Je tiens à citer, parmi les programmes techniques de la FAO, ceux qu'elle met en oeuvre en Europe et plus particulièrement les 10 réseaux coopératifs européens de recherche agronomique: ceux-ci ont fait la preuve que la coopération entre instituts de recherche nationaux pouvait donner des résultats très fructueux à un coût moindre que la création d'instituts internationaux. La France donne son plein appui aux résolutions récemment votées à Stockholm par les centres de coordination des réseaux de recherche qui veulent accroître leurs activités.

Il serait particulièrement utile qu'un réseau coopératif de recherche soit créé pour étudier les économies d'énergie en agriculture et les nouvelles sources d'énergie d'origine agricole: le développement des potentialités de l'agriculture est un des seuls palliatifs possibles aux conséquences dommageables de la hausse des prix de l'énergie pour les économies de nombreux pays du monde. Dans ce domaine, la recherche a beaucoup progressé dans notre pays grâce notamment aux efforts déployés par l'Institut national de la recherche agronomique animé par M. Poly. Comme l'a justement fait observer le Directeur général dans le remarquable discours qu'il a prononcé au mois d'août dernier à Stockholm à l'occasion du "Symposium sur les relations mutuelles entre les ressources naturelles", d'énormes possibilités sont ouvertes par la "révolution biologique en cours, par exemple par l'utilisation de la variabilité génétique naturelle ou induite, par l'amélioration des souches de bactéries fixatrices d'azote, par la possibilité de trouver des souches qui s'adaptent aux céréales, en économisant ainsi les engrais azotés-c'est-à-dire l'énergie-, la possibilité, enfin, d'améliorer le rendement de l'assimilation chlorophyllienne qui ne représente pour le moment que un pour cent de l'énergie reçue".

J'ai été heureux de voir que cette idée a déjà été reprise dans de nombreux discours de mes collègues.

Je voudrais insister enfin sur le plan d'action du Directeur général pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. La France partage sa volonté d'accroître le stockage des céréales, d'augmenter le volume de l'aide alimentaire, d'améliorer les conditions d'acheminement de cette aide et de régulariser les flux d'aide alimentaire qui ont subi trop d'à-coups ces dernières années.

La Communauté économique européenne est très bien armée pour jouer un rôle à la mesure de la capacité de production, dans ce domaine: les mécanismes rigoureux de la Politique agricole commune permettent en effet de constituer aisément des stocks et de les mobiliser en cas de besoin. La CEE qui, chaque année, décide de financer un programme d'aide, serait prête à augmenter sa contribution annuelle au niveau de 1 650 000 tonnes de céréales. La France pour sa part est favorable à une augmentation du stock communautaire de céréales qui permet à la fois de faire face aux besoins urgents qui apparaissent dans le monde, de mieux maîtriser ses exportations dans le cadre d'une politique ordonnée du développement des échanges internationaux, et de régulariser les cours des céréales.

En outre, mon pays vient d'accorder une aide exceptionnelle de grande ampleur aux victimes des tragiques événements du Cambodge pour contribuer à la résolution d'une des situations les plus angoissantes que notre planète ait jamais connue. Nous comptons naturellement sur le Programme alimentaire mondial, dont nous apprécions vivement l'efficacité, pour nous aider dans l'acheminement et la distribution de cette aide.

II- MAIS LA SECURITE ALIMENTAIRE MONDIALE DEPEND POUR UNE PART ESSENTIELLE DES POLITIQUES NATIONALES D'AUTOSUFFISANCE ALIMENTAIRE

Mais les programmes d'action sectoriels de la FAO, si importants soient-ils, doivent être complétés par des politiques nationales de développement de la production agricole et alimentaire: cet enseignement de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural me paraît fondamental: un pays ne peut réussir à faire "décoller" son agriculture que s'il a mis l'auto-suffisance alimentaire au premier rang de ses objectifs et consacre à cette politique des moyens budgétaires et humains importants. La coopération internationale permet de mieux tirer parti de ces efforts nationaux mais elle ne les remplace pas, alors que nous constatons que la population des pays développés diminue tandis que celle des pays en développement ne cesse de s'accroître.

Aussi voudrais-je souligner que la Politique agricole commune constitue un exemple réussi de politique de développement de l'agriculture et d'autosuffisance alimentaire. Je voudrais insister aujourd'hui sur le fait que cette politique ne bénéficie pas seulement aux Etats qui l'ont créée, mais qu'elle apporte une contribution positive à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

La Communauté économique européenne n'est pas en effet protectionniste: avec plus de 40 milliards de dollars par an d'importations de produits agricoles, dont la moitié environ provient des pays en développement, c'est au contraire le premier acheteur de produits agricoles du monde et le débouché extérieur le plus important dont disposent les pays en développement.

L'accroissement de sa production céréalière et laitière conduit à augmenter sa capacité de stockage, d'exportation et d'aide alimentaire dans les secteurs où les besoins mondiaux sont et resteront les plus intenses, comme le montre le rapport sur l'agriculture à l'"horizon 2000".

Sans les devises rapportées par ses ventes de produits agricoles, la CEE serait incapable de s'approvisionner en pétrole, en matières premières et en produits agricoles tropicaux dont la consommation augmente très rapidement, auprès des pays dont le développement est fondé en grande partie sur l'expansion de ce type d'exportation.

Le maintien de la Politique agricole commune est donc un atout pour les autres nations du monde avec lesquelles l'Europe est reliée par des liens multiples de solidarité.

Pour fonder un nouvel ordre économique international, l'objectif à atteindre ne doit donc pas être de détruire les mécanismes du Marché commun agricole, ni aucun autre système de politique agricole dans le monde occidental, au profit d'une sorte de libéralisme économique intégral qui serait tout à fait contraire aux intérêts et aux principes de la plupart des pays en développement.

Il est en revanche nécessaire de renforcer les liens de solidarité entre Etats et groupes d'Etats en passant des accords régionaux, comparables à la nouvelle convention de Lomé passée par la CEE avec les pays ACP, et en constituant de nouveaux accords internationaux de produits agricoles.

Les difficultés de l'accord international sur le sucre montrent a contrario le bien-fondé de la conception française et communautaire des accords internationaux de produits, qui doivent viser par une politique concertée de stockage à maintenir les prix mondiaux des denrées dans des fourchettes de prix raisonnables, compatibles avec les intérêts fondamentaux des consommateurs et des producteurs: la Communauté ne perd pas l'espoir de faire triompher cette conception ambitieuse mais réaliste des accords de produits, en particulier dans le domaine du sucre et des céréales. Nous sommes persuadés qu'aussi bien les pays en développement que les pays développés ne pourraient que bénéficier de telles mesures favorisant l'écoulement régulier de la production et la stabilité des prix.

Je voudrais réaffirmer en terminant mon propos, Monsieur le Président, l'importance que mon gouvernement attache aux orientations constructives tracées par le Directeur général de la FAO: pour relever le défi de la faim dans le monde. Les Nations Unies doivent conforter les politiques nationales de développement agricole et alimentaire par une série d'actions concrètes. Les programmes réalistes proposés par M. Saouma constituent une réponse bien adaptée à la situation alimentaire mondiale.

Enfin, nous devons féliciter le Directeur général de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture, pour son excellente administration, pour la manière dont il a su, avec l'aide de collaborateurs de grande valeur, galvaniser son Organisation, la rendant chaque jour plus opérationnelle ainsi qu'en témoignent les résultats concrets déjà obtenus dans beaucoup de domaines, et dont nous voyons un symbole dans le succès du Programme de coopération technique.

Nous rendons également hommage aux efforts qu'il a faits pour développer le sens de la solidarité humaine dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture, dans cette lutte contre la faim qui conditionne l'avenir même de l'humanité.

C'est aussi dans le sens de cette solidarité humaine que s'inscrit la proposition faite devant l'Assemblée des Nations Unies par le Président de la République française, M. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, de transférer une partie des énormes dépenses consacrées par tous les pays aux armements au profit du développement et de la lutte contre la pauvreté et la faim dans le monde.

J. GIBBONS (Ireland): Mr. Chairman, Ireland has the honour of exercising the Presidency of the European Communities during the current half of this year. I shall, therefore, be addressing the Conference in two different capacities—first on behalf of the Communities and then on behalf of my own country.

I should like to begin, Mr. Chairman, by warmly congratulating you on behalf both of the Community and of Ireland on your election to the office of Chairman of the Conference and to convey to you our sincere wishes for a successful session. I should also like to extend a warm welcome to the representatives of Dominica and Western Samoa who are joining us for the first time and I look forward to their active participation in FAO.

In speaking on behalf of the Community I will confine myself to some general aspects of the problems before us and of the Community's approach to them. More detailed comments on the Community's attitude to the various items on the agenda will be furnished in the statement to be made to the Conference by Mr. Gundelach, the Commissioner for Agriculture of the European Communities.

The Community is privileged to participate in this session of the FAO Conference which, under Part 1 of its agenda, will consider several important problems within the context of its examination of major trends and policies in food and agriculture. The importance of these problems does not need to be stressed here, as they touch on matters essential to the well-being of hundreds of millions of human beings in all countries of the world.

The Community regards the world food situation as continuing to give rise to serious anxiety, particularly as far as many developing countries are concerned. World food production remains in a state of some disequilibrium and is in any case insufficient in developing countries. The Community, therefore, welcomes the Resolutions and Recommendations as adopted at the recent meeting of the World Food Council in Ottawa and hopes that the decisions taken there can be put into effect rapidly.

As you know, the Community has its own important programme of food aid, not only in cereals but also in milk products and butter oil. The quantity of aid covered by these programmes has increased constantly over the years and the Community would expect to see its contributions in this respect continuing to develop in line with the demands of needy people and countries, both within the context of its food aid policies and from a more general point of view, the Community aims to contribute to tackling the problem of the world food situation by actively supporting the development of food and agriculture production within the developing countries themselves.

For example, under the second Lomé Convention to take effect in March 1980, the provisions for agriculture have been greatly expanded in special recognition of the vital importance of this sector for ACP States. A sizeable proportion of the Community's aid is in fact devoted to the agricultural sector and to the furtherance of projects aimed at advancing integrated rural development. The Community's aid, however, goes further than the special framework of the Lomé Convention. Since 1976, it has been extended to countries which are not associated with the Community in any formal way, and a large proportion of this aid has been devoted to the development of food production. The Community also operates aid schemes through the intermediary of certain non-governmental Organizations as well as in the context of a multilateral approach with the participation of other international Organizations. Community aid in the field of food and agriculture to developing countries totalled just under 600 million dollars in 1978—a fourfold increase within the space of only four years.

In the field of trade including commodities, the Community played a consistently active and positive role in the Meeting of UNCTAD V in Manila and in the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations, held under the auspices of GATT, which has recently been concluded. The commitment of the Community to an open system of international trade has been reaffirmed during these negotiations. The outcome of the multilateral trade negotiations represents, in the view of the Community, a decisive step forward towards the greater liberalisation of international trade, including trade in food and agriculture products. As a consequence of the multilateral trade negotiations the Community hopes that developing countries will be able to participate more fully in the GATT System. I can give you an assurance on the Community's behalf that in the period following the recent multilateral trade negotiation the Community will maintain its active participation in the dialogue with the developing countries on all aspects of trading.

Apart from its action in the specific fields of food and agriculture and of world trade, the Community is also actively taking part in a positive spirit in the preparations which are being made in New York for the special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and for the new international Development Strategy. In the North/South Negotiations of recent years, the Community has committed itself to the goal of establishing a more just and equitable international economic order within the context of an increasingly interdependent world economy. The Community is ready to consider constructively any proposals which may be made with a view to promoting a more fruitful dialogue, and in this respect is examining the proposal made by the Group of 77 concerning global negotiations relating to international economic Co-operation for development.

Mr. Chairman, the wide-spread conditions of hunger and deprivation which still prevail among the populations of the developing countries are of serious concern and must continue to receive urgent and priority attention from the entire international community. In this particular facet of the North/South Dialogue, the FAO has a special role to play. I would like to assure you of the Community's firm commitment to fight the dramatic problem posed by world hunger by, on the one hand, taking the necessary measures to accelerate the implementation of the Community's various food aid programmes and, on the other hand, encouraging food production in developing countries. The Community will play a positive and active role in all the discussions on which your Conference is embarked during these three weeks in Rome.

I will turn now to the position of my own country. Firstly, I need hardly say that the Irish Government endorses the attitude of the Community at large in its general approach to development and the solution of the problem of world hunger.

Because of the nature of its own specific problems and interests Ireland can view the problems of the developing countries, with a particular sympathy and understanding. Over one fifth of our work force is engaged in farming or related activities and our exports of farm products are a major factor in providing the resources to develop the other sectors of our economy. We have had long experience of the kind of problems which beset the developing countries in their efforts to increase their agricultural production and to find remunerative markets. Our struggle to emerge from what could be described as developing statue took place in a slightly earlier date in the time-scale.

One of the many other differences between then and now is to-day's much more advanced level of technology. Technology in agricultural production, as in many other fields, has developed at a formidable rate. This advance offers tremendous potential for developing countries to-day but at the same time presents serious dangers which hardly existed for us. Whether these dangers materialise in any given case depends on the present stage of development of the country, the selectivity with which improved technology is applied, and the particular producers to whose benefit it is directed. Extravagant and unplanned application of large-scale advanced technology in a country at a rudimentary stage of development and with a large but underemployed labour force can, even while boosting food production, often destroy the livelihood and thus the purchasing power, of the small producers and landless labourers. On the other hand, the prudent application of improved technology, which can be fully utilised by the small farmer, can be very beneficial. One of the most important tasks of the governments of such developing countries is to weigh carefully the precise measures which will be most helpful in the particular countries in their own circumstances.

In this connection I would like to refer briefly to Part 1 of the Agenda of this Conference which includes an item on the fertiliser situation. This refers to the Director General's appeal to donor governments to continue their co-operation and support for, and to provide further resources to, the International Fertiliser Supply Scheme. I am happy to say that, in response to that appeal, Ireland has decided to become a contributor to the Scheme and we will make our first contribution early next year. This aid is of course, additional to the existing forms of aid which we are providing both bilaterally and multi laterally in a steadily increasing volume.

At the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development I said that "unless a country can first develop a viable and equitable agrarian structure it will fail to achieve a balanced increase in agricultural and food production", and indeed a similar view was expressed by many others.

It is true that, in some countries where conditions are right-for instance those with a small rural population and a large impoverished urban population-the application of large-scale advanced technology may be required to overcome the food deficit. However, the whole purpose of successful food production is defeated if the food does not reach the most needy sections of the population. To ensure that it does is the responsibility of governments, which must provide the necessary communications network and resources to enable the inhabitants of remote areas to share in such prosperity as may exist in the country as a whole. Aid-giving countries and institutions are often faced with the dilemma of the "pockets of poverty" existing in otherwise relatively well-off countries. The burden of responsibility for eliminating these pockets of poverty rests in the first place on the government of the country. It is only where a government is conscientiously tackling this problem to the best of its ability that external aid should be sought.

Of course, in addition to the combination of energetic production efforts by developing countries and aid, in the form of appropriate inputs from developed countries and international organizations, there is another very important question, which I am glad to say also figures on the agenda for this

Conference. This is the question of technical and economic co-operation between developing countries themselves, a question which was recently the subject of an important consultation in Rome. Progress has not been as rapid as one would have hoped due partly to lack of exportable supplies and difficulty in obtaining hard currencies. However, I was glad to see that it was agreed to set up a co-ordinating committee to deal with all aspects of economic co-operation between developing countries in food and agriculture. Governments were also urged to devote specific attention to this matter. I believe that these efforts could prove very fruitful.

The World Food Council placed particular stress on the use of national food sector strategies in the context of national development programmes, to raise food issues to the highest policy levels and to ensure a more co-ordinated approach to all aspects of food production, distribution and national food security. While the establishment of such a strategy should not be a condition for external aid we generally support the recommendation. We also favour the recommendation of the World Food Council that developing countries might consider the establishment of high level food management authorities to monitor policies and prepare a food strategy.

Having spoken about production and co-operation for development I feel I should touch on the subject of food aid in the context of the World Food Programme which is also an item for discussion at the Conference. Undoubtedly the best way to help countries whose people are short of food is to help them to grow more. But where they need food now there is a good case for giving them aid in the form of food, especially if care is taken to ensure that it reaches the neediest sections of the population.

Food supplied by the World Food Programme in Food-for-Work and special feeding projects demonstrably reaches the people who need it and causes little or no disruption to agricultural production or commercial transactions. We support the pleas made at the World Food Council and other international fora that a higher proportion of food aid should go through multilateral channels, especially the World Food Programme which we consider to be an effective and impartial organization.

As regards the paper on the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones, the Programme of Assistance was discussed in detail at the recent meeting of the Committee on Fisheries. As the representative of a small island nation which is still only developing in fishery terms and which adopted a 200 mile fishing limit in 1977 within the ambit of the European Economic Community, I can only support the increased positive and developmental role envisaged for FAO and its institutions in the proposed programme.

Mr. Chairman, the Agenda of this Conference ranges from matters of the most fundamental importance to humanity to smaller but none the less essential elements in our quest for the betterment of the people of our world. I have no doubt that the discussions will be interesting and fruitful. I trust that they will be animated by a spirit of true co-operation and thereby lead to lasting benefits for the millions of people who look to us for help.

G. MARCORA (Italie): Au nom du Gouvernement italien et en mon nom personnel j'ai le plaisir de donner la bienvenue la plus chaleureuse aux délégations des pays membres de la FAO, aux représentants des autres Organisations internationales et à tous les participants dont la présence aux travaux de cette Conférence souligne l'importance que revêt, pour l'économie de nos pays, la recherche d'un plus grand équilibre mondial.

J'exprime des félicitations à M. le Directeur général de la FAO pour les résultats du travail complexe et délicat accompli par l'Organisation ces dernières années sur les problèmes internationaux et notamment sur les problèmes du développement du secteur agricole et alimentaire, problèmes qui ont été récemment mis en évidence lors de la conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Je désire en outre me féliciter avec lui pour son rapport sur l'état de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture en 1979. A cet égard, je voudrais m'attarder sur quelques aspects que je considère comme fondamentaux pour les orientations et les mesures que la FAO devra prendre dans un proche avenir.

D'après les prévisions de la FAO, la production mondiale de céréales en 1979 subira une diminution d'environ 6% par rapport à celle de 1978; de plus, les coûts de production et de transport des denrées agro-alimentaires vont sans cesse croissant. L'augmentation du coût des facteurs de la production (semences, engrais, main-d'oeuvre, etc.) se répercute sur les prix à la consommation; cette

augmentation, à mon sens, ne tient que partiellement au processus inflationniste en cours. D'autres facteurs, tant de nature spéculative que liés aux systèmes de distribution, concourent à l'accroissement du prix du produit fini.

Dans ce sens, une amélioration sensible de la situation des approvisionnements peut découler d'une politique prudente des réserves à mettre en oeuvre notamment dans des périodes d'abondance de certains produits, tels que les céréales et les légumineuses, qui pourraient contribuer à alléger les carences nutritives qui existent encore dans plusieurs régions du monde. Mais il ne suffit pas d'augmenter l'importance des stocks, il faut que ces derniers soient rapidement disponibles et donc situés non seulement dans les zones de production, mais aussi dans les territoires proches des zones où on souhaite les utiliser pour qu'ils soient plus facilement accessibles en cas d'urgence. La gestion de ces denrées, qui demeureraient propriété des pays producteurs, devrait être confiée à des organisations internationales sans but lucratif, en évitant le recours à des structures commerciales privées qui pourraient déclencher des phénomènes spéculatifs; en outre, la présence des stocks à proximité des zones déficitaires permettrait leur consommation directe sans retard, sans les coûts supplémentaires des transports et sans l'intermédiaire des grandes compagnies multinationales. Aussi, est-il indispensable que l'on aboutisse, aussi tôt que possible, à un système de coordination internationale; dans ce sens, l'Italie donne son appui au Plan d'Action sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Il s'agit là d'une thèse que nous avons soutenu au niveau de la CEE également, en proposant au Conseil des Ministres de l'Agriculture que la Communauté gère directement les aides qu'elle fournit aux pays en voie de développement; nous avons toujours lutté en faveur de l'augmentation des productions, ceci étant le seul moyen pour contribuer à la solution du problème de la famine dans le monde.

Un autre problème étroitement lié au précédent, est celui de la prévention des pertes alimentaires: dans le rapport du Directeur Général, on affirme que les pertes avant la récolte dues aux parasites animaux et végétaux varient entre 20 et 40% de la production totale, alors que les pertes après la récolte, pour ce qui est des céréales, sont imputables pour 5-10% à des causes mécaniques et pour 10% à des causes biologiques. Ces chiffres nous font réfléchir en particulier sur le fait que le problème des pertes alimentaires est loin d'être résolu et qu'il faut donc intensifier tant la lutte contre les parasites des plantes que le développement des technologies pour la préservation des denrées alimentaires. Voilà un problème que mon pays étudie depuis longtemps et nous sommes prêts à offrir notre expérience en la matière à tous ceux qui nous la demanderont.

Un dernier problème, tout aussi important, est celui de l'assistance technique aux pays en voie de développement. C'est là un secteur où les pays développés peuvent jouer un rôle fondamental, soit en favorisant les accords bilatéraux ou multilatéraux de coopération scientifique et technique, qu'en fournissant les moyens et la technologie nécessaires à l'amélioration des régions les moins nanties, en contribuant ainsi à l'aménagement agricole international que beaucoup souhaitent au bénéfice d'une collaboration plus profonde et harmonieuse entre toutes les populations de la terre.

L. B. OSMAN (Tunisie) (interprétation de l'arabe): Permettez-moi, Monsieur le Président, de joindre ma voix à celles des chefs de délégation qui ont pris la parole avant moi pour vous féliciter à l'occasion de votre élection en tant que Président de cette session de la Conférence. Nous vous souhaitons tout le succès possible dans vos travaux. Grâce à votre expérience et à votre sagesse, vous ouvrirez la voie à un échange constructif.

Je suis heureux également d'accueillir les nouveaux pays membres qui se sont joints à nous et avec lesquels existent des liens étroits. Sans aucun doute, leur adhésion à notre Organisation constitue un renforcement de l'Organisation de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation des Nations Unies. La mise en commun de tous ces efforts permettra à la Communauté internationale d'atteindre les objectifs qui sont fixés par les conférences internationales, et plus particulièrement la Conférence pour l'alimentation mondiale qui oeuvre pour éliminer la faim dans le monde, ce fantôme de la faim dont souffrent presque 500 millions de personnes.

Nos études ont montré que l'objectif qui a été fixé pour augmenter la production agricole dans les pays en développement n'a pas encore été atteint. L'augmentation annuelle qui a été enregistrée dans ces pays au cours des années 1970 n'a pas dépassé ce qui a été enregistré au cours des années 60.

Ce qui accroît la complexité de ce problème, c'est que la population de ces pays augmente, ce qui conduit à la dégradation de la situation alimentaire. Ces pays ont par conséquent recours à des importations de plus en plus massives pour résoudre leurs besoins alimentaires.

L'augmentation annuelle de ces produits atteint un taux de 6,9 pour cent alors qu'il n'était en 1971 que de 2,7 pour cent.

Cette situation nous inquiète en dépit du fait que la plupart des peuples du monde, chacun individuellement ou tous groupés dans des réunions régionales ou internationales s'efforcent d'étudier les solutions les meilleures en vue d'améliorer le niveau de vie et la meilleure façon de fournir les produits alimentaires aux peuples du monde.

A notre avis, le développement agricole dans les pays en développement requiert un effort constant, un effort national. Cet effort devrait donner la priorité au secteur agricole et lui fournir tout ce dont il a besoin en possibilités humaines et matérielles.

La Tunisie, à l'aube de son indépendance, a adopté cette politique et continue à l'appliquer lorsqu'elle établit ses plans et ses projets. Nous avons déployé tous nos efforts en vue de conserver la terre car c'est là notre patrimoine national et c'est un élément essentiel pour tout travail producteur. Et ce travail producteur aboutit à accroître la productivité.

Nous estimons également qu'il est nécessaire, compte tenu des données naturelles de notre pays et de la pluviométrie qui se caractérise par l'irrégularité, de mobiliser toutes nos réserves en eau qu'elle soit en surface ou en profondeur en vue d'alléger les répercussions de ces éléments naturels sur la production agricole.

Il faudrait remarquer également, vu le peu de possibilités en eau, que cette politique vise également à adopter des moyens techniques qui puissent augmenter la valeur de la production pour chaque mètre cube exploité.

D'un autre côté, nous avons essayé d'informer l'agriculteur et nous considérons que la formation est un des éléments essentiels au développement car elle influe non seulement sur la production, mais, également sur le comportement de l'agriculteur, sur sa façon de s'organiser et de comprendre les nouvelles méthodes, les nouvelles technologies pour la production et l'exploitation agricole.

Nous avons également adopté une politique de décentralisation pour fournir aux agriculteurs les éléments essentiels comme les engrais, les semences, les pesticides, et nous avons adopté cette même politique dans le domaine de l'accroissement de la production en vue de permettre à tous les agriculteurs de profiter des crédits, tout en sachant que les petits villages occupent une proportion très grande dans la répartition des terres.

Le Gouvernement tunisien a décidé d'abaisser au maximum au point de vue technique la superficie des villages, ce qui permet aux propriétaires d'obtenir des crédits selon des procédures administratives simplifiées, à savoir: des prêts saisonniers ne sont accordés qu'à certaines catégories d'agriculteurs par le truchement de la caisse de garantie commune des agriculteurs.

Ces efforts ne sont pas suffisants s'ils ne sont accompagnés par un financement extérieur bilatéral ou multilatéral et cela pour augmenter les ressources des pays en développement. Nous remarquons cependant que certaines sociétés de financement s'obstinent à adopter certaines normes de productivité financière bien que ces projets agricoles nécessitent une réalisation essentielle qui ne donne pas des revenus immédiats.

Cela s'applique surtout aux projets de développement rural qui sont le point essentiel et constituent la base de la Conférence mondiale sur le développement rural et la réforme agraire qui s'est tenue du 12 au 20 juillet de cette année, ici même.

L'expérience nous a montré à cet égard que de tels programmes essaient d'éliminer les différences entre les différents pays et également entre le revenu des personnes, et donc le niveau maximum des conditions de vie pour le travail agricole. Ils ouvrent de nouvelles possibilités de travail et amènent les citoyens, surtout les jeunes, à se fixer dans les régions rurales.

Nous pensons actuellement essayer d'établir des programmes de développement rural qui soient coordonnés, intégrés et qui tendent tous à réaliser un développement qui se fonde sur une exploitation contrôlée des facteurs régionaux, sur la base des études globales qui donnent à chaque région sa pleine part de développement afin qu'elle puisse participer totalement au développement économique et social du pays.

A cet égard, il faudrait étudier de tels projets d'une façon souple et avec compréhension car, à côté du rendement agricole pur, il faudrait étudier ces répercussions sur la façon de forger la mentalité du citoyen, améliorer ses conditions de vie pour que ce soit là un outil de développement et nous pensons tous que le développement ne constitue pas le seul élément à retenir.

Je pense qu'il est nécessaire à cet égard de remercier tous les pays développés et les organisations internationales qui ont collaboré au financement de ces projets et surtout le FIDA car il a déployé des efforts immenses dans le financement des projets agricoles.

Je voudrais lancer un appel à tous ces pays, à toutes ces organisations pour qu'ils investissent davantage pour que les pays en développement puissent réaliser les objectifs visés. Car la diminution du financement donne lieu au report de l'exécution de projets importants qui pourraient aboutir à la réalisation de ces objectifs que veulent atteindre tous les pays.

Je voudrais également me féliciter des efforts déployés par la FAO sous la direction de Monsieur Edouard Saouma dans le domaine de l'appui technique aux projets agricoles et du lien qui existe entre les pays en développement et les sources de financement.

Je voudrais également évoquer les travaux qui sont exécutés par notre organisation.

le programme de travail et budget qui a été établi pour les deux années passées a montré son efficacité, et je voudrais aussi parler du programme de coopération technique et du programme de coopération entre les pays du Moyen-Orient et les programmes pour éviter les pertes de produits alimentaires; de tels programmes ont permis des réalisations importantes qui aboutissent à l'augmentation de la production.

Ces nouveaux programmes ont développé les méthodes de travail de notre Organisation, d'où une augmentation du budget. Je demande surtout aux pays développés d'appuyer ce budget et de ne pas diminuer leur participation car cela aboutirait à paralyser les efforts que déploient l'organisation et donc à abaisser son aide au secteur rural des pays en développement.

Comment pouvons-nous accepter cela quand nous travaillons tous à obtenir la sécurité alimentaire pour nos peuples? Cela ne peut se réaliser que par les efforts déployés en commun. Voilà pourquoi la République tunisienne a adopté une politique qui est conforme à la façon de travailler qui a été retenue par le Conseil de l'Organisation au cours de sa soixante-quatrième session.

Nous travaillons pour augmenter nos stocks en céréales et atteindre 850 000 tonnes alors que nos possibilités actuelles sont de 500 000 tonnes. Nous avons également un stock de céréales qui serait suffisant pour une consommation de 6 mois.

Nous appuyons ce qui ressort du rapport du Directeur général, à savoir, application du programme de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Nous voulons aboutir à un accord international nouveau sur les céréales; et cela en vue d'éviter la faim et la famine dans le monde. En appuyant la sécurité alimentaire mondiale nous essayons également d'aboutir à un réajustement des politiques agricoles mondiales qui a été instauré par la Conférence mondiale de l'Organisation au cours de sa dix-huitième session en 1975, et que nous évaluons au cours de cette session avant de l'étudier au sein de l'Assemblée extraordinaire des Nations Unies qui se tiendra au cours de l'année prochaine.

Je voudrais parler des efforts qui ont été déployés par l'Organisation en vue de nous fournir les documents qui nous étaient nécessaires, et je voudrais surtout parler du document: "Agriculture: horizon 2000".

D'après ces documents, vous voyez que les pays en développement n'ont pu encore réaliser qu'un progrès très minime si nous le comparons aux réalisations des pays développés. Voilà pourquoi il est du devoir de la communauté internationale d'augmenter son aide aux pays en développement, et à ces derniers de poursuivre des efforts nationaux pour pouvoir exploiter toutes les possibilités matérielles et humaines dans le domaine du développement, et surtout de s'occuper du développement de la richesse halieutique qui nous préoccupe tous et qui préoccupe également la FAO, en lui accordant une priorité.

Nous sommes prêts à déployer nos efforts dans ce domaine et l'Organisation est également disposée à augmenter ses efforts. D'après ce que nous avons vu dans les documents qui nous ont été présentés, les pays en développement doivent également renforcer leur coopération et échanger leurs connaissances et leurs expériences, échanges qui ont lieu par des campagnes d'information; les réunions de formation nous permettent de profiter des progrès technologiques réalisés dans chaque pays.

En conclusion, je souhaite que nos travaux soient couronnés de succès et surtout que tous les peuples participent aux réalisations de notre Organisation, et cela pour promouvoir l'homme, améliorer ses conditions de vie. Il est de notre devoir de répondre à ses besoins essentiels et à ses droits, à savoir: l'alimentation.

H. J. KRISTENSEN (Denmark): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Deputy Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, my Minister sincerely regrets that he could not come to Rome this week because of urgent political problems. He has asked me to give his statement.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the Director-General for his very challenging statement and for valuable work in preparing this Conference.

The present development in agricultural production and in food supplies gives rise to two main observations

The objective of an annual growth rate of 4 per cent in food production during the development decade 1970-80 has not been met. The actual result will probably be an average growth rate of closer to 3 per cent. However, considering the increased demand stemming from population growth and growth in average income, it is only fair to say that there has been an improvement, however modest, in the global supply situation.

During the two years since the last Conference the production increase has been stronger than earlier on. This has come about in spite of the fact that 1979 will be marked by decreasing production of cereals, in particular wheat. The substantial part of this decrease has, however, occurred in a region which has a sufficient economic basis for covering its own needs by imports from traditional cereal exporting countries of the industrialized world. As these countries through the four previous years have been able to build up substantial stocks, they have a larger exporting capacity during 1979. Irrespective of an increasing consumption and running down of stocks, the global stocks will cover 18 to 19 per cent of global consumption, which gives a reasonable degree of security.

Secondly, it must be emphasized that the overall development in production and consumption reflects many and very different trends in individual regions and countries.

Many developing countries have during recent years obtained good results in agricultural and food production, but as a general rule this has mainly been achieved by countries that have experienced a marked economic growth and have made strong efforts also in developing their agricultural sector.

But there is still hunger and malnutrition in many parts of the world. In certain places the nutritional situation has actually aggravated.

The most important task of FAO will therefore be to aid these developing countries in their efforts to develop agricultural production and fight hunger and malnutrition. In the short run relief of the critical nutritional situation in many of these countries can only be obtained by imports from abroad or by food aid.

World trade in cereals this year and next year will see substantial supplies to a region which economically can pay its way for the increasing imports.

These imports have triggered off an increase in the general price level, which eventually implies increased financial difficulties for the poorest cereals importing countries. The cereals exporting countries have had a similar advantage of rising prices and falling stocks. In my view, therefore, these countries have special possibilities and obligations of assisting in this supply and payment problem.

Talks on a new international wheat and cereals agreement, which aims at stabilizing production and trade, have not been successful, and this is very regrettable. Furthermore, the target of the Food Aid Convention, which aims at bringing about substantially increased quantities of food aid, have not yet been met. I do hope that negotiations will soon be resumed. I want to take this opportunity to emphasize the need for finding a solution that will imply an improvement of the Food Aid Convention. And I do hope that a new Convention will enter into force very quickly.

Another activity that Denmark has attached particular importance to is the World Food Programme. The Conference must take a decision on the pledge for the period 1980-81.

I can support the proposal of increasing the target to 1 billion US dollars. There is a clear need for a larger multilateral effort. Denmark is one of the largest contributors to the WFP both in relative and in absolute terms, and the Danish Government is prepared to increase our contribution to the WFP even further. I urge other donor countries to follow. The WFP is in my view a scheme that cannot be criticized. It has over the years shown substantial results, in our opinion. Acute emergency situations will continue to arise, among other things as a result of climatic changes and political unrest and tensions. They must be relieved internationally, and I am therefore happy to note that the International Emergency Food Reserve has now been established on a permanent basis. The quantitative

target of this Reserve has unfortunately not yet been implemented, but I am pleased to inform you today that the Danish Government has taken steps to contribute to this Reserve on a permanent basis.

Looking further ahead it will continue to be a main task of FAO to strengthen the effort to increase production and consumption of food.

The course of the present development decade and the perspectives laid down in the report "Agriculture towards 2000" shows that the effort must be concentrated much more towards those countries and regions that have been marked permanently by stagnation or direct aggravation in production and consumption.

In ear view the problem boils down to creating a better world food security-not only in theory in the statistical balance sheets-but concretely as a food security for all human beings wherever they live.

Food security must thus be ensured for populations of the most remote and isolated cities and rural districts, and for the poorest and most neglected groups of people.

It is an important task of the Organization to raise levels of nutrition for these population groups and thus make them less vulnerable. It is also a difficult one. We believe that increased emphasis has to be placed on nutritional aspects of development activities. Past experience has shown that increased agricultural production does not by itself solve problems of malnutrition. Special efforts need to be made to insure that increased production benefits the poor and malnourished. It is therefore important that FAO continues and expands its efforts to evaluate the nutritional consequences of its development activities and to incorporate nutritional goals into agricultural projects.

The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development made a considerable contribution to increasing the understanding, at the political level, of the need for reforms aimed at improving the situation of the neglected people in the rural districts.

An efficient follow-up of the action programme of the Conference will be one of FAO's most important tasks in the future. Denmark is ready to join FAO in this effort.

I should particularly like to emphasize the necessity of encouraging the rural population's and especially women's active participation in the development process. This applies especially to the organization of training of populations in rural districts. In the light of the historical development of Danish agriculture and Danish society as a whole, an intensive and locally governed training and instruction has proved to be a fundamental necessity, as pointed out in the action programme agreed upon.

The description of present activities in the programme of work, and the evaluation of these together with the trends laid down in 'Medium Term Objectives' and the long-term perspective in 'AT 2000' provide a very useful basis for an overall political evaluation. In my view we will be well advised to carry on with this procedure for future Conferences.

From a Danish point of view it continues to be of crucial importance that the organization has its 'objectives in the medium term' made clear, to guide activities of the Organization in the right direction. Commission II will have the opportunity to discuss in further detail ways and means for achieving this.

The budget proposal implies that the organization will only to a limited extent be able to increase present levels of activity. In a situation where many countries are forced to freeze or even reduce public spending, we have a remarkable situation as far as FAO is concerned. I would like to single out one particular element. With the already accomplished and future establishment of FAO's country representatives an activity has been created which in future will commit considerable and increasing resources.

Realistically I should think that either there is need for a pause or that further expansions in this activity must be compensated for by reducing other activities. Otherwise I find the budget proposal acceptable.

Activities aimed at increasing production through input of more and better means of production, as for instance fertilizers and improved seeds, better training, increased basic investments etc. must be strengthened. And we will be ready to participate in a positive spirit in this.

In acute crises-as a result of for instance serious droughts or livestock diseases-it should be pointed out that with the Technical Cooperation Programme FAO holds an instrument which can be deployed quickly and efficiently. It must, however, be pointed out that the programme activities should only start in case of emergencies and should not develop into a permanent aid programme.

Regarding FAO's "Field Programmes" it is regrettable that the part financed by UNDP seems to have been reduced in real terms, We do hope that this trend will change so that UNDP financed projects also in years to come will represent a considerable part of FAO's activities in developing countries. A close and well coordinated cooperation between FAO and UNDP at country level will secure the most efficient use of scarce resources in both organizations, and I will urgently encourage a fully coordinated and thus fruitful cooperation between these two bodies.

Finally, I would like to point out that I consider the activities of the Trust Fund Programme an important part of the Danish contribution to FAO. It gives us a possibility in areas where we have special interests and expertise, to make a contribution through the FAO, which we cannot do on our own. I would especially mention the Dairy Training Programme and the Fertilizer Programme. We have great expectations to the results of these programmes.

The more than twenty-year old Dairy Training Programme will on the basis of gained experiences be continued by, among other things, developing national training centres in countries interested in this. We want a united strength in order to obtain visible results in the development of the dairy sector in countries where such a possibility exists. That is the reason for my Government to increase our contribution in the period 1980-84 to a total of 12.5 million US dollars. We hope for even greater efficiency in the future, and we shall continue to follow these activities very closely.

At the same time it would appear to be necessary that national development plans give greater emphasis to activities which strengthen rural development and also the rural populations's active participation in the development process. This line has now met with approval, as well in national as in international development policies.

Denmark supports this view strongly. As you will know, Denmark's official development aid has reached the 0.7 per cent target. A large part of this aid is given to the agricultural sector and the development of the rural districts, since we attach very high priority to Less Developed Countries and the poorest populations of these countries.

Finally, I would like to wish the Directors-General and his staff all the best in their future work.

L. KONICA (POLAND) (interpretation from Polish): Mr. Chairman, May I, at first, congratulate you most sincerely on your appointment as Chairman of the twentieth Conference of our organization. I am convinced that under your chairmanship the debates of the session will run effectively, and the decisions made will be the next step in solving world food problems.

I would also like to say how glad we are that the new States Dominica and Samoa, have joined our organization. Our best wishes for fruitful cooperation with FAO and successful agricultural development to the new members.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Elimination of hunger and malnutrition is one of the major tasks faced by the world community. At the same time, it is one of the most difficult problems, which is confirmed by the whole post-war history of world agriculture and by the food situation of many developing countries. The number of people who cannot satisfy their food needs even according to the most conservative estimates of FAO keeps growing. Simultaneously, FAO data provide clear evidence that the rate of growth of food production per capita is the lowest in countries being in the most difficult food situation. Those countries are the poorest in the world. Thus, the gap is growing between the food level in developed countries as well as some of the developing ones, and that of the poorest countries.

Distinguished Delegates. In the postwar period several programmes for elimination of hunger and malnutrition in the world have been elaborated by the international community. The recent one is the programme established in 1974 by the World Food Conference. The formulated goals of elimination of the most acute signs of hunger and malnutrition by 1985 unfortunately will not be achieved.

Another programme was discussed some months ago at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Special emphasis was put on it on the necessity of complex agrarian reforms in many countries. These reforms condition structural changes as well as elimination of unjust economic and social structures, and are a starting point for comprehensive agricultural and rural development. They also are an important factor for agricultural production growth, which, amongst others, was stressed in the statement of President Kauna, and thus, improvement of food situation. Implementation of this programme, which may serve as an example of well understood cooperation of the countries concerned looking for compromise principles, acceptable by all conference participants, should bring us much closer to the world of social justice that would be free from hunger.

Unfortunately, even the most properly elaborated and implemented programmes of agricultural development not always achieve their goals in full. That is so, because agriculture still is the field of economy, highly dependent on natural conditions. In recent years Poland also experienced effects of unfavourable natural conditions a few times. Decrease of the rate of growth of agricultural production affected the total economy of the country.

Mr. Chairman, I quoted my country to show how significant the adequate rate of agricultural development is even for a country of medium size, being on a medium level of economic development, and thus, having at its disposal a fairly big economic potential. Agriculture is of still greater importance for developing countries as, in general, it still constitutes the most important sector of economy; in many of those countries the slow-down of agricultural growth may lead to dramatic effects in the form of drastic reduction of the nutrition level.

Under the present circumstances this is one of the reasons why a system is needed which would ensure food security to the world. However, the setting up of such a system is most difficult, which is confirmed by attempts made so far, which ended, at the best, in partial success. Therefore, we appreciate the initiative of the FAO Director General who submitted a relevant programme of operation. It contains many valuable thoughts and recommendations. The rightness of some of them, such as the necessity of elaboration by developing countries of food security programmes and their implementation or close regional cooperation in this field, is obvious. The postulates concerning food aid do not arouse doubts either. On the other hand doubts arise as regards the question of national consumption reserves, the volume of which, accumulation and sale, are to be implemented according to international agreements, although stocks of buffer type may contribute to the market stabilization, and thus indirectly contribute to the world food security.

While speaking of food security I would like to emphasize that Poland deals in agricultural articles, which are vital from the angle of world nutrition and food security, in a way contributing to stabilization of the international market. The volume of our import needs are known. We aim at basing the cereal trade on long-term agreements, which is confirmed by contracts concluded with Canada and the United States. Moreover, we are trying to increase our purchases at the periods of relatively low prices, which helps stabilize the market.

All the agrarian policy of Poland, one of the basic purposes of which is to maintain a high rate of growth of agricultural production, is a contribution to consolidation of world food security. A permanent feature of planned economy in the socialist system is the aiming at ensuring of a higher living standard to our own population, and at contributing to strengthening of world food security.

Distinguished Delegates, Poland has expressed its overall support for the programme of exclusive economic zones, elaborated by FAO, during the XIII session of the Committee on Fisheries. We have also declared then our readiness for effective assistance within this programme. It could have the form of training the staff for the fishery needs of developing countries. We also can render accessible our scientific-research vessels on terms fixed through FAO mediation. In further implementation of the programme we offer our cooperation and help in fields such as construction of fishing vessels, production of fisheries and cooling equipment and carrying out of scientific experiments. We believe however, that the FAO programme should cover not only problems connected with difficulties encountered by developing countries in their management of live resources in the new system of fisheries economic zones, but also problems linked with rational utilization of the available fishing, research and processing potential in countries of limited access to live sea resources. Poland is one of the latter countries, as it is known. The role of FAO in this field should consist of skilful coordination of operations and rational utilization of live resources owned by countries with wide access to seas with technical, research and staff potential of all countries. The goal of this programme should become the ensuring of fish consumption on an adequate level in all the countries where it is lower than the average world consumption assumed for the year 2000.

Mr. Chairman, we agree with the general work outlines of the organization presented in the work programme for the next 2 years by the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma. We consider it purposeful to pay ever more attention to assistance to the developing countries which are in a difficult food situation. This is, undoubtedly, the correct trend of change. Therefore, although we think that work programmes should be financed out of voluntary funds and not from the regular budget, we approve of the general justness of the work programmes.

However, in developing this field of activity, FAO should not lose its character of a universal organization serving all member countries and promoting cooperation development among all countries. In our opinion, all countries regardless of their development stage can need help and advice, and should have the chance to obtain it from FAO.

On the other hand, the fast-increasing budget of the Organisation can give rise to concern. We realize that it is caused, primarily, by inflation and that FAO faces the alternative of limiting its activities or budget increase and chose the latter solution. Under these circumstances, the most economical and most rational management of means available should be advocated.

Mr. Chairman, The FAO programme of work as well as the plans of single countries for agricultural development and food situation improvement can be implemented only in the conditions of world peace and closer international cooperation progression disarmament, reduction of spending for armaments and increasing outlays for raising the living standard of the people. My country systematically undertakes initiatives aimed at this development trend of the world. I have in mind both the Declaration on peaceful education of societies, recently approved by the United Nations and the appeal of the Polish nation addressed to nations and parlements of the world on the 40th anniversary of World War II outbreak.

J. ERTL (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, to begin with it is ray pleasant task to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my Government and myself, for having been elected Chairman of this 20th Session of the FAO Conference, and I am sure that your strong personality and your sense of humour and your adroitness will lead this Conference to success, in the same way as in your country you have been doing such excellent work in order to develop Spanish agriculture.

We are sure that in the next Conference we will be able to see a new member in the European Economic Community-that is to say, Spain. Much success in your future work.

The same is true for the Director-General and his staff-I extend to them my best wishes, and pay tribute to the manner in which they have prepared this Conference and produced papers, and this is something that will go beyond this Conference. They will give us food for thought, not only here and now, but later on when we have returned to our countries. All these documents will lead us to think about our world in 2000, and the situation that we will have with this population growth.

My special welcome also goes to the new member countries of this Organization, the Republic of Dominica and Western Samoa. I trust they will feel at home in this Organization, and will collaborate in a most constructive manner.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our main task is, and remains, to fight hunger throughout the world. We must unite our efforts to implement the fundamental right of man to food, and if at this time we draw a balance sheet of the world food situation, then we must place on the asset side the fact that the food production of developing countries as a whole has risen over this decade by an average of three per cent per annum. And this result is above all due to the unceasing effort and hard work of millions of farmers and rural workers, men and women, throughout the world. Helped by better education and advice, they have applied the knowledge acquired through agricultural research and this has benefited everyone.

Since the World Food Conference in 1974, we agree that the necessary additional food must be produced mainly where requirements are not covered and where the need will even increase as a consequence of population growth alone; in other words, this means in most developing countries. And now we have already reached the debit side of our balance sheet. The aim of increased production in developing countries set for this decade has not quite been attained; the number of the hungry and the undernourished has not dropped. Why is this so? The general economic and financial conditions throughout the world have worsened. The cost of energy has risen and is still rising, and this has particularly most seriously and directly affected the poorer developing countries or, to be more precise, those who are poor in foreign exchange earnings.

At the same time and for this same reason it is becoming increasingly difficult for the so-called wealthier countries to help the poorer countries. This has also an effect on world-wide cooperation which is the only effective instrument to fight hunger. Such cooperation, if it is to be successful, needs corresponding economic preconditions, not only in order to increase agricultural productivity, but for development overall; that is to say the economic development and the development of infrastructure. Our target must therefore be to create greater purchasing power and thus more production incentives. One can fight hunger more effectively with more purchasing power than with exclusively public means.

Furthermore, there is another barrier to the required additional production of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials: the need to preserve the environment and to husband non-renewable resources. And then there is our duty and responsibility towards coming generations which prohibit any misuse of soil, forests and the sea.

Despite these difficulties and regardless of unsolved problems, I must nevertheless express my satisfaction on noting the following factors. The FAO has diverse tasks in agriculture including fisheries and

forestry, and has over the past years, increasingly reacted by means of action-oriented measures. The Programme of Work which is now ending and the one proposed for the next two years are proof of this.

I shall now say a few words about two of the programmes, as the Secretariat has requested.

With the aim of supporting developing countries through better utilization of fishery resources in their economic zones, the Committee on Fisheries has adopted a specific Fishery Development Programme tabled by the Director-General. The Government of my country considers this to be an important measure which will contribute towards improving the protein supply of the populations of many developing countries. We hail the fact that for this Programme considerable multilateral support has already been promised and that bilateral pledges have been made. The Federal Republic of Germany is prepared to cooperate with developing countries in the framework of joint ventures. Our bilateral technical cooperation in this sector encompasses 23 fishery projects.

As far as world food security is concerned, the work of the Food Security Assistance Programme of FAO deserves our praise. For several years now and to an increasing extent, this Programme is contributing towards allieviating the effect of variations in crop size and quality, and natural disasters in developing countries. The Government of the Federal Republic works mainly on a bilateral basis with developing countries in this important area. The Government appreciates in particular the role of this Programme which is now a worldwide information and coordination centre. Our bilateral cooperation extends in particular to the purchase and storage of basic foodstuffs in developing countries themselves for setting up emergency reserves. It also extends to the provision of food as a reward for work done within the framework of labour-intensive self-help projects in rural emergency and new settlement areas; this is what we call "food for work". I should like to mention that this might be done increasingly also with the purpose of building new infrastructures. These programmes therefore serve not only to prevent famines but also to increase agricultural production and employment in rural areas. During the years 1975 to 1978 about 106 million DM were available for this programme which were exclusively provided in the form of grants.

An important contribution towards food security is considered by my Government to be the conclusion of a new food aid convention on which there is already an agreement of principle. The Federal Government has always made considerable contributions to food aid, through the food aid convention, through the World Food Programme and as a contribution to the International Emergency Reserve of 500 000 tons of grains which was established on the recommendation of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Federal Republic is doing considerable work in setting up and broadening the Lomé agreement which is one of the most important agreements governing cooperation with developing countries. I think this is quite unique in the world. There are additional association measures and measures for abolishing customs duties. I believe the European Community has given an example of world-wide cooperation.

Apart from the activities of FAO in the areas of fisheries and food security, there are still other activities which have been of considerable importance recently; the successful work of the FAO Investment Centre which has worked out many projects for financing institutions over the past two years; the programme of action for the prevention of food losses which has become operational in the present biennium; the increased inclusion of questions relating to nutrition in the planning and implementation of projects; the very effective control of the desert locust, and the very important struggle for saving food in Africa from parasitic blood diseases such as trypanosomiasis. These are obviously leading Africa into a dangerous situation.

In very many developing countries, as I stated at the outset, a second major crucial problem has risen apart from the one of food; I refer to energy supply. Difficulties were already very great, but now they are worsening in developing countries that suffer from foreign currency problems. This is why we must concentrate our attention to what extent this development will necessarily lead to a drop in the increase of agricultural production together with the great danger that hunger will not decrease but, on the contrary, will increase.

I think that the prospects of "Agriculture towards 2000" will have to be reviewed. More and more demands are being made on agriculture, both in its capacity as consumer and supplier of energy, and this is equally true everywhere and not only in developing countries. The Federal Government has therefore adopted this year a special programme intended to promote collaboration with developing countries in the opening up of new and renewable sources of energy. 70 to 75 million DM have been earmarked for this purpose. New technological solutions may, of course, crop up everywhere in the utilization of solar energy, steady winds and extensive supply of biomasses. The opening up of such alternative sources of energy is becoming increasingly urgent in view of the diminishing supply of fuel wood.

Without dwelling on any details of our longstanding fruitful cooperation with developing countries, I would like to underline that the agricultural sector as a whole is the centre of gravity of the development policy of my country. Many countries profit from the fact that the Federal Republic of Germany is their good partner in trade. We are amongst the biggest importers of agrarian produce in the world. In 1978 we imported from developing countries 12 000 million DM worth of agrarian products. This is a considerable amount and I wish to add that the European Community as a whole is one of the major partners in trade in the agrarian sector.

Appart from the measures initiated and promoted by the State and by international organizations, the activities of private and ecclesiastical institutions are playing an increasing role in our fight against hunger. These activities have effectively alleviated hunger and poverty in many places. Spanning a bridge from one human being to another was a good incentive for people to resort to self-help.

The worldwide awareness that solving the food problem is our most important task has never been greater than today. It is a challenge to all to translate this awareness into ever greater action than heretofore.

You may rely now and in the future on the willingness of my country and its citizens to cooperate in these aims.

I would like to extend to you the best wishes for the work of the FAO and for the work of the Director-General and all of his collaborators.

I. MAHMUD (Bangladesh): Mr. Chairman. Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I at the outset congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the high office. In your opening statement you have clearly outlined the issues that we are going to confront in this Conference. The issues are straightforward. While addressing the Conference, His Holiness Pope John Paul II stressed that in spite of the development decades, underdevelopment prevails; absolute poverty has increased; and hunger haunts the unfortunate many of three-quarters of humanity.

Today we are emerging out of the alternate crises and bountiful harvests of the seventies. At the threshold of the decade of the eighties, poverty still remains the way of life of the majority of the population. At the 20th Session of the FAO Conference, we must make a beginning of a committed global undertaking to eradicate poverty, eliminate hunger and usher in a period of sustained development not for the few, but for the many. Let us aspire and achieve a decent living for all men, wherever they are in the planet.

World food and population problems, poverty and hunger, malnutrition and disease, the root cause of them all is stagnation of agriculture which is being persistently wrecked by havoc from disasters. I am not an Utopian. Let us strive for the minimum: a world which could banish absolute poverty in the last two decades of the 20th century. We are, therefore, meeting at a critical time; at the brink of a precipice. What we do or do not achieve for one billion poor of the world today is going to determine whether we succeed or fail.

Foremost before the Conference is the question of World Food Security. Over the agricultural cycle, after taking into account the trough and the peak, enough is or can be produced in the world today to give unto everyone, poor or rich, his necessary daily bread. What is important now is to firm up an action plan consisting of definite commitments by donor countries of 10 million tons of food aid, regardless of the international grain price situation. This is the level of assistance envisaged in the draft Food Aid Convention and its significance has heightened with the declining food production prospects of 1979. According to FAO estimates, additional food aid of 3 million tons of cereals would be required to offset the effect of higher prices on the import bill of the MSA/LDC Countries if grain export prices should remain at mid-July (1979) levels. There has been no indication of a lessening of the upward pressure on prices. The crisis has exacerbated in spite of the famine and disasters of 1973-74 that led to the World Food Conference here in Rome, whose decisions and commitments as well as anxieties of food unfortunate and willingness of food fortunate nations are still fresh in our minds.

Food security in the light of Bangladesh experience shows that our attempts at food sector development as well as national food security build-up are being vitiated by the vagaries of nature. Lack of rain in the critical planting and flowering period, as we have recently experienced, inevitably means disaster/ National food security and reserve build-up of at least 1.5 million tons of food grain in the Bangladesh context is, therefore, a compelling requirement for us today. The leadership of the U. S. A. , Canada, and Australia in this respect is exemplary and we seek cooperation of other food surplus and donor countries to come forward for much more meaningful international food security. There is, however, no doubt that national self-sufficiency in food production is the security that we all seek; but, in the short run, international cooperation in food aid can not be minimized. In fact, food aid is a precondition to eventual national self-sufficiency.

The Director-General of FAO has proposed a five-point plan of action as an intermediate step for World Food Security involving international food reserves, food aid, food distribution and build-up of food security infrastructure in the recipient countries. These are the irreducible minimum. My delegation fully supports the proposal and appeals to donor countries to come forward and make World Food Security a living reality as a fruitful beginning of the decade of the eighties.

Once such a system of international food security is assured, food deficit countries are assured of a steady supply in the interim period to launch a vigorous food production programme as the long run solution to the recurrent crisis. What is urgently required will be investment in agriculture in massive proportions. My country has just emerged out of the worst drought in living memory. The crisis of 1973-74 was also induced largely by drought. Development of land and water resources should, therefore, be the major areas of investment for support by multilateral and bilateral donor agencies. Experience during the seventies clearly points to the overwhelming priority of investment in water sectors and water resources development for rapid growth in agricultural production. Presently in Bangladesh, only 10 percent of the cultivable land is irrigated. If the irrigated area could be increased to 50 percent, we can double our food production, from the current 13 million to 26 million tons of rice and wheat cereals. This means that if the irrigated area could be increased by one million acres per annum, than doubling of production could be effected within the eighties. Interestingly enough, such rapid expansion of irrigation would not require in the main, large-scale multipurpose water development projects. Simple labour-intensive and small-scale water conservation measures for low-lift pump irrigation, ground-water development through tubewells. Thousands of such micro projects, participated by local communities and backed up by supplies of equipment, pumps and engines and spares is no ambitious dream. It is within our reach which we can feel and touch. The only limiting factor is availability of capital in desired proportions.

There are 87 million people cramped in 55,000 square miles of Bangladesh. At the same time, the potential of land and water resources are simply enormous which the massive, underemployed labour force can very fruitfully develop within the decade of the eighties. It is feasible. It is possible. Let us have no doubt about it.

Food security issues tend to be overwhelmed by the immediate requirements of food stocks, price stability and food aid issues. These are important. But, such situations are, however, bound to recur unless and until definite plans and programmes with firm commitment of adequate resources are launched within a stipulated strategy for development that lays down the investment criteria, planned targets, programme size and committed management systems. This, above all controversy, should form the basis of development aid and of the partnership in development between the developed and developing countries of the world.

Food security is, therefore, not isolated from the compelling requirements of speedy as well as sustained agricultural growth with equity. This means for a substantial part of the developing world today, development of intensive irrigated agriculture which exploits to the maximum the already available land augmenting technologies.

Bangladesh has been repeatedly ravaged by natural and man-made disasters that receive wide publicity around the world. But the eventful recoveries, the resilience of people and the struggle for eking out the maximum against all odds have enabled us not only to endure, but prevail and aspire for a better life tomorrow. Unfortunately, this has received hardly any attention in the past. Horrors only and not the glories are newsworthy.

I would like to announce, on behalf of the People and Government of Bangladesh, that in the coming decade, we are aiming at doubling our agricultural production. We are determined to stage an agrarian revolution through abundance of production. If deserts can bloom because of oil beneath the sands, our rich alluvial soil, year-round cropping opportunities and plenty of water to nourish the plants can also seal the so-called bottomless basket.

But in this grand design of development we seek World Food Security, massive development assistance for reaching water, seed and fertilizer to every farmer. We want to prevent post-harvest losses, build storage, processing and marketing infrastructure and develop fishery resources in the new found exclusive economic zone.

What we have presented before you is not promised by the State of Food and Agriculture, 1979. As pointed out by the 75th Session of the FAO Council in June this year, the current food situation remains uncertain, if not fragile in the developing countries. Production of foodgrain will decline, import requirements are consequently on the rise and export prices of wheat and coarse grains have already risen sharply. Further, availability of food aid would inevitably fall. Fertilizer prices also rose sharply in the past few months. The prevailing short-term difficulties can only stifle growth and development in the long-run. What we could achieve in the relatively favourable years are easily shattered by a single, short-lived onslaught of adversity.

The inherent instability of the complex production environment is the basic cause of international food insecurity which has been unrelenting in its expanded impact on the MSA countries in particular. Immediate short-term difficulties absorb all the efforts and resources of the developing countries. The long-run development issues as a consequence are pushed further into the background. No long-run sustained process of agricultural development can be envisaged under such a situation. Instabilities must be minimized as the first step towards a decade of sustained development in the eighties. In order to do this, the most important task is to develop an internationally coordinated system of food reserve build-up and related price stabilization measures through an internationalized system of operations. Secondly, since the impact of any food production shortfall is felt differently even among developing countries, an annual food aid target should be determined to which commitments by developed countries have to be assured. The target should be invariant to production performance which can be envisaged only in the context of an internationally coordinated system of food reserve build-up. Thirdly, an international investment plan needs to be firmed up in order to augment as rapidly as possible the production capacities in the food priority countries. The proposed plan must of necessity confine itself to agriculture and rural development where investment is critical in order to achieve the desired increase in agricultural production and equitable distribution. Further, since fertilizer often is the mainstay of a viable strategy for accelerated increase in output, its continuous, steady availability at prices which are stable and within the reach of the small farmers may be ensured through an action plan for fertilizer.

This is the four-point programme of action that we place before the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. It is for your consideration. It is for your judgement. World Food Security can not be defined narrowly in terms of a plan of exchange between surplus and deficit countries. The ultimate aim must be to enable each nation to produce enough or generate adequate internal capacities to import. Of course, this can come only in the long run. But sure and definite steps must be taken now, if possible today. The world has waited too long. Let us face the challenge boldly and unitedly for the next two decades, so that poverty and hunger may become two unknown words in the vocabulary of the twenty-first century.

At this point we are pleased to report that the Regional Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific-CIRDAP has just become operational. It is located at Comilla in Bangladesh. We are grateful to the nations of the Asia-Pacific region and FAO and other donor agencies for their enthusiastic support in respect of the establishment and operation of CIRDAP. It is our hope that CIRDAP will soon establish its claim to attention as an instrument of stimulating programmes at regional and national levels in the field of agrarian changes and investment in rural areas of Asia and the Pacific.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank you once again for giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts with the distinguished member nations of FAO. May I also compliment the FAO Secretariat and the Director-General for a most excellent and exhaustive documentation for the Conference. My only hope is that we do not limit ourselves to words and words only. In an age when outer space has been opened to man through a process of scientific enquiry, there can no longer be any justification for considering poverty and hunger as the inevitable destiny of a significant section of the people of the world.

EL PRESIDENT: Much-as gracias. Señores delegados con la intervencióndel Ministro de Estado de Agricultura y de Montes de Bangladesh terminan las intervenciones incluidas en el Orden del Día para la mañana de hoy. Continuaremos la sesión a las 02. 30 oras de la tarde.

The meeting rose at 12. 50 hours

La séance est levée à 12 h 50

Se levante la sesión a las 12. 50 horas

conference

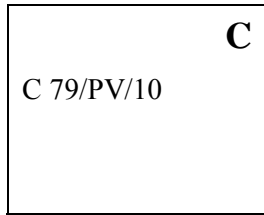
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

TENTH PLENARY MEETING
DIXIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
DECIMA SESION PLENARIA
(15 November 1979)

The Tenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14. 40 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La dixième séance plénière est ouverte à 14 h 40, sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la décima sesión plenaria a las 14. 40 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

INTRODUCTORY-PROCEDURE OF THE SESSION (continued)

INTRODUCTION ET QUESTIONS DE PROCEDURE (suite)

INTRODUCCION Y CUESTIONES DE PROCEDIMIENTO (continuación)

Second Report of the General Committee

Deuxième rapport du Bureau

Segundo informe del Comité General

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados, tal y como informé en la mañana de hoy, a las 8 y media de la mañana se reunió el Comité General, el cual ha emitido su segundo informe. Este segundo informe les ha sido distribuido a todos los delegados: está en los casilleros.

Si les parece, podríamos proceder en este instante a examinar este segundo informe del Comité General con la finalidad de continuar inmediatamente después con las intervenciones de los delegados.

¿Están de acuerdo los señores delegados en que examinemos este segundo informe del Comité General?

No habiendo objeciones, cedo la palabra al Sr. Sylla, Secretario General, con la finalidad de que nos dé cuenta de este segundo informe del Comité General.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Concernant le deuxième rapport de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs, le Bureau recommande à la Conférence de faire siennes les propositions contenues dans le deuxième rapport de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs et d'adopter ce rapport qui est contenu dans le document C 79/LIM/32.

Le Bureau exprime l'espoir que la Conférence sera en mesure de prendre cette décision sans avoir besoin d'un débat prolongé sur ses aspects politiques. A cette fin, au cas où il y aurait un débat, le Bureau recommande que celui-ci se limite à une intervention en faveur et une intervention contre et que la Conférence convienne, à la lumière de la résolution 396 (V) de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies, de l'opportunité de suivre la décision prise par ladite Assemblée sur la validité des pouvoirs du Gouvernement du Kampuchea démocratique.

Second Report of the Credentials Committee

Deuxième rapport de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs

Segundo informe del Comité de Credenciales

EL PRESIDENTE: Tienen los señores delegados también el segundo informe de la Comisión de Verificación de Poderes.

Si alguna delegación desea alguna precisión sobre este tema, con mucho gusto le concedería la palabra; y si no hubiera ninguna observación, pasaríamos al siguiente punto del orden del día.

El representante de Hungría manifiesta sus deseos de usar de la palabra. Puede hacerlo.

P. VANDOR (Hungary): On behalf of the delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Lao, Vietnam, Mongolia and Cuba, I wish to make the following statement.

The aforesaid delegations are not in agreement with the recognition of the so-called Pol Pot regime. One of the basic principles of international law is the sovereignty of States and their unquestionable right to decide on their representation. As is well known, the Pol Pot clique in Kampuchea have caused the death of three million inhabitants of the country, dislocated its traditional population, causing famine and hunger to hundreds of thousands of Kampucheans. This regime was overthrown by the Kampuchean people at the beginning of this year. With the establishment of the Peoples's Republic of Kampuchea, power in the country has passed entirely into the hands of the People's Revolutionary Council. The Kampuchean people have, in the form of this Council, established a Government which serves its interests and is directing the country's development. That Government is exercising full and stable control over the whole territory of the country and is effectively exercising State power. In its foreign policy the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is pursuing a policy of peace, friendship and good neighbourly cooperation. It has decisively declared its adherence to the principles of non-alignment.

A number of States throughout the world have officially recognised this Government and have announced their readiness to maintain relations with it.

In the light of the aforesaid, the sole legitimate and authentic representative of the Kampuchean people can only be the representative appointed by the People's Republic of Kampuchea. For this reason we regret that the Credentials Committee was not able to recommend refusal of the acceptance of the so-called credentials of a non-existent regime.

Our Organization is largely concerned with the problems of assistance to be provided to countries suffering from drought, flood and other Disasters. A great number of relief projects are implemented in the framework of the World Food Programme. Recently, initiatives have been taken to provide aid to the people of Kampuchea. This is an additional reason why our Conference should recognise the realities of our days.

In conclusion I should like to put on record that my delegation and the delegations on whose behalf I speak consider the credentials of the Pol Pot clique null and void and do not accept the Credentials Committee's recommendation regarding the acceptance of its credentials.

Having expressed the standpoint of the aforesaid delegations I should like to turn to the second report of the Credentials Committee. Paragraph 2 of the report does not fully reflect, in our view, the discussion which took place during the meeting of the Committee. Two different positions were expressed by members present at the meeting which were equal in proportion to each other. Given this situation, no decision could be taken by the Committee on the acceptance of the credentials of the so-called Democratic Kampuchea. Therefore these delegations request that Paragraph 2 of the report be corrected accordingly.

EL PRESIDENTE: A juicio de esta Presidencia, se plantean en este instante dos cuestiones.

La primera es que, entre las recomendaciones que nos hace el Comité de Credenciales, está una que es prácticamente de procedimiento y que la aprobamos además el primer día de la Conferencia, en relación con un punto parecido. Me refiero concretamente a que las intervenciones se limiten a dos: una a favor y otra en contra.

¿Hay conformidad entre los señores delegados en el sentido de limitar el debate sobre este tema a dos intervenciones, una en un sentido y otra en el contrario? ¿Están de acuerdo?

En este caso, puesto que hemos oído ya a la representación de Hungría hablando también en nombre de otro grupo de países, yo rogaría que quien desee hacer uso de la palabra en sentido contrario lo manifieste.

Tenemos tres peticiones de palabra: Tailandia, Indonesia y Nigeria. Si estamos de acuerdo en que solamente haya una intervención en sentido distinto al modo en que se ha expresado anteriormente la representación de Hungría, yo daría en este momento exclusivamente la palabra-pidiendo desde luego disculpas a Indonesia y a Nigeria-a favor de Tailandia, puesto que ha sido esta delegación la que primeramente ha levantado su placa en solicitud de palabra.

K. DEVAHASTIN (Thailand): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for giving me an opportunity to express our opinion at this stage on the matter under consideration. I am speaking on behalf of the four delegations of Asia, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand. We would like to draw the attention of the Conference to the fact that the credentials issued by the Government of Democratic Kampuchea led by the President Pol Pot for its representatives to attend the present Session of the United Nations General Assembly have been accepted by that organization which, in fact, is the most appropriate and competent body to deal with issues of a political character.

Bearing in mind that FAO is one of the specialised agencies in the United Nations system, therefore the attitude to be adopted by this Conference should be in line with the one that has already been adopted in the main body, that is, the General Assembly of the United Nations. For the above mentioned reasons, the four delegations hereby record our strong support for the acceptance of the representative of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea to the current FAO Conference.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados. Tras haber oído las dos intervenciones y siguiendo las sugerencias que hace el informe del Comité General, salvo que hubiera objeciones importantes por parte de la Conferencia, daríamos por aprobado el informe en la forma en que ha sido remitido y pasaríamos en ese caso al punto siguiente del Orden del Día, salvo que hubiera alguna otra cuestión que quisiera plantearse por alguna delegación.

Pasamos entonces al siguiente punto del Orden del Día dando por aprobado el punto primero, y lo que si quisiera es precisar al representante de Hungría, en relación con su precisión con respecto, me ha parecido deducir al párrafo 2 de la recomendación del Comité de Credenciales, qué consultaré con los Servicios Jurídicos, y a la vista del informe que me dé sobre este punto informaré a la delegación de Hungría sobre este aspecto. Pasamos entonces, si les parece, al punto siguiente del Orden del Día del informe del Comité General relativo a la fecha para la presentación de candidaturas para elección de miembros del Consejo. El señor Secretario General tiene la palabra.

Second Report of the General Committee (continued)

Deuxième rapport du Bureau (suite)

Segundo informe del Comité General (continuación)

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Date de présentation de candidature pour les élections au Conseil: Le Bureau recommande que Tes propositions de candidatures aux sièges du Conseil qui doivent être pourvus à la présente session soient communiquées au Secrétaire général de la Conférence (Bureau B-202) au plus tard le mardi 20 novembre à 18 h. , conformément à l'alinéa 10(d) de l'article XXII du Règlement général de l'Organisation.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Alguna observación en relación con este punto del Orden del Día? Damos entonces por aprobado el punto segundo del segundo informe del Comité General. ¿Podemos pasar al tercero, señor Secretario General?

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Délibérations en séances plénières des chefs de délégation et demandes formulées par des organisations internationales non gouvernementales ayant le statut consultatif.

A cet égard, le Bureau a pris note de l'évolution du débat général qui ne devrait pas nécessiter la convocation d'une séance de nuit.

Le Comité note également que la Confédération syndicale mondiale, organisation non gouvernementale ayant un statut consultatif auprès de la FAO, a demandé à prendre brièvement la parole à la fin du débat général. Conformément à la décision prise par la Conférence en la matière-qui figure aux paragraphes 48-50 du document C 79/LIM/14-le Comité recommande que la Conférence donne suite à cette demande.

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Alguna observación en relación a este punto? Creo que debemos felicitarnos todos de que no sea necesario celebrar las sesiones de noche. Se lo agradezco mucho a todos los que han hecho esto posible y si me permiten ustedes una pequeña broma en este momento yo le pediré al Secretario General, señor Sylla, que tampoco nos convoque a los miembros del Comité General a sesiones de madrugada. Pasamos entonces, señor Secretario General, al segundo punto de nuestro documento.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Ce point concerne le droit de vote.

Conformément à la décision prise par le Bureau lors de sa première session, les représentants du Directeur général ont pris contact avec les délégations des Etats Membres qui risquaient de perdre leur droit de vote à la vingtième session de la Conférence en raison du montant de leurs arriérés de contribution.

A la suite de ces contacts, le Directeur général a reçu du Gouvernement de la Grenade une lettre dans laquelle ce Gouvernement demande que son droit de vote lui soit restitué en faisant valoir que le paiement partiel, c'est-à-dire 15 000 dollars du montant nécessaire, c'est-à-dire 18 813,01 dollars, pour régulariser sa situation doit être considéré comme un geste de bonne volonté de sa part; dans cette lettre, le Gouvernement s'engage également à régler aussi rapidement que possible toutes ses dettes envers l'Organisation.

La délégation de la Grenade a confirmé que le contenu de cette lettre est destiné à annuler la demande d'exonération totale ou partielle de sa contribution ordinaire que le Gouvernement avait adressé précédemment à l'Organisation.

Le Bureau recommande donc à la Conférence d'autoriser la Grenade à exercer son droit de vote pendant toute la durée de la présente Conférence.

Le Gouvernement du Nicaragua a demandé à être autorisé à liquider ses arriérés de contributions sur une période de dix ans à partir de 1979, en s'engageant en outre à régler ses contributions courantes pendant l'année à laquelle elles se rapportent. La lettre mentionne la situation financière difficile dans laquelle se trouve actuellement le Gouvernement après une crise politique et sociale prolongée.

Le Bureau recommande à la Conférence d'adopter le projet de résolution ci-après concernant le règlement des contributions du Nicaragua:

La Conférence,

Notant que le Gouvernement du Nicaragua a proposé de liquider sur une période de dix ans commençant en 1979 ses arriérés de contributions et de payer en outre chacune de ses contributions courantes durant l'année civile à laquelle elle se rapporte,

Décide que:

Premièrement, nonobstant les dispositions de l'Article 5. 5 du Règlement financier, les arriérés de contributions du Nicaragua, soit 38 811 dollars, seront réglés en dix tranches annuelles égales de 3 881, 10 dollars.

Deuxièmement, la première tranche ainsi que la contribution ordinaire de 1979 seront payables en 1979,

Troisièmement, le paiement annuel des tranches susmentionnées ainsi que le règlement de chaque contribution courante durant l'année civile à laquelle elle se rapporte et des avances éventuelles au fonds de roulement seront considérés comme libérant le Nicaragua de ses obligations financières envers l'Organisation.

La République centrafricaine a également demandé que son droit de vote lui soit restitué et a exprimé l'intention de payer environ 38 000 dollars en trois tranches en 1979 et 1980. Le Gouvernement confirme également son intention d'honorer ses obligations financières envers l'Organisation, malgré les difficultés économiques que connaît actuellement ce pays.

Le Bureau recommande donc que la Conférence autorise le Nicaragua et la République centrafricaine à exercer leur droit de vote pendant toute la durée de la présente Conférence,

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias señor Sylla. Comprendemos lo muy sobrecargado que le tenemos con tantos asuntos y es, por tanto, absolutamente explicable estos pequeños problemas.

Señoras y señores delegados, de acuerdo con lo que acaba de aprender nuestro Secretario General, el Comité General propone que se autorice a Granada, a Nicaragua y la República Centroafricana a ejercer sus derechos de voto durante todo el período de sesiones de la actual Conferencia y propone adicionalmente la aprobación de una Resolución relativa al pago de cuotas a Nicaragua.

¿Hay conformidad por parte de toda la Conferencia en relación con estos puntos? ¿Ninguna observación? En tal caso damos por aprobada la recomendación en la forma en que nos ha sido remitida por el Comité General y aprobamos igualmente la Resolución relativa al pago de cuotas de Nicaragua.

Habiendo finalizado este punto de nuestro Orden del Día deberemos pasar al debate general.

Antes de iniciar el debate general solicito de la Conferencia que me autorizara a ausentarme de la Sala, y en este caso ocuparía la Presidencia uno de los Vicepresidentes que elegimos el primer día, el Ministro del Paquistán. Si ustedes me lo autorizan, yo solicitaría al Ministro de Paquistán subir a hacerse cargo de la Presidencia de la Conferencia.

M. F. Janjua, Vice-Chairman of the Conference, took the chair

M. F. Janjua, Vice-President de la Conférence, assume la présidence

Ocupa la presidencia M. F. Janjua, Vicepresidente del Consejo

THE CHAIRMAN: May I first take this opportunity of thanking this Conference for the honour they have done me and my country, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for electing me as the Vice-chairman of this important conference. I am sure this honour is a recognition of the fact that my country has always taken a very active and leading part in the affairs of FAO and I assure you of my and my delegation's full cooperation with all other countries for achieving the objectives of this Conference and the FAO.

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATION (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DES DELEGATIONS SUIVANTES (suite)
- DECLARACIONES DE LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

G. TOMBAZOS (Cyprus): It is for me both a privilege and pleasure to participate and address today the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. On this occasion allow me to express my sincerest congratulations for your election to the high office of the Chairman and also to extend a warm welcome to the new member-states of our Organization.

We have, on several occasions in the past, both at FAO Headquarters as well as at the FAO Regional Conferences, dwelt extensively upon the state of food and agriculture in the world in general and in the developing countries in particular. We have repeatedly, expressed our deep concern for the yet un-satisfactory situation in food production and availability prevailing in many developing parts of the world. I am not going to refer to statistics on an issue which is so adequately documented and so well known to all of us. However, I cannot resist to restate my own deep concern for the situation; despite all the efforts and labour both at the National and International levels, hunger, poverty, disease and malnutrition still continue to constitute the way of life for hundreds of million of men, women and children in the world. It seems to me, that either we are not confronting the problem with sufficient effort and resources, or that our efforts and labour are not directed at the target; thus, missing the real root causes of hunger, malnutrition and poverty.

It is by now well established that major international issues such as the existing International Economic Order, the structure of International Trade, the volume and nature of International Aid and defective National Economic Structures and Education Policies constitute the major causes for the suffering of the poor and the hungry. I am not intending to dwell upon these issues as they do not constitute specific items on the Agenda of this Conference and as they have been discussed at length in July during the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development; I only want to emphasize the need for this Conference to proceed with the necessary follow-up action and to provide all necessary support to the Organization and its Director-General for the development of the New International Development Strategy for the 1980s which is to be adopted by the Special Session of the UN General Assembly next year.

I am glad to note that the agenda of this Conference includes important issues for discussion such as the World Food and Agriculture Situation, the Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security, the Preparations for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly in 1980, Agriculture: Toward 2000 and the Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones.

I consider it appropriate, Mr. Chairman, to expand a little on the last two items.

We have received and reviewed the study "Agriculture: Toward 2000". We express our appreciation for the considerable effort devoted to this study and for the timely completion of the Provisional Report. The study puts FAO in a position to make a valid contribution to the formulation of the New International Development Strategy in the UN. We therefore suggest that this Conference transmit to the UN a report with the salient findings of this study for consideration in the preparation of the declaration of the New International Development Strategy.

We note from the study that the dependence of the developing world on food supplies from the developed countries could continue increasing, and that the situation could turn out to be much more serious if the fairly optimistic assessments of the study failed to materialize. This finding alone justifies new efforts by the international community to ensure that the food production potential of the developing countries becomes a reality and that appropriate arrangements are made now for financing the increasing commitments of food aid.

The study also indicates that the problem of hunger and under-nutrition could be greatly reduced, though it will not disappear even by the end of the century. The absolute numbers of people remaining under-nourished gives cause for concern. This finding further strengthens the case for pursuing institutional reform and more equitable access of the rural population to produce resources and income, as indicated by the World Conference of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which was held earlier in the year in Rome.

The new regime of the oceans as it emerges from the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea is indeed creating a new state of affairs for coastal developing countries and can have a profound effect on their food supplies, employment opportunities and exports. However, we cannot overlook the fact that coastal developing countries in general are not adequately capable of taking the maximum advantage from the new state of affairs: Small-scale fisheries practices with poor fishing fleets and equipment, limitations in knowledge for the proper management and conservation of fisheries and the lack of adequate financial resources to meet increased requirements, can invalidate the favourable situation created by the new legal regime of oceans and the benefits may eventually revert to developed countries, which though without national jurisdiction over an Exclusive Economic Zone, yet by virtue of their higher potential in fishing fleet technology, knowhow and capital can reap the largest share of the benefits. We therefore strongly support the FAO Technical Conference on the Development and Management of Fisheries which has been proposed for 1982, with a view to determine the requirements and principles upon which appropriate international, regional and national policies and programmes can be designed. The volume of financial resources to be required for such a programme makes necessary the establishment of a Special Fund for Fisheries Development and this issue is proposed for consideration during the 1982 Conference.

Mr. Chairman, it is not my intention to take up your time with a detailed account on what we are doing in Cyprus in the field of agriculture and on the constraints we encounter. Nevertheless allow me to outline our basic activities and orientations and refer to our major problems which bear relevance to this Conference.

Our developmental approach is geared by an integrated confrontation of the problems in agriculture, with main emphasis placed on the development of the water resources of the country, since water is the limiting factor in our production process. With as little as 13 per cent of our total arable land under perennial irrigation and with a dry climate, every effort is being made to develop and utilize all available water resources, both surface and underground. To that end a number of major irrigation projects are under implementation and others are under an advanced stage of preparation; this is a very substantial activity for us, since under Cyprus conditions, productivity in irrigated farming on a unit area basis is as much as ten times more than what it is in dry-land farming.

However, such undertakings, though economically viable, are highly capital intensive; as such they cannot be realized without increased international funding, especially under the adverse conditions created in Cyprus' agriculture and its economy since 1974. Cyprus and indeed the developing world at large is looking forward not only to the appreciable efforts of international funding institutions to be continued, but also to larger financial participation on behalf of the economically developed countries. Agricultural production in the future will undoubtedly be proportional to the volume of financial resources currently committed to the Sector and to the experience and wisdom with which agricultural policies and programmes are conceived, formulated and implemented.

Endeavours such as the ones I just mentioned are certainly in line with the Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security, because they augment a country's potential and self-reliance in food production. Cyprus, being an importing country for its staple food item, undoubtedly supports the Director General's proposal to strengthen World Food Security through the implementation of immediate measures aiming at the establishment of a world food security system. However, the world community should not lose sight of the fact that long term, the safest way for sustained world food security is the increase in food production through augmenting the developing countries' capabilities to do so; and this is a real and moral responsibility not only of the developing countries themselves, but of the developed countries as well.

J. J. M. NYAGAH (Kenya): Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, may I at the outset state that I bring to this Twentieth Session of the FAO biennial Conference greetings and well wishes from my President, H. E. Daniel Arap Moi, who has now successfully completed his task of transition period of seeing Kenya emerge from the era of the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta to the new era of Daniel Arap Moi, commonly and popularly known in Kenya as the NYAYO era, and who has also completed his general elections fairly successfully. He has also asked me to extend his best wishes to this august body that the success of this Conference will bring stability and peace to the world, particularly to those who are hungry and the poor. Personally I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your unanimous election to the high office, as well as to welcome those two new members to our midst.

Two years ago we convened here and debated in detail the general situation in respect of agricultural development in the world. We also discussed the Programme of Work and Budget for the period we are about to conclude. These discussions took place in a friendly atmosphere which is characteristic of most of FAO Conferences. We look forward to similar cooperation during this conference, too. Since then several international events have taken place which will have a direct bearing on the work of the Organization for the next biennium. These events include among others the Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea which has resulted into declaration by several countries of Exclusive Economic Zones, and World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which took place in this hall in July of this year.

My delegation has noted with great interest that the Director-General has taken all these events into account in his Programme of Work and Budget and in his address to this Conference. It is to be noted however that nearly all these conferences did not make any definite proposals on the financing of their recommendations and in spite of the fact that there were no financial provisions for the implementation of these international recommendations, the conferences did commit themselves to the major cause for which this Organization was set up.

We have in the past dealt with the problems of food production and the need to ensure the provision of sufficient food to the rural communities; for instance, in 1978 the African Ministers of Agriculture adopted the Freetown Declaration, which called for the preparation and implementation of appropriate policies and programmes for improved self-sufficiency in food, with particular emphasis on small-scale subsistence farmers. This declaration was reaffirmed in Arusha in September, 1978. We cannot afford to continue to talk about food production problems and not take the appropriate actions any more. My country would like to pledge our cooperation in order to enable the Director-General to report in more concrete terms at the next Regional Conference for Africa. The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development made far-reaching recommendations which will have implications on increased responsibilities for FAO.

However, we are pleased to know that priority will be given to these recommendations in the work of the Organization for the next biennium, and that the necessary adjustments will be made in the budget to make provision for assistance to member governments along the lines of the recommendations. We all very well know that the success or failure of implementing the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development will depend to a large extent on the priority that each country will give them at the national level. In this respect therefore I am pleased to let you know that Kenya has already taken steps to ensure the integration of these recommendations into the national plan by the formation of a committee specifically charged with these responsibilities. We are, however, concerned about the lack of funds and other resources which have to be made available in order to ensure effective implementation of these proposals.

In order to achieve the goal of transforming rural life by focusing on "alleviation of rural poverty", I would like to take this opportunity to appeal that increased extra budgetary funds be made available, in order to enable the Organization to assist member countries with the implementation of these proposals.

May I now touch on briefly about the priorities and FAO's work and investments into the agricultural sector in general. The work of this Organization must subsequently result into actual investments in food production and rural development in general. The Organization should therefore work towards those activities which will give quick results so that they are seen to respond to the needs of the rural poor. In this respect therefore we would like to express our satisfaction with the Technical Co-operation Programme (TCP) which we feel should be strengthened in the light of the increasing nature of the problems which this programme is in a better position to handle. Incidentally, I would here like to support very strongly the Director-General's plan of increasing the number of FAO Country representatives from 47 to 62 during the next biennial. It is, however, disturbing to know from evaluation of FAO's work over the past few years that the actual value of technical assistance to agriculture has been declining, and that in 1978 actual FAO delivery was at about the same level as 1970 in real terms. This would appear to be a step in the opposite direction, and could be one of the major reasons for the decline and stagnation in food production in developing countries. In the African Region this situation has not improved much, and agricultural development is reported to have grown at the rate of less than two percent per annum a very sad situation indeed considering the average rate of inflation, which is much higher.

The recent developments in the field of fisheries will have far reaching implications on overall agricultural and rural development in general. The declaration of the Exclusive Economic Zones by coastal states will create opportunities for fisheries development for the benefit of these countries. However, the task of policing the enlarged national waters and finding the needed investment for development will require maximum co-operation from the FAO and the developed member countries. The developing coastal member countries do not have sufficient specialized local manpower, finances and

other resources to manage and exploit the increased areas to their benefit. This new area of development will imply more responsibilities for the FAO, and while provision has been made in the Programme of Work and Budget for technical assistance, the resources available to the Organization seem to be far below expectations. With these limited resources, my country would like to emphasize the need for training in the management for small scale fishermen and project identification to facilitate increased investment. Kenya falls among this category and therefore has specifically indicated the assistance she would require to enable the fisheries industry to contribute its share to the alleviation of poverty.

FAO's assistance to the developing countries should aim therefore at supporting those activities which will result in increased earnings from fisheries development and which will provide additional employment opportunities for the rural people through the exploitation of both inland and marine fisheries.

Kenya has only a small percentage of land covered by forest. The development of this sector is of vital importance to overall rural development. The new approach of developing forestry for and in rural areas has the Government support because we can no longer afford to develop the forest industry in isolation of the needs of the rural populations. Wood is needed not only for timber but also as a source of fuel. I would like here, Mr. Chairman, to express Kenya's appreciation for the co-operation between our national Forestry Department and the FAO Investment Centre which has been most essential for the identification and preparation of programmes in this field.

Mr. Chairman, the International Fertilizer Scheme has in the past assisted developing member countries in providing not only the needed nutrients but has also relieved these countries of the heavy foreign exchange burden. In view of the present international economic situation, particularly the ever increasing and rising rate of inflation which results in a decline in foreign exchange reserves, this scheme should be strengthened in order to enable these countries to at least meet their basic food requirements.

In the general area of increasing food production my country would like to strongly support the Programme of Pre-and Post-Harvest Losses as one positive way of increasing food availabilities. A word here of thanks for the FAO co-operation in the work of the East African Desert Locust Control Organization and also in control of quelea birds and army worms etc. There is no doubt, therefore that the surest way of making food available is by protecting and saving as much as possible. My intervention would be incomplete without a brief discussion on world food security. In the long term we must concern ourselves with the expansion of food production in the developing countries in order to be able to meet dietary and nutritional requirements from local sources. The natural resources to do this are available in these countries. There is, however, an immediate short term problem of improving the present distribution of food from world food supplies in order to reduce hunger and starvation in the most needy areas of the world. My country would like to see three areas of short term world food security given high priority by this Conference:-these include Food Aid itself; the prevention of Pre-and Post-Harvest Losses which I referred to earlier; and the Foreign Exchange problems of having to meet the cost of importing food from developed countries.

The World Food Conference in 1974 set a target food aid of 10 million tonnes to be made available annually to developing food deficit countries. Five years after that August Conference, this target we regret to note that it has not been reached, in spite the fact that the world can afford to make this amount available. As a result, hunger and malnutrition continue. It is becoming more and more difficult to justify a situation where human beings continue to starve in some parts of the world, and yet we hear of stores filled with grains far beyond domestic requirements in other parts. Such parts we hear too have disposal problems for their surpluses.

I have touched on the question of prevention of food losses earlier, but let me be more specific here about the need to reduce the loss of food which has already been produced and which continues to be wasted for various reasons. Considerable amounts of resources have over the years been put into research and development of appropriate storage in the developing countries. These facilities have been developed in order to reduce to a minimum wastage arising from insect infestation and poor handling of food, particularly grains. The identification of projects on prevention of food losses should now be based on the technology which has so far been developed, and specific investment proposals put forward for financing. We have talked about the problem of providing enough food for the developing countries and the steps needed to alleviate the situation. This is a long term problem, but while it lasts, we would recommend to the developed world to make available more resources to help those countries which are compelled to import more often than they can afford.

Mr. Chairman, let me now come to the issue of the proposed budget for the biennium 1980/81. There have been lengthy discussions in the various committees and the FAO Council about the level of the budget, and whether it is sufficient to enable the Organization to carry out its functions or not. We feel strongly that the question of the budget should be looked at from the point of view of the responsibilities which have been entrusted to the Organization.

In view of this therefore it is the view of my delegation that the proposed increase in the budget is modest. The Director-General and his staff should be congratulated for what appears to be an austerity budget. He could not have done better. I would like to call upon the co-operation of all the member states in this matter and to request that they look at the budget from the point of view of the effect it is likely to have on the poor people of the developing world, rather than discuss the figures from the point of view of limiting their contributions. We have a duty to fight hunger, and also the duty to eliminate it.

Mr. Chairman, before I conclude, and having discussed the work of the FAO and given you the view of my country on the major issues, I would like to turn finally to the recent international economic events and their effects on the Kenya economy. The fourth 5-year National Development Plan whose theme is "alleviation of poverty" covers the period 1979 to 1983. Its implementation commenced in January this year, and it is the first one under the leadership of our new President Daniel Arap Moi's policies and deals with strategies that will be employed over this period in order to achieve our targets. The major focus will be rural development with particular attention to the place and role of the small-scale farmer. The programmes will therefore be implemented to achieve the objectives. The programmes contained in this plan have been worked out from the grass-roots where the people have had a say in indicating their real needs and priorities. It is important therefore that they should be fully involved in the various parts of the programme.

Like in all developing countries, agriculture is the basic enterprise in Kenya. About 90 per cent of the population whose growth rate is estimated at 3% per annum live in the rural areas.

Kenya has not got a strong industrial base and therefore livelihood of the rural people is very much dependent on agriculture, for it provides employment for the bulk of the people and is expected to continue to absorb the majority of the people coming into the labour force every year. **The recent** Presidential order to absorb 10% into the industrial employment was like a drop in the ocean.

The major goal for agricultural development in Kenya is therefore to provide rising levels of income to the growing population in the rural areas. There is also the need to attain an evenly balanced pattern of development with well distributed income and a growing level of employment to match as much as possible the increase in the labour force. Agricultural output must therefore be accelerated, and in so doing it will also assist in supplying the required food for Kenyans, to improve the diets of the rural people and the population as a whole, increase foreign exchange which is required for development and also provide the required raw materials for industry.

In recent years the rapid increase in population has posed a challenge for the country to produce sufficient food to feed the nation. Our Government has a policy for food production for self-sufficiency and considers this a national primary responsibility. I am glad to say that this policy is more or less achieved in most basic food aspects. Believing in the importance of a healthy population, Kenya distributes free milk throughout the country to the class of population which is vulnerable to diseases. We attach great importance to our dairy industry.

The coming years will witness high priority being placed on increased production of the major food commodities, particularly maize, wheat, rice and potatoes. Kenya believes that this can only be achieved by introducing well planned incentives to the farmers through a system of regular producer price reviews, input subsidies, provision of credit and basic infrastructure, etc. Through this concept I am pleased to state the country has made considerable progress in modernizing the economy, thanks to the farmers who have heeded, and actively responded to, the teaching of our extension workers who have constantly preached the need to apply appropriate technology and applied agricultural research findings; and this has paid dividends.

However, this process of modernization would have been faster had it not been that we have had to rely to a considerable extent on imports of farm machinery, fertilizers and other farm inputs whose costs are often exorbitant, and exert strain on our foreign exchange reserves. Yet this is happening at a time when prices of primary commodities on the world market fluctuate too violently to be relied upon. The recent increase in prices of crude oil and the possible additional increase in future is not a welcome idea, for it is bound to force adjustments in our development plan targets to the extent where our well-designed strategies for improving rural lives will be disarranged. We would therefore like to strongly call for restraint on the part of both developed countries and oil producing and exporting countries, to seriously consider the consequences these constant price increases have on the economies of poor and developing countries.

In conclusion I would like to pay compliments to those international organizations and friendly countries who have been so cooperative and helpful to my country, Kenya. I would particularly wish to thank the Director-General and his staff for their part in this and also to wish them and FAO every success in the next biennium. I would like to assure them of my country's cooperation in their endeavour to implement the proposed programmes for the benefit of us all.

A. WAHHAB MAHMOUD (Yemen Arab Republic): (interpretation from Arabio) Mr Chairman, Mr Director-General of FAO, distinguished leaders and members of delegations, I would like to commence this address by extending congratulations to the Chairman of the Conference and to the Vice-Chairmen for the trust placed in them by the Conference. I also wish to congratulate the two delegations from the Republic of Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica upon their accession to membership of this Organization. We believe that the increase in membership of this Organization is but a reflection of the great aspirations placed by the peoples of the world on the importance of the services rendered by this Organization in the field of securing food and fighting hunger, and in assisting developing countries.

The problem of securing food still constitutes a formidable challenge facing the countries of the world in the last quarter of a century. A number of indicators caused profound concern because it has become clear that it is impossible to meet the targets of the international development strategy during the 1970's on the basis of realising an increase of 4 percent annually in food production in the developing countries. The real average increase was no more than 2.9 percent annually. The rate of food imports in developing countries has increased during the 1970's at rates that were quite as much as the increase in production. We are indeed alarmed at the fact that insufficient assistance has been accorded to agriculture and only half the target was attained. It is also a fact that the target of 10 million tons annually as food assistance in 1965 only reached 19.8 million tons of grains. We ponder with bitterness the dire consequences of these indicators at a time when the expenditure on arms in the world last year reached \$400 billion, as indicated by the World Bank. The rate of foreign aid did not go beyond 1 percent of the gross national product in many industrialised countries. On the contrary, a regression has occurred. For example, foreign aid used to constitute 2.79 percent of the United States' gross national product in 1949, when they embarked on the Marshall Plan. Today this percentage has fallen tenfold, that is to say 0.22 percent of the gross national product of the United States at the present time, at a time when the real income of the American citizen has quadrupled in the last 30 years.

On the local level my country has witnessed significant events in the field of development in the 1970's. This was due to the determination of our people to catch up with the progression of world civilization and because our country was indeed a cradle of an authentic human culture.

The loans on easy terms provided to us by fraternal countries and international organizations and funds have had a positive effect on our development efforts. On this occasion I should like to thank those concerned for all the assistance my country has received from international organizations as well as bilateral aid from friends and brothers. We also wish to commend the cooperation between the various financing agencies in funding some of the important projects in my country. For example, there are five sources which collaborate in order to finance the Wadi Moor project. These sources are the World Bank, the Kuwait Development Fund, IFAD, the EEC and the Federal Republic of Germany, in addition to the Government of Yemen as well as the development groups for farmers in this region. This in itself constitutes an excellent example of international cooperation with a view to creating additional progress for our people. The Republic has opted for the principle of integrated rural development as the true path towards rural development in our countries, because the rural population constitutes 90 percent of the total population. This principle has already proven its worth on a practical level.

Different efforts are moving along in different spheres in an integrated and coordinated manner with a view to attaining the targets in a short time and in an efficient manner. One of the prominent and salient points of our achievements is the effective participation of local development groups. These are non-governmental popular organizations which join effectively in our efforts. For example, these groups have paved 11,804 kilometres of new roads and have implemented 1,349 projects in order to secure drinking water throughout the Republic. These popular organizations benefit from the material and moral support by the State. The State has allocated 75 percent of the Zakat tax. These organizations have also benefited from a special fund which extends credit to the tune of 100 million Rials this year. Our country is in the fourth year of our first Five Year Plan and even though we have exceeded the target growth rate which is 5.5 percent annually, yet we are still very far from a state of self-reliance. Food imports have increased sharply in the past years, from \$84 million in 1974 to \$273 million in 1977. This is due to increased global demand on food commodities and the rise in world prices of such commodities.

We are also witnessing development efforts in the various fields of crop and animal production as well as fisheries and large-scale irrigation works with a view to exploiting surface and ground water resources. We are also trying to use modern technology in establishing efficient national cadres and completing our administrative structures.

In the field of forestry we are about to finish an excellent project in collaboration with the World Bank and have received financial assistance on a bilateral basis amounting to more than \$10 million for the next three years. We are almost in the last phases of formulating a project for developing

fisheries on the basis of improving the socio-economic conditions of thousands of small-scale fishermen, by providing them with credits for improving the efficiency of traditional fishing methods and marketing facilities. This should lead to an increase of production in fisheries.

The Government is also increasing credit to farmers through the Agricultural Credit Bank as one of the main instruments of agricultural development. This Bank is young, it started its activities in 1976, and the State has covered its entire capital which stands at 100 million Rials. The services of this credit and its operations are expanding and covering most of the important agricultural regions. We expect the size of credit facilities and employment in the Fifth Development Year to be 250 million Rials. In spite of the fact that these are very young organizations, they have started very successfully and we are introducing new and modern inputs, and thousands of farmers and their families benefit from credit; and the recovery rate for outstanding loans has reached 90 percent. Total investments in the agricultural sector in the first Five Year Plan reached 2,600 million Rials and therefore this sector comes into third place in our country, after the transport industry and electricity.

In financing these investments we have the participation of the government and the public sector as well as cooperatives and private and external funding. I do not want to dwell on development efforts but I would like to say that we are intensifying our work. We are expanding our use of agricultural machinery in such a way as to blend it with the prevailing circumstances in our country and to face the shortage in manpower in many rural areas as a result of emigration towards the cities and abroad.

On this occasion I would like to submit a proposal: to include in the international development strategy of the coming decade a commitment from industrialised and oil-producing countries, within the framework of establishing the new international economic order, to allocate 2 percent of the GNP to development assistance to developing countries as a minimum level. For countries such as Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates in 1977 this stands at 10 percent, according to World Bank estimates. The proposal also calls for devoting at least 50 percent of such assistance to the rural and agricultural sector, because FAO studies indicate a dire need to increase development assistance threefold in the next decade.

Food aid Commitments in the 1980's should reach 15 million tons of grain annually according to FAO's estimates of such requirements. I hope that these proposals will be discussed in detail and carry the approval of the Conference as part of worldwide efforts to lay the foundations of the New International Economic Order.

The alarming indicators I mentioned at the outset will bear sinister conclusions for world peace and security unless we all collaborate to avert them as of now. We are living in a small world where interests are continually intertwined. A leap forward in development aid is a prerequisite for human development as a whole in the interests and security, for rich countries in particular as well as satisfying the need of developing countries so that they may achieve self-reliance as soon as possible.

As we speak about agricultural and rural development in this international gathering we can only condemn in the strongest terms the Zionist settlement policy in Arab land; a policy which constitutes a flagrant breach of international law and practice; a denigration of the rights of others, it deprives the Palestinian people of the legitimate right to embark on an agricultural and rural development of the land. The world's conscience carries a moral and ethical responsibility to say resoundingly "No" to colonist settlements and the occupation of land belonging to others by force.

Before closing I would like to extend my thanks and great appreciation to the Director-General of FAO for the brilliant success of the Technical Cooperation Programme. TCP has readily and efficiently responded to the requests of developing countries, including my own. We received swift and efficient assistance in the field of the desert locusts control, improving wood and fruit tree varieties, expertise in developing fisheries, agrarian reform and many other activities. In this respect we call for expansion of this Programme as it provides effective and rapid aid to developing countries without running across bureaucracy and red tape.

While we commend FAO's activities and call for their intensification we would like to draw the attention of member countries and the Director-General to the fact that the action and work of the Near East regional offices are frozen. This contradicts those measures that must be taken to mobilize and channel resources towards serving the economies of member states and augmenting technical assistance to the least developed. Perpetuation of this state of affairs represents an unjustifiable burden for FAO and the countries of the region. With reference to this abnormal situation, on behalf of my country I request the transfer of the office from its present location to another place and we call on this Conference to authorize the Director-General to take appropriate steps towards this end. The aim is to reactivate the office and to allow it to render its service to all the members of the regions. In this respect I would like to extend a profound thanks to the great people of Egypt for the facilities they have extended and for hosting the office throughout the past years.

I wish this Conference all success in its great task of arriving at positive decisions that can contribute to securing food and rural development, hence realizing the much cherished goal of human progress.

J. ZORREGUIETA (Argentina): Señor Presidente, señor Director General, señores delegados, señoras y señores: Como Presidente de la delegación de la República Argentina tengo el honor, en nombre de mi Gobierno, de expresar nuestras sinceras felicitaciones al señor Presidente, por la elección de que ha sido objeto, que garantiza que esta Conferencia disponga de una iluminada y certera conducción que ayudará a que el éxito corone nuestros trabajos. Dichas felicitaciones las hago extensivas a todos los distinguidos miembros de la Mesa.

Igualmente, deseo destacar nuestro reconocimiento por la labor infatigable del señor Director General, Dr. Edouard Saouma, que ha dotado a este Organismo de una dinámica y una eficacia que indudablemente contribuyen a la implementación de los altos fines que inspiraron su creación.

También me complace en dar una bienvenida a los representantes de Samoa y Dominica, cuyo ingreso a esta Organización se acaba de materializar.

En esta Conferencia de la FAO, tenemos nuevamente la oportunidad de analizar las perspectivas que nos ofrece la agricultura y la forma en que el mundo piensa enfrentar los problemas crecientes de su alimentación.

En el temario de esta Conferencia están incluidas importantes materias que será necesario examinar, entre ellas: la agricultura hacia el año 2000 y la acción que debemos desarrollar para reforzar la seguridad alimentaria mundial.

Mi país está realizando un gran esfuerzo para cumplir con la alta responsabilidad que tenemos ante el mundo, ya que somos conscientes que las condiciones naturales y humanas de que está dotada la República Argentina le permiten ser un proveedor creciente de carnes, cereales, oleaginosas, frutas, hortalizas y otros cultivos. Es así como en los últimos años hemos aumentado la producción, triplicado nuestra capacidad de embarque mensual de granos, con lo que hemos pasado a ocupar el segundo lugar en el mundo en capacidad de embarque. Nuestra producción de granos ha crecido de 23 millones de toneladas a más de 30 millones promedio de los últimos 3 años y, a pesar de atravesar por un período de bajos precios internacionales, hemos mantenido nuestro stock ganadero en cifras aceptables y mejorado sustancialmente nuestra productividad agrícola en general.

La producción Argentina de cereales y oleaginosas ha aumentado con una tasa de más del 3 por ciento anual acumulativo debido a los mayores rendimientos unitarios, pasando de 1257 kg. por Ha. en el trienio anterior a los 149 kg. por Ha. en el trienio 1976/1979. Asimismo y con referencia a los mismos períodos comparados hemos incrementado nuestra participación en el comercio internacional: de cereales del 6 por ciento al 9,4 por ciento, en oleaginosas del 1,8 por ciento al 6,8 por ciento, en carnes del 16 por ciento al 13 por ciento, respectivamente.

Tal como hemos expresado hace poco, las exportaciones argentinas de alimentos han pasado de 36 billones de kilo-calorías a 50 billones anuales en los últimos tres años, o sea que estamos entregando a la humanidad las calorías necesarias para que cientos de millones de personas tengan la posibilidad de llegar a la dieta normal, superando el hambre y la malnutrición.

Hay, sin embargo, ciertas cuestiones fundamentales que hacen al gran tema de la alimentación mundial y a las que debemos referirnos en esta oportunidad. La primera de ellas, es la referida al problema de la seguridad alimentaria; la Argentina lo ha repetido en éste y otros foros y debemos insistir en que la única manera real de lograr la seguridad alimentaria es simplemente aplicar políticas correctas para aumentar la producción.

Es por ello que debe quedar bien claro que la constitución de reservas de ciertos granos, debe tener como fin fundamental, estabilizar los precios de los mismos niveles que sean retributivos para los agricultores para así asegurar la continuidad y el incremento de la producción. En cambio, la acumulación de reservas de gran magnitud como para cubrir caídas importantes en el abastecimiento mundial, nos plantearían grandes problemas de almacenamiento y financiación, pero además no garantizarían la seguridad alimentaria mundial, ya que actuarían como un factor depresivo de los precios agrícolas, obteniendo por lo tanto un resultado contrario al buscado. Es por ello que entendemos que lo que se debe afianzar en definitiva para permitir la oferta constante y creciente de alimentos, es una retribución aceptable a los productores de los mismos. Aceptamos que las reservas sean útiles para ciertas emergencias, pero por sí solas no alcanzarán nunca para abastecer a un mundo en el que los productores hayan perdido interés en producir.

Es así como hemos defendido en el ámbito de la Conferencia, para lograr un acuerdo internacional sobre el trigo, la necesidad de establecer en el libre juego de mercado, stocks de trigo de una cuantía equilibrada con escalas de precios que entendemos eran aceptables para productores y consumidores, y que, a pocos meses de haber sido discutidos y no aceptados, el comercio internacional se encargó de probar que eran sumamente prudentes.

En esta cuestión de la retribución a los productores reside, a nuestro entender, la llave del futuro abastecimiento de alimentos para la humanidad. Cualquier proyección que hagamos hacia el año 2000, cualquier estrategia de desarrollo agrícola, cualquier deseo que tengamos de lograr seguridad alimentaria mundial, debe reposar sobre agricultores bien remunerados, con estabilidad jurídica en la tierra que trabajen, dispuestos económica, cultural y psicológicamente, a incorporar mejores técnicas.

Es evidente que el mundo actual nos presenta grandes limitaciones que debemos tener presentes. Por un lado, tenemos que producir alimentos retribuyendo adecuadamente a nuestros productores, pero utilizando técnicas tales que no impliquen un aumento desmesurado de los costos, ya que entonces resultarían precios que impedirían el acceso a los alimentos a una gran proporción de la población mundial. Frente al incremento incesante de los costos de la energía, debemos ser capaces de mejorar la investigación y la extensión de los conocimientos sobre el eficiente manejo de los recursos, ya que va a ser muy difícil pretender usar medios cada vez más caros y escasos para producciones antieconómicas que llevan en sí el germen de su propia decadencia.

Esto está también vinculado además a la preservación del equilibrio natural que ciertas prácticas ponen en peligro.

De esta manera debemos desarrollar la agricultura, no a cualquier costo, sino tratar de incrementar la producción donde las ventajas comparativas son evidentes. Esto nos obliga a referirnos al comercio mundial, el cual debe reconocer las grandes limitaciones crecientes que se tornarán agudas en el futuro, afectando la relación del gasto en energía fósil para transformar dicha energía en alimentos. Las grandes barreras proteccionistas que aíslan a economías enteras, en realidad dificultan el desarrollo de la agricultura en los países eficientes y, en definitiva, conspiran contra el abastecimiento mundial, ya que de alguna manera no permiten que la economía de escala se instale en los países que, por sus condiciones, tienen posibilidades de multiplicar la producción.

Creemos que debemos meditar profundamente sobre este aspecto del problema. Comprendemos desde ya, el deseo que tienen importantes países de contar con el abastecimiento agrícola propio, pero los llamados a la reflexión con respecto a cuál es el costo de ese gran proteccionismo, cuáles serán sus derivaciones futuras y hasta cuándo se podrá mantener económicamente este esquema, teniendo en cuenta las circunstancias por todos conocidas, que amenazan el abastecimiento de energía al mundo. Es por ello que aquellos países que tienen grandes necesidades de alimentos, no deben confiar en que podrán satisfacerlas indefinidamente con los excedentes subsidiados producidos por ciertos proteccionismos.

Lo razonable, es promover las producciones competitivas, operando aperturas reales y generales en las economías de los países, mejorando las relaciones de precios industriales y agrícolas, dejando circular libremente los adelantos tecnológicos. Esto provocará sin duda grandes transformaciones en las estructuras de la producción, tanto industrial como agraria, pero debemos afrontarlo si queremos dar respuesta a las necesidades del mundo.

La posición de la República Argentina es profundamente humanista. Tenemos confianza en el hombre, en su capacidad, en su imaginación y en su poder creativo. Creemos que es él, el que debe tomar las decisiones fundamentales en la economía y en la sociedad. Queremos poner en sus manos el desafío de responder a esta cuestión que los países aquí congregados deben analizar.

Hemos escuchado con emoción las palabras de Su Santidad el Papa Juan Pablo II que alumbran nuestros pensamientos y que orientarán nuestros debates. El ha. dicho en esta misma Sala que "...El Hambre en el mundo no siempre proviene únicamente de circunstancias geográficas, climáticas o agrícolas desfavorables, que son las que vosotros tratáis de mitigar gradualmente; proviene también del propio ser humano, de las deficiencias de la organización social, que impiden la iniciativa personal..."

Señor Presidente, el sistema económico que defendemos se basa en un gran respeto por el individuo, y es por ello que, partiendo de esta concepción cristiana de la vida, creemos firmemente que entre todos debemos lograr el marco para que ese gran protagonista de esta empresa humana de la agricultura y la alimentación, que es el hombre, movilice los recursos de la tierra y pueda llevar a cabo su tarea con confianza, estabilidad y dignidad.

C. A. GASSOU (Togo): Permettez-moi de vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, au nom de ma délégation, pour votre brillante élection à la Présidence de cette vingtième session de la Conférence générale de la FAO.

Nous sommes sûrs que sous votre conduite sage cette réunion obtiendra les résultats qui permettront à notre Organisation de faire un grand bond en avant vers nos objectifs.

Je voudrais également souhaiter la bienvenue aux Etats nouvellement admis comme Membres de notre Organisation, le Samoa et la Dominique, et je les en félicite.

Une fois de plus, nous voici au pied du mur, face aux dures réalités que vit notre planète. Le sombre tableau, maintes fois dépeint, n'a pas changé de visage. Des millions d'hommes, de femmes et d'enfants continuent à mourir de faim, à souffrir la misère la plus sombre que le monde ait jamais connue. Et pourtant, la technologie a atteint des sommets jamais égalés, les richesses du monde, prises globalement, ont atteint des dimensions sans bornes. Ces remarques contradictoires pour ne pas dire, aberrantes, trouvent leur justification dans l'égoïsme de l'homme moderne.

En effet, l'homme moderne, plus que dans le passé, est décidé à vivre la loi de la jungle et s'il lui arrivait de penser à son semblable c'est purement par compassion et c'est peu dire; si ceci est vrai entre humains il l'est encore plus entre nations, entre les communautés humaines qui se veulent à la fois universalistes et égocentriques.

Il n'est pas de notre propos de jeter l'anathème sur qui que ce soit, nous devons tous reconnaître notre part de responsabilité dans cette situation.

Pour calmer notre conscience, nous nous sommes ingéniés à instituer des conférences, symposiums, réunions et autres dialogues pour nous gargariser de mots que l'imagination humaine a vite fait de trouver pour les circonstances.

Des cris d'alarme sont jetés çà et là mais leurs échos sont allés se perdre dans les profondeurs de l'inconscience humaine. Le monde arrivera-t-il à changer son visage?

Bien des hommes y croient et continueront de le croire mais il est à craindre que le seuil de non-retour passé, la situation ne soit compromise à jamais.

Notre avant-propos s'est voulu volontiers pessimiste c'est pour dire que le problème alimentaire est et reste la préoccupation majeure de mon pays.

Dès l'accession de mon pays à l'indépendance et surtout après les sept premières années de tâtonnement, les instances gouvernementales, sous l'impulsion dynamique du Président de la République, Son Excellence, le Général d'Armée Gnassingbé Eyadéma ont résolument opté pour une politique qui vise essentiellement la satisfaction des besoins alimentaires des populations. Ainsi, l'agriculture est devenue la priorité des priorités et, contrairement aux options coloniales, qui avaient favorisé les cultures d'exportation, l'accent a été mis sur le développement des cultures vivrières; cultures vivrières pour la satisfaction des besoins alimentaires de la population, cultures vivrières pour servir de levier à la petite industrie de transformation, cultures vivrières enfin, pour servir la cause de la solidarité entre pays voisins. Pour servir de support à cette politique, un certain nombre de mesures ont été prises dont entre autres la planification du développement, la mise en place des structures adéquates, la stimulation des producteurs par une sage politique de paix, le développement des infrastructures routières, sanitaires et scolaires au niveau des zones rurales et enfin la réforme des structures foncières.

Après douze années d'efforts soutenus, nous pouvons tirer aujourd'hui une conclusion on ne peut plus flatteuse dans presque tous les domaines de la production agricole.

La campagne agricole qui s'achève connaîtra un succès encore plus grand que la précédente, démultipliant encore plus les problèmes de commercialisation et de stockage qui se posent. En effet, l'accroissement spectaculaire de la production des céréales a eu pour conséquence la chute des cours au niveau du producteur et surtout notre office de commercialisation des grains (TOGOGRAIN) après avoir rempli des silos et organisé sur une grande échelle le stockage de fortune, n'a pu résoudre le problème que partiellement. Il resterait, selon les statistiques, plus de 100 000 tonnes de céréales de la campagne de l'année dernière entre les mains des producteurs.

En ce qui concerne les productions de tubercules, le succès a été tout aussi éclatant, puisque leur consommation s'est étalée sur toute l'année alors que jusqu'ici elle ne couvrait que huit à dix mois de l'année.

Les autres productions vivrières ne sont pas en reste puisque les statistiques douanières n'en ont enregistré qu'un chiffre dérisoire dans les importations.

S'agissant des cultures d'exportation, le succès est beaucoup plus mitigé mais certain, car la courbe des moyennes de production est toujours ascendante. Le vaste programme de rénovation de la caféière et de la cacaoyère a porté ses fruits, nous garantissant une production plus sûre. Le programme des palmeraies sélectionnées incite d'ores et déjà à l'optimisme quant au résultat.

La production cotonnière, pendant longtemps stationnaire, a marqué le pas l'an dernier au point de nous poser le problème de collecte et d'égrenage du coton-graine.

Ces résultats ont été possibles grâce à la subvention des moyens de production par le Gouvernement pour les rendre accessibles aux paysans. Les engrais sont cédés aux paysans à 15 000 francs la tonne dans tout le territoire national alors qu'ils coûteraient autrement environ 80 000 francs la tonne. (Soit moins du 1/5 de sa valeur). Les pesticides sont distribués gratuitement pour le traitement des cultures d'exportation.

Cette analyse rapide de la situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture au Togo, vue sous l'angle des résultats globaux, est plutôt flatteuse mais lorsqu'on se réfère aux conditions qui ont présidé à la réalisation de ces résultats, il convient d'être plus circonspect.

En effet, les caprices climatologiques ne nous mettent jamais à l'abri des surprises; d'une année à l'autre on peut passer de l'abondance à la disette, d'autant plus que les structures de stockage au niveau du paysan sont si précaires qu'il ne peut éviter des pertes. C'est à ce niveau de mon propos que me vient une première réflexion sur le rôle que notre organisation peut jouer dans la lutte contre la faim dans le monde.

Un grand nombre de nos réunions a été consacré au problème de pertes de récoltes, de structure de stockage mais, jusqu'ici, tout ce qui a été fait n'a rien changé à la situation. A notre humble avis, la solution résiderait dans l'étude d'un moyen de stockage individuel, bien à la portée du petit paysan. Dans le même ordre d'idées il paraît souhaitable, et ceci dans le cadre des activités du PAM, de constituer au niveau d'un certain nombre de pays de grosses capacités de stockage de denrées alimentaires permettant une intervention rapide, en cas de besoin.

J'ajouterai que ces stocks seraient constitués à partir des achats effectués dans les pays voisins ayant des surplus. Il est permis de croire que les problèmes de commercialisation et des cours des produits dans les pays fournisseurs seraient résolus par voie de conséquence.

Les avantages d'une telle organisation sont certes multiples mais le plus notable vise à mettre à la disposition des consommateurs du pays bénéficiaire de l'aide une denrée qui entre dans les habitudes alimentaires des populations.

Vous nous permettez de revenir une fois de plus sur le problème de la climatologie. Nous avons tous ou presque tous ici enregistré des échecs dans le domaine des industries de transformation des produits agricoles, industries dont la réussite ou l'échec dépendront essentiellement de l'approvisionnement régulier et sûr, en matières premières. Quand la production de cette matière première est liée à la pluviométrie et exclusivement à la pluviométrie, nous pouvons être sûrs du résultat. Il n'est donc pas étonnant que dans leurs efforts d'industrialisation, bon nombre de nos pays s'orientent vers des industries manufacturières dont le fonctionnement régulier est garanti par une source d'approvisionnement non moins garantie en matière première.

Et pourtant, si l'on se réfère aux dires des spécialistes, il tombe sur notre planète et annuellement cinq ou six fois plus d'eau qu'il n'en est nécessaire pour assurer la croissance normale de toutes nos plantes cultivées.

Il y a là un paradoxe que seul le manque d'imagination peut expliquer. Nous ne pouvons pas nier que notre organisation, depuis très longtemps, a eu à se pencher sur le problème de la maîtrise de l'eau. Mais nous devons avouer que les résultats de son entreprise sont restés en deçà de nos espérances. Les réalisations grandioses, sophistiquées et coûteuses ont certes leur nécessité mais leur impact sur le monde paysan reste limité à un groupe marginal d'individus privilégiés. La solution serait de mettre à la disposition du petit paysan l'eau dont il a besoin et quand il en a besoin, pour cultiver son petit carré de terre.

Pour être un partenaire économique valable, l'agriculteur a besoin de s'entourer de toutes les sûretés dont bénéficient ses collègues des autres secteurs économiques. Nous avons foi que, dans les décennies qui viennent, le monde prendra davantage conscience du problème de l'eau.

Les efforts entrepris jusqu'ici sont réels mais modestes par rapport à l'ampleur des nécessités.

A ce niveau, nous voulons risquer une suggestion que nous inspire l'existence du FIDA, nouvel outil dont la communauté mondiale a voulu doter l'agriculture. Ses relations privilégiées avec la FAO nous laissent croire qu'un vaste programme dans le domaine de la maîtrise de l'eau pourrait être aisément réalisé de concert par les deux organisations, l'une étant chargée des études, l'autre intervenant dans le financement. C'est une orientation que nous devons imprimer à ces deux institutions dans les années à venir.

En insistant sur deux points de nos préoccupations, je ne perds pas de vue l'importance des autres problèmes qui se posent à nous. Il nous sera donné l'occasion, au cours de cette Conférence, d'y apporter notre humble contribution.

Pour terminer, ma délégation voudrait féliciter le Directeur général et ses collaborateurs pour la clarté avec laquelle les documents de travail ont été présentés à cette Conférence, et surtout pour le plan d'action audacieux pour la sécurité alimentaire, porteur d'espoir pour tous ces millions d'hommes, de femmes et d'enfants qui souffrent ou qui meurent de faim ou de malnutrition, alors que l'autre partie de l'humanité meurt d'avoir trop mangé.

A. DAHLGREN (Sweden) (interpretation from Swedish): first of all I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman and the other members of the bureau, on your election. I would also like to express my appreciation to the Director-General for his very challenging statement. Furthermore we welcome the new members of this Organization and are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation.

For the first time in five years, the total grain production of the world in 1979/80, is expected to fall below the consumption thereby causing a reduction of stocks. Although total available stocks will remain at a satisfactory level, the world food situation must be considered as precarious, given inter alia the serious malnutrition in many developing countries, the fast rise in grain imports, at increasing prices, of developing countries and the absence of a coordinated reserve stock system. This shows that we must vigorously continue, both nationally and internationally to work towards solutions to the problem concerning a stable world food security situation.

Against this background my delegation welcomes the proposed FAO five-point plan of action for increased world food security. This action plan would, forcefully implemented, make an important contribution in closing the dangerous gap in world food security left by the suspension of the negotiations for a new grains agreement. In this context, Mr. Chairman, I would like to underline the great importance Sweden attaches to a new grains agreement containing inter alia a system of internationally coordinated reserve stocks. Such an agreement constitutes in our view an absolutely essential element of a durable and effective world food security. Thus, no efforts must be spared to overcome the differences of opinion, how far apart they ever may be, now preventing the resumption of negotiations that would lead to a new and effective agreement. The international undertaking and the action plan, however, would no doubt have very important functions to fulfil even if a new grains agreement is concluded, as they in many ways are complementary.

With regard to the increasing uncertainties during past years concerning the long-run development in world agriculture, many of us have probably been looking forward to the first results of the FAO-project "Agriculture Toward 2000". Many studies of a similar nature have been made, but no clear picture of the likely future development has yet emerged. The unique competence and experience of the FAO-Secretariat in this field, have given us reason to expect that the "Agriculture Toward 2000" study will reduce the uncertainties and facilitate our assessment about the future.

The report indicates that global development up to the turn of the century will not be without its positive features. Thus the report in many respects outlines a less unsatisfactory development than some other recent studies. But there are still several distressing features, the most important of which is the rather gloomy prospects for the poorest developing countries, especially in Africa, but it may be to some extent, the future development for these countries might be improved but, as said in the report, this might involve considerable efforts in terms of increased production, exports, external assistance and improved distribution of income.

The study, however, indicates a conflict concerning the methods, which the developing countries have to choose, to increase their agricultural production and the consequences thereof on the environment, in the broadest sense of this word. The targets set for the food supply in the year 2000 presupposes, to a large extent, the use of the kind of technology based on abundant and cheap energy presently utilized by industrialized countries, i. e. an extended use of fertilizers, pesticides, heavy equipment, which easily could lead to impoverishment of the soil, pollution and erosion. In this context I would like to underline some of the ideas that were presented by the Director-General Saouma in his very thought-provoking statement to the United Nations Symposium in Stockholm this summer on the inter relationships among resources environment, population and development. Since all countries are faced with the energy crisis and the degradation of their environment it appears necessary to define and promote a new agricultural revolution. The techniques of this new agricultural revolution should be adapted to the environment to a great extent based on renewable inputs and resources.

If we are to manage our commitments for securing the global food supplies and at the same time use our limited resources much more carefully than in the past then great efforts are necessary, especially concerning research. If the present global research capacity to a greater extent than has been the case so far were to be directed to this peaceful agricultural revolution then I am convinced that we could shape the future according to these prerequisites.

Mr. President, let me now turn to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. The Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action represent a challenge to us all. It must not become another set of papers soon to be forgotten on some duty shelf. It must become the guiding principles for further action to enhance rural development and improve the conditions of the millions living in rural areas. New efforts and increased resources need to be devoted to its implementation.

The Swedish government attaches great importance to the further development and implementation of the programme of action. Technical consultations have already started between the FAO and the Swedish International Development Authority, SIDA, on ways to make the action programme operational. The Swedish government also stands ready to contribute financially to its implementation.

Rural development, however, cannot be achieved either by governments themselves or by international organizations. As was said by President Nyerere during the World Conference, rural development is people's development of themselves, their lives and environment.

I am convinced as President Nyerere that at any stage of development people do know what their basic needs are. And just as they will produce their own food if they have land so if they have sufficient freedom they can be relied upon to determine their own priorities of development and then to work for them.

Mr. President, I also would like to comment briefly on the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium. We can support the programme of work and the budget level. We appreciate that increased attention and increased resources have been given rural development. We also note with satisfaction that efforts will be made to accelerate the integration of women in economic and social life. Again I would like to stress that women's role as agricultural producer be given due attention. During the last FAO conference I advocated increased resources for forestry activities. This year I am pleased to note that forestry activities have been given increased resources. During the World Congress in Jakarta 1978 the main theme was "Forestry for People". The discussions were particularly directed to finding ways to develop forestry activities which would contribute to sound rural development and to meeting the needs of the rural poor, not least their energy needs.

In the forestry sector Sweden and the FAO cooperate in a programme called "Forestry for Local Community".

The tropical forests, the world's richest ecosystem, are diminishing at an alarming rate. They are vital to human existence in the tropics. Governments and international organization, not least FAO, should actively participate in the efforts of UNEP to develop proposals for an integrated programme of activities for conservation and wise utilization of tropical forests.

At the last Conference I also recommended that increased resources be allocated to the promotion of fisheries. I am now pleased to note that the promotion of fisheries has emerged as one of the most important themes to be discussed during this Conference. The extended economic zones have given many countries, both developing and developed, new potential resources for utilization for the benefit of their populations. But problems have also emerged from these EEZ's. Many want to share in the fishery resources and present fishing arrangements between developed and developing countries do not always give the benefits to the developing countries. For these and other reasons we find it important that the FAO is able to give strong support and assistance to developing countries to develop and manage their new resources. Sweden supports, in cooperation with the FAO, a major programme for the development of artisanal small-scale fisheries in the Bay of Bengal.

As I said earlier the Swedish government is of the opinion that the environmental aspects ought to be given a much greater role than in the past. This was also stressed during the Stockholm symposium I just referred to. For a global utilization of resources it is necessary to intensify the international cooperation and develop a system to manage these resources, a system that must above all provide for the developing countries to acquire an equitable share in the world use of natural resources. The Stockholm symposium recommended an international policy which could, *inter alia*, accord special treatment to the developed needs in the distribution of supplies. The Swedish government is convinced that the FAO could play an important role in the formulation of such an international policy.

We live in a time when important development questions are discussed in various fora, in the North-South dialogue, in the UN Committee of the Whole, in the committee for a new development strategy for the third Development Decade. The questions encompass many fields but one of the most important questions in all these deliberations concerns the role of agriculture and our possibilities to supply the world population with adequate food. If we also want to utilize the agricultural land production to produce energy, then we need to increase the agricultural production even further in order to meet the target set for the future food supply, enabling people to be free from hunger and malnutrition.

I am convinced that our organization stands ready to undertake the many and different tasks that we give to it and I am convinced that it will fulfill its duties in a rewarding and meritorious manner.

H. Y. ALNISF (Kuwait) (interpretation from Arabic): I wish to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman on your election to the Chair and I wish you every success in the guidance of our work. We have full confidence in your extremely capable leadership. I also congratulate the Chairman of the Commissions and wish them success in their work.

I am sure that all members of delegations will offer their full cooperation to your guidance. I should also like to offer our congratulations to the Director-General for all the efforts he has made on our behalf. We support the declaration made by the Director-General with respect to the policies of FAO and the provided budget increase. We thank the technical and administrative bodies of FAO for all their efforts which they have made over the past few years.

The last two years have been years of progress, both nationally and internationally, in agriculture and in food. All countries are making visible efforts to increase food production and to find proper solutions to their individual development problems. We also observe with optimism that the attention brought to bear upon food production and agriculture is not limited to those countries of high potential national resources but also applies to the countries which are located in the dry areas of the world. Following the distribution of the most recent agricultural developments and recent technological advances, the activities of FAO have certainly had extremely beneficial effects upon such areas of the world.

While I appreciate what the FAO has done and the excellent efforts which it has made in the areas of agriculture, without referring to figures individually, we still note that food production does not satisfy the world's requirements and does not tie to the world's increase in population. The world population requires fast increases in food reserves, whereas there is a serious shortfall in milk products, meat and many other food products. The average consumer in the importing countries for these products no longer considers that increased food prices which he has to pay are in any way dependent upon falls in production, but are due to the manipulations of the rich producing countries; in my country at least, this is a definite reality. This reality should be examined by this Conference because if this state of affairs is accepted for other products, it is absolutely unacceptable in the context of the satisfaction of the basic requirements of mankind.

In order to throw fog over this reality we note that in the producer countries there is a feeling

among the consumers of those countries which is similar to what we observe in ours: that the rise in food prices is a consequence of driving up the prices of oil by the oil producing countries. I shall not bother to refute such arguments since they have already been well refuted in other international fora. However, it is obvious to all that the price of crude oil is very modest as compared with the other major inputs of all developed societies. Furthermore income from the oil producing countries has in itself constituted a great stimulus to raising agricultural production in our own countries, as indeed it has opened up credit lines to many other countries, which has been to their very great benefit, all of which makes a considerable contribution to solving the world's agricultural problems. Certainly it does behove us to point to the disastrous behaviour of certain oil companies which double, or even triple the price of many oil products. They are often guilty of themselves disseminating false information so as to cover up their nefarious activities. I am sure these oil companies are conscious of the reality and now we know that most countries are doing all they can to control the worst aspects of the major oil companies, particularly those which have a monopoly position with respect to oil products, to the detriment of the consumer. We know there has been a determination to act against these companies to bring this state of affairs to an end. Oil income has contributed to setting up great agricultural projects in the developing countries. In my own country, where quite obviously nature does not benefit agricultural production, thanks to our oil income we have been able to compensate for the deficiencies of nature by taking certain steps, like setting up financing institutions to provide proper funding and soft loans to our own farmers and to farmers in developing countries. There is, for example, the Kuwaitian Fund for the Development of Arab Countries, which has a large capital base now, total loans come to two and a half billion dollars for October 1979. Furthermore, our participation in the OPEC fund is now one and a half billion dollars and through this fund we have supplied assistance to a lot of developing countries.

We are also a major contributor to the IFAD funds, to the Islamic Development Bank, to the Arab Development Bank in Africa and to the Arab Development Fund, and to many other international institutions.

The quantity of assistance supplied by the OPEC countries to the developing countries from 1975 to 1978 was eighteen and a half billion dollars. The portion of the Arab countries from OPEC came to more than fifteen billion of that total, that is the OPEC countries. The Arab OPEC countries have in fact been major suppliers of funding to the developing world during the aforementioned period.

The quantity of assistance in fact comes to ten percent of their GNP and I refer to statistics supplied by The World Bank and other international institutions. The OECD countries have supplied assistance which is not more than the 24 percent GNP in comparison with the amount we are supplying. I am not saying this is criticism to anyone, nor to point to any irresponsibility. Nevertheless, it is as well to have these facts in mind as we review the world agricultural situation which lies at the very centre of our discussion. We must avoid a deterioration of the present situation which is already bad enough, unless we wish to find ourselves in an utterly serious position in the future. The unfortunate effects proliferate throughout the world, apart from those developed countries which are self sufficient in agricultural production.

We also know that today we must assume our full responsibilities, we must make efforts to develop our funding resources and our individual potential so as to see that food supplies for the world are appropriate to the world population. Our objective is to supply food to the whole of our population in the proper quantities and in the right quality, in spite of the great limit that nature has imposed upon us. We are now engaged in a number of projects. We are developing our fisheries. We are increasing our cattle breeding resources. We are protecting agriculture in order to achieve progress and in order to lay down the proper basis for future increments. In these programmes we are cooperating with the other Gulf countries and with the FAO.

We have participated in the conference of agricultural ministers from Arab countries, that was the Gulf countries and the Arabian Peninsula. The results of which have been given due form now in cooperation projects. We are drawing up an itinerary of fishery resources in an attempt to improve fishery techniques based upon a due appreciation of the stocks which are available to us. We are also increasing cereal production, including the construction of silo storage facilities; increasing poultry production.

We are conscious of the role which is ours in the context of our general commitment to ensure food securities in our own area, in our own region and indeed, by this contribution to the world, it is by such cooperation we can fulfill the long-term requirements which must face up to the massive increase in world population. No matter what the factors of the immediate environment, each country must participate in the world effort. In spite of the limits imposed upon us by nature we are not sparing in our efforts.

However, countries with limited resources can only make a small contribution. It therefore follows logically that the greatest blow must fall upon the shoulders of those countries which have the major resources in fertile lands, and those which have the greatest agricultural potential, those countries which are self-sufficient in food supply and which have a surplus. This is particularly true for milk products, meat and food grains. The major load must certainly be borne by those countries which have the most modern agricultural techniques. I think it is only legitimate for the rest of the world to ask of these countries to assume the full burden which is theirs historically, in order to make such a contribution to world food security.

Those countries which have increased potential certainly must also be brought into the struggle. In our country clearly we think about the ways in which Arab lands may be brought under production. There are vast areas of Africa which could be properly used and which only require the necessary inputs to be used. I am sure this Conference will give full importance to these questions and will seek out the use of new resources other than the other resources which are conventionally exploited to date.

I hope all delegations will join me in my appeal to those countries which are technically advanced in their agriculture to help us merely to stand at the beginning of this long and arduous pathway.

I hope these remarks will be taken into due consideration by members of the commissions and the members of the delegations and by the administration of FAO, to whom I express my deep appreciation for activities undertaken recently and for what the FAO has done for us and for all other countries. I hope the results of this Conference will be positive.

The Near East regional bureau finds itself unable to fulfill its full role. We think that the regional bureau will not be able to do everything it can in its present headquarters as they are so located. Certainly I ask you, and I ask all members of this delegation to support our proposal to transfer the regional bureau to another country in the region. I ask the Director-General to take all the necessary steps to see that it is done. I am sure these comments will be taken into consideration by the Director-General and the relevant bodies of the FAO to whom I express our deep gratitude and appreciation for activities which have been undertaken over the last biennium. I hope the Conference will adopt the necessary resolutions to solve our problem and to spare no efforts to push forward these activities. More than ever today we require to be tenacious in our efforts, to be of great persistence, to solve the problems we have identified, many of which are long-term problems but unless we solve them we cannot ensure the welfare and happiness of humanity which is our common goal.

M. DAWOOD (Egypt) (interpretation from Arabic): It gives me pleasure at the outset to express to you my heartfelt congratulations on your election as Chairman of the present Conference of FAO and I am confident that under your able Chairmanship the deliberations of this Conference will lead us to achieve the goals of this important meeting.

It also gives me great pleasure as Minister of Agriculture for Egypt and Head of this Delegation to greet Mr. Eduoard Saouma, the Director-General of FAO and to take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation for his outstanding efforts to promote the objectives of this organization and its wellbeing. I would also like to express our admiration of the method which the Director-General applies in running the Organization, giving a wonderful example of international management by using effectively both the human and financial resources that are available to the Organization.

We would also like to express our approval of the Programme of Work and Budget for 1980/81 as presented to the Conference. It is an honour for the Egyptian people, who have practiced agriculture for over 5 000 years to participate with the international community in this Conference which is concerned with the study of the food and agricultural situation in this crucial state of the history of the world. It is also a pleasure for the Egyptian people to send their representatives to this international conference and while they do not spare any effort for creating a favourable atmosphere for the peoples of the region which would guarantee for agriculture its progress, and for the nations of the region, their prosperity.

On certain occasions in Egypt's modern history agriculture suffered a decline but only ten years ago we corrected the path of agriculture and agricultural development. Farm ownership is now settled in our country and the small farmers have become the main objective of development and they have now the right to determine their own future and progress. The state is now lifting gradually all restrictions that limit their activities. Egypt is now working on agricultural development along the lines of the international Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which was held earlier this year. Agricultural research resumed its activities and positive participation in developing high

yielding crop varieties, fertilizer needs, animal production and health, modification of techniques and so on. The agricultural worker is again using his ability and sharing the regional economy. There was a period when agriculture did not receive adequate attention, though it contributed more than thirty percent of the Nation's income and its workforce represented more than fifty-five percent of the population.

However, out of our belief in the right of the individual and the community to pursue methods that ensure progress and prosperity, expansion of new lands and increasing farming production in the old land became the landmark of our new economic policy. Although for some years now we have had successful farming seasons-according to the statistics of the FAO we have had the highest yields of some crops in the world-we look forward to the future with an ambitious plan in three directions.

The first direction is agricultural intensification and increasing agricultural inputs. You are well aware that Egypt has 6 million acres, giving a crop acreage of 11.9 million feddans, meaning that intensification is about 200 percent. We hope to increase this percentage together with inputs and efficiency.

Egypt is nearing self-sufficiency in the production of fertilizers, although we have increased fertilizer levels to 190 percent during the past four years, and we thank the FAO for its valuable assistance in supplying us with quantities of fertilizers during the period we needed them.

We today look forward to the assistance of the FAO and its experts in another important field, namely, trace elements, which are lacking in Egyptian lands and which represent an impediment to agricultural production. We hope that the FAO will undertake this study, and we hope that it will offer financial help in this field.

Egypt at the same time is also working in the direction of producing high yielding crop seeds, and with the efforts of 4,000 agricultural research workers we have achieved high yields and quality for the Egyptian long staple cotton varieties.

We also have certain high yield crops of Egyptian wheat that compare with some Mexican varieties, and we are also providing sister nations with other varieties. Despite this, we feel certain crops did not receive proper care and efficiency, such as lentils and onions, and we look forward to international cooperation to increase the cultivated area.

We also look forward to soil improvement especially under the conditions of the High Dam.

We also look forward to training extension and efforts in all other fields that would help the interests of the small farmers.

The second direction is to open new horizons to farm producers, especially oil seeds, and fishing industries. We thank the Secretariat of this Conference for including on the Agenda the fisheries activities and promotion as one of its main objectives. The water and fishery resources in the lakes and seas represent a major source of protein for all the Arab region. The Organization is undertaking a study of development of fisheries in the Red Sea through a project that would serve all countries bordering on this sea. Let us strengthen this project. It is one of the hopes in my country and in our region.

The third direction in which the FAO can assist us in our new agricultural policy is in increasing arable land through land reclamation, improvement and modification of irrigation methods and the production of high yielding and cash crops that would be exported all over the world for increasing cereal markets. We are in fact proud of our achievements in agricultural development in our region.

When the bells of peace announced the end of the Second World War and the United Nations Charter was ratified, and the socio-economic and political charts of the world were drawn, Egypt was the first country to respond to the appeal of the Organization, thus establishing the FAO Regional Office in the Near East. Since then we are doing our utmost to help ourselves and the others to achieve food security and to implement an agro-economic policy to meet the needs of the farmers, producers and consumers. If there are some difficulties that may confront us in this important development direction, we are confident of the ability of the Member Nations of this Organization to overcome them by sincere intentions towards eliminating them.

Honourable delegates, Napoleon once said: "You must know how to give before you can take". Egypt has given all it has to the world and to the Arab region. I ask you, distinguished delegates and Mr. Director-General, to stand firm against any move or violation of the principles of the United Nations, such principles which preserve and promote peace and prosperity.

B. MAHAMANE (Niger): La délégation nigérienne est heureuse de prendre la parole à l'occasion de la 20ème session de la Conférence générale de notre Organisation.

Qu'il me soit permis tout d'abord d'exprimer nos remerciements au Gouvernement et au peuple italien pour l'accueil extrêmement cordial que nous avons reçu. Nos remerciements vont aussi aux organisateurs de la conférence pour l'immense travail qu'ils ont réalisé afin de faciliter le déroulement de nos travaux.

Notre présence ici témoigne, si besoin en est, de l'intérêt tout particulier que nous accordons à la redynamisation de notre Organisation, mais aussi et surtout à porter notre modeste contribution aux débats que nous aurons à mener, au cours de cette session.

Notre Organisation, dans le préambule de son acte constitutif, s'est fixé comme principal objectif de libérer l'humanité de la faim et de la malnutrition. La situation mondiale sur le plan de la sécurité alimentaire est si fragile qu'il serait incomplet de faire un discours sans s'y référer.

La faim et la malnutrition demeurent des problèmes mondiaux qui ne peuvent être résolus que par une approche globale, dynamique, concertée et soutenue.

Notre monde actuel est malheureusement caractérisé par un égoïsme, où seul le langage d'intérêt prédomine les relations entre personnes, entre Etats et nations.

Aussi l'humanité se trouve-t-elle confrontée au noble défi qu'elle n'arrive malheureusement pas à lever. En fait, le fond du problème qui se pose à nous, s'agissant de la sécurité alimentaire, se présente sous deux aspects:

- comment nourrir les déshérités,
- comment accroître la productivité et atteindre l'autosuffisance. La situation actuelle des pays en voie de développement n'est guère brillante, malgré tous les efforts consentis de part et d'autre.

En effet, en 1978, la production alimentaire mondiale, spécialement pour les céréales, s'était révélée assez abondante, surtout pour les pays développés, et fortement insuffisante pour la grande majorité des pays en développement. Pour l'année 1979, les prévisions de production mondiale au niveau des pays développés sont moins bonnes. En conséquence, les gros importateurs, en l'occurrence les pays en voie de développement, augmenteront leurs importations. Ces importations ne feront que grever nos balances de paiements réduisant par là même nos capacités d'autofinancements.

Par ailleurs, les prix des céréales sont en hausse constante par suite de l'inflation, de la diminution des stocks et de l'augmentation des prix de transport. Ce transport constitue un des principaux goulots d'étranglement car les possibilités sont limitées et les stocks concentrés dans quelques régions ou pays.

Cette situation est surtout tragiquement ressentie par les pays enclavés dont le mien.

Les pays les plus pauvres voient leur position se dégrader presque annuellement. En 1977, ils ont enregistré un déficit de 8 pour cent par rapport aux besoins alors que les autres pays ont globalement un excédent de 5 pour cent. En Afrique, la production alimentaire par habitant a baissé de 1,2 pour cent par an durant la période 1970-1978.

Par ailleurs, les stocks céréaliers de report ont augmenté dans le monde, pour la quatrième année consécutive, atteignant environ 192 millions de tonnes à la fin de la campagne 1978/79, dépassant ainsi de 14 millions de tonnes (soit 8 pour cent) ceux de l'année précédente. Malgré cette amélioration, ces stocks ne représentent que 20 pour cent de la consommation des pays considérés.

L'accroissement prévu de 2 pour cent par an de la population mondiale d'une part, et l'amélioration des régimes alimentaires d'autre part, vont engendrer une demande des produits alimentaires en accroissement de 2,3 pour cent par an, soit une augmentation des besoins d'environ 75 pour cent entre 1975 et l'an 2000.

Entre 1980 et 1990, la demande des produits alimentaires pour les pays en voie de développement connaîtra une augmentation de 3,8 pour cent.

Le fossé entre développés et sous-développés ne fait donc que se creuser davantage. Il faut par conséquent réduire l'écart des revenus entre pays pauvres et pays riches, accroître la superficie des terres cultivées et augmenter la production d'engrais, de semences améliorées et de pesticides.

Ces questions nous préoccupent au plus haut niveau du fait que nous avons le triste privilège d'appartenir aux 25 pays les plus pauvres. D'autre part, vous n'ignorez pas que mon pays a supporté et supporte encore les conséquences de la tragique sécheresse qui a frappé l'ensemble des pays sahéliens.

Cette douloureuse réalité que nous vivons ne pourra que s'amplifier tant qu'une solution radicale n'est pas trouvée. En nous référant à la solution préconisée par la Conférence mondiale pour l'alimentation tenue ici même en 1974 et les conclusions du Conseil mondial de l'alimentation à sa cinquième session, tenue à Ottawa du 4 au 7 septembre 1979, force nous est de constater que beaucoup reste à faire dans le cadre de la solidarité internationale. Loin de nous l'intention de minimiser tous les efforts qui ont été entrepris sur le plan mondial, à savoir:

- 1) le changement d'esprit des principales institutions de financement, en particulier la Banque mondiale, qui orientent leurs interventions dans le secteur agricole,
- 2) la création du FIDA,
- 3) la récente Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural qui s'est tenue en juillet dernier ici même.

Le sens de la solidarité humaine est peut-être plus développé qu'il ne l'a jamais été au cours de l'histoire. Le droit de manger à sa faim est désormais accepté et proclamé par toutes les assemblées y compris celles des institutions de financement.

L'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture, creuset de cette solidarité humaine, a élargi le champ de ses activités par le financement de certaines activités de terrain sur son budget ordinaire, système qui a été récemment réadopté avec l'établissement de son programme de coopération technique (PCT).

La mise en route du PCT a marqué le renouvellement d'une dimension fondamentale donnée à la FAO par son acte constitutif, à savoir la possibilité de puiser dans ses propres ressources financières pour venir en aide aux pays membres. Le PCT vise donc à donner à la FAO la possibilité de répondre avec promptitude et souplesse aux demandes d'aide d'urgence des gouvernements membres, lorsqu'il s'agit d'opérations limitées mais cruciales.

Dès 1960, la FAO a lancé la Campagne mondiale contre la faim. En 1964, elle a mis en route un programme de coopération avec la Banque mondiale dans le but de stimuler l'investissement dans l'agriculture des pays en voie de développement. Par la suite, des accords similaires ont été conclus avec des banques de développement régionales.

La Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation réunie à Rome en 1974 a adopté une Déclaration universelle sur l'élimination définitive de la faim et de la malnutrition qui proclame que "chaque homme, femme et enfant a le droit inaliénable d'être libéré de la faim et de la malnutrition... En conséquence, l'élimination définitive de la faim est un objectif commun à tous les pays de la collectivité internationale, notamment des pays développés et des autres Etats en mesure de fournir une aide".

La Banque mondiale, quant à elle, par l'intermédiaire de l'Association internationale de développement (IDA) et ses autres interventions spécialisées, ne cesse d'apporter son concours dans le cadre de financement de multiples projets agricoles en général.

Tous ces efforts déployés par la Communauté internationale dans son ensemble, et en particulier le travail accompli par la FAO et les autres institutions spécialisées du système des Nations Unies, nous permet d'aborder avec beaucoup plus d'optimisme les perspectives à l'an 2000.

Le document "Agriculture horizon 2000: Perspectives de développement de la production alimentaire" dans ses grandes lignes rejoint le cadre de notre politique de développement rural définie dans notre programme triennal 1976-78 et qui se poursuivra dans le cadre du plan quinquennal 79-83. Les recommandations de la FAO, nous les soutenons, car faisant partie de nos options en matière de développement, notamment pour:

- les choix des stratégies,
- les principaux facteurs d'accroissement des productions,
- les investissements et la recherche en vue de la production végétale,
- l'organisation coopérative et la commercialisation.

La sécurité alimentaire n'a pas de prix. Les efforts devront donc porter surtout sur le développement de la riziculture et des systèmes d'irrigation, l'utilisation accrue des engrais, des semences, des pesticides, et la réduction des pertes avant et après récolte.

La recherche agronomique doit être renforcée grâce à une meilleure coopération internationale et les résultats doivent être bien vulgarisés.

Il faut également développer les coopératives, la formation, le crédit agricole, l'information en milieu rural, améliorer la nutrition et concrétiser les conclusions sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Il est indispensable d'instituer un système fonctionnel d'alerte alimentaire et mettre en application le plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Les investissements dans le monde rural doivent augmenter. Aussi, la Banque mondiale doit accroître ses engagements de 50 pour cent pour l'exercice 1979-83 en les portant à 16 milliards de dollars E.-U. , et les trois banques régionales de développement doivent porter leurs prêts à 1,2 milliard de dollars E.-U. par an.

Cependant, même avec l'intervention du FIDA, l'objectif annuel de 8,3 milliards de dollars US d'aide extérieure représentant le tiers des investissements nécessaires à l'agriculture des pays en voie de développement est loin d'être atteint.

Pour les nations les plus pauvres de ce monde, l'autosuffisance alimentaire doit être un but essentiel, et tous les moyens visant au développement rural doivent être utilisés.

L'agriculture des pays en développement nécessite un investissement annuel d'environ 24 milliards de dollars E.-U. Cette somme, qui à priori peut paraître colossale, n'est en fait que le réel objectif fixé par la communauté internationale, depuis la Conférence mondiale sur l'alimentation en 1974.

Si l'autosuffisance alimentaire est une urgente nécessité pour les pays en développement, elle doit l'être aussi pour les pays développés. Sans autosuffisance alimentaire de pays en voie de développement il n'y aura pas d'expansion économique pour tout le monde. Certes, la question relative à la sécurité alimentaire ne date pas d'aujourd'hui; force nous est de constater qu'elle se présente de nos jours avec une telle acuité qu'une solution urgente même coûteuse s'impose, car, pour nous tous, développés et sous-développés, la priorité des priorités doit être cette autosuffisance alimentaire. Nous écarter de cette voie revient à nous condamner mutuellement.

La solidarité humaine ne veut en aucun cas signifier que nous devons croiser les bras et attendre que tout nous tombe du ciel. Il faut par conséquent juger à leur juste valeur tous les efforts très importants qui ont été réalisés dans la plupart de nos pays en voie de développement.

Mon pays, le Niger, est solidaire avec tous les pays en voie de développement en général et avec les pays sahéliens en particulier. Après ces considérations générales, permettez-moi de vous préciser la situation actuelle dans mon pays.

Les années difficiles que nous a infligées la dernière sécheresse, difficultés dont les séquelles ne sont pas encore effacées, nous ont amenés à redéfinir notre politique de développement rural. C'est ainsi que, au Niger, les objectifs prioritaires en ce qui concerne le développement rural sont l'autosuffisance alimentaire du pays et l'élévation du niveau de vie du monde rural. Cette politique, fondée sur une vision à long terme s'appuie sur trois volets principaux:

- la production végétale
- la production animale et
- la lutte contre la désertification.

Par ailleurs, conscients du fait qu'aucune politique de développement rural ne peut réussir sans la participation effective des masses rurales (composante principale), nous avons opté pour le développement du système coopératif dans les zones rurales.

Au cours de la période 1974/79, il a été investi environ 60 milliards de francs CFA, soit sensiblement le tiers des investissements réalisés dans le pays. Cette action sera renforcée pour les cinq prochaines années à venir.

Pour assurer l'autosuffisance alimentaire, indépendamment des aléas climatiques, le Conseil militaire suprême et le Gouvernement nigériens ont choisi la voie des réalisations des travaux hydrauliques afin de garantir l'alimentation de notre peuple. D'ici 1980, nous programmons la réalisation de plus de 8 000 ha dans la vallée du fleuve, 5 000 ha dans la maggia, et enfin 500 ha dans la Komadougou. Cependant, la superficie déjà aménagée ne représente que 5 440 ha. Nous fondons l'espoir de voir ces superficies s'accroître avec l'avènement de l'important projet de barrage de Kandaji sur le fleuve Niger.

En attendant le démarrage de vastes programmes d'aménagement hydro-agricoles, force nous est d'accorder une importance capitale au changement du système de production en zone dunaire (cultures pluviales). Ce changement, nous entendons le concrétiser grâce à nos projets régionaux de productivité dont les objectifs principaux sont:

- l'intensification des cultures vivrières
- la fourniture de moyens de production (intrants et crédit agricole)
- la régénération et le maintien de la fertilité des sols
- la protection des cultures
- l'encouragement de l'association agriculture-élevage, et
- le renforcement des structures paysannes et d'auto-encadrement.

La presse internationale s'est largement fait l'écho d'une déclaration de notre Chef d'Etat en octobre dernier. En effet, pour la présente campagne agricole 1979/80, le Niger a atteint un certain équilibre pour ses besoins en céréales, mil et sorgho, qui représente 80 pour cent de nos besoins nutritionnels. Cette situation ne veut en aucun cas signifier que le Niger ne procédera pas à des importations de riz et de blé.

Oui, cette année encore le Niger aura besoin d'aide alimentaire s'agissant du riz. En effet, notre production de riz ne permet pas de couvrir nos besoins. Nous aurons besoin de 15 000 tonnes de riz pour couvrir nos besoins au cours de la campagne 1979/80. Le Niger aura besoin aussi d'une assistance pour l'aider à reconstituer ses stocks du niveau coopératif à l'ensemble national. L'équilibre actuel sur le plan de nos besoins en mil et sorgho est conjoncturel car il ne faut jamais perdre de vue que nous sommes au coeur du Sahel. C'est pourquoi nous demandons à la communauté internationale de nous assister afin de reconstituer nos stocks.

Cette vingtième session de la Conférence ne peut se permettre une simple reformulation de conclusions passées, mais être l'occasion d'exprimer la solidarité de tous les peuples du monde ici réunis, et de définir le ferme engagement de part et d'autre, afin de mettre en oeuvre les véritables solutions susceptibles de résoudre de façon durable ce problème essentiel du développement rural et de la sécurité alimentaire. Ceci va dans le sens de la Déclaration universelle sur l'élimination définitive de la faim et de la malnutrition adoptée par la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation, réunie ici même en 1974.

L'alimentation de nos populations sera un leurre, tant que nous n'arriverons pas à vaincre l'égoïsme des nantis d'une part, et d'autre part tant que nous n'aurons pas une réelle volonté de compter d'abord sur nos propres forces.

Le développement rural en général et la garantie d'une sécurité alimentaire en particulier seront inévitablement des entreprises très coûteuses sur le plan politique et économique. Avons-nous le droit de regarder cet aspect coût quand il s'agit de garantir l'alimentation de base à tout homme qui vit sur notre planète ? Avons-nous aussi le droit de penser au coût de ces nobles entreprises quand l'objectif c'est d'éloigner le spectre de la faim et de la malnutrition de toutes nos sociétés ?

Pour coûteuse qu'elle soit, la voie du développement rural en général et de la garantie d'une sécurité alimentaire mondiale est la plus juste, la plus sécurisante pour tous les pays développés et sous-développés.

Le Niger nouveau a choisi cette voie, conscient des multiples sacrifices qu'il faut consentir.

M. ALON (Israel): Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my delegation, please accept our congratulations on your election as chairman of this conference and I *am* sure that under your wise guidance the deliberations of this conference will reach successful results. I would like also to extend a warm welcome to the two new members of our organization: Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica.

We meet these days in Rome to review the world food and agricultural situation, to assess the activities of our organization during the last biennium and those proposed for the next biennium.

I would like to express here our gratitude and appreciation to the Director-General and the Secretariat for their unending and most commendable efforts to carry on the activities of FAO, improve the lot of the hungry of this world and lastly for the preparation of this conference including the most detailed and comprehensive set of documents submitted to us.

Regretfully at the outset, Mr. Chairman, with your permission I wish to make a preliminary remark. Some delegate found it appropriate to raise from this rostrum some remarks affecting the Middle East, singling out my country. We feel, as most of those present here must feel, that we have gathered in this conference from all corners of the world to concentrate on plans that hopefully will alleviate the critical problems of a famine-stricken world and widespread rural poverty. I can assure you Mr. Chairman that we will not lend support to such an attempt to divert attention from the main task in hand, because we earnestly strive for a successful outcome of this Conference. May I suggest that such political matters be discussed in the relevant fora or bodies and not here. I would like to reiterate, though it is well known, that my Government and people are more than ready and willing to cooperate with member states of our region, as we do already in many parts of the world, in order to meet the aspirations of a better and happier morrow by accelerating food production and rural development in the spirit of the Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.

Allow me to highlight some achievements of our agriculture. During the last 25 years Israel's agricultural production increased almost twelve-fold in real terms. Today one employee in agriculture produces a food basket at a relatively high nutritional level for 50 people. This is the result of agriculture on 420 thousand hectares of arable lands of which 180 thousand hectares are under irrigation. Although the agricultural sector today constitutes only about 6% of the National Income and 5% of total investments, yet the agricultural sector provides 95% of local demand for food and fibre products since agricultural exports pay for the total import bill for food and inputs required by the sector.

Israel is currently exporting about 40% of its agricultural production and hopes to raise this share to 50% by the mid-eighties.

Undoubtedly this progress and situation is due to the supporting system and the cooperative structure of the sector. At present the annual growth rate of the sector is 6-7% in spite of the fact that the cultivated area and the water available for agriculture has not been increased for the last fifteen years.

Mr. Chairman, we have no intention of burdening you with a lengthy and quantitative description of Israel's agricultural developments. A fuller description is submitted with your permission for the records.

With reference to the main subject of this Conference, which is Agriculture in the year 2000. I would like to mention that technology, planning, extension and research have made it possible to increase the amount of irrigable lands in the Negev desert of our country from 44 thousand hectares in 1950 to 120 000 hectares today. This, today, indicates the possibility of developing for the future 10 thousand additional farm units based on very intensive controlled agriculture.

In a nutshell, there is a great future in Arid Zone development provided that concerted efforts are made to introduce new approaches and technologies that can widen the economic frontiers of many countries. We visualize that in the year 2000 agricultural concepts and practices that were thought either too impracticable or too expensive will become commonly applicable such as: the use of saline water for agricultural production; the application of drip irrigation; the introduction of desert plants for industrial uses; the application of solar energy for agricultural needs; fish farming in saline waters; the development and use of early maturing crop varieties and the speedling system for multicropping practices; the development of drought-resistant crop varieties.

These and many other technologies will revolutionize agriculture in the year 2000.

Mr. Chairman, Israel has not forgotten that it is itself indebted to FAO for assistance received during the first years of its independence and it is proud today to be able to share its experience and contribute, in a modest way, with the agricultural development of other developing countries.

We welcome FAO's work in grain storage, and crop-loss prevention. In this respect we wish to express our desire for-and support of-the establishment of an international crop-loss insurance scheme to assist developing countries in promoting national crop-loss insurance programs. This position was expressed by me at the UNCTAD meeting in Nairobi and by the Israeli delegation at the UNCTAD meeting in Manila.

In the field of regional and international cooperation, Israel can contribute towards an improvement of food production, including inexpensive items of basic commodities; for instance, production of fish as an inexpensive substitute for meat. Our experience in aquaculture can focus on the following areas: improving fishing methods including polycultural, and use of modern equipment; organization of the branch (production, marketing and storage); training for manpower in the fishing branch; regional and international research on fishing. One word on technical cooperation. Israel's technical cooperation programs abroad started 20 years ago. These cooperation programs were motivated by the concept that by international cooperation Israel could make her modest contribution to the rural agricultural and socio-economic development of the Third World countries. Our experience shows that the principles of rural development, based on adequate supporting systems and rural services organization, meet in many cases the requirements of agrarian development programs.

Another major field where Israel can contribute her hard-earned experience is in arid zone research and development. Israel is willing to share her experience and efforts in developing technologies in the use of solar energy for agricultural purposes, reforestation of selected desertified areas, water resource development, irrigation practices and the exploitation of saline water.

I wish to refer briefly to the excellent work achieved by the European Research Networks and express once more our willingness to assist this scheme in order to enable it to transfer the research results to the developing countries.

By the year 2000 we would like to see the farmers equipped with a strong supporting system, involving applied research, extension services, marketing outlets, institutional framework, credit systems and planning methods, and hope that the Israel contribution will make its impact.

In conclusion, may I say that with the signing of Israel's first peace treaty in the region, my Government is prepared to enter into bilateral, trilateral and multilateral technical agricultural cooperation for the benefit of the farming communities in our region, as well as any other subregion interested-to the limit of our abilities.

J. L. B. DAFFE (Gambia): Mr. President, distinguished delegates: Allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this august assembly and to thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this important Conference which has on its agenda matters of tremendous importance and concern to the entire World Community. For the duration of this conference and indeed for a long time after it the attention of all, interested in the welfare of man, will be focused on our deliberations and the solutions we propose to the serious problems of hunger and malnutrition affecting a large proportion of the world population. I have no doubt that this conference will live up to the expectations of the World Community and make a significant contribution to the fight against world hunger.

In Gambia, we continue to give priority to agricultural development and to support programmes aimed at increasing food production -- yet the situation as regards agricultural production remains precarious and uncertain. Continuous exposure to drought conditions over the past decade has shaken confidence in the rain fed agricultural sector and negated the tremendous efforts made, at considerable cost, to increase production and enhance our food self-sufficiency ratio. We continue to depend on rainfall for agricultural production.

When we last met here in 1977 most of the countries of the Sahel were affected by a serious drought and agricultural production declined considerably. The situation improved in 1978 when normal rainfall was received in most of our region; the unseasonal rains we received in November last year and January this year did considerable damage to both cash and food crops; too much rain is as much an adverse weather condition affecting production as too little rain. The situation in which we rely entirely on nature to provide the right amount of rain at the right time is precarious to say the least and makes for uncertainty in the realisation of our production targets.

Total precipitation of less than half the normal rainfall for September and October this year has created another crisis situation in The Gambia. Inadequate rainfall at a time when the water requirement of the crops for reproduction was great has resulted in light and shrivelled nuts with inadequately developed kernels for the groundnut crop and improperly developed or empty panicles for the sorghum and rice crops; the yields are likely to be low and the decrease in production considerable. The Gambia will need the assistance of the international Community in this difficult situation.

The long-term solution to the problem of drought is to tap our surface and groundwater resources. While we lament the lack of rain and its repercussions on agricultural production we lose through river flows each year billions of cubic metres of fresh water which can be used for crop production. In the framework of an integrated approach to the development of The Gambia River Basin. The Governments of Senegal and The Gambia are fully committed to the construction of an antisalt barrage on the River Gambia which will arrest salt water intrusion upstream of the barrage and create a reservoir of fresh water for the irrigation of thousands of hectares of fertile land. Without the antisalt barrage, the prospects of increasing food production to the level of self-sufficiency are very bleak indeed.

The effort to increase food crop production is one facet of a larger national endeavour to develop and exploit our natural resources. The development of our fisheries resources is being actively pursued not only in pursuit of our objective to diversify The Gambian economy but also in view of the urgent need to improve our nutritional standards. With the assistance of the FAO and E. E. C, we have embarked on a scheme to increase our catches and to market fish locally and overseas. We are confident that in due course the fisheries sector will make a significant impact on the national economy in terms of employment and income generation, foreign exchange earnings and improved nutritional standards.

Developments in the livestock sector will focus on improved husbandry, grazing land development and utilisation, with US AID assistance a mixed farming and resource management project will be implemented soon. The purpose of the project is to foster intensification and integration of the crop and livestock enterprises within existing Gambian farming systems so as to contribute to increasing net rural family incomes on an ecologically sound and sustained yield basis. The Project also provides for improved crop and forage production and management and improved rural technology.

The fight against cattle diseases, particularly trypanosomiasis continues to be given priority. We are ready and keen to co-operate with FAO and other interested countries and agencies in further research on and propagation of the Ndama cattle which has partial resistance to trypanosomiasis-a disease which is fast decimating our cattle population. I am confident that with the continued assistance of FAO our efforts to control the disease will bear fruit and result in the increase animal production.

I wish to take this opportunity to reaffirm my country's faith in the FAO as a valuable instrument in the service of mankind, particularly the needy and hungry people of the developing countries.

We have confidence in the pragmatic Director-General of the Organization and we thank him and his staff very sincerely for the good work they have done in the preparation of this Conference, and more importantly in the execution of the various programmes of work for the development of food and agriculture.

The meeting rose at 18. 00 hours

La seanoce est levee a 18 heures

Se levanta la sesión a las 18. 00 horas

conference

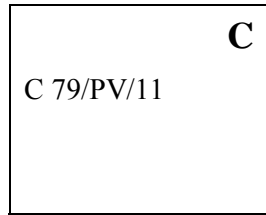
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

ELEVENTH PLENARY MEETING
ONZIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
11ª SESION PLENARIA
(16 November 1979)

The Eleventh Plenary Meeting was opened at 09. 45 hours M. F. Janjua, Vice-Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La onzième seance plénière est ouverte à 09 h 45, sous la présidence de M. F. Janjua, Vice-Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 11ª Sesión Plenaria a las 09. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de M. F. Janjua, Vicepresidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DES DELEGATIONS SUIVANTES (suite)
- DECLARACIONES DE LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

B. P. THEWE (Nepal): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me join the distinguished delegates and congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your unanimous election to the high office from where you will be guiding the proceedings of this august conference. We are very happy to welcome two new members in our family, the Republic of Dominica and Western Samoa.

Let me also convey, through you, to this conference the best wishes of His Majesty the King of Nepal for its successful conclusion.

Mr. Chairman, we have listened with great interest to the statements made by His Holiness the Pope, His Excellency the President of Zambia and the Director-General of FAO. The Kingdom of Nepal has been one of those countries which strongly support the preservation of human rights and struggle hard for the eradication of hunger and poverty; we share the views expressed by His Excellency the President of Zambia as Zambia and Nepal are similar in so many respects and we are one of those who admire the excellent deeds of the Food and Agriculture Organization in the International sphere.

Just about four months ago I had the privilege to represent His Majesty's Government of Nepal in the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Committed to the agrarian reform and rural development programmes, Nepal is very keenly interested in the follow-up actions proposed by this conference. I hope our active cooperation will bear some fruit not only for the benefit of Nepal and its people but also for the Third World as a whole.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to say a few words about the food and agricultural situation in Nepal. I am pleased to report that, under the able and dynamic leadership of His Majesty King Birendra and following the partyless Panchayat system of democracy which ensures people's participation right from the grass-root level, we have been able to create a conducive environment for an all-round economic and social development of Nepal. Despite difficulties, we have achieved a degree of success in making concrete progress towards the betterment of living conditions of the Nepalese people. In this effort, our aim has always been to assign the highest priorities to the development of the rural sector.

Our economy is basically a rural one, no matter with what standard we choose to measure it. Over nine-tenths of our people live and work in the rural areas and a large majority of the national output is generated in this sector. For us, rural development is synonymous with national development. We are also convinced that agricultural development alone is not adequate to raise the standard of living of the rural people. We have therefore adopted a strategy of integrated rural development wherein the entire rural economy becomes vibrant and a proper use of surplus labour and land is assured for the benefit of the rural people. With agriculture as the core component in the strategy, it embraces the entire gamut of activities bearing on the development of the rural society.

Mr. Chairman, various friendly nations and multilateral organizations have been of immense help to us in boosting our efforts in the activities concerning rural development. There has been a growing emphasis on investment programmes and project formulation for investment purposes. While welcoming this trend, we feel that so far no comprehensive research and studies have been undertaken on the problems of high-altitude agriculture. In view of the Nepalese terrain and topography, high-altitude agricultural development should play a significant role in the country's development programme, but the institutional arrangements needed for the continuous and persistent efforts on the problem of high-altitude agriculture are still inadequate. For obvious reasons, Nepal is unable to make such arrangements entirely on her own. International cooperation is therefore required in establishing an international High-Altitude Agriculture Research Centre. Nepal will be pleased to offer the venue for such a centre.

The problem of ecology has also been a matter of serious concern to us. During the last three decades, at least half of the forests on the mountain slopes of the country are estimated to have been destroyed. It is also estimated that the area under forest at present is only around one tenth of the country's total area. Recurrent floods cause severe landslides in the upper parts and heavy siltage in the lower regions of the Himalayas. Soil erosion has proved to be a trouble not only to Nepal but also to her neighbours. Though we have been attempting to check this problem with the cooperation of bilateral and multilateral agencies, which we appreciate very much, we find that a great deal has yet to be done and Nepal alone is not in a position to solve this problem. We therefore urge further international cooperation.

Mr. Chairman, we abound in water, but the harnessing of this resource has been insignificant. Although the economically-exploitable hydropower potential of Nepal is estimated at about 8 000 megawatts, the total installed capacity has not even reached 100 megawatts. Potentially, we should be able to irrigate all the cultivable land but, in reality, only less than ten percent of the cultivated land has irrigation facilities. Despite her persevering attempts, Nepal has not been able to attain significant progress in this regard. It would require substantial assistance from outside to enable us to harness water resources in order to improve our economy on a sustained basis. We trust that any assistance to Nepal in this sphere will be of immense benefit not only to her, but also to those who are willing to share the benefits with us.

Our agriculture, which is the mainstay of our economy, is very much dependent on the vagaries of the weather and one bad harvest is bound to have a chain reaction which affects many to follow. This year we are facing the same problem. Owing to the bad weather, major food crops like rice, maize and millet have suffered very badly. As a result, it is estimated that the loss in the output of these crops put together will account for as high as twenty percent of the normal production. This is going to create a serious food shortage in the year ahead, specially in the remote and food deficit pockets of the country. Although we, on our part, are taking measures to reduce the magnitude of the problem by way of increasing the output of wheat and by mobilizing as much of the food grains as possible in the deficit areas, yet we feel that these measures alone will not be sufficient to meet the problem. The near-famine condition is being averted at the present time thanks to the prompt contribution of 11 000 metric tons of wheat which have just been made available through the World Food Programme under its emergency programme, for which we are very grateful; but, I am afraid, this is not quite enough in relation to our requirements, which exceed well beyond 100 000 metric tons, but I do hope we shall get enough aid from both multilateral and bilateral sources.

Mr. Chairman, in addition to the measures taken to solve the serious problem of immediate nature, we feel that the permanent threat of hunger can be avoided if concrete actions are taken to make food readily available even when nature betrays us. In this context we consider the World Food Security as a more effective and pronounced mechanism. We are of the belief that future food shortfalls can be effectively met if buffer stocks of food are maintained within the country. Nepal, therefore, firmly supports the five-point plan presented by the Director-General in this regard.

The problem of food security in Nepal has to be viewed in a slightly different way than in many other countries. There are areas in Nepal which produce surplus food but the restricted development in the infrastructure greatly hampers the mobility of food and the areas which are in deficit remain always deficient. Therefore, there is a continued need for an accelerated development of these deficit areas with a view to attaining their self-sufficiency.

In this context, we feel that there are tremendous potentialities for increasing the agricultural output provided the sectoral as well as international terms of trade are favourable to agriculture. Both national and international efforts with firm commitments are required in this direction. We, on our part, and within the limited resources available to us, are trying our best to make sure that the farmers receive incentives for increasing their output. But there is a limit beyond which they cannot go. In this respect, we had pinned high hopes that the New International Economic Order would prove not so much as a gift of semantic pleasantries for developing nations but as an action-oriented programme that would provide for the minimum needs of food, shelter and clothing. Unfortunately, the results have so far belied our hopes and we share with the Director-General the disappointment and frustration he has indicated concerning the lack of progress so far made.

Among the developing countries, Nepal is in a particularly disadvantageous position not only because it is a land-locked country but also because it has a very different terrain which puts her in a special category. Nepal is forced to pay a relatively higher cost for transporting imported inputs and her exports are equally costly, thus adversely affecting her competitiveness in the world market. In most cases, for instance, the cost of transporting fertilizers to the hilly areas of the country exceeds the price of fertilizers. We therefore hope that the aid-giving agencies keep this fact uppermost in their minds.

The technical cooperation programme of FAO has been of great help to Nepal. I hope a number of countries beset with the lack of technically-equipped manpower have a similar feeling. We therefore strongly support this programme and also urge for greater assistance than heretofore.

There is no doubt that the countries with similar development problems can fruitfully share their experiences in overcoming their common problems. In this respect, Technical and Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries can certainly be of mutual benefit. There are, however, certain difficulties, particularly in matters of finance, which impede the progress of the least developed among the developing countries; and there is, therefore, a continued need of assistance from the developed countries and international organizations to supplement our own efforts.

In spite of the progress recorded over the last decade, agricultural production in many parts of the world has not been keeping pace with the increased population. Yet I am optimistic that this assembly will arrive at conclusions that will be meaningful for the common man. I am equally confident that under your able leadership, we will have fruitful discussions not only on problems of food and hunger but also on ways and means to solve them.

A. J. J. JACKSON (Sierra Leone): Mr. Acting Chairman, fellow delegates, observers, with your permission let me congratulate the Acting Chairman for assuming this high office: congratulate the Chairman and all of the Vice-Chairmen, conference officials for the good job they have been doing.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica for their admission to this Organization. My country welcomes them very happily.

I would also like to take this opportunity to bring you greetings from my president, Dr. Siaka Stevens, the government and the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone is a relatively small coastal West African country sandwiched by the Republics of Guinea and Liberia and the Atlantic Ocean. It is mainly English-speaking. About 85 percent of the population estimated to be about 4.5 millions, live in the rural area and the main activity is subsistence agriculture.

The broad policy of Government over the last decade has been to give priority to the agricultural and rural development sectors. The agricultural policy is geared towards assisting the farmers to produce the staple food crop for domestic consumption and cash crops mainly coffee and cocoa, for export purposes. Timber and fish are exploited from the natural reserves for both domestic uses and export earnings. With livestock we depend on importation from neighbouring countries to supplement our national supply.

The Government Agricultural Extension Service offers technical advisory services at no cost to the farmer while agricultural inputs, including mechanical cultivation for the production of rice, are heavily subsidised by the Government.

As a new approach to improve on existing production methods, my Government has adopted the strategy of Integrated Rural Development projects, some of the basic components of which include an improved extension service, provision of credit facilities to farmers, improved health facilities, construction of feeder roads and village wells. Three of these projects are already on-going while three others are expected to be implemented in the next few months.

It is worthwhile to note that the Food and Agriculture Organization assisted greatly in preparing the studies leading to the implementation and in identifying appropriate Financing Agencies which include the World Bank, the European Development Fund, the African Development Bank, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The main activity of all the projects is the production of rice, the staple food of the country. There are five ecological zones from which rice is produced, these in order of decreasing yield per unit area are the Riverian Grasslands, Mangrove swamps, inland valley swamps, Rainfed Lands and the Bolilands.

The African Development Bank has provided funds for a mechanization programme for rice production in the Riverian Grasslands, while technical assistance for the same project has been provided by the Dutch Government.

To provide improved rice seeds the German Government is financing a seed multiplication project which is about to enter its second phase. The Rokupr Rice Research has developed not less than sixteen improved, high yielding varieties for the different ecological zones. Meanwhile, through the FAO Technical Co-operation Programme, the extension staff is carrying out fertilizer and varietal trials in the field.

Research in agriculture is to be enhanced by the implementations of the Adaptive Crop Research and Extension projects, funds for which have been made available by the US Aid, for which my Government is grateful.

In Forestry, Livestock and Fisheries, research is being conducted both through the extension services of the Ministries, the University and the Integrated Projects. Admittedly, however, a lot more needs to be put into these areas for appreciable results.

The Government is a Co-Financier of all the Agricultural and Rural Development Projects. About 25 percent of the development and 4 percent of the recurrent expenditures are devoted to the agricultural sector which clearly indicates Government's high agricultural priority. To develop the livestock and fisheries sector more rapidly, a new Ministry of Natural Resources has been created from the original Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Livestock development study has been undertaken to identify areas of livestock productivity and draw up a plan for the rapid development of the livestock industry. Livestock development is a major component of both the Koinadugu and Northern Area Integrated Projects. At the same time animal disease control programmes have been intensified with the result that Sierra Leone has remained comparatively free from outbreaks of animal diseases. Research is currently being conducted on the cross-breeding of the local Ndama cattle with the East African Sahewal cattle.

In the Fisheries Sector our efforts have been channelled mainly to the collection of relevant data for management and development planning. Through the assistance of CEECAF a fisheries statistical unit has been set up. Research, involving stock assessment, estimates the standing crop to be about 250 000 metric tons with a sustained yield of 130 000 metric tons.

In the area of Inland Fisheries, the concept of fish farming is gaining momentum. As a result of a pilot project, a number of farmers in the northern part of the country have incorporated fish farming in their rice fields with fingerlings supplied by the Fisheries Division. This idea is spreading out to other non-coastal areas in the country.

Sierra Leone has experienced a number of problems involved in managing and developing the fish resources in our extended territorial waters. My Delegation therefore welcomes and supports the FAO Director-General's "comprehensive programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Economic Zones".

Through the assistance of FAO, Sierra Leone has started a revision of Fisheries legislations in the country to reflect the requirements for operating in the exclusive economic zones. We would support sub-regional co-operation with coastal states on the matter of shared stocks through regional activities and on the protection of territorial waters from poachers.

My Government would like to emphasize the importance of the small-scale fisheries and to impress on FAO the necessity of directing urgent attention to the problems connected with development of this sector.

We would like to support FAO initiatives for the establishment of a fish marketing and information service for the CEECAF region which would facilitate inter and intra regional trade.

In the area of Forestry, our reforestation programme has not kept pace with the rate of exploitation of the forest reserves because of lack of certain logistic support from financing institutions.

A recent feasibility study on Forest Resources development by the German Firm of Atlanta Consultants identified five projects, one of which is being studied for external funding.

The Magbosi Project, has, as a component a community forestry development scheme. This village forest pilot scheme includes a small nursery for demonstration purposes and limited research with the objectives of determining species, provenance and establishment techniques for growing trees on Lophira Savannah land.

My Delegation fully supports the FAO Forestry for Community Development Programme currently being implemented and requests that the Programme be further strengthened to fulfill its objectives.

We wish, however, to lay emphasis on the Fuelwood Programmes particularly against the background of world energy crisis. Consequently, Sierra Leone has requested FAO assistance to carry out various studies on forestry for community development particularly so in the context of rural development.

A report on a recent study on wild life conservation and potential in Sierra Leone funded by the British Council indicates great potential for economic exploitation with significant effects on tourism while, at the same time, preserving certain wild life species threatened with extinction. We welcome any assistance in this field both from FAO and any other funding agency.

Mr. Chairman, in the fifties, Sierra Leone exported rice. Between the sixties and mid-seventies, we were nearly self-sufficient in this commodity. From 1970 to 1978 our annual average importation figure was 25 000 metric tons. Up to the end of October this year, we had imported about 90 000 metric tons of rice.

This large importation stemmed from the poor harvests of the previous three years 1976-1978. The vagaries and vicissitudes of the weather in 1978 accounted for not less than 25 percent decrease in the annual production which is estimated to be about 300 000 metric tons of milled rice.

The repercussions of such a colossal importation on all sectors of the economy need not be over-emphasized. However, this exercise virtually wiped out all the country's limited foreign exchange. The net result is that foreign exchange is hard to come by even to import the essential basic items. At the same time the IMF imposes severe restrictions, not only on loan facilities, but Government expenditure. The lack of concession makes it impossible to strengthen the man-power requirements of the growth sector of the economy.

That there should be shortage of the staple commodity at a time when a number of Integrated Projects are being implemented relative to the period without such projects in the country calls for concern. The most immediate query is the project formulation which we have come to realize has been narrow, both in scope and area of coverage.

It must, of course, be pointed out that presently there are more farmers in non-project areas than in project areas. It is, therefore, the wish of Government to extend integrated projects to cover the whole country with the hope that both agricultural and rural developments will be achieved.

The relative high cost of employing expatriates at international rates makes it imperative to keep the number to the minimum possible. This may be achieved by locally regionalising projects so that the expertise knowledge of internationally recruited project management staff can be used in more than one project area than at present, and by making use of local staff appropriately trained to perform project management functions. My Delegation would, therefore, recommend the strengthening of the FAO so as to provide appropriate training facilities both nationally and internationally. In this way, more of the repayable loans given the Third World countries could be expended to reach the target rural population. The proposition of providing project management through the technical assistance is an area which if properly explored may do more justice to the most seriously affected countries like mine.

In the area of providing consultants through the Technical Co-operation Programme, my country feels very much indebted to the FAO, and ODA, the World Bank, etc. My Delegation would recommend however, that the services of local experts be supplemented with those of fewer expatriate personnel because we are convinced that, not only is the short duration of visiting consultants inadequate to obtain enough data from which important and crucial inferences or deductions can be made, but the challenge given to qualified local personnel could serve as an inspiration to make such personnel more nationally conscious. We, in Sierra Leone, are prepared to make use of the services of the staff members of the University, private and public sectors. We are happy to note that the Director-General is thinking in a similar direction.

Mr. Chairman, if I may be allowed to make reference to President Kaunda's McDougall Address given to the Twentieth FAO Conference, in the African tradition particularly, it is not honourable to depend on somebody else for one's food. This is likely to be true in other traditions.

Thus, while the idea of depending on food supplies from developed countries for food security should be encouraged as a short-term measure my Delegation would wish to float the idea of agencies in collaboration with Member Governments undertaking "food production for food security" in Third World Countries. To emphasize the point, we are advocating for Regional or National food security to be achieved by co-ordinated production in those Third World Countries where the potential for food production is high.

This method of achieving food security would seem to us to be more secure than the dependence on the finished product from developed countries. It will accelerate the rate of transfer of appropriate technology, expedite rural development and help to alleviate the problems of unemployment which is chronic with most of the least developed and most seriously affected countries.

Another point in favour of this approach, also, is the fact that industrialized countries are gradually approaching the limit of their increased food production potential, both in terms of space and in maximisation of the yield (it is not impossible, however, that in not too distant future an agriculturally fertile planet may be discovered!).

My country has a lot of agricultural potential waiting to be harnessed. Only about 10 percent of the arable land is under cultivation annually. Given the necessary financial and agricultural inputs Sierra Leone could contribute to the World Food problem by producing more than the demand of the population.

Mr. Chairman, whereas many countries talk about the landless poor in Sierra Leone we talk of the "landed poor" because land belongs generally to the rural population. The problem is the lack of accessible capital for the farmers to develop their lands.

In this connection, however, the Central Bank is currently working on proposals to set up an agricultural credit and a rural development bank. We look forward to FAO's assistance in achieving the establishment of this vital prerequisite to rural development.

The problems of distribution, storage and marketing were clearly highlighted this year when the Sierra Leone public had to depend on imported rice. We are happy to note that FAO can assist in this area.

Never in the history of my country had there been such an agricultural awareness and motivation among the people, as it has been caused by the last rice crisis. What we now need is the financial support as the Government has wasted no time in launching a national "Crash Programme" for rice production. National, provincial, district and chieftom committees made up of farmers, administrators and politicians have already been identified. The plan is to urge everybody including civil servants and politicians to undertake farming as a duty to the nation. Mr. Chairman, as I said before, all is set for the plunge but the financial support is needed to translate our plans into practice.

It is the considered opinion of my Delegation that the FAO has been doing a good job and could do more if the Organization's budget and plan of work are given full support. It is not unlikely that the numerous demands on the organization may not be met adequately from the proposed Budget. However, we would appeal to all Donor Governments to contribute generously to the FAO who in turn would help our needy countries to solve our food problems.

We would like to assure industrialised countries that we do consider ourselves as the final arbiters of our own destiny. All we ask for is the support to translate all our plans into reality. Most of our countries are now aware of the fact that we cannot always depend on others for solution of our problems and hence are prepared to accept the challenge.

Mr. Chairman, at this stage, the Sierra Leone Delegation would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation to all those Governments and agencies that are contributing to our development objectives. We do hope that they will continue to give this aid, not only through International Agencies, but bilaterally so that our rate of growth can exceed the world-wide inflationary rate.

L. B. BRATHWAITE (Barbados): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Deputy Director-General, delegates, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. I would first like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and the elected officials of this Conference, on your well deserved election. I have no doubt that your contributions to this Conference will bring it to a most successful conclusion. Secondly, I would like to welcome into the FAO, the new member states of Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica. I am sure that our new members will, within a short time, become very conversant with the activities of FAO and play a practical role in helping the Organization to achieve its objectives.

Mr. Deputy Director-General, I would like to congratulate you and FAO for the prompt response you have made in giving relief to our sister territory the Commonwealth of Dominica, which was recently ravaged by Hurricane David; and for your swift response to Barbados' request for assistance to halt and eradicate an outbreak of sugarcane smut disease which seriously threatened our sugarcane crop for the first time in our history.

Initiatives of this nature confirm in our minds that FAO, under your dynamic leadership, is beginning to become more flexible in its action and more prompt, effective and positive in attempting to solve some of the food problems of developing countries.

My delegation notes with satisfaction the action-oriented strategy presented in the Programme and Budget Document C 79/3. It seeks to channel FAO into providing services more readily to developing countries and my delegation endorses the proposals contained in the document. Another matter in the programme to which my delegation wishes to advert, and again with satisfaction, is that you are laying greater emphasis on a policy of decentralization and the establishment of a wider network of country offices with a greater degree of autonomy.

My country has had a short experience in sharing in the network of FAO's representation but we can attest to the benefits and tremendous potential which this administrative outreach programme has for several developing countries like mine.

This year has been a year of extreme difficulties for most developing countries. Some national economies have been crushed without respite by economic pressures created by inflation and the constantly increasing costs of energy and related matters. In the Caribbean region, no effort has been spared to reorganize various economic strategies to alleviate the burden and problems of these economic pressures. But the problems were deepened not only by an unfortunate visitation of natural disasters, but also by a severe outbreak of African swine fever and the relentless spread of plant diseases. With this kind of scenario in the Caribbean in general, Mr. Chairman, it is incumbent on us to give full support to FAO's efforts for research programmes to assist developing members of the Organization.

It is heartening to record the very ready response of the Food and Agriculture Organization in providing emergency aid to those many areas of the world which have been plundered by man-made and natural disasters alike. This is doubtlessly a credit to the working of the Technical Cooperation Programme. It is my hope that this programme will attract increasing support as it will bring substantial benefits through its effective use in appropriate member countries.

Mr. Chairman, World Food Security is a matter of national and international responsibility. It is a matter that nations must look squarely in the eye and commit themselves to it. The Barbados Government has been actively pursuing a programme of increased food legume production on a scale appropriate to a country with limited land resources. More specifically, my Government is currently studying the Final Report of the Expert Consultation on Food Legume Production for the Caribbean and Central America. A FAO report states that the countries of the Caribbean and Central America have a deficit in legume production amounting to some twenty-five thousand metric tons; a deficit if now satisfied from extra-regional sources would create a further foreign exchange drain. This foreign exchange loss can meaningfully be reduced if appropriate technologies are mobilized to produce this grain within the region.

In the matter of food security, developing countries and newly emerging nations need to be optimistic: and this must be so, notwithstanding limited land resources and inadequate technologies which adversely affect their developmental efforts. I consider we must set as a prime goal the achievement of a measure of self-sufficiency and this through a pragmatic and optimal use of our available resources, both material and human in particular.

In this regard, Barbados and other Caribbean nations, in the spirit of Technical Cooperation among developing countries, have established a Caribbean Food Corporation for the purpose of exploiting the agricultural resources of the Caribbean for the production of food on a regional basis. Our combined efforts and cooperation are geared towards reducing food deficiencies and to establish food security in our region. I would like to encourage aid donor countries and the international financial institutions to provide more tangible support to our efforts. I am aware of the efforts of FAO in providing a team of experts to conduct feasibility studies for the several food production projects conceived by our local experts.

Mr. Chairman, one of the major developmental strategies of the Government of Barbados is a commitment to increasing the level of food production through agricultural diversification; and as part of Government's thrust towards improving the quality of life of its rural people, it has instituted, in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank, an Integrated Rural Development Project which seeks:

- to increase the real income and employment opportunities for tenant families on the plantation.

This project also seeks:

- to increase the domestic food supply, enhance living standards and develop efficiently managed small and medium-sized holdings.

Mr. Chairman, the Director-General has in his report mentioned the production forecast for rice which shows that production levels are 2 percent lower than last year's yield. The report also noted that while wheat and grain cereal production had increased in some of the developed countries, the imports

of these commodities into the developing countries have been considerably increased. However, Mr. Chairman, some industrial countries have had to purchase wheat and other grain in the grain markets of the world.

This increase in trade in grain between industrialized countries has resulted in an increased price for grain on all markets; an increase in price which must be borne by the developing importing countries of the world. What we are, therefore, experiencing as a result of these trading transactions in grain between industrialized countries and the developing countries, is the ultimate transfer of capital from developing and poorer countries to the developed and industrialized countries. It would seem, Mr. Chairman, that even the little that is left to the developing countries, that also shall be taken away. We foresee, therefore, in this situation of increasing food imports together with increasing food prices for these imported commodities, that eventually the developing countries like my own, which have so far been able to resist and escape the full misery of hunger, will, by the double burden of high food and oil prices, be dragged into the mire of economic stagnation and into the squalor of hunger and chronic malnutrition. The Barbados delegation holds the view that considerable effort should be made by the developed exporting countries to establish, under the direction of FAO, some mechanism for food security, which focusses its attention not only at those countries which now require food aid, but equally at these countries that have just been able to escape the need for emergency food aid but which face the potential danger of hunger and malnutrition.

My country has, with the assistance of the World Food Programme, instituted a programme to provide one meal for young children in schools. We need this assistance to continue so that the most vulnerable group within our society can be prevented from slipping into a condition of malnutrition. My delegation, therefore, expresses the hope that the targets set for food aid both in grain and in cash contribution will be realized and exceeded.

Mr. Chairman, developing States are aware that increasing urbanization throughout the world requires a profound restructuring of marketing practices and an expansion of trade. The problem of inflation and the fear of recession have been the excuse used by some countries for reducing both their bilateral and multilateral assistance to developing countries. This fear of recession and inflation has resulted in the creation of barriers to the further expansion of trade and the reduction of accessible markets for developing countries. We acknowledge that the modest gains made in the increased production of food in the developing countries is nullified by the unchecked rapid growth in our population. Under these conditions, there can be no locally generated surpluses; there can be no food security; there can be no accumulation of capital or national savings for the future economic development of our countries.

The Barbados delegation is keenly aware that most developing countries lack the adequate infrastructure necessary for increasing food production-facilities for the storage and preservation of foods-facilities for the effective transportation and handling between the farm gate and the consumer. We recognize that to provide this infrastructure requires the transfer of capital; also that the operation and maintenance of the infrastructure require a transfer of technology from the developed to the developing countries. Some of the Third World countries are becoming frustrated by the pace at which) this transfer of technology is taking place; others are disillusioned by the type of technology that is being transferred; and many others are becoming suspicious that the transfer of technology is just a programme for developing countries to support the manufacturing capabilities of the highly industrialized countries. My country has not yet reached that point of despair.

My delegation wishes to make the observation that when Third World countries require support and assistance for developing technology and equipment appropriate to their needs, those developed countries who are able to help them soon forget about the potential of the technology to increase the productivity of the farmer and the effect that increased productivity will have on the economy of the country. Instead, these overseas technologists bring into focus the questions of the international manufacture and marketing of the technology and the subsequent sales of various components and rates of return on investment.

My country has for about 100 years been making contributions into the research and technology of sugar production. We have always shared our technology and research information with any country which asks for it. We have, in the past five years, with the assistance of one of our industrialized northern neighbours, been involved in developing a new process for the manufacture of sugar and fibre to be used for building construction from the sugar cane. This development programme requires further assistance not only from our present cooperator, but also from other industrialized countries which have the necessary engineering capabilities.

Mr. Chairman, I have only mentioned this new technology to illustrate that the answer to the agricultural problems of developing countries does not always lie in purchasing the presently available technology off the shelves of the large manufacturers, but rather in research and development into completely new systems-new systems for the use of Solar Energy for drying, cooling and storage of food, technology

to ensure the greater efficiency in the use of bio-fuels such as wood and charcoal for the preparation of foods, also new systems for the production of alternative sources of energy. In order to bring the price of energy to a level acceptable to even the most remote villager, systems must be developed that link natural elements and bio-systems of the environment to the production of food and the generation of energy for the benefit of all mankind, systems, Mr. Chairman, which, when deployed, do not automatically place developing countries or poor persons at any disadvantage whatsoever. However, we cannot begin to develop the systems without the full support of the highly industrialized and developed countries. FAO must assist in identifying these problems and must act as a catalyst in getting early and urgent action in all these areas.

Mr. Chairman, on the subject of Fisheries, and in particular to the Development of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones, I consider that the development of a vibrant fishing industry will ultimately lead to:

- (a) increased employment;
- (b) substantial saving in foreign exchange for Barbados which now imports more than one-half its quantum of fish consumed;
- (c) an increase in the supply of vital protein which is an urgent imperative to improve the nutritional standard among the young and economically depressed countries.

Let me recall that from 1965 to 1972, the United Nations Development Programme in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization, mounted a pre-investment survey of the fisheries resources of the Caribbean region and a related marketing demonstration programme with headquarters in Barbados. This project identified the need to expand the fishing industries of the participating Caribbean countries. Let me recall also that the Assistant Director-General of FAO's Fisheries Department, in presenting a programme on new fisheries development, expressed the view that by the year 2000 the demand for fish could well double with more than three-quarters of the increase coming from developing nations. I do not think that Barbados could be regarded as being over-ambitious if we try to prepare our country to meet the projected local demand for fish as forecasted by the FAO expert.

Mr. Chairman, my country has always sought the cooperation of some of our neighbours in exploiting the fishery resources of the Caribbean and the contiguous Guyana Fishing Banks. Our experience has been that our neighbouring states, whose economic plight is no better than our own, have offered and shown frank willingness to cooperate on this matter of fisheries. It is well known that the exploitation of the resources of the sea, be it for mineral or organic resources, requires high capital investment and systems with a high degree of sophistication. This implies the need for well-trained personnel supported by highly skilled technicians and crews.

Caribbean countries have for some time now established a fisheries training institute. Barbados has always endeavoured to cooperate with our neighbours in exploiting the fish resources of our area. In this particular aspect of agriculture, the developing countries have a considerably long journey to travel towards self-sufficiency in fish production. Only through the full and active cooperation of all countries concerned can our hope of successfully waging war on the scourges of hunger and malnutrition be fulfilled.

L. DJILIANOV (Bulgaria)(translation from Bulgarian): Mister Chairman, Distinguished Delegates and Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me, at the beginning of my speech, to join the delegates preceding at this tribune in order to congratulate the Chairman of the present Conference, on the occasion of his election to this highly responsible post and to wish him great success in the implementation of thus assigned responsible tasks.

Allow me, as well, to congratulate the representatives of the independent countries Samoa and Dominica on the acceptance of these countries as members of the Organization for Food and Agriculture.

Mr. Chairman, the twentieth Conference of FAO is being carried out only four months after a certain significant event that has attracted the attention of world public to the key problems of agricultural development-the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Agricultural Development.

At this Conference, with the active participation of representatives from 145 countries and especially from the developing ones, were unanimously approved Declaration of Principles and Action Programme outlining the basic element of the general policy and strategy, that the Government of developing countries should adopt and put into practice, using entirely the human and natural resources and the realization of decisive progress in the agricultural production and the general economic development and for the improvement of material prosperity of the many million population in these countries.

In the resolution adopted by the World Conference a special emphasis is laid upon the great responsibility and the leading role of FAO for coordination of the shares and measures taken by a number of specialized organizations and international financial institutions for the realization of this policy. With an active participation in the preparation and carrying out of the Conference on Agrarian Reform, with the preparation of vast data for the present Conference and with the activity for implementation of the programme for work and budget of the Organization, the Director-General and the Secretariat of FAO prove in practice a high sense of responsibility governing all their actions.

Concerning the agriculture and the world food situation, our delegation cannot fail to express satisfaction with the general improvement in world food production for the expired period of two years and with the achievement of a satisfactory level of world stock reserves, although the contribution of the developing countries to this betterment is inessential and far below the expectations. In this line we share the concern of Director-General Mr. Saouma, caused by the slow pace of increase of grainstock production and formation of stock reserves in the developing countries, which are at present strongly vulnerable to food shortages caused by crop failures due to unfavourable climatic conditions and natural disasters.

Our delegation recognizes as justified the concern about the closed unsuccessful negotiations for conclusion of a new International Grainstock Arrangement, which would ensure a greater stability in the world market of this stock and in supplying of the most economically embarrassed developing countries with products of vital necessity for the subsistence of their population.

Under the existing insecurity of supplying these countries with grain stocks and the absence of necessary condition for obtaining regional and national food autonomy, it is evident that there exists an absolute necessity to undertake timely and energetic measures to counteract any possible crisis in grainstock supplying and subsistence of population in the developing countries most likely to be endangered.

Recognizing the fact we consider necessary and well-timed the Plan of Action on World Food Security submitted to discussion at the Conference by the Director General. The most essential elements of this Plan, in our opinion, are the obligations of the respective countries to assign an exclusive priority within the general policy to the implementation of the plans and programmes for foodgrain security and the undertaking of decisive measures designed to achieve a speedy national or regional autonomy, relying mainly on their own resources as well as the most efficient utilization of the assistance provided by international aid and financial organizations.

Under the unfavourable situation for grainstock production in the developing countries an outside aid is undoubtedly necessary, but the basic function of this aid is to act as a catalyst accelerating the adoption of national plans and the activities for prompt overcoming of the existing disproportion between the needs of food and its production and distribution.

Setting these principles as a basis of the agricultural policy in Bulgaria, parallel with the carrying out of the agrarian reform and the confirmation of the cooperative system in the '950-ies resulted in doubling and stabilizing of the yearly average yield of graincrops, in creating a solid basis for supplying the population and with a vast possibility to alter substantially the structure of agricultural crops. On account of reduced area under wheat crop were extended the areas under fodder and technical crops, vegetables and perennial plants, creating in this way preconditions for accelerated development of stock-breeding farming, increase of the animal production and thereby a qualitative betterment in the food ration of population and country. Here we should like to note that the limited cultivation area in our country and the already exhausted possibilities for extension of land under crops do not allow the enlargement of graincrop production for export or for alimentary aid.

However, we should note that the help we are rendering to some developing countries, within the possibility of our country, under bilateral economic, scientific and technical collaboration is directed basically at a better utilization of local resources in order to increase the graincrop production and to improve the supplying of the population, which is corresponding to the general principles of the discussed Plan of Action on Food Security.

In this line we carry out as well a bilateral collaboration with some seaboard developing countries in the field of keeping and exploiting of the bio-resources in the 200-miles exclusive economic zone. For this reason our delegation highly esteems and supports the submitted for discussion at the Conference Comprehensive Programme of FAO in this field. We consider that coordinating the collaboration between the seaside developing countries and those, practising deep-sea fishery in the exclusive economic zone of these countries, the FAO activities should be directed at the extension of fishery in order to meet the needs of fish and fish products in these countries and to overcome the noted standstill and even a certain fall off in world draught latest years as a result of extension of the jurisdiction of seaside countries over the 200-miles economic zone.

Our delegation is particularly satisfied with the timely response and the businesslike approach of FAO management in connection with all contacts for activities coordination in the United Nations Organization and its specialized agencies, directed at improvement of the conditions of life, at material and spiritual progress of the large population in the countries of the Third World, the predominant part of which earn their living by cultivating the land and livestock breeding.

We back up the efficiency and the practical approach of FAO Director General in the implementation of the United Nations Organization resolutions in support of the movements for national independence, against racial discrimination and apartheid, the vast programme and projects being realized in the developing countries in protection of the mothers and especially of the children in connection with the declared 1979 for an International Year of the Child.

Mr. Chairman, I should like, at the end of my speech, to express our delegation's agreement and support of the principal tendencies in FAO activities, stated at the offered Action Programme for the period of 1980-1981. We express our satisfaction with the firmly carried out course of directing the programme and the activities of the Organization towards active and concrete aiding the developing countries, particularly those in most difficult economic situation.

In accordance with it, we acclaim the persistent efforts exerted by FAO Director General in order to mobilize every possible outward budgetary source for financing the programmes and the projects for extension of agricultural production, for entire utilization of the available natural and labour resources in the developing countries and for ensuring a speedy advance in their economical development. These efforts and the profound enquiries into the prospects for development of these countries till the 2 000, as well as the tasks for aiding and coordination of this development, will be, in our opinion, a considerable contribution on the part of our Organization to the preparation of the Extraordinary Session of the United Nations General Assembly in the spring of 1980 and the new International Development Strategy.

E. RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART (Cuba): Sr. Presidente, Sres. delegados, en primer lugar felicito al Sr. Presidente y al resto de los integrantes de la Mesa por su elección para dirigir nuestros trabajos. También deseamos dejar constancia de nuestro reconocimiento al Sr. Saouma, Director de la FAO, y al personal bajo su Dirección por la valiosa documentación que han puesto a nuestra disposición, la que sin *duda* facilita el desarrollo de los debates.

Hace dos años tuvimos la oportunidad de participar en el 19ª Conferencia de la FAO. El panorama económico mundial, y en particular la situación de la agricultura y la alimentación, presentaban en aquella ocasión una situación nada halagadora. Es deplorable que al reunirnos aquí nuevamente ese panorama, lejos de haber mejorado, presente matices más sombríos. El sistema económico mundial internacional vigente continúa siendo profundamente injusto y absolutamente incompatible con el desarrollo de nuestros países. La actitud empecinada e intransigente de los principales países capitalistas desarrollados no ha permitido avances en lo que constituye una aspiración justa de los países subdesarrollados: la reestructuración a fondo del sistema económico imperante y el establecimiento de un nuevo orden económico internacional.

El examen de los documentos presentados por la Secretaría y el análisis hecho por el Dr. Saouma en el informe ofrecido al comienzo de esta Conferencia avalan esta afirmación; al analizar la situación mundial de la agricultura y de la alimentación en 1979 y sus perspectivas, salta a la vista como un índice acusador la existencia de más de cuatrocientos millones de hombres y mujeres hambrientos en el mundo de hoy; esto significa que las esperanzas que se habían depositado en el progreso de tan importante sector como es el de la alimentación y la agricultura se han visto totalmente frustradas al cabo de dos decenios en los que las Naciones Unidas habían previsto y alentado metas realmente modestas, cuyo logro constituía apenas un paliativo a la dramática situación de centenares de millones de personas en el mundo.

Se acepta hoy como un hecho incontrovertible que la producción agrícola y alimentaria de los países en desarrollo no han alcanzado el modesto crecimiento del 4% que se planteó en este decenio para mitigar al menos los problemas más acuciantes y alcanzar niveles reducidos de consumo. Las perspectivas, además, siguen mostrándose poco esperanzadoras para el mundo en desarrollo y en particular para los países menos desarrollados.

En lo referente al comercio de productos agrícolas, lejos de observarse resultados positivos se incrementan las medidas proteccionistas de los países desarrollados de economía de mercado; el intercambio desigual se agrava y hace cada vez más angustiosa la situación de nuestros países cuyos ingresos de exportación disminuyen ostensiblemente mientras crecen desmesuradamente los precios de los productos que importamos, entre ellos los insumos agrícolas tales como fertilizantes, pesticidas y otros. Los precios de las maquinarias y equipos se han triplicado y las importaciones de alimentos con destino a los países subdesarrollados crecen en proporciones alarmantes, al punto que, según los datos de la FAO, más que se duplican porcentualmente en relación con el decenio anterior,

Ese es, señor Presidente, el panorama que enfrentamos al celebrar esta Conferencia, panorama que no es nuevo ni es la primera vez que se expone. A pesar de las conferencias mundiales que se han celebrado, a pesar de los pronunciamientos para buscar soluciones viables hacia modestos crecimientos en la agricultura y la alimentación para los países en desarrollo, la realidad muestra que no hay avances, que las perspectivas no son prometedoras y que a menos que se tomen decisiones concretas y de trascendencia, y que éstas se ejecuten, la profunda brecha que separa a nuestros países de los países desarrollados continuará ensanchándose hasta límites insostenibles.

Frente a este cuadro nada halagador apreciamos y respaldamos, Señor Presidente, la actuación de la FAO que contribuye a buscar soluciones a estos graves problemas de la alimentación y la agricultura. Respaldamos la política de descentralización de su Director General, Dr. Saouma, saludamos los resultados positivos del Programa de Cooperación Técnica, apoyamos la solicitud para otorgar mayores recursos a los planes de prevención en la pérdida de alimentos y respaldamos sus esfuerzos para lograr resultados positivos en un aspecto tan importante como lo es la seguridad alimentaria mundial.

Respaldamos en fin, señor Presidente, la acertada actuación de esta Organización en búsqueda de soluciones para detener o mitigar el hambre y la muerte a que están amenazados millones de seres humanos. En ese sentido no podemos dejar de expresar nuestra profunda repulsa al contrasentido que significa la presencia en FAO de los representantes de la camarilla de Pol Pot que sólo podría hablar de destrucción y muerte alevosa. Millones de seres fueron exterminados por Pol Pot, con el respaldo de sus más cercanos padrinos y colaboradores, representantes de la traición y el imperialismo. Repugna tener que respirar el mismo aire que esos representantes del exterminio y la demencia. Reiteramos aquí, Señores Delegados, nuestro pleno apoyo a los verdaderos representantes del heroico pueblo kampucheano, a la Kampuchea Popular.

Señor Presidente, nuestro país tuvo el alto honor hace apenas dos meses de ser la sede de la VI Cumbre del Movimiento de Países no Alineados. Los Jefes de Estado o de Gobierno de 95 países en desarrollo se dieron cita en La Habana para examinar el panorama mundial, y prestaron especial atención a los problemas económicos que nos agobian. El Presidente del Movimiento, comandante Fidel Castro, Presidente del Consejo de Estado y del Consejo de Ministros de nuestro país, presentó las conclusiones de este importante evento en la histórica sesión de la Asamblea Central de las Naciones Unidas, que tuvo efecto el pasado día 12 de octubre. La comunidad internacional recibió con muestras de respeto y comprensión la detallada exposición que allí se hizo de los problemas fundamentales que debemos afrontar.

La exposición hecha por el Comandante Fidel Castro en la ONU, como Presidente del Movimiento, constituye un Programa de acción a tomar, que de ser adoptado, contribuiría a dar un verdadero vuelco a la desesperada situación económica internacional y propiciaría que de las palabras y pronunciamientos, se pase al campo de la acción concreta, a los hechos.

Ante el evidente fracaso y frustración de las medidas hasta ahora anunciadas y aparentemente aceptadas, pero no aplicadas, se impone que la comunidad internacional se empeñe de conjunto en la solución de estos problemas. De ellos, uno de los más acuciantes, es el de la situación agrícola y alimentaria en el mundo.

Como se ha dicho, crecen los hambrientos en el mundo, los progresos de la producción alimentaria y agrícola de los países subdesarrollados son totalmente insuficientes, el futuro, bajo las condiciones actuales, ofrece perspectivas sombrías; las necesidades de ayuda oficial exterior para el desarrollo agrícola están muy distantes de ser cubiertas y los compromisos de ayuda disminuyen, en lugar de aumentar. Los ingresos por exportaciones de los países en desarrollo continúan siendo insuficientes e inestables, crece el intercambio desigual, se intensifica en algunos países capitalistas el uso de subsidios internos a determinados productos cuya exportación interesa a los países subdesarrollados. Se estancan o muestran avances insignificantes las negociaciones económicas internacionales. En resumen, las perspectivas son de que el retraso se perpetúe, a menos que se tomen medidas efectivas para que cambien radicalmente las injustas relaciones económicas internacionales que hoy prevalecen, para beneficio de unos pocos países poderosos y explotadores.

Los países subdesarrollados conocen bien que sus problemas no dependen sólo de la solución o mejoría de los aspectos externos que afectan sus economías. Están conscientes de que es necesario efectuar los necesarios cambios estructurales internos, de índole económica y social, para eliminar la vulnerabilidad actual de sus economías y lograr la incorporación real y efectiva de los pueblos al proceso de desarrollo, convirtiéndose en los principales protagonistas de ese proceso. Los países subdesarrollados conocen bien que tienen que depender, en la tremenda tarea que afrontan para salir del sub-desarrollo, en primer lugar, de sus propias decisiones y esfuerzos.

No obstante, aun bajo el supuesto de que se logre el que se subsanen muchos de los males provenientes del injusto sistema económico internacional imperante y que se tomen medidas de orden interno para alcanzar un sistema socialmente justo, sería imprescindible un elemento sin el cual los objetivos a alcanzar no podrían ser logrados: nos referimos al financiamiento.

El problema radica en que no puede hablarse de un proceso de desarrollo aislado para la alimentación y la agricultura. Un desarrollo adecuado en este sector requiere de esfuerzos en la industrialización y lo que es más importante, requiere esfuerzos en aquellos sectores que prestan una atención directa al hombre, destinatario y protagonista principal del proceso. O sea, que debe aspirarse a un desarrollo integral, autosostenido, que permita el avance simultáneo en todos los campos del quehacer social y económico.

Es por ello que al hablar de financiamiento, nos referimos al que resulta necesario para el conjunto de la economía, Financiamiento para la agricultura y la alimentación, la industrialización, la infraestructura, la educación, la salud pública, la cultura. Ningún esfuerzo aislado podría lograr una respuesta satisfactoria en el logro del bienestar humano a que se aspira.

No puede ser ésta una responsabilidad de unos pocos. Tal como expresara el Comandante Fidel Castro en su exposición en las Naciones Unidas: "Más de una vez se ha dicho que nosotros hemos sido forzados al subdesarrollo por la colonización y la neocolonización imperialista. La tarea de ayudarnos a salir del subdesarrollo es, pues, en primer término, una obligación histórica y moral de aquellos que se beneficiaron con el saqueo de nuestras riquezas y las explotación de nuestros hombres y mujeres durante siglos, pero es, a la vez, tarea de la humanidad en su conjunto. "

Todos los países de la comunidad internacional tienen un papel que jugar en este gran esfuerzo. Los países socialistas partiendo de la naturaleza de su sistema social, en el cual la solidaridad internacionalista es una premisa; los países en desarrollo productores de petróleo, como un deber de solidaridad hacia el resto de sus países hermanos subdesarrollados, y los países en vías de desarrollo entre sí, en la medida de sus posibilidades, que siempre existen. Se trata de lograr no sólo ayuda financiera, sino también mediante suministro de tecnología, plantas, equipos y otros bienes materiales, y en asistencia técnica prestada por personal capacitado. Un esfuerzo de esta envergadura sólo puede ser acometido mancomunadamente, bajo las premisas de la solidaridad. No puede constituir un negocio ningún tipo de ayuda, tal como hoy desafortunadamente ocurre en la mayoría de los casos. El beneficiario de este gran esfuerzo lo sería también la comunidad en su conjunto.

Específicamente, en el sector de la agricultura y la alimentación según los datos aún preliminares de los estudios que se han realizado, para aumentar la producción de alimentos y eliminar la desnutrición en los centenares de millones de personas que hoy la sufren, la superficie total de la tierra cultivada en los países en desarrollo tendría que alcanzar en los próximos diez años un aumento de unos 76 millones de hectáreas, y las tierras de regadío en más de 10 millones. Habría que rehabilitar obras de riego para atender unos 45 millones de hectáreas. Se requerirían anualmente no menos de 8 ó 9 mil millones de dólares, para alcanzar un ritmo de crecimiento del 3,5 al 4 por ciento, aún insuficiente.

Estos objetivos y metas deben ser considerados para ser incluidos en la Estrategia Internacional del Desarrollo de la próxima década. De no hacerse un esfuerzo real encaminado a su logro, enfrentaremos en los próximos decenios un fracaso de magnitudes y consecuencias incalculables.

Sin la solución de los graves problemas económicos de la humanidad, no habrá paz. Una justa demanda de los países en desarrollo es que una gran parte de los cuantiosos recursos humanos y materiales que hoy se destinan a una carrera armamentista improductiva, derrochadora y peligrosa para la humanidad, se destinen al desarrollo económico y social.

Un mundo en distensión, con un clima de paz, sin amenazas y coacciones, sin el uso de la fuerza de las armas para imponer soluciones que cada uno de los pueblos debe decidir soberanamente, permitiría que los esfuerzos por el desarrollo tuvieran resultados positivos y beneficiosos para toda la comunidad de naciones.

La lógica de este razonamiento es elemental, puesto que la alternativa de no adoptar esa política, sería de resultados catastróficos para todos.

Lejos de adoptar ese camino hoy vemos cómo ciertas naciones poderosas insisten en aumentar sus armamentos nucleares, cómo no dan respuesta positiva a propuestas concretas de disminución de tropas y armamentos. Vemos cómo en zonas de las llamadas "Conflictivas" en el mundo, se aumenta el patrullaje marítimo y la amenaza de invasiones y agresiones. En nuestra propia región del Caribe, pese a la masiva repulsa de Gobiernos y pueblos, los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica se empeñan en crear crisis artificiales y desarrollar acciones provocadoras encaminadas a intimidar a países que, como el nuestro, jamás serán humillados ni vencidos. Ejemplo de ello es el fracaso del inmoral y criminal bloqueo económico al que hemos sido sometidos durante 20 años.

Permítame, señor Presidente, para concluir, citar algunas de las palabras finales pronunciadas por el Comandante Fidel Castro en su mencionada comparecencia ante la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas:

"Es por ello que pedimos en nombre de los países en vías de desarrollo y abogamos por la causa de nuestros países. Pero no es una dádiva lo que estamos reclamando. Si no encontramos soluciones adecuadas, todos seremos víctimas de la catástrofe."

"Se habla con frecuencia de los derechos humanos, pero hay que hablar también de los derechos de la humanidad. ¿Por qué unos pueblos han de andar descalzos para que otros viajen en lujosos automóviles? ¿Por qué unos han de vivir 35 años para que otros vivan 70? ¿Por qué unos han de ser miseramente pobres para que otros sean exageradamente ricos?"

"Unos países poseen abundantes recursos, otros no poseen nada. ¿Cuál es el destino de éstos? ¿Morirse de hambre? ¿Ser eternamente pobres? ¿Para qué sirve entonces la civilización? ¿Para qué sirve la conciencia del hombre? ¿Para qué sirven las Naciones Unidas? ¿Para qué sirve el mundo? No se puede hablar de paz en nombre de las decenas de millones de seres humanos que mueran cada año de hambre o enfermedades curables en todo el mundo. No se puede hablar de paz en nombre de 900 millones de analfabetos."

"La explotación de los países pobres por los países ricos debe cesar. Sé que en muchos países pobres hay también explotadores y explotados. Me dirijo a las naciones ricas para que contribuyan. Me dirijo a los países pobres para que distribuyan

"Basta ya de palabras. Hacen falta hechos. Basta ya de abstracciones, hace falta acciones concretas. Basta ya de hablar de un nuevo orden económico internacional especulativo que nadie entiende; hay que hablar de un orden real y objetivo que todos comprendan."

"Digamos adiós a las armas y consagrémonos civilizadamente a los problemas más agobiantes de nuestra era. Esa es la responsabilidad y el deber más sagrado de todos los estadistas del mundo. Esa es, además, la premisa indispensable de la supervivencia humana."

Muchas gracias.

O. AWOTESU (Nigeria): Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: On behalf of my delegation I wish to join others in congratulating the Chairman and the three Deputy Chairmen of this Conference on their well deserved election. The task ahead of you is indeed an onerous one. Your capacity and ability to face the task has been visibly demonstrated since you occupied that chair nearly a week ago today. I can assure you that we of the Nigerian delegation will do all we can to cooperate, with the bureau to ensure the success of the Conference.

May I begin welcoming into this Organization the newly Independent States of Western Samoa and The Commonwealth of Dominica. It is our ardent hope that in not too distant future the remaining dependencies will take their rightful seats in this Organisation.

I am particularly happy to be here in Rome for this Twentieth Conference of the FAO. As you are, no doubt, aware there has recently been a change of Government in my country from a military to a democratically elected Government after 13 long years of military rule. Although, I took over the duties of the Minister of Agriculture less than one month ago, I have followed with keen interest the activities of this great Organization. It is significant therefore, that my first overseas assignment is to participate in the deliberations of an Organization that has the world-wide responsibility for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition.

Last year my country imported over one million tons of grains representing about 10 percent of grain production in Nigeria. To us this is a major food crisis for a country which until the present decade was self sufficient in food supply. As expected the food demand and supply imbalance has resulted in a significant increase in food prices which is evidenced by a sharp upward movement in the consumer price index. This situation exists despite the tremendous effort and enormous investment which my country has made in the last few years to boost agricultural production in the country.

This state of affairs is untenable particularly for a country like Nigeria which has at its disposal considerable land and human resources which judiciously harnessed can double present production and achieve self-sufficiency. We believe that a country that can not feed itself can not guarantee its security. It is the aim and policy of my Government, therefore, to increase substantially the level of investment in agriculture, carry out appropriate policy revisions in order to bring about a rapid change in agricultural production. Agriculture is the first priority of my Government.

Mr. Chairman, the challenges facing agricultural production in all food deficit countries are enormous. The growing expectations and impatience of the poor and the malnourished sharpen these challenges and increase the demand for urgent concerted international action.

In his address to this Conference, the Director-General had expressed his disappointment over the lack of progress with the New International Economic Order. None of the targets which have been agreed to, namely, food aid, fertilizer supply, official development assistance to agriculture, has been met. In other words, the International Community is yet to accept the eradication of hunger and malnutrition as clearly the problem of humanity as a whole. His Excellency President Kaunda, in his address to this august body, said the same thing in a more succinct language. No dramatic changes in the food situation can be brought about until the international community accepts the enormous challenges implied in the New International Economic Order. What is called for has been repeated many times before: a major relaxation of the trade barriers for agriculture, particularly, as they limit opportunities open to exporters of agricultural products from developing countries and a substantial increase in the assistance given to agriculture of developing countries.

May I now comment briefly on the work before this Conference. We shall during this Conference review as in the past, the state of food and agriculture in the world during the past biennium and consider the outlook for the next biennium. The Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium will also be discussed.

My delegation commends the Director-General for a very well articulated programme. We welcome and support the Director-General's Five-Point Plan of Action which is aimed at ensuring food security, particularly, in the low-income food deficit countries. We note the overwhelming support the plan has already been given by various bodies and we commend it to this Conference for approval.

Similarly, we support the prominent role given in the Director-General's plan of work to Special Action Programmes like the FAO Seed Improvement and Development Scheme, Prevention of Food losses, Food Security Assistance Scheme, Dairy Development Scheme and Training Programme and the International Fertilizer Scheme. All these schemes take the FAO to where the action is and makes its presence felt directly in all food deficit countries. They also have a multiplier effect because as experience has shown whenever and wherever the FAO has shown the way, countries which have benefited from the programmes have been able to expand and build upon what has been done. In this connection, I would like to thank all countries which have made voluntary contributions to provide the extra-budgetary funds required to keep the programmes going. We look forward to their continued support.

My delegation lends full support to the work being done by the FAO Investment Centre. To identify and prepare bankable projects has always presented great difficulty to developing countries. It is, therefore, gratifying to note that the projects formulated by the Centre in the past fourteen years amounted to \$13 billion and nearly half of this amount was approved in the last biennium.

We support the recommendation contained in the 'Jakarta Declaration' issued by the Eighth World Forestry Congress held in Indonesia. My Government places great emphasis on Forestry development and will do all in its power to implement certain aspects of the recommendations which require the attention of my Government.

We welcome the FAO Programme of Assistance for the development and management of fisheries in the new Exclusive Economic Zones. Like most countries, Nigeria has extended her national jurisdiction to cover the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zones. While the new ocean regime has created increased opportunities for coastal states of developing countries to exercise control over the fisheries resources in the extended zones, it has also presented new challenges and some problems.

The magnitude of investment and level of technical expertise required for the exploration and exploitation of the new resources are such that the active co-operation of the developed countries becomes inevitable. The pledge by the Government of Norway to allocate substantial funds for the FAO and Exclusive Economic Zones programme is therefore a most welcome gesture and we would like to appeal to other Member Nations of the Organization to contribute generously to the Fund which is being set up for this purpose.

Because of the far reaching effects of the new regime on World fisheries and its possible contributions to the new international economic order, it is the view of my delegation that this Conference should come up with definite and strong resolution to back up the Director-General's Programme of assistance for fisheries development in the Exclusive Economic Zones.

We also commend the work being done on African Animal Trypanosomiasis. This deadly disease of animals must be eradicated if the livestock potential in tropical Africa is to be fully traced. We will appeal, however, for cooperation among adjacent states in implementing this programme in complete success is to be achieved. Our experience in Nigeria is not a happy one because areas where we have succeeded in eradicating tse-tse fly become quickly reinfested because our neighbours do not have similar programmes.

We have found the FAO Country Office in Lagos very useful in our contact with the FAO. It has been able to assist in the expansion and maintenance of FAO field programmes in the Country. We, therefore, urge the Director-General to strengthen the capacity of these Country offices so that they can increase their support to national efforts.

May I now briefly, comment on the level of the budget. This has always been a thorny issue at previous conferences. Admittedly, we can not blame Member Governments who insist on little or no increase over the previous biennium's budget-our Treasuries give us a tough time before approving any increase in our budgets. Our view is, however, that if we want the Director-General to execute to our satisfaction the good programmes which has been put before us, we must give him the tools. And the tool he needs here is money. We note that the real programme increase is only 2. 6 percent per annum. Other increases had been due to inflation and currency instability. We therefore, do not consider a level or budget of U. S. 271. 66 million too high for this Organization considering the great work it has to do. We, therefore, wholeheartedly support the level of the budget and we appeal to all Member Governments to support it too.

I would like to end this address by echoing the appeal made by His Excellency, President Kaunda of Zambia. If the hungry and the malnourished must feed today and not tomorrow, a much greater international action is called for immediately. The International Community must demonstrate the greater sensitivity to the plight of millions around the globe who are afflicted by the indignity of poverty and hunger. Unless the world responds quickly to the worsening situation, not only will millions continue to live under the shadow of hunger and malnutrition but world security may indeed be in serious danger.

A. K. HLOPHE (Swaziland): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, distinguished delegates, I am pleased and honoured to join with those who have gone before me in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to this high post and I am confident that under your enlightened tutelage and leadership this Conference will come to a successful and rewarding conclusion.

We in Swaziland are deeply concerned about the future of agricultural development, especially the production of food crops with which to feed our growing population; we are indeed concerned with our high rates of population growth which, like the African continent as a whole, is increasingly outpacing our production of food crops. We are also concerned that the distribution of our increased growth of production in all sectors be on a more equitable basis so that all social and economic strata in our small Kingdom of slightly more than half a million souls are able to benefit. I ask you Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, isn't this the real challenge facing all of us? Can any of us come up with a higher priority that should be discussed at this Conference? I dare say that we cannot.

I reviewed with considerable interest the document C 79/24, Agriculture: Toward 2000 which is to serve as FAO's contribution to the development of the New Development Strategy for the 1990's to be adopted by the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1980. It is an excellently prepared document in the best tradition of FAO; and its authors are to be highly commended.

Of special interest to us in this document were the alternative scenarios, including both the projections of current trend and the normative, or preferable, forecasts as these relate to anticipated demand the year 2000 and beyond for the various groupings of countries and geographical regions. The authors have clearly indicated what will be the outcome, or what will be the situation in the year 2000 if we follow alternative courses of action.

It would appear Mr. Chairman, that the authors of the document thought of almost everything in their projections that must be made a part of national policy in order that the projected forecasts be realized, including population and income growth, anticipated demand for farm inputs as well as consumables and what have you, in order to meet the requirements of the alternative growth patterns. However, not included was the most important ingredient of all-and for this they cannot be blamed. After all, they have led us to water, but they cannot force us to drink.

Of course, Mr. Chairman, we cannot be satisfied with but a continuation of existing trends for our future growth; it is all too obvious that, especially during the last two decades euphemistically referred to as Development Decades, that we have lost the battle; the gaps have widened between the haves and the have-nots both at home and when comparing our third world developing economies with those of the developed world. Indeed, the past cannot serve as the basis for either optimism or for our projections into the future, because, quite frankly, if we do so then the development strategy for the next decade will inevitably share the same fate as the last two.

The ingredient that the authors of Agriculture: Toward 2000 overlooked, and without which we have no chance whatsoever of achieving our normative goals no matter how modest they be, is, for lack of a better term, the political will to do now what we must, so that our projections will be realized. Indeed, it cannot be overstressed that what our countries will look like 20 or more years hence depends on what we are doing today and less on what we try to do tomorrow. And, need I add, what we do today is a fairly accurate measure of the degree of dedication and commitment of our respective governments, to the needs of our children and those generations yet to be born; indeed, it is nothing less than an indication of our love for our countries. It is up to us here and now, and what we do today about tomorrow, that will determine whether or not we be judged by the next generation as wise or foolish, good or bad husbandmen of the sacred patrimony entrusted to us.

As we all know, plans, although good on paper are not enough by themselves; it is follow-up by action that counts-indeed, the best of plans without an action programme are nul and void.

Mr. Chairman, as you probably are aware, the Kingdom of Swaziland is the second smallest country in Africa with 17.3 thousand square kilometers and a population of about 560,000 of which approximately 80 percent live in the rural areas. With regard to our geographical location on the continent, our situation is far from the most enviable.

Because of its diversity, Swaziland is indeed a microcosm of its larger sister nations having all the problems they find themselves with. We too have an uncomfortable legacy from our colonial past with all that implies-nowhere is this more so than in the agricultural, or rural, sector. Indeed, we find ourselves with large capital intensive estate farms, or plantations, on title deed land, existing alongside small farms on Swazi Nation Land. Thus, as you might well expect, the vast bulk of our rural population have been hardly affected by, let alone benefited from, progress taking place either on the capital intensive agricultural enterprises or elsewhere in the economy. Thus, with a reduction in infant mortality and resulting population growth now approaching 3.3 percent, we find ourselves in the unenviable situation in which three times as many people are coming on to the labour market each year as can be absorbed.

Life in the rural areas for the traditional Swazi producing subsistence crops has been less than ideal and as might be expected there has been a growing stream of migration from the rural to urban areas to the extent that our urban areas have been growing at a rate approaching 10 percent, thus signifying a rapid and dangerous depopulation of our rural areas. Thus, our country has the problem of dealing with our expanding urban populations for whom there are no adequate employment opportunities-we are all acquainted with the resultant social costs of such a phenomenon to which Swaziland is no exception.

Partly as a result of the migration from rural areas mentioned above, the country found itself with an additional disadvantage in that our production of basic foodstuffs was declining to such an extent that with each passing day we were less able to feed ourselves, thus forcing us to become dependent upon imports with the consequent loss of our precious foreign exchange.

Thus, Mr. Chairman, it would seem that our nation was beginning to demonstrate a lop-sided pattern of development, if development is the proper word, at the expense of our rural areas and its population-indeed, if allowed to run what appeared to be its natural course or trend the whole fabric of our society would have become undone.

In an attempt to turn back this trend and develop a more balanced economy, His Majesty's Government embarked on a Rural Development Area Programme shortly after independence. Although starting on a relatively modest scale in which we were feeling our way, it has since gained momentum to the extent that as a result of the stage of the programme currently being carried out, approximately 60 percent of all Swazi Nation land and a like percentage of the population will be directly affected.

Swaziland's programme of rural development has as its primary objective, and this is clearly spelled out in our national development plans, the enhancement of rural well-being-in short, it has been designed to introduce some urban type amenities into our rural areas and thus close the widening gap between the two. We want to make our rural areas more attractive socially, culturally and economically; a place one would not be anxious to try and escape from but rather where it will be pleasant and rewarding to live and raise a family.

Thus we recognise that promoting increased agricultural production is but one, albeit an important, element of rural development. Consequently, in addition to a planned programme of stepped-up extension and improving the availability of such basic inputs and services such as a ready supply of insecticides, fertilizers, irrigation, credit, marketing and the introduction of soil and water conservation and controlled grazing practices, in order to utilize our land resources more efficiently and improve the quality of our national herd, we are also attempting to make a profound contribution to the introduction and upgrading of basic social services and urban type amenities.

In the fourteen individual rural development areas, primary and secondary schools are either now operational or will be so in the foreseeable future. As determined by the people living in the areas in their role as participants and decision-makers there is an on-going programme of resettlement of heretofore scattered dwellings into more compact settlements for the dual purpose of rationalizing land use, thus freeing the best lands for more intensive agriculture, while simultaneously making it feasible to install systems of potable water, electricity and other amenities. Health services are also being made available throughout the rural development areas and all the areas will be serviced by a network of all weather roads. While presently concentrating on but 60 percent of all Swazi Nation land, the goal of Government is to eventually bring all such land into the programme.

Mr. Chairman, it is yet too early to make a definitive evaluation of the merits and demerits of our programme. However, based on preliminary evidence it is quite obvious that the programme is exercising a positive impact and slowly but surely achieving its planned objectives. Not only has agricultural production started to increase but there is some evidence indicating that the rural exodus referred to earlier has begun to decline. Of course we have made mistakes, but to the extent possible we have attempted to learn from our mistakes to the benefit of the programme.

Mr. Chairman, we in Swaziland do not claim to have found a panacea for rural development that can be universally applied because we are fully aware that each country must find its own way in accordance with its customs, needs and aspirations. However, we are confident that we are on the right trail as far as our country is concerned. Furthermore, and this I wish to highlight, our pattern of rural development has been firmly based within the context of Swazi custom and tradition. As His Majesty King Sobhuza II has repeatedly stressed, we should indeed eschew those traditions that serve no useful purpose but instead frustrate development while embracing those that do exercise a positive role and help unify our society.

Thus, to return to my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, we are quite cognizant of the fact that what the future will look in our agricultural and rural areas depends much more on what we do now rather than tomorrow. We in Swaziland are doing what we can to ensure that our plans are not mere pies in the sky but instead action programmes designed to guide us to that better society which is such an important part of all our aspirations.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would be remiss if I did not mention the most significant role FAO has carried out to assist us in implementing our programme. Through you, Mr. Chairman, I wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma, for the timely and beneficial assistance we have been receiving through the Technical Assistance Programme-assistance ranging from providing us with an authority on international water law to a programme leading to a cottage-industry for the processing of guava juice. Indeed, it is difficult to imagine what FAO would be like without that programme; I can think of no other organization, bi-lateral or multi-lateral, that could provide the quality and quantity of such services so promptly and adequately as our FAO. The people and Government of Swaziland wish to convey their sincere gratitude and wishes for the continued progress of the Organization under the enlightened leadership of our Director-General.

I would not have done duty if I did not congratulate our two brethren who have been accepted as my Members of this important Organization. I am referring to the two brother countries, the Commonwealth of Dominica and Western Samoa, Thank you.

A. SRIBHIBHADI (Thailand): Mr. Chairman, Deputy Director-General of FAO, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Thai Delegation joins fellow member countries in extending to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Deputy Chairmen, our warmest congratulations on your elections to the high offices of this important Conference. We also wish to welcome the new members of our family, namely the Commonwealth of Dominica and the Independent State of Western Samoa, and sincerely hope that their membership will be of mutual benefits to both their respective countries as well as to this Organization.

Mr. Chairman, during these past two years since the 19th Session of the FAO Conference in November 1977, Thailand's role as a food production and member country of this august Organization has not been uneventful or without concrete achievements. I wish to place on record here at the outset, FAO's award of the Ceres Medal earlier this year to Her Majesty the Queen of Thailand, as a token of tribute to her royal contributions to the well-being of the Thai people with her personal involvement in social and charitable organizations, in education in country villages and particularly in the encouragement of traditional handicrafts. We had the opportunity of welcoming the Director-General who personally made a special trip to preside over the memorable occasion. The entire nation rejoiced at this most distinguished honour which FAO bestowed upon our gracious and dedicated Queen.

On the national front, 1979 is rather unique in that the Royal Thai Government has designated it as the beginning of the Year of the Farmers Programme, with the aim of raising the standard of living of the farmers and closing the income gap between farming and non-farming sector, In order to generate greater momentum toward attainment of the goals, General Kriengsak Chomanan, the Prime Minister, has personally assumed the responsibility of the Agriculture and Cooperatives port-folio, a move never before undertaken by his predecessors. Needless to say that as a result, every effort for national development is reasserted and directed toward uplifting the rural living standard as well as increasing agricultural output. Programmes are strengthened and given specific targets, both long and medium-term, designed so as to rearticulate our country's role as an agriculturally predominant nation. Mr. Chairman, these aforementioned moves reflect the strong political will and commitment on the part of the Royal Thai Government in bringing about agrarian reform with a view to achieving the full integration of rural areas into national economics and social development, in line with the Plan of Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

However, the main challenge facing Thailand at the moment is by and large similar to those facing the rest of the world, namely the oil price increases and world inflationary pressures, which are beyond our control. But it lies within our power to effectively overcome those pressures. Measures therefore have been taken to secure oil supplies as well as to reduce or at least maintain current levels of consumption. And yet, despite these economic difficulties, Thailand has an average growth rate of 7.6 percent over the past three years which is above the International Development Strategy target of 4 percent. In 1977, our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) originated from agriculture grew at the rate of 12 percent which was higher than the target rate envisaged in our Fourth Five-Year National Economic and Social Development Plan, covering the period of 1977-1981. This was due to the rapid expansion of some products, such as paddy, cassava and rubber, as well as higher prices of many products and favourable weather conditions. Other major factors attributed to this high growth rate include more intensive farming in irrigated areas and crop diversification, development and expansion of domestic and export markets, and also the provision of incentives to farmers through pricing policies. But ironically enough, the country continues to face the problem of low income of farmers and income disparities, unemployment and deterioration of natural resources.

The 1979-1980 crop year began with favourable climatic conditions which led to the prediction that it is going to be another promising "Year of the Farmers". The production of rice which is the most economical crop of Thailand was expected to be not less than 16.0 million metric tons of paddy. Those of other crops namely maize, cotton, soybean, peanut and mungbean were all expected to produce the same outcome, while cassava, kenaf and sugarcane would yield slightly less.

Another major obstacle to our national drive toward better rural living is the unexpected deluge of refugees that has been inundating Thailand during the past 18 months, first via South China Sea and recently over-land across the Kampuchean border. I am sure the world is fully aware of the more-than-rightful share of the responsibility which Thailand has had to shoulder in connection with the presence and plight of these unfortunate victims of political differences. But the influx of all forms of assistance from developed countries, the United Nations and related agencies, institutions and numerous other sources, which pours into our country to help relieve this haunting human agony, has given the Royal Thai Government sufficient encouragement to take a new turn by granting temporary asylum to the Kampuchean refugees.

In the field of fisheries development, Thailand is expected to face a loss of between 20-25 percent of traditional fishing grounds due to the extended jurisdiction claimed by most coastal states over the 200-mile exclusive economic zone. Coupled with a prevailing shortage of fuel for fishing vessels, it means that marine landings in Thailand could be reduced by as much as 600 000 tons. The Thai delegation wishes to submit a special request for assistance from FAO for developing countries who are adversely affected by this new ocean regime, especially those coastal states lacking the expertise and means to develop their newly acquired marine resources. We wish to try FAO taking the initiative in encouraging more joint ventures among coastal states concerned. In this connection, Thailand is willing to share its experiences and acquired technology which proves suitable in its traditional fishing grounds with other countries under the concept of TCDC which we fully advocate.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, The Thai delegation wishes to urge that FAO continue to place strong emphasis on the development of aquaculture as well as coastal and inland fisheries which in our perception, bear significant importance in terms of providing livelihood and income for small-scale fishermen as well as compensating the loss caused by the new ocean regime.

Mr. Chairman, where it concerns food security, our ASEAN brothers have already informed this Conference of the initial deposit of 50 000 tons of rice toward food reserves for our region. This amount, which constitutes 10 percent of the annual target for the International Emergency Food reserve set by the World food Conference 5 years ago, could be taken as a basis for determining its optimal size as well as the coverage of other strategic food items in the future. It is hoped that at the Second Meeting of ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture to be hosted by Thailand next February, realistic measures to implement our reserves programme will be considered. By then we should be able to estimate the type of assistance required for this purpose. At the moment, Thailand can already envisage help in the form of storage facilities.

Mr. Chairman, the Inter-Country Consultation on the Follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development held recently in Bangkok is highly essential in terms of translating the agreed principles from the forum of the World Conference into the real and practical course of prompt action. In this respect, we would like to extend our appreciation to the Director-General for his initiatives and also to accord due credit to the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific for organizing it.

Also, my delegation wishes to add that the Royal Thai Government appreciates the decision of the World Food Programme to increase the emergency operating funds to US\$ 55 million and would like to strongly support the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programme for setting the pledging target for 1981-82 concerning voluntary contributions toward the World Food Programme up to US\$ 1 000 million. To comply with the objectives, the Royal Thai Government has resolved that for this same period, contributions from Thailand shall represent an increase of 20 percent. A great deal of assistance in connection with the Indochina refugees has also been received from the World Food Programme for which we are truly grateful. During the years 1977 and 1978, a total of about 10 000 metric tons of rice alone had been bought from Thailand under the Programme, not to mention other food commodities.

Mr. Chairman, it has been forecast that developing countries may need to import as much as 169 million tons of wheat and coarse grains in 1979-80. The amount is more than double of that imported during 1977. With this outlook in mind, the FAO budget for 1980-81 as proposed by the Director-General seems extremely humble. His efforts to save at the Headquarters so as to spend more on the field activities are indeed admirable. We wish him every success and hereby pledge our strong support for the Programme of Work, and in particular the Special Action Programmes, and the Five-Point Plan of Action which is considered as a basic component of the New International Economic Order. Thank you.

H. AL SAKIT (Jordan) (interpretation from Arabic): In the name of Allah the Compassionate, the Merciful, I should like to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, our warmest congratulations on this unanimous trust, upon your election to the Chair of this Conference. I wish every success to our Conference in formulating strategies and plans which stand at the level of the challenges which we face in the near future. Our delegation is fully confident in the ability of the delegates gathered here who represent all the countries of the world, in adopting appropriate decisions, especially in the light of the studies and documents prepared by the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma, and the FAO Secretariat; documents which shed light on the reality of problems and point to the broad lines of their solution.

Distinguished delegates, it is truly deplorable that hunger persists in our world in an age when man invades the universe, reaches and treads on the moon, when spaceships plough their way towards distant planets. It is also regrettable that the gap between developed and developing countries widens while science and technology progress. It is unfortunate that masses of people do not receive the minimum levels of food and that differences increase between surplus and deficit countries. This strange state

of affairs which prevails in the world today and the even more abnormal situation which will come about tomorrow if present trends continue, places humanity before inhuman options and consequences such as: people will die of hunger or will live in misery and disease; or that social equilibrium will be disturbed and there will be chaos and strikes; civil wars, limited and wide-scale, will be characterized by hatred rather than love, suspicion instead of trust.

Our duty, my brothers, is to avert these dangers and in this our Organization bears an important responsibility. The current situation requires of us even more concentrated efforts and more positive participation and a sense of responsibility. The importance of your role is rendered even greater by the fact that food is the corner stone of human life and is the basis of man's happiness and prosperity, of his freedom and of the need to secure social justice, social and technical progress. I therefore wish to reaffirm the important matters related to security. The starting point in fruitful work in facing this food situation is the conviction that the human family is one and united and that the stronger and richer brother is ready to help the weaker and poorer brother. Assistance should focus on creating circumstances which foster genuine agricultural development and self-sufficiency, so that assistance should not lead to fatalism and idleness. This should not, of course, affect necessary assistance in cases of emergency, pest outbreaks and droughts, because such assistance is for the purpose of relief and rehabilitation. We must concentrate on the importance of agriculture in development plans in the Third World, and these should obtain higher priorities. We should focus on rural development and developing the life of the rural populations as well as protecting the environment, including conservation of land, water, plants and animals, and maintaining the balance between the city and village, and developing deserts and national range land.

Our delegation appreciates FAO's efforts in extending immediate assistance in the field of the various plans which have been formulated to tackle existing and future problems. We would like to stress the following points:

1. We support the recommendations and resolutions of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, and we should increase our contribution towards realizing these resolutions.
2. Increasing voluntary contributions in cash and kind to the World Food Programme in the coming two years.
3. We must increase voluntary contributions to the Technical Cooperation Programme.
4. We should support the International Fertilizer Scheme which was an effective instrument in providing fertilizers to certain countries; and countries who are able to do so should increase their contributions and allow the Director-General flexible scope for manoeuvre.
5. We should accept in principle the Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization for the biennium 1980-81.
6. We should support the Five-point World Food Security Plan proposed by the Director-General.

In addition to these observations, I wish to present to you a brief review of the state of food and agriculture in my country, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Jordan, as you all know, is a small, non-oil-producing country in the Near-East. Its natural resources are limited, water scarce and rainfall low. Its area is 9 million hectares of which only 0.5 percent is irrigated; arable land is only 6 percent of the total, with almost total dependence on precipitation amounting to 200 to 600 millimetres per annum. In an average year with sufficient rainfall Jordan produces less than one-third of its wheat requirement. Drought can hit it for a number of consecutive years, as was the case in the last five years. This year is indeed the worst for output and covered but a mere 4 percent of consumption. In this regard we wish to thank FAO and the World Food Programme for their immediate assistance which was sent to us this year.

In spite of such harsh economic and climatological circumstances, we go on exerting efforts to develop agriculture in a bid to attain self-sufficiency in food production. We extend credit to farmers and encourage the constitution of agricultural cooperatives that help secure product inputs, loans and marketing facilities for their produce. In the Jordan valley we have large-scale projects under way and hope to do as much in other regions of our country.

Distinguished delegates, there is a matter of cardinal importance I wish to put to you. This relates to the livelihood, security and rights of part of our Palestinian people in the occupied West bank since 1967. A member State of the United Nations, Israel, pursues the occupation and seizure of the people's land and sets up colonies to draw in immigrants from outside the region. Israeli military

authorities do not recognize the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 which prohibits the transfer of nationals by an occupying power to occupied territories. Hence, the establishments of settlements is illegal and flouts all international agreements and fundamental human rights.

The British "Financial Times" newspaper in its edition of 29th October 1979, through its correspondent David Lennon from Tel Aviv, states that 38 percent of the total area of the West Bank is now affected by the moves of the occupation authorities.

Distinguished Delegates, the unfounded claim by Israeli authorities that expropriation of land is for security purposes has lost every pretence after their own Supreme Court only a few weeks ago ruled that the Aloon Murah settlement close to Arab Nabluz must be dismantled. Israeli aggression also involved the boring of deep wells whose water was moved to other areas, leaving the area around old wells dry and its ground water depleted. This occurred in the region of El Auja, Bardalah and Eil El Baidha. The seizure by Israel of West Bank lands has prevented thousands of Arab Palestinian families from tilling their farms.

This led to an exodus of families to the East Bank of Jordan, thus adding yet another food burden.

We must not forget that those Arabs who remain on their land are deprived of any form of agricultural growth, regular cooperative services or marketing facilities. They languish under stiff taxes, high prices, exorbitant cost of inputs and galloping inflation. These practices violate basic human rights. They lead to further impoverishment, to hatred and violence. They call for condemnation by one and all.

We do not raise this point in order to impose politics in a different field. If this were our intention we would have much to say about disrespect of United Nations resolutions, and unjust occupation practices, human rights violation, but we do submit this question to you in this forum of food and food security and agricultural development, for how can farmers whose country is occupied, whose sons are dispersed and unsettled, whose land is threatened by seizure at any moment, or exposed to ejection, deportation, arrest and torture all the time? How can such farmers, in the absence of stability, pursue any meaningful occupations? I hope each of you can put yourself in their place and ponder their plight and to let his conscience rule.

A final point I wish to submit to your august gathering, the Regional Office of the Near East in Cairo is no longer able to render its services to most of the member countries. This is an item which figures on your agenda. We hope that you will adopt a resolution authorizing the Director-General to transfer this office to another location so that it can go on serving all member countries.

In conclusion, our delegation wishes you all success in rising to the challenges posed by the world food and agricultural situation and hopes that cooperation between member countries will become even more solid so that hunger and malnutrition may be banished from this earth. History must not register any failure and default on our part.

F. MICALLEF (Malta): May I first of all congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, for your election as Chairman of the Conference. I am sure that under your Chairmanship the Conference will proceed smoothly and yield the desired results for more concrete co-operation between the members of our organization. My congratulations go also to the Vice-Chairman for their election. I must also pay tribute to the Director-General for the perfect organization of the Conference and for his continuous efforts in rendering our organization more efficient through the setting up of several programmes with a country-focus aimed mainly at direct intervention by PAD, through its regular programmes but without undue bureaucracy, adequately and timely, especially where international aid would be most required.

I would like to welcome to our Organization two new nations Samoa and Commonwealth of Dominica whose participation in FAO activities would increase the universality of FAO.

I am very happy to be here with you today to address the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. Indeed my presence here today has not been without sacrifice when one considers that this week is Budget week in my country. My presence here is yet another indication of the importance that my Government gives to the work of FAO.

When I addressed the Council last June, I drew attention to the need for FAO to shift its resources from global perspectives, which have served their purposes in the past to action-oriented regional programmes with the participation of all countries within every region. It is in this way that programmes can be devised to ensure that development programmes are implemented in homogenous regions

aimed both at increasing the food supplies and insuring against food shortages. This we understand is the basic consideration underlying the commendable initiatives currently being undertaken by FAO on World Food Security.

The ideas put forward by my delegation at the Council meeting of last June have found an echo in the report of the Council. Indeed the Council has stressed the importance of regional activities in the field of World Food Security. It has commended the action-oriented programmes of the Association of South East Asian Nations to establish reserves of rice in the region. The Ministerial Council of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahelian Zone is also taking steps to initiate a regional food reserve for the Sahel.

The report of the Council submitted to this session recalls that Malta has offered its facilities for the establishment of regional food reserves for the Mediterranean. I need not stress the obvious strategic geographical position of my country nor the excellence of its harbours which permit the berthing and efficient loading and unloading of vessels which is known to you all. I wish once more to stress here that the removal of the military base from Malta has released valuable storage space which with minimal expense can be quickly converted to serve as a regional food reserve in the Mediterranean.

My Government considers that FAO should encourage and promote regional food reserves. I cannot talk on behalf of all the regions of the world except to state that co-operation on a regional basis is a basic element of a New International Economic Order. Since Malta has dismantled the foreign base it has devoted itself wholeheartedly to regional cooperation in all fields, because we are positive that co-operation is basic to understanding.

The Mediterranean region bounded as it is by barriers of mountain ranges to the North and desert expanses to the South is a compact unit which can serve as a prototype for other regions. I sincerely urge FAO to give precedence to the preparation of a draft proposal for the establishment of a regional food reserve in the Mediterranean. The implementation of such a plan would give the international community the added experience in order to set up similar programmes for other regions. The surpluses of the European North can provide the basis of stock piling for the creation of reserves to satisfy the deficiencies of the other countries within this region.

The Mediterranean is a net food importing region-not only in cereals but also in other important food items. For this reason Malta expects a warmer response for its offer of facilities for the establishment of regional or sub-regional food reserves. Such concerted action by interested countries within the region would free the course of agricultural development from the ties which inevitably bind it, of the whims and scares of the international market for food and from disruption by natural calamities.

My delegation will therefore be taking an active part in the deliberations on World Food Security during the Conference. It is clear now that attempts for the creation of a coordinated system of national food reserves have not yet given satisfactory results. Furthermore, the failure to reach an agreement, on a global basis, on the key provisions concerning the size of stocks, the range of prices and assistance to developing countries in holding stocks, for a negotiated new International Grains Agreement, points out the need of practical projects on a regional scale. Indeed it is my Government's view that regional co-operation is the only way to close divergencies which have recently been widened by a shift in the world supply and demand situation. I trust that this view will be embodied in the resolution to be passed by this session on the subject.

I reiterate Malta's willingness to be considered for the siting of a Mediterranean regional or sub-regional food reserve, not only to serve the needs of the region but additionally to ensure that the ideas and political will expressed in the resolution recommended to us by the Council are tested in this homogenous and compact region.

Similarly the organization of fishing today requires overall regional management to save the depletion of fish stocks through over exploitation, and pollution. This is especially true for the Mediterranean.

The Council's Committee on Fisheries followed closely the ongoing discussions in the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and their consequences on the world's fishery industry. A great number of developing coastal countries have for the time being neither the means, nor the knowledge to exploit their fishing grounds and are seeking to conclude agreements with other countries to utilize jointly their fishing zones. Malta has concluded such an agreement with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriah and a joint fishing fleet is being set up. But both countries lack adequate skilled manpower, equipment and vessels to fully exploit their fishing zones. For this reason, Malta fully supports the initiation of the Exclusive Economic Zones Programme and urges FAO firstly to continue to put the highest priority to this programme and secondly to consider the special

circumstances of the Mediterranean in the implementation of the programme since the provisions envisaged for the establishment of Exclusive Economic Zones are clearly hardly capable of a rational application to regions like the Mediterranean Sea.

Here again Malta offers its facilities for the setting up of a Mediterranean Fishing Training Centre run by FAO for the training of the requisite manpower at all levels. Such a centre would also serve as a unit for the collection of information, including improvement in the quality of statistics, improvement of fishery technology, marketing and processing of fish. Malta's delegate at the 13th Session of the Council's Committee on Fisheries requested assurance that FAO will develop concrete projects for the Mediterranean. I am sure that this assurance will be forthcoming.

With the application of the proposed new legal regime of the ocean, some countries with a well developed fishing tradition may lose their fishing grounds, in which case valuable resources, such as experienced manpower, equipment and vessels may be released. My Government believes that if such resources are immediately assembled by FAO for redeployment through regional fishing development units such as the one I proposed for the Mediterranean perhaps located in Malta, this would not only help developing coastal countries in exploiting the food resources of the sea but would also greatly contribute to the formulation of a New International Development Strategy and the achievement of the New International Economic Order.

May I conclude by commending the Director-General and his colleagues for the launching of a number of important special action programmes among which the Technical Co-operation Programme and the Exclusive Economic Zones Programme have a prominent place. I am of the opinion however that such programmes should complement other activities. It is understood that the special action programmes will be fully completed in due time. I have in mind, for example, activities carried out on nutritional problems. Malta has applied for FAO's assistance in the preparation of a nutritional survey of the country which might serve as a basis for our agricultural planning and the proper orientation of our food import policy.

A preliminary mission from FAO came to Malta and submitted its report, however no further action was taken. The resources of the newly established programmes of FAO should contribute for such activities to be continued and for their scope to be strengthened and extended. As I already stated in the June session of the Council, I fully agree with the programme of work of the Director-General. However, at the same time, I was and still am worried with the budget which the Director-General is asking for, since I believe it is too modest to carry out the whole volume of programmes and the pressing requests which will surely come to FAO in the ensuing biennium. I would be much happier if a consensus could be reached by this Conference to vote a higher budget and in particular to increase the funds of the TCP.

Mr. Chairman, functional co-operation on these lines would obviate many of the difficulties encountered by traditional approaches to world food problems and would enhance the chances for peace, security and freedom from want.

TONG-TRAN DAO (Viet Nam): Au nom de la délégation de la République socialiste du Viet Nam, j'adresse nos chaleureuses salutations à M. le Président, à M. le Directeur général ainsi qu'à tous les délégués ici présents.

Je souhaite à notre Conférence de brillants succès.

Tout d'abord, je me dois de féliciter chaleureusement le Directeur général et le Secrétariat pour les efforts soutenus qu'ils ont déployés dans la préparation d'une documentation riche et de grande valeur pour la Conférence.

La question dont nous nous préoccupons de prime abord est la situation mondiale du développement de l'agriculture en général, de la production alimentaire en particulier.

C'est un panorama nullement encourageant. Les progrès jusqu'ici réalisés restent toujours nettement insuffisants et le problème crucial de l'alimentation et de la nutrition demeure toujours l'un des graves problèmes du monde entier. L'instabilité n'a pas pu être maîtrisée: si en l'année 1978 on a noté une certaine augmentation sur presque tout le globe, en cette année 1979 la production mondiale est de beaucoup réduite et revient à peu près au niveau de celle de 1977. Un fait saillant qui mérite notre attention est que dans la plupart des pays en développement, surtout dans ceux les plus gravement touchés, le taux d'augmentation en produits alimentaires est insignifiant. Dans maints de ces pays, la production alimentaire reste continuellement menacée par les calamités naturelles et d'autres facteurs socio-économiques négatifs.

Dans notre République socialiste du Viet Nam, immédiatement après la réunification du pays, nous avons voulu concentrer tous nos efforts à la reconstruction du pays, liquider les séquelles de la guerre, restaurer et développer l'économie, améliorer pas à pas le niveau de vie du peuple. Nous avons accordé la première priorité au développement de l'agriculture, y compris la foresterie et la pêche. Nous avons décidé de développer une agriculture multisectorielle, mais avec la production alimentaire comme secteur de base. Nous avons mis en pratique des mesures concrètes: défricher de nouvelles terres, multiplier les récoltes pendant l'année, intensifier les cultures, développer les cultures vivrières autres que le riz; intensifier l'élevage du bétail; développer l'élevage des poissons et crustacés d'eau douce et d'eau saumâtre, la pêche côtière et hauturière; entreprendre le boisement et reboisement, protéger et préserver le domaine forestier contre l'exploitation abusive, contre l'incendie et la pratique de l'agriculture itinérante. . .

L'Etat continue à accroître les investissements dans la construction des ouvrages hydrauliques agricoles, la multiplication des plantes engrais verts, la protection sanitaire des plantes et du bétail, l'équipement en machines et outils agricoles, l'extension du réseau électrique desservant les travaux agricoles.

Mais tous ces efforts ne sont pas toujours couronnés de succès. Quoique nous ayons enregistré quelques bons résultats dans l'augmentation des superficies cultivables et emblavées, des cultures vivrières (mas, manioc, pomme de terre, sorgho, etc.), la production agricole en général, la production alimentaire en particulier, demeure bien loin de satisfaire aux besoins minimum de plus de 30 millions d'âmes.

Cela est dû à des causes multiples.

Notre agriculture demeure par essence une agriculture arriérée et de petite production. De plus, elle a été profondément endommagée par une guerre longue et dévastatrice, dont les séquelles ne peuvent être liquidées facilement du jour au lendemain: les bases matérielles et techniques trop petites avant la guerre ne sont pas encore complètement restaurées.

D'autre part, comme tout le monde sait, depuis la fin de la guerre de libération, le peuple vietnamien n'a pas joui d'un seul jour de paix. Nous avons dû faire face à une guerre d'invasion aux frontières du sud-ouest, qui devenait de plus en plus sauvage en 1977-78, obligeant plus de deux millions de paysans de ces zones à abandonner leurs rizières et à se déplacer vers l'intérieur. Au début de cette année, nous avons été attaqués du côté nord; six provinces frontalières ont été dévastées; la vie de plus de quatre millions de paysans a été bouleversée de fond en comble. Ces guerres d'agression causent de sérieuses entraves à toutes les activités de développement dans tous les domaines de la production tant agricole, forestière que halieutique. Même à l'heure actuelle, notre pays reste menacé de nouvelles invasions du nord. Cette conjoncture nous a obligés à diverger nos efforts, en dépit de notre profond espoir de les concentrer dans le labeur pacifique.

Les calamités naturelles de leur côté n'ont cessé de s'associer dans cette oeuvre dévastatrice.

Une inondation d'une ampleur inattendue dans tout le pays et particulièrement dans le delta du Mekong en 1978 a submergé et annihilé complètement plus de 700 000 hectares de riz et autres cultures vivrières, causant une perte de plus de 2 millions de tonnes d'aliments. Les typhons survenus récemment dans les mois de septembre et d'octobre au centre Viet Nam ont aussi ravagé quelques dizaines de milliers d'hectares. Les maladies et les insectes prédateurs eux aussi sont des fléaux permanents qui s'abattent sur nos cultures.

Par suite de la situation décrite plus haut, notre production agricole s'est développée très lentement et d'une manière instable. Particulièrement, la production alimentaire à plusieurs moments a été gravement réduite. La balance alimentaire compte ordinairement un déficit annuel de 2 à 3 millions de tonnes. Et ce déficit pourra durer encore pendant des années à venir. C'est la raison pour laquelle, malgré que nous estimions absolument nécessaire la création d'une réserve alimentaire nous avons fixé notre politique dans cette direction, en fait nous n'avons pas encore pu la réaliser avec nos propres moyens.

La situation critique en denrées alimentaires n'affecte pas seulement le Viet Nam. Il en est de même pour d'autres pays en voie de développement. Aussi, comme beaucoup d'autres pays, nous approuvons le contenu de l'Engagement international sur la Sécurité alimentaire et accueillons l'initiative du Plan d'action en cinq points proposé par le Directeur général. Certes, pour accomplir les tâches et atteindre les objectifs préconisés, chaque pays doit poursuivre fermement une politique d'extension de la production alimentaire avec des mesures adéquates afin de résoudre sa propre autosuffisance, et en *mine* temps une politique d'économie dans la consommation afin de pouvoir constituer graduellement des réserves suffisantes et assurées.

Mais, du côté de la Communauté internationale, nous pensons qu'une aide adéquate et effective à ces efforts sous toutes les formes s'avère nécessaire. Cette aide ne doit pas être accompagnée de conditions politiques.

Eh dernier lieu, le facteur le plus déterminant est la paix, une paix durable, pour que chaque pays puisse exploiter ses ressources et ses forces d'une manière radicale pour le bien du développement et de l'édification de son économie, l'amélioration du niveau de vie de son peuple. A cet effet, la Communauté internationale doit s'opposer fermement aux manœuvres des forces réactionnaires internationales qui, en collusion avec les impérialistes, cherchent à créer la tension et fomenter des guerres d'agression.

Pour exploiter à fond toutes nos ressources naturelles, développer notre économie agricole, forestière et halieutique, nous sommes prêts à accueillir toute assistance et coopération internationales basées sur le principe d'équité, d'intérêts communs et du respect de l'indépendance et de la souveraineté de chaque partie.

Le transfert de technologie des pays développés aux pays en développement devient de jour en jour plus urgent pour servir la cause de la production agricole et alimentaire.

Partant de nos expériences personnelles, le Viet Nam ressent également l'importance de la coopération et entraide dans tous les domaines entre les pays en développement. Jusqu'ici, nous avons commencé à établir des relations dans le domaine de l'agriculture avec beaucoup de pays, surtout avec les pays proches dans la région comme l'Inde, les Philippines, la Malaisie, etc. , relations que nous ne cesseront d'accroître dans l'avenir. Nous sommes membre du CDRIAP qui commence à fonctionner.

Vis-à-vis de nos pays voisins, Kampuchea et Lao, de tous temps les peuples des trois pays ont coopéré et développé l'entraide dans la lutte pour recouvrer et défendre l'indépendance et la souveraineté de chaque pays; nous développons aussi la coopération et l'entraide dans les domaines technique et économique. Particulièrement avec le peuple kampuchéen, après qu'il ait levé le génocide de l'ancien régime qui a disloqué toute la société traditionnelle du Kampuchea, créant une grande famine qui menace des centaines de milliers de Kampuchéens, nous avons partagé avec lui le peu que nous possédons: plus de 20 000 tonnes de semences, 100 000 tonnes de denrées alimentaires. Et, dans l'état actuel où son personnel scientifique et technique a été exterminé presque complètement par l'ancien régime, nos services agricoles ont envoyé des spécialistes en hydraulique agricole, en agriculture, élevage...pour porter aide au peuple kampuchéen dans l'effort inouï qu'il est en train de déployer pour le redressement de sa patrie et la stabilisation graduelle de sa vie matérielle et culturelle.

Nous sommes très heureux de constater que l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture n'a cessé ces derniers temps de multiplier ses activités pour le bien du développement de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation, en particulier dans les pays en développement. Le Directeur général, M. Edouard Saouma, a fait preuve d'heureuses initiatives pour rendre de plus en plus effectives les activités de l'Organisation. Nous approuvons le projet de programme et budget présenté à la Conférence. Nous estimons que le niveau du budget proposé représente le minimum nécessaire pour faire face aux besoins des activités de notre Organisation. Nous félicitons le Directeur général d'avoir déployé des efforts pour pratiquer une stricte économie dans les dépenses purement administratives, en vue d'augmenter les dépenses pour l'assistance technique et les programmes de terrain, de formation. Nous espérons que cette orientation juste sera continuée dans l'avenir.

Quant aux programmes de coopération technique, de prévention des pertes agricoles, programmes que nous estimons très importants pour les pays en voie de développement, nous regrettons que le budget qui leur est réservé reste trop maigre. Nous pensons qu'il est nécessaire de leur attribuer encore plus de ressources pour être à même de financer plus de projets pilotes suivant les objectifs déjà décrits. Nous pensons aussi qu'il est nécessaire de réserver une part importante des finances pour l'approvisionnement en équipement et matériels techniques dans le cadre des projets. Cela contribuera à renforcer les bases matérielles et techniques des institutions scientifiques, techniques des pays en développement, les rendant plus capables de résoudre eux-mêmes la plupart des tâches qui leur incombent.

Nous sommes également d'accord pour le renforcement du programme des engrais; ces dernières années, ce programme a eu des contributions effectives dans la conjoncture où les pays en développement ont eu des difficultés dans l'approvisionnement en engrais chimique.

Nous appuyons l'heureuse initiative de la délégation hongroise suggérant à la Conférence d'instituer une journée mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture.

La République socialiste du Viet Nam accueille et apprécie hautement l'assistance positive et efficace que la FAO et le PAM lui ont apportée dans le cadre des projets pilotes du programme de coopération technique, de prévention des pertes après récolte et d'aide alimentaire d'urgence et au développement. Nous exprimons ici nos vifs remerciements au Directeur général, au Directeur exécutif ainsi qu'à tous leurs collègues à la FAO et au PAM. De notre côté, nous ferons tout notre possible pour renforcer la coopération avec eux pour rendre leur aide beaucoup plus efficace dans notre pays.

S. SALIA (Haute-Volta): La délégation de la Haute-Volta se félicite une fois de plus de participer à la Conférence de la FAO où se décident, au plus haut niveau, les plans et programmes relatifs à la promotion du développement rural. C'est également à ce sommet que se tiennent, d'une façon effective, les débats conduisant à l'évolution du développement de l'agriculture des pays en voie de développement qui attendent de cette organisation internationale le maximum d'efficacité et surtout de rapidité dans ses interventions.

La République de Haute-Volta salue en cette Organisation son dynamisme et se réjouit de voir à sa tête un élément conscient, responsable, qui transcende les "petites choses" pour tenir haut le flambeau du développement agricole auquel aspirent les pays les plus démunis et les moins favorisés de la terre.

Nous en voulons pour preuve l'expression humaine qu'il a donnée à tous les programmes de la FAO depuis son accession à la tête de cette organisation. M. Edouard Saouma et son équipe ont conçu un certain nombre de programmes qui touchent directement aux problèmes qu'affrontent nos pays.

Notre propos est, beaucoup moins qu'une déclaration, un hommage public que ma délégation, au nom du Chef de l'Etat voltaïque et de son gouvernement, est venue rendre à cette Organisation qui n'a cessé de se montrer présente à ses côtés chaque fois qu'elle se trouvait dans des moments difficiles.

En effet, le problème n° 1 qui occupe la pensée de tous les dirigeants des pays du tiers monde est la crainte du lendemain et, surtout, d'un lendemain que personne ne voudrait être trop long parce que sans pain.

C'est pourquoi, le programme en cinq points qui traite de la sécurité alimentaire constitue, à nos yeux, la solution d'un problème qui se pose journalièrement à nous sahéliens et qui nous donne la sensation d'être suivis, aidés et entourés dans le malheur.

La Haute-Volta a envisagé, déjà depuis quelques années, le problème de la sécurité alimentaire, au point de mettre en place une structure que nous appelons Office national des céréales (OFNACER). Cet office est chargé de résoudre les difficultés créées par l'instabilité des prix et la mise en défense du pouvoir d'achat des plus pauvres. Cette action entreprise depuis 1972 a vu se développer ses objectifs grâce à l'aide que la FAO nous a accordée par les différentes missions des trois dernières années.

L'OFNACER n'est plus à présent, un simple organisme de stabilisation des prix à la production et à la consommation. Il embrasse plusieurs autres activités, allant de la production à la sécurité alimentaire de toute la nation, par l'organisation d'une structure de réserves alimentaires susceptible d'assurer une distribution rapide et efficace de produits vivriers dans les parties les plus reculées du pays qui, éventuellement, peuvent être frappées de catastrophes imprévisibles.

C'est également grâce à la FAO et à ses démarches incessantes qu'il nous a été donné en ce moment précisément de mettre en place un programme national qui ressemble à celui conçu au niveau international pour répondre aux exigences du moment: obtention de crédits, programme d'utilisation appropriée de fonds alloués, mise à la disposition d'experts avisés, rapidité dans l'action, autant d'attributs que nous sommes en train de constater à l'heure actuelle dans le renforcement de la structure nationale ci-dessus mentionnée, grâce à l'intervention de l'Organisation.

Les craintes des lendemains difficiles commencent à s'estomper grâce à l'étude de faisabilité récemment mise au point par la Division de la sécurité alimentaire de la FAO pour les pays de la sous-région ouest-africaine où s'inscrivent géographiquement ceux du Sahel. Nous sommes assurés que les résultats ne se feront pas attendre, étant entendu que les éléments envisagés sont de nature à retenir l'attention des esprits les plus difficiles et les sources de financement les plus exigeantes.

La sécurité régionale devrait donc être garantie par la mise en place d'une structure qui permettra, à l'instar de celle mise en place dans le Sud-Est asiatique, de débloquent des produits vivriers au bénéfice des populations qui en auront besoin et ceci en un temps record et au moindre coût.

Notre préoccupation dominante reste cependant la promotion de la production nationale de produits vivriers. Et c'est dans ce domaine que l'intervention de l'Organisation sera la plus importante, étant entendu qu'elle est consentie dans la dignité et dans le respect de nous-mêmes.

Il y a plus de dix années que la Haute-Volta mène une expérience originale d'encadrement et de restructuration du secteur rural avec la mise en place des organismes régionaux de développement (ORD). Le bilan en cours de ces ORD montre beaucoup de défauts dans l'organisation, des lacunes dans la gestion. C'est avec insistance que nous demandons par conséquent à l'Organisation, après qu'elle nous ait apporté sa contribution dans la définition d'une stratégie de développement agricole pour la période 1978/90, de nous aider à apporter une solution dans l'organisation de ces ORD afin qu'ils puissent, mieux que par le passé, contribuer plus efficacement dans la promotion de la production agricole. Une équipe interdisciplinaire de l'Organisation pourrait se joindre aux cadres nationaux qui réfléchissent présentement sur le type d'organisation à préconiser pour les ORD.

Nous savons que cette organisation que nous avons créée n'est pas une institution de financement. Elle est technique et ne peut intervenir valablement et avec la rapidité que nous souhaitons tous si son action ou intervention est seulement soutenue par des crédits disponibles.

Là nous devons relever un manque, une insuffisance et, par conséquent, une incapacité.

Cette insuffisance observée par le Directeur général lui-même, M. Edouard Saouma, qui de par sa profession et son expérience de terrain connaît et comprend l'anxiété du paysan qui voit s'annoncer la saison sans avoir les semences qu'il faut pour semer ou qui constate, impuissant, par manque de moyens, la destruction du fruit de ses efforts par des insectes et des maladies de toutes sortes, qui pleure ses désespoirs face à tous déboires, a jugé nécessaire d'y apporter un remède.

Nous voulons citer ici le Programme de coopération technique qui est venu à notre secours à plus d'un titre, à savoir:

la recherche de sites appropriés pour l'implantation de puits villageois;

la formation de cadres chargés de programmes alimentaires des collectivités;

l'étude de la vocation des sols;

la reconnaissance de marchés pour une meilleure commercialisation de la volaille;

la formation et l'équipement de petits pêcheurs;

et j'en passe, qui constituent les preuves de l'efficacité d'un tel programme.

Hélas! Nous voudrions l'utiliser davantage, vu que nos besoins sont si nombreux et nos moyens si ténus; mais nous sommes limités par les dimensions restreintes de cet instrument efficace au point qu'on se pose la question de savoir pourquoi une telle méthode de travail ne devrait pas être encouragées si ceux-là qui ont la vocation d'assister le tiers monde dans ses efforts de développement veulent effectivement que les pays de cette partie du monde ne soient pas dans la situation où ils se trouvent présentement.

Ma délégation voudrait également insister sur le programme de lutte contre les insectes et notamment les sauteriaux qui constituent pour les Sahéliens une sorte d'épée de Damoclès.

Vous n'êtes pas sans savoir que la saison agricole peut être excellente, que les efforts du paysan peuvent avoir été consentis à temps et à bon escient, mais qu'il peut se retrouver facilement sinistré à la suite de l'attaque des criquets ou de sauteriaux qui menacent de destruction nos récoltes. Il faut saluer certes les dispositions qui sont prises au niveau de l'Organisation pour arrêter les foyers de développement de ces insectes. Cependant, l'effort de l'Organisation devra aussi porter plus intensément sur le soutien aux organisations interafricaines comme l'OCLALAV.

Un fait marquant a aussi retenu notre attention dans la nouvelle politique instituée par la FAO, c'est la décentralisation. Ce programme, qui est l'un des éléments principaux de la nouvelle philosophie, ne peut effectivement échapper à personne.

Le bureau de la représentation de la FAO en Haute-Volta est un relai essentiel qui nous permet de maintenir les contacts les plus étroits avec les divisions techniques de l'Organisation.

Le panorama général des programmes en cours, en partant des plus importants déjà élaborés et rendus fonctionnels jusqu'à ceux-là qui sont en cours de préparation, nous a été présenté dans ses détails. Voilà pourquoi nous comprenons mieux aujourd'hui la valeur que revêt pour nous cette Organisation à travers le processus de décentralisation. Cependant, il est souhaitable que ce bureau soit renforcé, afin d'augmenter son efficacité.

C'est sur cette note que nous redisons aux responsables de cette Organisation que le peuple voltaïque, son gouvernement et le Président de la République, s'estiment satisfaits du travail qu'elle a réalisé jusqu'ici, de la célérité avec laquelle elle le fait et du sérieux qu'elle y met.

Nous lui demandons en conséquence de continuer dans le même sens, au cours du prochain biennium et dans les années à venir.

Il est donc certainement souhaitable que l'équipe qui a forgé la structure actuelle dont l'objectif est d'atteindre les faibles, les plus pauvres, pour les guider sur le chemin du développement, dans la dignité, continue de nous sacrifier un peu plus de leur existence propre pour amener cette oeuvre à un point de non-retour tant sur le plan physique que sur le plan spirituel et moral.

The meeting rose at 13. 00 hours.

La séance est levée à 13 heures.

Se levanta la sesión a las 13. 00 horas.

conference

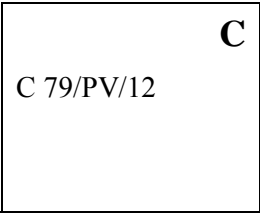
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

TWELFTH PLENARY MEETING
DOUZIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
12ª SESION PLENARIA
(16 November 1979)

The Twelfth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14. 45 hours M. F. Janjua, Vice-Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La douzième séance plénière est ouverte à 14 h 45 sous la présidence de M. F. Janjua, Vice-Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 12ª sesion plenaria a las 14. 45 bajo la presidencia de M. F. Janjua, Vicepresidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS continued)
- DECLARATION DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

F. GUNDELACH (European Economic Community): Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am indeed very grateful for the Chair giving the Agricultural Commissioner of the European Commission the floor to address this distinguished assembly on a matter of vital importance to the world. I shall be speaking in the name of the European Commission on behalf of the European Community. That is so because in the European Community we have developed, as you know, a common agricultural policy which has permitted us to bring about a coherent common internal market for agricultural commodities and to develop a common position in our dealings with our partners round the world, be it in regard to commercial matters or be it in regard to what is in the forefront of our deliberations at this Conference, the combat against the evil of hunger.

This common agricultural policy is an essential element of the European construction. It has, as you know, often been criticised from the inside and from the outside, and of course there are always adjustments in it to be made to bring it in accordance with the realities of the world of today. But the policy is there and it will remain because on the whole it has been beneficial, not just to European farmers but to the world at large. I shall revert to that on a few specific points, but at this point of general introduction I would just like to make the point that a Community which has a common agricultural policy and can deal with its agricultural problems on the inside but also in relation with its partners can play a substantial role in solving world food problems.

If you were to deal with today nine individual countries, tomorrow ten, the day after tomorrow eleven or twelve, your life-and I can testify from personal experience in other capacities-would be close to impossible. The fact that the Community speaks with one voice is to the benefit of the world community at large because it permits the community to contribute effectively, which would not be the case if we had nine, ten or eleven different national agricultural policies, no doubt more isolated, more protectionist, than the policy which we have today. I wish to bear this in mind in the discussions of ups and downs on this agricultural policy.

World food security is obviously of vital concern to all of us. Whether our countries are rich or poor, big or small, developed or developing, man needs food. Besides overriding moral and humanitarian pressures it is in our self-interest to see the hungry fed. Better nutrition is the foundation of economic development, and in its turn economic development and a more equal spread of wealth is an important pre-condition of world stability. All that is widely accepted and I do not plan to launch myself into a detailed speech on these points, which have been underlined by many speakers before me and will be underlined by many speakers after me. But it must be set as the guiding thread which will lie behind what I further have to say.

The evidence of hunger is all around us, in our newspapers, our radios, and on our television screens, and our immediate response is to want to help. One is struck by the immediate response that the public gives when they are confronted clearly with disasters in various parts of the world. There obviously is in our peoples a willingness to make the contribution, even the sacrifices, to meet this problem. What is to be avoided is that in the periods between painful immediate problems here or there on the geographical map efforts do not slacken in other words, that whilst we have the preparedness to deal with immediate problems we construct coherent policies which enable us to get to the root of this problem, and the first condition is one of proper coordination and international cooperation. None of us no matter how great our agricultural output, can eliminate world hunger by acting alone. There is a need for wide international cooperation. In this context let me pay tribute to the work of FAO. We regard its initiatives, together with those of other international bodies under the umbrella of the United Nations, as being of great importance. These organizations are constantly prompting the international community to take its responsibilities and to develop a coherent policy for assuring world food supplies. Much remains, I know, to be done. But something has already been achieved and this year the European Economic Community has already taken on several extra commitments.

At the May meeting of the Programme Committee of the World Food Programme the Community accepted the idea of forward planning of aid and is now considering an increase in its annual target for milk powder and butter oil for aid. Its 1979 programme already amounts to 150 000 tons of milk powder and 45 000 tons of butter oil. The European Commission wants to make substantial increases in Community aid in regard to these items.

In the context of Operation Flood the Community has given India political assurances of the continuity of aid over several years.

In June the Community approved the FAO action plan for world food security. We support its objectives and have already almost doubled our own cereals stocks. This was, I admit, done partly because of our own and international market conditions but I must emphasise also because of the precarious world situation. In other words, we wanted and we want to make our contribution to the bringing about of security stocks.

The Community wants a new International Wheat Agreement and will be ready to resume negotiations the moment that favourable conditions exist. We think that the increase in our stocks is an element facilitating the resumption of talks.

Following September's World Food Council the Community is again considering whether it can raise its cereals aid by more than 25 percent—from less than 1.3 million to 1.65 million tons a year. I must emphasise, to avoid any misunderstanding, that our food aid is directed towards meeting shortages of food wherever they may be in the world and not to disposing of this or that surplus which we may be faced with on the internal market. We have made provision for buying products on world markets if they are not available internally or if they are needed urgently. This gives us the possibility to act quickly and flexibly, as we have actually done in a number of cases over the last few months, only citing Uganda, Equatorial Guinea, Nicaragua, and not least, the needed aid to meeting the catastrophic situation in Cambodia.

I do not want to give the impression that we are complacent, that we think we are doing enough. We are not, others are not. We must in concert further mobilise our efforts.

At a recent debate in the newly elected European Parliament the European Commission urged the Parliament to vote more budget resources for aid and development. We are already then, making a contribution. But the question of food aid goes further than the mere donation of food to people or countries in need. Similarly, world food security is much more than the achievement of sufficient stocks of say, cereals, however important that may be.

If food is to be donated or stocked it must first be produced and the mechanism for proper distribution must be provided. And if food is to be produced and distributed we must ensure the right political and economic conditions for farmers and traders. This is not easy in a world of increasing inflation. It is not easy in world where the energy problem poses itself with great weight. The references which have been made in this debate to this problem have their full value in any economic discussions one is having, including food. One must give high priority for the world to find solutions to the energy problem which otherwise by inflation may bring about a cancer which erodes our political and economic stability and our ability to aid where aid has to be given.

The bringing about of the conditions necessary for the farmers and traders in developed and developing countries alike must be the longer term goal of our world food policy which, as I just said, cannot be seen in isolation from other economic policies, including energy policy. This goal to which I have just referred has already made headway within the European Community by the creation of the Common Agricultural Policy, which is the foundation on which many other matters stand. It enshrines the principles and concepts which guide our actions, also outside our own frontiers.

The Common Agricultural Policy has made it possible for Community farmers to develop their production of basic food stuffs and for community traders to export increasing quantities of cereals, milk powder, butter oil and other products and so to become important and reliable suppliers to other countries needing these commodities. We cannot be present on world markets to the benefit of others without the use of so-called export restitutions but of course such export restitutions must be administered in a responsible manner. If you look at the moment at prices for cereals or milk powder you have proof that export restitutions are being administered in a responsible manner. This is not to say that all is well within the Common Agricultural Policy or for that matter in other agricultural policies of other countries in the developed world, or that it is making its maximum contribution to world food security: it is not yet, even if progress has been made.

We have a milk surplus which we have to diminish. We have a sugar production which is on the high side. But of course we must take into account the important commitments we have been undertaken to import sugar from developing countries. We have a budget problem and must bring agricultural expenditure under control. Given the existence of our financial resources these limits will in my view not always exist in a dynamic community, in a community which is about to enlarge, which is about to take new commitments. But for the time being those limits are there as a reality to be counted with. But I must make it quite clear that these internal problems cannot be solved just by reducing the levels of the community's food production.

We are not intending to pursue a Malthusian policy. We must not forget the world has to feed an extra 72 million people a year, and that already 500 million people-twice the population of our Community-suffer from serious malnutrition. Anything that leads to a serious running down of the Community production would run counter to the world's needs and interests. Indeed, it would be such an act of practical vandalism that it would be a crime. Now, these problems of internal market balance must be tackled by adapting our production patterns to the realities in our own markets, in world markets and not least, bearing in mind the needs of combating hunger.

In this way we can achieve two objectives simultaneously, we can eliminate our internal difficulties, and make an even greater contribution to the reinforcement of world food security.

This can only be part of the full response to the problem; by itself it cannot be enough. We must give high priority to increasing the production of the developing countries themselves. We must make sure that they are able to make as big a contribution as possible to feeding their peoples, and they should have the chance to earn the foreign exchange that is so necessary for their overall development.

In aiming to bring this about we must recognize the mistakes of the past. We must take account, of course, of the wishes of the developing countries to become industrialized, but you cannot achieve economic miracles just by implanting shipyards or steel mills in developing countries without giving full emphasis to the necessity of developing in broader economic society.

Agriculture is already the biggest sector in most of these economies. It is the basis on which they must build their economic development, and the Community tries to contribute by providing markets which can act as a spring board for agricultural development by seeking to provide security in world trade; and by providing finance to help launch special development projects in agriculture as well as in other parts of the economy.

Mr. Chairman, to be more specific and to put things in the right perspective, let me say that the Community's agricultural imports reached \$46 billion in 1978-a figure which shows that the Community is by far the world's biggest importer of agricultural products. Imports from developing countries accounted for almost \$22 billion of that total and are increasing rapidly-by more than 77 percent over the last five years.

This has been brought about by the concessions given in the recently-concluded Lomé Convention of which you are aware, by the increased generalised preference scheme from the beginning of this year, and by concessions to the countries in the Mediterranean area.

These are marked steps forward which are resulting in figures of the magnitude to which I have just referred. These figures, of course, also indicate that our imports from the developed agricultural countries are very significant.

This brings me to the question of increased international cooperation in regards to securing a higher degree of stability in markets of primary commodities. Sugar is on the order of the day, cereals likewise.

I would like to indicate that in a situation where the Community has to watch the level of its animal production, it is difficult to explain an increase of imports of fodder for that production in the form of soya and to some extent tapioca-there we are reaching agreements in the bilateral way with the main countries. How we can at the same time watch the development of our animal production and be faced with every-increasing imports of fodder to low prices, here there is a contradiction in terms. Here there is an area for additional cooperation between agricultural producing countries. Maybe some of that soya could be better used in other parts of the world suffering from malnutrition.

The Community provides large and dependable markets for the produce of developing countries. The importance of this to their agricultural industries cannot be over-estimated. In providing them with free or preferential access, the Community members are giving to the developing countries the same stimulus that they gave to themselves by removing internal trade barriers.

But we must admit that this is not enough. Developing countries claim-and have a right to-still greater access to our markets. The community must aim to meet this demand in the years ahead. This might very well imply-in the longer term-a change in the Community's import pattern.

But freer access by itself is not enough. Agricultural development can be completely dislocated by price fluctuations. That is why we must ensure greater market and price stability in world agricultural trade-knowing that this benefits everyone, both producers and consumers. An example of our will in this area is provided by the recently completed GATT negotiations where the Community pressed for arrangements that will help stabilise world dairy product and beef markets as well as supported the establishment of a new world cereals agreement. For the Commissionaire an essential part of such an agreement would be a new Food Aid Convention with bigger targets.

The Lomé Convention is another example of our will to bring about stability.

- It not only provides sugar producers in the ACP-countries with guaranteed prices fixed at a comparable level to that offered to Community producers but also provides guaranteed access for 1,3 million tons of raw sugar a year.
- The STABEX system guarantees the stability of export earnings for more than 40 agricultural innovation in international economic relations. It gives insurance against the repercussions of fluctuations in export volume and price.

The new Convention signed on October 31 makes available about 730 million dollars which could be used to stabilise export earnings. But for this insurance, development projects in these countries would be at the risk of falls in world commodity prices or of bad harvests.

The third aspect of the Community's attempts to stimulate agricultural production in developing countries-of helping them to help themselves-is the provision of finance for development projects.

We attack regional problems inside the Community by channelling finance and technical assistance into the areas of greatest need.

We try to apply something like the same principle in our aid policy towards the developing countries in order to assist the governments of these countries to work to increase the wealth of rural areas by developing production. Under the existing Lomé Convention, 40 per cent of the funds provided by the Community-in other words 40 per cent of more than 4 billion dollars-has been directed by the governments of ACP countries to agriculture-to milk production, oil and fats production, forestry, cereals and so on.

Considerable financial assistance is also being made available to developing countries which are not parties to the Lomé Convention.

In recent years the Community has put more than 100 million dollars a year at the disposal of what we term-in Brussels jargon-the non-associated developing countries. These are especially countries of Asia and Latin America, and they are using the money almost exclusively for projects in the agricultural sector. Furthermore our Association Agreements with countries in the Mediterranean regions contain protocols for providing technical and financial assistance for agricultural development.

I want also to emphasize in this connection that the Commission and the Community want, through financial and technical assistance, to contribute to the development of the fisheries industry in developing countries in order to, also in this way, participate in improving the food situation in these countries.

Mr. Chairman, I have tried to paint a broad picture of how the Community is contributing to the general aim of reinforcing world food security.

It is our firmly-held view that food aid and emergency aid are not enough-these can only be short-term holding operations while we tackle the fundamental problem which must be to increase the agricultural potential of the developing countries.

The essential instrument in tackling this problem must be increased participation in their agricultural development. This can take place through the injection of financial resources, through the provision of technical assistance and through the possibility of improved access to markets in developed countries.

The present efforts are not enough. It is crucial that we do our utmost to increase food production in the developing countries as quickly as possible. Our efforts must ensure that food production in the developing countries increases even more quickly than their populations.

This is the pre-condition of their lasting economic transformation.

Agricultural development alone can enable these countries to meet from their own resources their growing food demands. It will make a double contribution to the solution of their balance of payments problems : it will reduce their expenditure on food imports and at the same time, through increased exports, earn the foreign exchange that is needed to sustain their economic development.

The Community, Mr. Chairman, fully supports the objectives of the FAO action plan on World Food Security. But we must not stop there.

A full response to the problem of reinforcing world food security dictates that production and stocks in developed countries are accompanied by greater production in, and increased trade possibilities for, the developing world. This is the direction we must follow in the years to come.

I will end by thanking you, Mr. Chairman, for your indulgence, and adding that for us the combat of hunger is high political priority. We stand ready to help financially and substantially, but we do have to consider in the long term the technical assistance to bring about an increase in the production of the developing countries and which must form an important part of the programme. Important as it is today, it will be more important in the future.

OUMAR BA (Mauritanie): Le Ministère mauritanien du développement rural, empêché de participer à la Conférence pour des raisons de travail, m'a chargé de vous donner connaissance de son allocution.

L'ordre du jour de cette 20ème session de la Conférence de la FAO prend pour la Mauritanie un relief saisissant en 1979 : la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action pour la sécurité alimentaire et l'élaboration d'une nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement revêtent en effet un caractère d'importance exceptionnelle en cette année qui voit notre pays frappé par une sécheresse d'amplitude inconnue jusqu'à présent.

L'hivernage 1979 entrera dans les annales climatiques comme l'un des plus sévères jamais subis par notre pays. A peine la moitié des précipitations normales est-elle tombée, répartie très inégalement entre un début d'hivernage précoce aux pluies parfois diluviennes qui ont causé dommages matériels et érosion des sols, et une sécheresse subite et implacable qui a duré trois mois et culminé au mois d'août, mois qui n'a reçu qu'à peine le quart de la pluie normalement attendue.

Le Fleuve Sénégal a connu une crue plus faible encore que le record de 1972-73, n'inondant qu'une infime partie des terres cultivables, moins du dixième.

Le bilan provisoire est terrible: la production n'atteindra pas le quart de notre potentiel, soit moins de 25 000 T, ce qui nous contraint à envisager l'importation de près de 150 000 T de céréales pour assurer la subsistance alimentaire des populations, sans compter la nécessité de pourvoir à l'alimentation du bétail.

En effet les pâturages, comme les cultures sont presque anéantis et la transhumance a commencé, menaçant d'ajouter aux risques de désertification des zones d'accueil au sud du pays.

Jamais le danger de famine ni le risque de dégradation irrémédiable de notre cadre de vie traditionnel n'ont été plus pressants.

Ces phénomènes ont mis en cause la survie même du monde rural qui regroupe les neuf dixièmes de notre population ; déjà le quart des populations rurales fait figure de réfugiés, qui ont fui vers les villes devant la menace du sable et de la faim pour retrouver nourriture, abri et travail. Cet exode rural a pris une telle ampleur qu'il déstabilise complètement la structure et le mode de vie traditionnels.

Nous sommes donc confrontés à des obstacles qui peuvent compromettre gravement l'effort de redressement entrepris par notre pays, et cette nouvelle épreuve sonne comme un dernier avertissement. Notre économie, encore fragile au sortir des années 1972-73, se retrouve en extrême danger.

C'est pourquoi, notre pays a décrété une véritable mobilisation générale en faveur du secteur rural, auquel il accorde la priorité absolue. Deux objectifs principaux sont visés :

Premier objectif : assurer l'alimentation des populations sinistrées et c'est pourquoi nous avons créé un Commissariat à l'Aide Alimentaire. C'est pourquoi aussi, nous attachons une importance particulière au plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, plan que nous contribuerons à mettre en oeuvre dans les meilleurs délais en soutenant les propositions du Directeur Général de la FAO. Notre pays développe une politique nationale en cette matière notamment par le renforcement de l'Office Mauritanien des Céréales et a clairement conscience de la nécessité pour les pays sahéliens d'élaborer une politique collective ; nous avons d'ailleurs accueilli cette année dans notre capitale Nouakchott, le Colloque du CILSS sur la politique céréalière.

Deuxième objectif : mettre en oeuvre des moyens nouveaux. Il est apparu indispensable de réviser les structures et les modes d'action hérités du passé, de nous affranchir de leur lourdeur. Le développement rural intégré ne s'avère possible qu'au travers de structures déconcentrées, avec la participation effective des populations concernées. Notre Gouvernement a ainsi promulgué une véritable charte de réorganisation de ses administrations centrale et territoriale et de réorientation de leurs actions. Notre Ministère du Développement Rural a notamment lancé une vaste étude des moyens organiques, humains, logistiques et financiers qui permettront de promouvoir le secteur agropastoral dans son intégralité ; nous avons achevé la formulation de notre politique de crédit agricole et passerons bientôt à sa mise en oeuvre en vue de la mobilisation de l'épargne et de la promotion des investissements ; nous sommes en train de développer de nouvelles méthodes de travail et de prise de décision particulièrement adaptées aux périodes d'exception et de détresse qui sont devenues malheureusement trop fréquentes.

L'effort national est donc très important et les populations sont convaincues de la nécessité vitale pour elles de participer à l'oeuvre générale; elles font preuve d'un courage et d'une lucidité qui augurent bien de la réussite des actions entreprises.

Cependant, cette action exige des ressources énormes, bien souvent hors de proportion avec nos possibilités réelles, et c'est pourquoi les aides internationales et notamment africaine et arabe nous sont si précieuses. La FAO y contribue largement et fort efficacement, tant par sa participation à des études générales, telles celles qui concernent nos nouvelles structures, que par son assistance directe et pratique dans les domaines de la formation, de la recherche, de la vulgarisation ou encore par des projets essentiels comme la lutte contre la désertification, la protection des végétaux. C'est plus de huit millions de dollars qui sont ainsi engagés par l'Organisation en Mauritanie.

Nous ne pouvons donc que nous féliciter de la Représentation nationale que la FAO a eu l'heureuse initiative d'établir chez nous, et des relations ainsi nouées qui sont très appréciées et qui vont totalement dans le sens de nos recommandations.

Parce qu'en définitive nous pensons qu'il faut nous orienter vers une coopération au travers de structures simples, aux décisions rapides, aux actions expéditives et pratiques. C'est pourquoi aussi la collaboration des organisations internationales nous semble si précieuse dans l'action entreprise, en particulier par la FAO, pour assister nos pays dans l'effort qu'ils fournissent pour un développement conçu et voulu par eux et dont ils ont la pleine responsabilité.

Cette coopération réclame une nouvelle stratégie ; il est impératif de bousculer *les* modes de réflexion conventionnels sur les problèmes de développement et de s'attacher à introduire les contraintes qui sont propres à nos pays et au sous-développement.

Il est hors de question d'espérer résoudre les problèmes de l'autosuffisance alimentaire et de la promotion du développement agropastoral dans les pays en voie de développement en continuant à rechercher des solutions qui satisfassent aux équations qui régissent les économies des pays nantis et industrialisés. Ces approches technocratiques et purement financières ne prennent pas souvent en compte les impératifs politiques, sociologiques ou psychologiques qui forcent nos choix et nos décisions; de ce fait, bien souvent, les sources de financement se retirent pudiquement.

Ces procédures sont ainsi allongées et condamnent d'elles-mêmes des projets vitaux à cause de l'inflation mondiale et de l'aggravation des situations dans l'intervalle.

Il apparaît nettement que la lutte contre le sous-développement est principalement affaire de ressource

et qu'elle ne sera pas décisive et ne mènera pas au but si le Nouvel Ordre Economique n'établit pas plus de justice et ne garantit pas nos propres sources de revenu; ceci implique la stabilisation des cours des matières premières, la modification des termes de l'échange. Alors, seulement, disposerons-nous de ressources sûres et pourrions-nous compter d'abord sur nos propres forces avant de solliciter l'aide internationale.

Nous apportons en conséquence une attention toute particulière au programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives, qui représentent certainement un acquis et un grand espoir pour nos pays. La Mauritanie a d'ailleurs entrepris de longue date, des recherches au large de ses côtes grâce au Centre National de Recherche Océanographique de Nouadhi-bou ; elle va se doter de nouveaux moyens de surveillance; elle mène une politique de promotion de la pêche artisanale ferme et décidée et encourage vigoureusement les investissements à terre.

Le programme d'assistance est donc d'un grand intérêt pour nous dans la mesure où il ne peut que renforcer les actions entreprises. Nous attacherons de même la plus haute importance aux mesures d'aménagement et de contrôle dans la zone économique exclusive : la Mauritanie dispose en effet d'un des littoraux les plus poissonneux de la côte africaine et elle entend gérer ces ressources de la mer en vue de compléter son programme visant à l'autosuffisance alimentaire et de promouvoir l'expansion économique générale par une action dynamique dans ce secteur encore trop négligé.

Je ne voudrais pas terminer cette brève intervention sans vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, pour votre élection à la présidence de notre Conférence et féliciter vos collaborateurs du Bureau.

Je me fais l'interprète du Comité Militaire de Salut National et de son Gouvernement en vous adressant, Monsieur le Directeur Général, nos remerciements pour le soutien diversifié que la FAO a apporté et continue d'apporter à la Mauritanie, ainsi que ceux de ma délégation pour la qualité des documents préparés et l'accueil qui nous a été réservé.

En terminant, j'ajoute la remarque suivante: si un observateur averti ou un journaliste intelligent devait être interrogé sur ses impressions au retour de cette Conférence, il dirait qu'enfin l'humanité a

été consciente de sa situation et que n'arriveraient que des choses qu'elle aurait préparées, et si la parole généreuse et l'analyse fine devait apporter des solutions, l'humanité sortirait soulagée de cette Conférence. Enfin, osons espérer avec le philosophe que le verbe précède l'action.

W. M. OTTO (Netherlands): Very much to his and my regret, the Netherlands Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries could not be present at this Conference. He, therefore, asked me to deliver his statement to the Plenary Session. I feel the more honoured, Mr. Chairman, to do so, since I have the privilege to speak under your excellent guidance.

Mr. Chairman, I speak on behalf of a country that right from the beginning supported FAO in both its principles and practices, not only with words but also with means. I speak on behalf of a country with a long experience in the field of development of rural areas, which for a large part we had to reclaim from the sea, from lakes and from swamps, by an intricate system of dikes and windmills.

A country, whose inhabitants for a large part live below sea and river levels. We learned to manipulate water and salt, and to organise the construction and maintenance of our water management system into autonomous institutions. We learned also to integrate research, education and extension. We learned to organise the involvement and participation of the rural population in the development process. We are willing to share this experience with other countries.

The year 1979, is an important year for rural development. Three major conferences were held. In July the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. A few months later, World Food Council and now the Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference. These three meetings have provided three opportunities for our country, to participate in reaching an international concensus on strategies and tactics of the global war against poverty, hunger and disease. We fully realise, Mr. Chairman, that FAO played an essential role in these three meetings. I therefore congratulate the Director-General and the whole staff of FAO, both in Rome and in the field, for all they have done to prepare our meetings and to bring into operation our policies and plans. I am in a position to inform the Conference that the Netherlands Government-subject to some qualifications and reservations-agrees with the programme of action of the WCARRD; the recommendations of the Fifth Ministerial Session of the World Food Council; the FAO study "Agriculture: Toward 2000". My Government accepts them as guidelines for further development planning.

As regards the follow-up of the WCARRD, my Government-in close cooperation with the developing countries-will do its utmost to increase its assistance and will join the efforts to improve living conditions in rural areas.

We fully agree with the clear analysis of the problem, as President Kaunda presented it to us a few days ago. We are prepared to evaluate and, where needed, to reprogramme our assistance, in order to avoid right answers to wrong questions.

The Netherlands Delegation supports the proposals for specific follow-up actions to WCARRD. In this connection we feel that the activities within the framework of the Rural Organizations Action Programme, are of great importance, Especially if the vital role of the women in any rural development is reflected in these activities.

Another principle agreed upon during the WCARRD is to focus projects and programmes on small farmers and landless people. A pre-requisite is the active involvement and cooperation of the rural population.

We believe that higher productivity, more employment, good social services and a more equitable distribution of incomes can more easily be attained, when the rural population is organized into institutions adapted to their specific needs.

Because of the overriding importance to wipe out hunger and malnutrition, substantial reinforcement of food and food related programmes, both in the short and in the long term, is necessary.

For this reason I can announce, that the Netherlands Government has decided to contribute to the Food Security Assistance Scheme for the year 1979 another 2½ million US dollars. My Government is also considering other forms of extra-budgetary assistance for specific FAO programmes.

For the same reason, in my country, a special programme-"Food Aid and Food Production"-has been established within the framework of the Netherlands Development Cooperation Programme.

Now I come to the important study "Agriculture towards 2000", which spells out the long term perspectives in agricultural development in the world.

We commend FAO for producing this study, which constitutes, in our opinion, a substantial contribution to the formulation of the strategy for the third development decade. While agreeing with the general context of the study, I would like to make some observations, which I hope, might be taken into consideration in the final text.

First, emphasis should be laid on the importance of making the study more country specific. In this respect I may also refer to the recommendations by the fifth World Food Council meeting regarding the setting up of food sector strategies for selected developing countries.

Secondly, as stated in the study, one-third of the total needed investment goes to infrastructural provisions such as transportation, storage, processing and marketing. These and related activities should therefore receive more detailed attention than has been given them in the report before us, also in respect of the much needed creation of non-farm employment in rural areas.

Thirdly, in order to secure the benefit of investments, due attention should be given to programmes providing education and institutions to help the farmer to utilize fully the new possibilities, made available to him.

In our opinion this study is of such far reaching importance, that FAO should increasingly base its programme of work and its field activities on the study "Agriculture toward 2000". It goes without saying that this study must be updated regularly.

Referring to the emphasis given to land and water development within the framework of AT 2000, I want to draw your attention to the fact that, in reality, instead of improving, indeed many rural areas right now are deteriorating at an alarming rate because of deforestation, erosion, flooding, salinization and desertification. This process is threatening the very basis of rural development, and we should put up a strong case to reverse this dangerous trend.

I recognize that because of the problems of today, we often can hardly afford to work on problems of tomorrow. But our children of today are the adult generation of tomorrow, and if we do not tackle this problem, they are going to be denied even minimum living conditions.

Therefore, conservation, rehabilitation and sound management of natural resources and ecosystems should be an integral part of any rural development programme.

I also refer to the serious "poor man's energy crisis", because of the lack of fuel wood. My Government, therefore, supports the "Jakarta Declaration" of the Eighth World Forestry Congress 1978 and underlines the Director-General's warning, "not to allow forestry to be forgotten amidst the many problems to be tackled."

Another aspect of conservation relates to the "comprehensive programme for the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones".

In Western Europe we are experiencing at this very moment the bad consequences of mismanagement of our marine resources. The overfishing of Northeast Atlantic seas is a showcase of how not to develop fisheries.

So, good balance between on the one hand development and on the other management, right from the beginning, can prevent much trouble in future.

We are aware of the fact that the results and recommendations of the WCARRD, as well as of the World Food Council and "Agriculture; toward 2000" cannot be implemented by FAO on its own. It will be difficult enough to achieve these aims even with close cooperation between all countries concerned and with the agencies of the United Nations system.

In the general debate of the last Economic and Social Council session my Government appealed to the UN Secretary General, to the U. N. Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and to the Heads of all specialized agencies to do everything in their power, by joint action, to preserve and strengthen the integrity and cohesion of the United Nations system

in order to be able to deal with the vital problems of men and nations. I permit myself to reiterate this appeal today.

In this respect my delegation appreciates very much the initiative of Director-General Saouma to discuss, within the ACC Task Force on rural development, the follow-up to the programme of action of the WCARRD.

Furthermore, the Netherlands, being one of the most important contributors to FAO's field programmes, attaches great importance to a full implementation of paragraph 34 of the restructuring resolution of the U. N. General Assembly, concerning the functioning of the resident coordinator of the organizational activities of the U. N. system. The resident coordinator can assist recipient countries to avoid what was mentioned in the ACC report on rural development, "instead of promoting integrated governmental efforts, external assistance often reinforced centrifugal tendencies at the national level".

In conclusion, I wish to express the hope, that by the end of 1979 this Conference will reconfirm what we agreed upon earlier this year.

By doing so we might provide the tools necessary to tackle the hunger and poverty of the next decade. It may not be "possible to do the impossible".

If, however, every government represented at this conference, in its internal and external policies, accepts its share in our common endeavour, we still might start to achieve tomorrow what seems unachievable today.

My Government for one is ready to take its share.

N'FAGNANAMA KONE (Mali): Avant d'aborder le sujet, je voudrais, Monsieur le Président, au nom de ma Délégation et en mon nom propre, vous adresser mes vives félicitations pour votre brillante élection à la présidence de notre Conférence. Qu'il me soit également permis d'assurer le Directeur Général Edouard SAOUMA de mon vif sentiment de reconnaissance pour avoir, comme d'habitude, organisé cette rencontre avec beaucoup de compétence et de dévouement.

Le Président, en éminent économiste, a parlé du lancinant problème des balances de paiement. Nous pouvons aujourd'hui, devant cette auguste assemblée, parler à notre tour de l'obsédante préoccupation que constitue la lutte contre la faim pour la Communauté internationale en général et pour les pays en développement en particulier. En effet, les problèmes de la faim, de la malnutrition et de la pauvreté, loin de s'atténuer, se sont aggravés au cours des dernières années.

Les statistiques relevées dans certaines publications montrent que plus du quart de l'humanité ne mange pas à sa faim. Un tiers des enfants du monde est en proie à la malnutrition et aux maladies comme la cécité et le goitre endémique par suite de carences de vitamines.

Le nombre des pays en développement à déficit alimentaire va croissant. Une étude du Conseil mondial de l'Alimentation précise que le volume des importations de céréales par les pays en développement, qui était de cinq millions de tonnes en 1950, a atteint le niveau effrayant de 70 millions de tonnes en 1977/78. Selon les experts, si cette tendance n'était pas renversée, il y aurait un déficit de 10 millions de tonnes en l'an 2. 000. Devant ces perspectives sombres, il est urgent et important que l'humanité entière réagisse dans un élan de solidarité. Il importe également que les pays directement concernés mobilisent les moyens nécessaires pour assurer leur salut.

C'est dans ce sens qu'oeuvre mon pays, la République du Mali, au prix, il est vrai de mille et une difficultés.

Au moment où l'éprouvante période de sécheresse des années 1973 et 1974 atteignait son point culminant et où nous nous débattions dans de très grandes difficultés de ravitaillement, notre Gouvernement a adopté un plan quinquennal de développement qui, à juste titre, traduisait la préoccupation générale de ne plus jamais voir se produire une semblable situation.

La priorité était donc donnée au développement rural et dans ce cadre, à la réalisation d'objectifs d'équipement et de production concourant à donner à l'Etat les moyens de maîtriser les problèmes d'approvisionnement de céréales, même en période climatique exceptionnellement défavorable.

Le programme céréalier visait à redimensionner l'ensemble de l'appareil productif pour le rendre apte à assurer à long terme l'indépendance et la sécurité complète des approvisionnements, d'augmenter la production de telle manière que le pays devienne en 1979 structurellement auto-suffisant, et enfin

d'accumuler un stock de sécurité et un stock régulateur du marché. Les instruments principaux étaient: une politique de prix incitative, un programme d'aménagement hydro-agricole conséquent et une politique de vulgarisation mettant davantage l'accent sur l'intensification que sur les extensions. Un programme d'études, de recherche et de formation devrait préparer la période suivante.

Ces objectifs n'ont pu malheureusement être atteints en totalité parce que:

- nous avons enregistré tout au cours de la période quinquennale d'importants déficits pluviométriques par rapport à la moyenne;
- les crues de fleuves et rivières ont été capricieuses;
- les programmes d'aménagement hydro-agricole ont connu un faible degré de réalisation (30 pour cent des prévisions);
- enfin les prix agricoles ont été peu incitatifs pour certaines spéculations, compte tenu de l'inflation.

Ainsi les besoins céréaliers de la République du Mali n'ont pu être totalement couverts depuis que la sécheresse a rendu incertaine la production agricole. C'est pourquoi le Gouvernement de la République du Mali attache une grande importance au problème des stocks de sécurité et des moyens de couverture du déficit alimentaire.

Le Plan Quinquennal 1974-1978 prévoyait au niveau national des mesures spéciales dans le domaine du stockage des céréales. Dans ce cadre la constitution d'un stock national de sécurité était destinée à assurer la sécurité de l'approvisionnement en cas d'année exceptionnellement mauvaise, et à donner à l'Etat la maîtrise effective des prix à la consommation. Le concept de stock de sécurité résulte de l'expérience de la sécheresse des campagnes 72/73 et 73/74 et des problèmes rencontrés dans le cadre des opérations d'aide internationale (démarrage tardif, difficultés d'acheminement, difficultés de stockage et d'organisation des sinistrés): il s'agissait de constituer sur place des réserves permanentes de céréales pour pouvoir faire face immédiatement aux premiers besoins de la population sinistrée dans le cas d'une nouvelle pénurie à l'avenir.

La politique adoptée consistait donc à augmenter le stockage du secteur public (Office des produits agricoles du Mali) au niveau régional ou national afin d'assurer un courant suffisant de céréales, en rendant ainsi impossible toute spéculation sur les prix du marché libre en faveur des populations non agricoles ou des régions de production déficitaire. Le Plan prévoyait en plus des stock-tampons destinés à stabiliser les fluctuations saisonnières, la constitution d'un stock national de sécurité représentant six mois de consommation marchande et servant de réserve pour les années exceptionnellement sèches.

La constitution du stock de sécurité devait être rendue possible par le prélèvement annuel de 10 pour cent du disponible commercialisable au niveau national. La capacité de stockage de l'O. P. A. M. étant insuffisante tant au niveau du stock de consommation annuelle que du stock de sécurité, diverses aides extérieures ont décidé d'apporter leur concours pour la construction de magasins ou de silos. Ainsi la FAO s'est engagée à construire 9 magasins d'une capacité totale de 20 500 tonnes; quant à la République Fédérale d'Allemagne elle a financé la construction de 18 magasins d'une capacité totale de 7 200 tonnes pour le stock utile.

La capacité totale de stockage y compris les constructions en cours est de 149 420 tonnes. L'O. P. A. M. à l'heure actuelle est obligé de louer des magasins à des particuliers pour compléter sa capacité de stockage, ce qui occasionne des frais qui ne peuvent être répercutés sur le prix de vente des céréales au consommateur.

Si les objectifs globaux du Plan (sécurité alimentaire et indépendance même en cas d'année sèche) ont été conservés, le programme de réalisation a cependant été modifié dans le cadre de la réorganisation de l'Office des Produits Agricoles; ainsi le Gouvernement a décidé d'accorder une part importante au riz par rapport au mil-sorgho-maïs et de revoir la localisation des centres de stockage. L'ensemble des stocks sera constitué d'un stock de consommation, d'un stock-tampon, d'un stock-tampon régional-d'un stock de réserve annuel et d'un stock de sécurité.

Des démarches diplomatiques sont actuellement entreprises en vue d'obtenir le financement d'un projet comportant trois volets: achat de fertilisants, réalisation d'une rizerie et des installations pour loger le stock de sécurité.

Ma délégation est en mesure de produire une étude nécessaire sur le problème du renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale pour répondre à une recommandation faite aux Chefs de Délégations lors du débat général.

Le système des Nations Unies entreprend actuellement des efforts tendant à une plus grande coordination de leurs actions. Il faut s'en rejouir certes. Mais il convient également de rappeler que la coordination de l'assistance quelle qu'en soit la source relève d'abord de la responsabilité du pays récipiendaire.

Dans cette tentative des Nations Unies, il nous apparaît qu'une meilleure décentralisation vers le terrain, où se trouvent les vrais problèmes, devront davantage retenir l'attention.

A cet égard nous nous réjouissons tout particulièrement des initiations du Directeur Cénéral de la FAO pour nous rapprocher de l'assistance que nous attendons de cette Organisation et nous tenons à l'en féliciter vivement. La représentation de la FAO dans les pays est véritablement un des éléments positifs de la nouvelle orientation de notre Organisation.

Mes dernières observations porteront sur l'espoir immense suscité dans les pays développement en général et dans les pays sahéliens en particulier par la tenue en juillet dernier de la Conférence mondiale sur la Réforme agraire et le développement. Ma délégation s'associe pleinement à la lettre et à l'esprit de la Résolution sur la suite à donner à ladite Conférence. Nous devons "autoriser le Directeur Général à prendre toutes les mesures nécessaires pour aider les Etats Membres à exécuter le Programme d'Action. Nous voulons garder l'espoir que l'appel lancé aux organes directeurs des Institutions de financement du système des Nations Unies sera entendu. Puissent les peuples déshérités ne pas connaître de désillusion dans la mise en oeuvre des principes et du programme d'action adoptés lors de cette rencontre mondiale!

HWANG HEUN (Democratic People's Rep. of Korea) (interpretation from Korean): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, first of all I extend my warm congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your election as Chairman of the Conference. I would also like to express thanks to the Director-General and all the members of the Secretariat for their great efforts in preparing for this Conference. We feel satisfied with the Conference, which has been well arranged and is going on successfully.

The Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea warmly welcomes and congratulates Dominica and Samoa on their admission to FAO membership.

The ever-expanding ranks of the member states of our Organization is not only in full agreement with its goal and ideal but also reflects the increase with each passing day of the mission and role of the Organization.

We have paid much attention to the speech made by the Director-General. The Organization has made a considerable contribution to the solution of agricultural and food problems on a world scale by presenting the Action Programme in conformity with the requirements of the new circumstances and arranging for effective and practical cooperation among member states, for which I would like to express warm congratulations to the Director-General and officials of the FAO.

We consider that the questions to be discussed at this Conference are of great importance. Indeed, questions of food and agriculture are questions of life and death in the life of the people and vital in the building of that civilised and hopeful new society to which all of mankind aspires. Agriculture, not only provides man with the food which is indispensable for human life but is one of the two major sectors in the economy. The other one is industry; agriculture provides industry with raw materials, thereby stimulating its development.

The agricultural problem is particularly serious in various countries which were or are still under imperialist and colonial subordination and in developing countries. The majority of the population in the developing countries are peasants, and agricultural production constitutes the main part of the national economy. Food shortages are endemic in the developing countries due to the failure to reach the requisite level in agricultural development. For the complete solution of such problems and the successful construction of a new society in the developing countries, it is imperative to develop the national economy and consolidate its independence. In order to build this national economy and consolidate independence, the agricultural problem must be solved particularly in the countries with weak economies. Only in this way will it be possible to frustrate all sorts of economic exploitation and pressure and build a firm independent national economy and ensure the people's well being.

Each country should develop agriculture together with industry, no matter how developed the latter may be. Only when industry is developed and its guiding role consistently raised, only when the agricultural economy measures up to the level of industrial development, can a country's

economic development be guaranteed at a rapid pace and people's well being be greatly improved. Therefore, it is very important at present to analyse correctly the situation of world agriculture and its developments, to seek out practical ways and means for solving problems and to decide on a correct action programme. In this respect we think that the activities of the Organization and our work in it are indeed honourable work to our mind; perhaps the words "sacred for mankind" may be appropriate.

The Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will actively take part in the work of the Conference in its attempts to get over the world food crisis and get over the worsened agricultural situation, thus ensuring economic stability for mankind.

We consider that one of the important matters in the activities of the Organization and our work is to break through successfully the difficult problems created at present by exchanging valuable experiences gained in agriculture and by strengthening cooperation among member states.

As a member state of the Organization, our country has paid much attention to this area in conformity with the ideals and goals of the Organization.

As is well known to everybody, our country was a backward colonial and semifeudal state which was under colonial rule until 1945. Moreover, we had to undergo a three-year war, the arable land, agricultural implements and rural areas of our country were destroyed and devastated. Consequently, our agriculture could not overcome annual natural disasters and people could not get rid of food crises.

Over the past twenty years, however, under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, our country has built the socialist countryside which is equipped with modern machines and techniques and which yields bumper crops every year without going under to natural disasters. This was no easy task.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught us as follows: "Under Socialism the peasant and agricultural questions consist in developing the productive forces of agriculture to a high level, in making the peasants well off, in abolishing the backwardness of the countryside left over by the exploitive society and of gradually eliminating the distinctions between town and country. The basis for this is the steady consolidation of the Socialist system established in the countryside. "

We have completely solved the question of land, an age-long dream of the peasants, through land reform, and we have settled the question of rural economic form through agricultural cooperatives. In order to solve the rural question finally, our people have pushed ahead with ideological, technical and cultural revolutions in the countryside with the powerful support of the advanced Socialist system in our country, upholding the "Observations on the Socialist Rural Question in our Country" set forth by our leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Great success has been made in this struggle whose goal was to free the peasants from the fetters of outmoded ideas, thus ensuring them a more civilised life and completely freeing them from back-breaking labour. Today our peasants have become full-fledged masters of the country; thanks to the radical changes in their material and cultural life they have nothing to envy.

Furthermore, as a result of the powerful acceleration of the technical revolution in the countryside with its comprehensive irrigation, mechanization and chemicalisation, an irrigation system has been established by means of which all the land under cultivation can be fully watered; all farm processes from ploughing to sowing to harvesting are done by modern machines; farm production is accomplished with the aid of chemicals, and so our peasants have now been fully freed from hard labour.

On the basis of such solid material and technical foundations in the rural economy, we took comprehensive measures to have farm work done in a scientific and technical way so as to increase per unit area yields.

Today, our country plants seeds on a large scale to suit the natural, climatic and soil conditions of our country, and we cultivate crops and varieties in arable land according to the principle of proper crops at the right time and proper crops to proper soil.

Along with this, we took measures to ensure the growth period of crops and introduced a new manuring and irrigation system so as to protect crops from the whims of weather phenomena and from damage by natural conditions time ensuring etable harvests. As a result, we are able to yield 8. 8 million

tons of grain last year and expect far more this year, in the area where we could produce only two million tons in the years before 1945. Our country is also actively working to reclaim natural conditions that are unfavourable to agriculture.

Conforming to the five-point policy of the remaking of nature set forth by our respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, our people struggled to build terraced fields by introducing irrigation in the remaining non-paddy fields in certain mountainous areas and are completing full-scale work for land readjustment and improvement, afforestation and water conservation projects and the reclamation of tidelands in vast areas.

With the successful realization of the five-point policy of the remaking of nature, all cultivated lands in our country have now been standardized and approved, and a complete irrigation system has been introduced to the farming of paddy and non-paddy fields. Therefore, our agriculture now is not affected by any unfavourable natural conditions or change in climate, and our country rejoices in bumper harvests every year: our former food famine area has been turned into a self-sufficient area which has surplus farm produce.

Considering the important role of agriculture in the development of our national economy, we have developed our rural economy in a diversified and intensive way, with the main emphasis on grain production. By so doing, we made agriculture greatly effective in developing the economy of the country in a multi-faceted way, ensuring organic links of various sectors of the national economy. On this principle we developed extensive animal husbandry and livestock farming, pomiculture and forestry.

All the successes which our people have achieved in the field of agriculture in the past are the results of the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our people.

Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, we consider it an important problem to strengthen economic and technical cooperation among member states so as to destroy the old International Economic Order and establish a New International Economic Order in conformity with the aspirations and requirements of both non-aligned and developing countries in the activities of our Organization. Accordingly, we think it fitting for this Conference to present this problem as a major agenda item.

Today, where some countries for their own purposes make extensive use of the economic leverage created between developed and developing countries by abusing their monopolistic position in international economic relations and especially where the developing countries are bound to bring about an immediate turning point in their economic development, these problems are the most urgent. Discussion of these problems is a common desire and aspiration of the great majority of the non-aligned and developing countries which belong to our Organization.

We demand that international exchange and cooperation should be carried out in such a way as to make a real contribution to the construction of independent national economies of developing countries as well as to the establishment of a just and new international economic order. We shall do our best to destroy the old international economic order based on domination and subordination, establish a new international economic order based on justice and equality by pooling our strength with the non-aligned and developing countries, and foster economic and technical cooperation among member states.

Along with this, we welcome a number of positive plans of the Organization for consolidating the security of world food and the continuing development of agriculture, fishery and forestry, and ready to participate actively in its work. By doing so we will discharge our duty as a member state of the Organization.

Finally, I express my expectations that this Conference will achieve great success, given the sincere efforts of the delegates from the various countries that are present here.

H KASSIM (Bahrain) (interpretation from Arabic): In the name of the All-Merciful and Compassionate, Mr. President, Mr. Deputy Director-General, Your Excellencies, Heads of Foreign Delegations, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure for me at the outset of my statement to congratulate the President of the Conference on the confidence placed in him by participating countries in electing him to preside over the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. I do commend such an election, and wish the President full success in his task, and hope that he will fully help this Conference to obtain fruitful results.

I would also like to congratulate the Commonwealth of Dominica and Samoa for their admission to this Conference.

Two years have elapsed since our last session-the 19th Session. We are now meeting to examine what we have achieved over this period, and to further discuss the developments which have occurred in the fields of agriculture and food. Through such discussions we will be able to pave the future road ahead in order to achieve the targets set down to overcome hunger and poverty.

I would like to seize this opportunity to thank the Director-General for the intense effort he has undertaken to develop and facilitate the work of this Organization through a policy of decentralization. I would like to commend the manner which he has adopted to facilitate the work of participating delegations, by providing documents and practical proposals to produce a sufficient framework in which this Conference can achieve fruitful and positive results.

The world looks forward now to such international meetings, and they expect them to provide the foundations of international cooperation which will help us to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries. The duties which are given to this Organization cannot be carried out unless we exert vast and joint efforts, as the problems facing the world today exceed the individual effort. They are complex and inter-related, and this renders any unilateral attempt to overcome them as useless waste of effort.

The problem of world food security has become not only the main concern of poor countries, but one facing the entire world. It is the greatest challenge facing mankind, and for this reason this Organization has made particular efforts to alleviate the impact of this difficult problem. For this reason, international appeals have been made for the rapid adoption of all measures which would help us to produce foodstuffs and increase international stocks, thus to face increased consumption and to establish emergency stocks and reserves.

In the light of the hardships that have wrecked the world over the past years, especially during 1972 and 1974; due to the shortage of foodstuffs and the rapid increases in prices, the World Food Conference was held in 1974 to set down a policy which would provide the world with secure food supplies. The Conference set down as a minimum target of food production increases of 4 percent. This would help us to face increased food consumption and also would help us to establish internationally-held reserves to meet emergencies.

Despite all efforts exerted in this field, the increases over the past four years did not reach the target laid down, and did not exceed 2.8 percent. However, this reduced increase nevertheless led to the creation of strategic reserves in some of the advanced exporting countries. It also helped to reduce the demand in developing countries. This apparent respite in fact created an atmosphere of laxity and over-confidence, and all results achieved were wiped out at the beginning of this year when once more this problem reared its head, and the food shortage appeared in greater acuity. This is due to the fact that adverse weather conditions in the world this year had an effect on the world food production. Agricultural harvests fell below the records achieved in 1976 and 1977.

Statistics so far available indicate that world production of wheat and cereals is in fact short by 5 percent over last year's production. Estimates also indicate that the world production of meat will be 1-5 percent less than that of last year. Predictions also indicate that the world shall rapidly consume all the reserves which were accumulated over the last five years. This production shortfall has in fact affected world prices, and we find that cereals and sugar prices have rapidly increased this year. Wheat, for example, has had a 30 percent increase in its prices, while sugar has experienced a 50 percent increase.

Mr. President, many natural factors have been the cause of such production shortfalls, such as the population explosion, adverse weather conditions, natural disasters and others. However, these factors are not solely responsible for such a shortfall. The main cause was a trend amongst the developing countries to divert their investments and economic policy towards the establishment of infrastructures and the creation of heavy industry in their countries, and these are very costly and they reap very slight benefits, to the detriment of the agricultural sector.

This of course has been to the detriment of the agricultural sector. We should also add to this-that is, talking about transportation-and the ineffectiveness of the policies to combat agriculture costs have also increased the amounts of post-harvest losses.

The countries producing food for this world can be counted on one hand. This situation must be changed. It is illogical for the world to depend on a handful of countries to feed its population, and developing countries should be responsible for introducing such change. Therefore developing countries are required to adopt an integrated programme of self-sufficiency in the food area and they should also reduce their dependence on imported foodstuff. This was agreed to at the meeting of the Group of 77 which met in Tanzania this year. It was also discussed by UNCTAD V at Manila this year. Developing countries should depend on themselves to produce their own requirements of food. This is not a difficult task, many of these countries have the necessary agricultural inputs and, through regional and international integration, such resources and factors could be used to the benefit of all nations.

Priority should be given by such countries to investment in the food agricultural sectors. We should also seek to create suitable conditions in agricultural countries to adjust investments. They should provide the adequate guarantees for such investments and provide investors with favoured treatment, thus increasing their own self-sufficiency and help to create a comprehensive integration. In addition to the food problem we are facing another problem and that is the sharp increase in the rate of inflation in industrialized developed countries.

Of course, developing countries suffer even more severely from such an increase in the inflationary trends and this affects their balance of trade and prevents such countries from channelling their savings towards investment fields rather than using them for consumption and imports.

The protectionist policies adopted by developed countries also affect developing countries' production efforts and if this problem is not overcome, the negative impact will lead to dire consequences for the entire world.

We agree with the Director-General when he says that hunger and malnutrition require international solutions. These should be continuous and coordinated. On such a basis the countries of the Arabian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula have sought to coordinate their efforts through joint studies and projects, as they are fully confident that they have to unite their efforts to achieve their common fate. This cooperation has led to the establishment of the general Secretariat of the Ministries of Agriculture of the Gulf countries and the Arabian Peninsula. This general Secretariat is also cooperating with FAO on a number of joint projects being implemented in the area. We in the Gulf area attach importance to self-sufficiency in the food sector. It is also part of the importance attached to this matter in the Arab world. It has attracted the attention of all concerned and led us to examine the possibility of establishing an integrated policy to provide the Arab world with all its food requirements. On this foundation the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development convened a Conference in Rabat, Morocco in November 1978. This Conference was entrusted with the establishment of comprehensive studies on projects which could be implemented on an Arab scale. These studies are to be further examined at a future meeting of Arab Agriculture Ministers to be held in Ryad in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the beginning of next year.

As far as my country is concerned, and due to our limited agricultural potential, we feel the impact of the food problem even more greatly. This is due to increased demands and to increased imports of foodstuffs. Despite these shortcomings our responsibility has led us to exert even greater efforts to find such agricultural sectors which could be developed locally. In so doing we would be dependent on our own resources. We have thus established an integrated agricultural plan through which we hope to increase our local production and to cover from 6 per cent of our food requirements to 15 per cent, during the ten years of the Plan.

In order to achieve such an increase the Government and private sectors are seeking to invest about \$75 million over a ten year period in the agricultural sector and in producing foodstuffs.

I would like to commend here the immense role played by the Director-General in evaluating this Plan and in providing constructive proposals. I would also like to commend the continuous endorsement that my country has received from the Director-General and the various organs of this Organization in developing all our agricultural horizons. This has been clearly evident in the implementation of a number of joint projects which the Director-General endorsed when he visited Bahrain this year.

The food problem is closely related to rural development. The countryside remains the main source of food in our area. Therefore, special efforts must be directed towards the development of rural areas and of rural dwellers. This will further help our efforts to achieve food security, as rural development is the only means to achieve food security. However, this rural development does not only imply the improvement of the agricultural aspects of the rural areas; it also involves economic, social and health aspects. For this reason I consider that a programme of self-sufficiency, which I urge all developing countries to endorse and adopt, must first and foremost stress rural development. It must also seek to help the agricultural sector to expand, especially in those countries where the rural sector is backward. This requires vast amounts of investments which, of course, developing countries do not have. Here the role of developed countries appears to consist in their generously providing help for the adoption of programmes which have been carefully prepared.

In referring to food security, we must also dwell on the question of marine resources, and this is a question that—as you are all well aware—is closely related to food security. Fishery resources are a main food staple for a number of countries and their people. The fishery industries are in fact a source of livelihood for more than 15 million inhabitants of the earth. Therefore, the protection of our marine resources and their development can only be undertaken through joint and comprehensive efforts.

The countries of the Arabian Gulf have fully realized this fact. They have now become convinced that a lack of coordination would have negative effects on our fishery resources as it would in fact cause a rapid depletion of these resources. Therefore, the countries of the Gulf have sought, collectively to draft a joint policy which would help them to protect their fishery resources as well as to develop joint legislations which would enable us to protect our fishery environments.

The countries of the area have also agreed to draft joint plans and projects which would help them to maximize the exploitation of their fishery resources through joint projects and plans. In this context I would like to point out that we have just recently completed a regional survey of our fishery resources. This has been undertaken in cooperation with FAO. At the last meeting held by the subcommittee for the regional project for surveying fish resources in the Gulf, we have adopted a number of recommendations including one requiring the Organization to undertake a survey for a joint production plan which would in fact be a first step of an expanded plan to be adopted on the regional level.

This rapid overview has clearly indicated how closely related world food security is to other questions and it has also indicated how joint efforts are the main and sole manner in which we shall be able to overcome any problems in this field. This requires rapid measures to be adopted here.

I have referred earlier in my statement to the fact that developing countries must adopt a self-sufficiency plan in order to direct their investments towards rural development and to help the rural dwellers. This plan requires developing countries first of all to review their development plans and to give agriculture priority here. They should also seek to encourage agro-industries which depend mainly on agricultural raw materials. This would enable them to absorb all excess labour which could be caused by modern agricultural techniques adopted.

Secondly, rural development requires us to invest heavily in this area therefore developed countries should give generously here to help us bridge the gap between developed countries on the one hand and also to help the developing countries to step further on the road towards development.

Thirdly, we find that developed countries should facilitate the transfer of technology as we find that this former outlook of providing aid only to the developing countries does not help developing countries to overcome this gap.

Fourthly, we find that we should further seek to improve the stocking, packaging, transportation and various measures for the protection of agricultural losses. However, due to the fact that post-harvest losses are immense due to the damage caused to stored food, this requires us to review all the shortcomings in developing countries in this field.

I would also like to point out the fact that regional and international plants have played a major role in helping agricultural projects. However, the limited funds made available to such countries do not help the agricultural plants to be implemented. Therefore, if we wish the sponsors to achieve the targets they have been set up for we have to increase the funds made available to them. Developed countries must increase the funds available to these funds.

I would like to refer specifically to IFAD. Before I end my statement, I would like to refer to an important item on the agenda on this Conference. It is the question dealing with the transfer of the regional office of the Near East region. Due to the prevailing circumstances, this regional office is no longer able to provide the necessary services for the countries of the region and considering the purpose for which this regional office was established, to be a link between the Organization and the countries of the region, and in order to comply with the desires of the countries of the region, we urge the Conference to authorize the Director-General to take the necessary measures to transfer the headquarters. We urge all countries taking part in this Conference to endorse our proposal as this would help this regional office to undertake the duties for which it was established.

At the end of my statement, I would like to thank you all for your careful attention and wish you all full success in overcoming the problems facing the world and wish that this Conference shall be able to reach positive solutions which will have a great impact on all those challenges which are facing the world today and which will help us to help overcome the problems of development, food production, hunger and poverty.

F. NZAMURAMBAHO (Rwanda): Il y a quelques vingt-quatre mois la Conférence de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture tenait dans cette même enceinte, sa dix-neuvième session au cours de laquelle beaucoup de points furent débattus, et d'importantes recommandations formulées et ceci dans le cadre de rechercher toujours sans cesse l'établissement d'un nouvel Ordre économique international dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture particulièrement dans les pays les plus gravement touchés et les moins développés notamment ceux sans littoral, afin de combattre la faim et la malnutrition dans le monde, objectif primordial de l'Organisation.

Qu'il me suffise de rappeler uniquement à cette assemblée la recommandation se rapportant au renforcement des programmes d'aide aux pays en développement les plus pauvres et les plus gravement touchés, de façon à accélérer l'amélioration quantitative et qualitative de leur production agricole et animale, celle se rapportant aux marchés des produits agropastoraux en provenance des pays en développement ainsi qu'aux coûts de tous les moyens de production dans ces mêmes pays; celle se rapportant au programme de prévention des pertes des produits alimentaires; celle se rapportant à la résolution 9/75 adoptée à sa dix-huitième session ayant rapport aux onze lignes d'orientation concernant l'ajustement agricole international; celle se rapportant à la décentralisation au niveau des régions et des pays.

Si je me suis permis d'énumérer ces quelques recommandations des travaux de la dix-neuvième session de la Conférence de notre Organisation, c'est pour pouvoir, d'une part, adresser au Directeur général de la FAO les sincères félicitations de ma délégation pour le dynamisme et l'intelligence avec lesquels il participe au sein de notre Organisation à l'oeuvre internationale de lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition dans le monde. En effet, les documents en notre possession pour la vingtième session de la Conférence, reflètent une évolution tangible vers l'établissement des solutions contenues dans ces recommandations.

D'autre part, même s'il existe une évolution tangible, tantôt au niveau d'un pays ou d'une région, il n'y a pas lieu de se faire d'illusions quant à une amélioration au niveau global car la situation de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale actuelle n'est, en termes réels, pas meilleure que celle de l'année 1977. Aussi face à cette situation, les organisations telles que la FAO, le Conseil mondial pour l'alimentation, la Conférence des Nations Unies pour le commerce et le développement économique et bien d'autres assemblées internationales devraient revoir de fond en comble leur philosophie et leur méthodologie d'approche des problèmes ayant rapport à la lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition dans le monde. Il faut bien le dire, la difficile tâche de lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition dans le monde est universelle, c'est une lutte qui doit être menée aussi bien par les pays développés que par ceux en développement. Nous autres, pays en développement, nous respectons les peuples des pays développés et nous leur sommes reconnaissants de leurs efforts dans cette lutte. Cependant ce que nous sommes en droit d'exiger c'est que leur système notamment de protectionnisme renaissant, de réticence envers le budget opérationnel de notre Organisation et le niveau des contributions volontaires au PAM soit repensé en faveur de nos exigences sans cesse croissantes.

Pour en revenir aux activités de la FAO, pour ces années à venir et ceci sans vouloir entrer dans les détails des points à l'ordre du jour de cette vingtième session, permettez-moi de vous dire encore une fois que l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture a un rôle important à jouer dans la recherche des solutions aux problèmes que posent l'alimentation, l'agriculture et le développement rural en général dans le monde entier. Aussi, tout en renouvelant notre confiance aux grandes lignes du programme à court et à moyen terme de notre Organisation, ainsi qu'à son budget, ma délégation voudrait appuyer sans réserve le plan d'action en cinq points préparé par le Directeur général M. Edouard Saouma, ainsi que ses nouvelles propositions s'y rapportant découlant de son application pendant ces derniers mois. Cependant, ce plan bien qu'il apporte des solutions à beaucoup de problèmes de la situation mondiale alimentaire, sa portée ne pourrait être de longue durée étant donné qu'il part sur une base volontaire. Aussi, et ceci ne sera jamais assez répété, il faudrait qu'il soit mis fin aux divergences qui ont dernièrement provoqué l'interruption des négociations sur le nouvel Arrangement international sur les céréales qui devait remplacer l'Accord international sur le blé de 1971, et que ces négociations reprennent.

Ma délégation reste d'avis que ce nouvel Arrangement international sur les céréales qui devrait être soigneusement réexaminé à la base, pourra assurer par son efficacité la stabilisation des marchés commerciaux et la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

J'entends par là, qu'il y aura une meilleure répartition des stocks au niveau national et régional; qu'il y aura plus de facilités d'accès des produits agropastoraux des pays en développement sur les marchés internationaux tout en leur garantissant un prix stable, que la Réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence sera plus assurée de façon à atteindre l'objectif annuel fixé à 500 000 tonnes de céréales; que le programme d'assistance pour la sécurité alimentaire sera mieux soutenu et par là aussi qu'une coopération technique entre pays en développement sera plus assurée. Ceci aura pour but à moyen et long terme une suppression progressive de l'écart considérable de revenu non seulement entre pays riches et pauvres, mais aussi entre riches et pauvres des pays en développement.

Dans les pays en développement, surtout les plus pauvres et les moins avancés, le secteur agropastoral occupe plus de 95 pour cent des populations et souvent sa part dans le produit intérieur brut atteint 90 pour cent. Aussi il est très vital pour ces mêmes pays qui aspirent à tout prix à leur développement économique et social d'user de tous les voies et moyens pour développer leur agriculture. Le développement de ce secteur doit rechercher un accroissement de la production à la fois pour l'auto-suffisance en matière alimentaire et nutritionnelle ainsi qu'un surplus commercialisable pouvant leur procurer des devises dont ils ont tant besoins pour mener à bien d'autres activités de développement de leurs nations.

Cependant qu'observons-nous actuellement dans ces pays? La croissance de la production agricole est restée inférieure de plus du quart à l'objectif de 4 % par an fixé pour cette deuxième décennie des Nations Unies; les termes de l'échange des produits agricoles pour les articles manufacturés se sont brutalement détériorés; l'accès difficile aux marchés internationaux des produits agricoles suite à un protectionisme de certains pays développés; en Afrique, la production tant alimentaire qu'agricole a enregistré un taux décevant de 1,4% par an en 1970-78, taux inférieur de moitié à celui des années 1960.

Face à cette situation pouvant être qualifiée d'alarmante, ces pays en développement tentent d'élaborer des plans de développement de leur agriculture. Il leur appartient bien entendu le devoir de prendre leur responsabilité. C'est à eux que leur revient la planification du développement agricole ainsi que la coordination de toutes les activités, de toutes les aides extérieures tant bilatérales que multilatérales et de tous les efforts financiers intérieurs touchant ce secteur agricole. Néanmoins, beaucoup de facteurs de production notamment le climat, les investissements et la conjoncture économique internationale leur échappent, ceci pour dire qu'ils n'en sont pas maître et je voudrais souligner à ce niveau que même si c'est aux pays en développement eux-mêmes d'assurer la coordination de leur développement agricole, ce dernier devrait être l'oeuvre de toute l'humanité entière,

S'agissant de mon pays le Rwanda, et comme j'ai eu l'occasion de le souligner lors de la dix-neuvième session de la conférence de notre Organisation, la situation agricole et alimentaire est telle que la production agricole ne couvre que 75% des besoins de base. Cette situation qui prévalait dans les années 1976/77 est loin de s'améliorer car ayant connu une sécheresse très prolongée qui a fait baisser le volume des productions surtout vivrières en 1976, l'année 1979 s'est encore mal annoncée par une épidémie de chenilles qui a dévasté la presque totalité des cultures de maïs et de sorgho en mars/avril sur un tiers du territoire. La saison sèche de cette année qui s'est prolongée d'environ deux mois compromettra également les récoltes vivrières de cette saison culturale.

Conscient du rôle de l'agriculture dans notre économie nationale, notre plan quinquennal de développement économique, culturel et social de 1977-81 a mis beaucoup d'accent sur ce domaine. Le but recherché dans ce plan est la diversification et l'accroissement de la production tant agricole qu'animale ainsi que l'amélioration de la nutrition et la promotion des masses rurales tant pour l'emploi que pour le développement rural intégré. A cet effet, le plan vise des taux de croissance de 5,6% de la production vivrière de 12% pour la production industrielle, de 14% pour la production animale et une augmentation du revenu de la masse paysanne d'environ 2,2% par an. L'augmentation de la production implique également une rationalisation des systèmes de commercialisation et de stockage. A cet effet, un établissement chargé de commercialisation des produits vivriers et animaux opère déjà avec des coopératives locales et des silos de stockage, d'une capacité de 15. 000 tonnes et d'ici 1981, la capacité totale sera portée à plus de 20. 000 tonnes.

Plus que d'autres pays en développement, le Rwanda est un pays très montagneux, ce qui lui a valu le qualificatif de pays des mille collines. La densité démographique y est également très élevée dépassant souvent les 250 habitants au km². La croissance démographique est de 2,9% par an et ceci fait que d'année en année, les terres disponibles diminuent fortement. Face à cette inquiétante situation, les autorités gouvernementales ont instauré sur tout le territoire l'application des méthodes anti-érosives ainsi que l'intensification de l'agriculture par l'association de l'agriculture et de l'élevage, l'utilisation des semences sélectionnées et celle des engrais minéraux et par de nombreuses autres méthodes culturales modernes. En matière de Protection des Sols et Sylvicole, de vastes campagnes de lutte anti-érosive et de reboisement de toutes les terres à vocation non agricole ont été entreprises et même une journée nationale de l'arbre, le dernier samedi du mois d'octobre de chaque année a été institutionalisée depuis 1976.

Toujours dans le cadre de l'accroissement de la production agricole et animale et d'amélioration des revenus des petits exploitants ruraux, un fond spécial de garantie pour promouvoir le crédit a été créé depuis l'année dernière et un fond de crédit agricole sera créé d'ici la fin de l'année.

En vue de faciliter la planification du secteur agricole, un projet de requête pour l'élaboration d'un plan national alimentaire dont le financement sera soumis à la FAO, est également à l'étude.

Cependant, avec nos seuls propres efforts, nous ne pouvons pas atteindre assez rapidement les objectifs fixés en cette matière. C'est la raison pour laquelle nous comptons beaucoup sur la solidarité internationale pour réaliser les objectifs nationaux de notre développement, de l'agriculture. Je profite de cette occasion pour adresser en mon nom propre et au nom de tout le peuple Rwandais nos sincères remerciements à tous nos donateurs, pays, organisations et organismes que je n'ose pas citer ici au risque d'en oublier quelques-uns.

Tout en maintenant notre volonté pour une croissance plus substantielle de part et d'autre des investissements en matière d'agriculture et d'alimentation dans les années à venir, mon gouvernement reste entièrement convaincu que toutes les aides extérieures bilatérales ou multilatérales doivent respecter nos priorités nationales car c'est à nous qu'incombe tout d'abord la tâche de fixer des politiques capables d'assurer le bien-être à tous niveaux de nos peuples respectifs. Toutes les clauses et conventions de ces aides doivent également être respectées notamment les délais d'exécution des projets, le choix conjoint et le nombre des experts, etc. Les fonds alloués aux experts consultants et aux études de faisabilité et autres doivent également être les plus minimes possibles face à ceux nécessaires pour l'exécution des projets sur le terrain. Et enfin un meilleur équilibre entre la promotion des cultures vivrières et celle des cultures industrielles devrait également être recherché.

Avant de terminer mon intervention, je voudrais joindre ma voix à celle des orateurs qui n'ont précédé pour vous présenter à vous personnellement, ainsi qu'à tous les membres du Bureau de la vingtième session de la Conférence de notre Organisation les vives félicitations de ma délégation pour votre élection.

C'est également avec une grande satisfaction que ma délégation salue l'entrée dans notre Organisation des deux nouveaux membres, à savoir le Samoa et le Commonwealth de Dominique, car ceci montre une fois de plus l'efficacité de la FAO quant à l'effort de l'humanité toute entière dans la recherche de la paix et l'unité internationale qui sont en fin de compte les principaux facteurs du développement de tous les pays du monde entier.

A. SATTAR (Maldives): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

It is, indeed, an honour for me to represent the Republic of Maldives at this Twentieth Conference Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. To visit this historic city of Rome in this connection is an added pleasure.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your election to this high office. I am fully confident that under your able guidance, we will be able to conduct our proceedings smoothly and bring the Conference to a successful conclusion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Vice Chairmen and record the deep appreciation of the Maldivian delegation to the dedicated services of the Director-General. I would be failing in my duty if I did not say a word of sincere thanks to the FAO staff for their valuable work.

Allow me also to join with previous speakers in welcoming Dominica and Western Samoa to the membership of this Organization. The Maldivian delegation extends its congratulations to the delegations of Dominica and Western Samoa.

We, the delegates to the Twentieth Conference Session of the FAO, have been extremely fortunate to have had the honour of listening to the inspiring address by Pope John Paul II and the invigorating Frank MacDougall Memorial Lecture, delivered by His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, the President of Zambia.

As we assemble here to discuss the many issues that confront us in the fields related to food and agriculture it is a matter of much concern to us that there are millions of human beings facing starvation. It is with much sadness that we hear of the many who live on the brink of death due to hunger. It is with grave concern that we learn from the annual address of the President of the World Bank to its Board of Governors of the death even just last year, of over 30 million children under the age of five due to starvation. President Me Namara also spoke of 800 million people who live in absolute poverty in the developing world. And you, Mr. Chairman, called on us in your inaugural address, to listen once again to the words hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity.

Since it is with such a background that we are meeting, it is very appropriate that one of the main items on our agenda be the question of strengthening world food security. This is a very important subject for us all. However, let us ask ourselves as to how we hope to achieve the goal of strengthening food security for the entire world. The Plan of Action formulated by the Committee on World Food Security at its Fourth Session and adopted by the Council in June this year has laid the foundation for the course of action needed. However, one question is, can it be achieved to the extent of ensuring that there is adequate food to feed everyone in every part of the world. Secondly, assuming that sufficient food production has been achieved, could a satisfactory method be evolved for its transportation to all the countries in time, where such food items are in urgent need and ultimately, to reach hundreds and thousands of people who are in dire need of food but have no means of obtaining adequate supplies for one square meal a day.

Judging from the Director-General's report on the implementation of the Plan, in Document C79/23, the Maldivian delegation is inclined to believe that these are, indeed, very valid questions. While on the one hand, there was uncertainty about releasing from reserves the food stocks, as recommended by the Plan; on the other hand, the high prices of food grains and the ever-rising prices of freight, due to understandable reasons, do make the question of ensuring or even strengthening world food security an extremely difficult task, in fact, our concern on this issue has been aggravated by the grim description of the world food situation by the Director-General in his statement to this Conference.

When we consider the question of world food security, we have no doubt that our attention should be directed most to those who are in an insecure position as far as food items are concerned-i. e. , to the poorest people, and the least developed countries. The Director-General himself has pointed out their well-known growing food gap, and the balance of payments'difficulties of less developed countries. In the view of the Maldivian delegation, therefore, the Plan of Action should be implemented bearing in mind, particularly, the interests of those countries. Here I would like to note that the plight of the poor in the developed countries is no less acute than the conditions in the developing countries.

The document entitled "Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones", on our agenda is of great importance to us, as the economy of Maldives depends very largely on its fisheries. Although due to our limitations we were not able to participate in the work of the Committee on Fisheries during its meetings of the Thirteenth Session in Rome last month, we have noted the contents of Document No. COFI/79/4 very carefully. Many of the issues pointed out in the document are true to most developing countries, or certainly to the less developed among developing countries. For instance:

- (1) very few developing countries are in a position at present to implement a comprehensive fisheries management and developing programme in their economic zones, due to unavailability of adequate staff and the lack of sufficient resources;
- (2) an analysis and diagnosis of the existing situation in every country is needed in order to formulate the appropriate policies and programmes. For such programming, it is essential that a thorough resources research be done and its results be made available in suitable form to the decision-making authorities of the country, and:
- (3) effective measures have to be taken for surveillance, whereby laws and local regulations to guard the economic zones of countries are respected by foreign intruders, since poaching has been a serious problem for many countries in the field of fisheries.

The Committee on Fisheries has given its attention to these points, as well as on many other issues related to the drawing up of a suitable and comprehensive programme for developing and managing fisheries in exclusive economic zones. My delegation would like to congratulate the Committee for the excellent work it has done.

We are also highly indebted to the Director-General for the steps that he is taking to help developing coastal states in the field of fisheries and for the very thorough manner in which he has made further proposals for future action in this field.

Now I would like to refer to some activities in our country, in the fields of agriculture and fisheries.

With the aim of developing agriculture in the rural areas, a plan has recently been drawn up to set up an agricultural centre in each of the 19 Atolls. Work has already commenced on the first such centre in one of the Atolls. In these centres the community is encouraged and guided to grow more food.

An integrated production and distribution system has also been created, whereby equitable sharing of resources and income among the communities has been ensured. Women also participate in this project and contribute on an equal basis with men towards rural development.

An FAO-assisted project has also begun recently to eliminate rats from our coconut plantations. Extensive losses have been experienced in the past in these plantations, due to rat infestation.

The coconut tree is used as much for timber as the nut is used as a food. The coconut timber is used for making fishing boats and in the roofing of houses. Excessive felling of coconut trees and other local timber, wasteful shifting cultivation, the reliance of the majority of the people on wood for fuel and the felling of timber trees without replacement, have already caused extensive damage to our thin forests and have, in fact, threatened them seriously. As an immediate measure, restrictions have been imposed on the felling of timber trees and a mass reforestation programme has been started throughout the country.

In the field of fisheries, mechanization of our fishing boats (chonis) has gained tremendous popularity over the past three years. This programme is being continued, with the aim of completing at an early date the boats of all those who are desirous to get them mechanized.

We wish to record here our deep appreciation of the assistance received from the Government of Japan and from the Government of Korea for this programme.

Under an IDA-financed fisheries project, more engines are being provided, navigational aids are to be installed at several points within the country for the safety and convenience of fishermen and other seafarers. The project also provides for the establishment of maintenance and repair centres in five different Atolls. These centres, together with the five existing ones, will be used for the maintenance of fishing boat engines.

Under the same projects construction of two new designs of fishing boats with improved arrangements for fishing and also the training of local fishermen are to be undertaken. These two components of the project are being financed by the UNDP. We are grateful to these Organizations for their assistance in this project.

The Government is also working on the possibility of establishing a scheme for the export of frozen fish. A thorough feasibility study and a further complementary study have been concluded on this project. Our sincere thanks are due to the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development for financing this study.

The above are some of the recent projects aimed at improving the conditions of our fishermen and with a view to earning more foreign exchange. Needless to say that, the traditional "Maldivian fish" industry and the sale of fresh fish to foreign companies continue to operate fairly satisfactorily.

Mr. Chairman, we have a very full agenda consisting of several very important subjects before us. I have commented only on two of the most outstanding topics. Before I conclude, however, I would like to state that the FAO's programme of work and the budget proposals for 1980-81 submitted for the consideration of the Conference is highly creditable and characteristic of this Organization.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the Director-General for his clear understanding of the problems faced by the world community in the fields of food and agriculture, and thank him particularly for his sympathetic consideration of the needs of the developing countries.

B. HAMICHE (Algérie): Je voudrais tout d'abord, au nom du Ministre de l'agriculture et de la révolution agraire, vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, pour votre élection à la Présidence de la vingtième session de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture.

Ce choix nous réjouit d'autant plus qu'il porte sur une personnalité connue pour sa compétence et qui a constamment manifesté une ferme volonté d'oeuvrer pour le succès de notre Organisation.

Nous saluons en vous le représentant d'un pays ami avec lequel l'Algérie entretient des relations historiques et des relations amicales.

Je voudrais présenter à M. Edouard Saouma, Directeur général de la FAO, les compliments de la délégation algérienne pour les efforts personnels qu'il déploie continuellement dans la lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition, et pour sa contribution à l'atténuation des tensions internationales et à l'instauration de la paix dans le monde.

La paix, nous le savons, est la préoccupation fondamentale de Sa Sainteté le Pape Jean Paul II, dont la communication historique à la tribune de cette Conférence donne à notre session une dimension humaine et spirituelle dont l'humanité a un grand besoin.

L'intervention de Son Excellence Kenneth Kaunda, Président de la République de Zambie, dont le pays résiste aux agressions incessantes des tenants du racisme et de l'apartheid, rehausse de manière privilégiée la portée de nos travaux. En sa qualité d'ami de l'Algérie, le Président Kenneth Kaunda sait que nous plaçons en lui toute notre confiance. Nous savons quant à nous que son crédit moral sera mis à profit pour orienter nos efforts dans le sens d'un ordre international plus juste.

Nous voudrions également saluer fraternellement les délégations du Commonwealth de Dominique et du Samoa Occidental, nouvellement admises au sein de notre Organisation.

Nous sommes convaincus que leur participation aux activités de la FAO ne peut que renforcer l'efficacité de notre institution.

Nous appelons de nos vœux le jour prochain où d'autres pays encore en lutte pour le recouvrement de leur souveraineté nationale pourront se joindre à nous et donner à l'Organisation sa véritable dimension universelle.

Ces pays, qui ont pour nom Palestine, Namibie, Shara Occidental, Zimbabwe, sont au coeur de nos préoccupations pour l'exemple qu'ils offrent d'un combat implacable contre l'oppression et contre le déni des droits à la dignité humaine.

Cette session se tient quelques jours à peine après la célébration en Algérie du vingt-cinquième anniversaire du déclenchement de notre lutte de libération nationale.

C'est pour nous l'occasion, d'une part, d'établir une rétrospective des efforts consentis pendant un quart de siècle, et de dresser les perspectives des deux décennies à venir dans le domaine agricole. C'est aussi l'occasion de procéder à l'analyse de la situation qui prévaut au niveau mondial dans les domaines de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation, ainsi que des efforts consentis par la FAO à cet égard.

Notre souci d'accroître, en les améliorant les moyens matériels indispensables, vise en réalité la transformation radicale des conditions de vie et de travail de nos populations, tant il est vrai que pour nous, l'ultime finalité du développement est la promotion complète de l'homme.

Il fallait donc briser au préalable les rapports d'exploitation au sein de notre société et réaliser une économie aut centrée, seule à même de satisfaire les besoins fondamentaux du peuple. C'est ce à quoi nous avons abouti après avoir aboli les rapports coloniaux redonnant ainsi à la nation la maîtrise de son destin.

Cette lutte d'origine essentiellement paysanne se devait de satisfaire d'abord les aspirations légitimes d'une population en grande majorité rurale.

C'est ainsi que sur plus d'un tiers des meilleures terres d'Algérie est né le secteur socialiste agricole pour lequel les pouvoirs publics se sont attelés à mettre en place un environnement adéquat.

Les efforts principaux ont été axés sur la maîtrise des activités industrielles et de service intéressant l'agriculture en amont et en aval de la production. Ils ont visé aussi le développement des infrastructures, de la recherche et de la formation ainsi que la mobilisation et l'utilisation rationnelle des ressources naturelles: l'eau, la terre, l'énergie.

Cet environnement plus efficace, lié à la revendication des masses rurales a permis d'abolir les dernières formes d'exploitation de l'homme par l'homme et abouti à l'engagement de la révolution agraire comme un des trois domaines essentiels de la révolution socialiste en parallèle avec la révolution industrielle et la révolution culturelle.

Avec la levée des principaux obstacles structurels, il s'est agi, par la révolution agraire, de procéder à une transformation radicale des conditions de vie et de travail dans les campagnes et d'engendrer au sein des masses paysannes des mutations profondes aux plans politique, économique, social et culturel. Une telle rétrospective n'avait d'autre but que d'éclairer le chemin parcouru et de dénombrer les difficultés auxquelles un pays déterminé à accélérer le processus de son développement peut être confronté en raison de l'immensité de ses besoins et du caractère forcément limité de ses ressources.

Il nous reste à parachever l'action de révolution agraire par des mesures de développement intégré intéressant le pastoralisme, la foresterie et la gestion des ressources en eau.

Par ailleurs, la restructuration des unités de production est devenue une nécessité impérieuse pour l'organisation du patrimoine foncier en exploitations économiquement rentables et techniquement maîtrisables.

Répondant à une exigence nationale, l'Algérie s'efforce de mettre en place un circuit d'approvisionnement et de distribution à même de satisfaire les producteurs et les consommateurs à la fois.

De même, les pouvoirs publics s'attachent à mettre en oeuvre une politique déjà définie de protection et de conservation des sols. Il s'agit là d'une politique soutenue et d'envergure nationale en matière de reboisement et de lutte contre l'érosion et la désertification.

Cet effort porte parallèlement sur une meilleure connaissance des ressources halieutiques et la réunion des conditions d'exploitation les plus appropriées.

La création récente en Algérie d'un Secrétariat d'Etat aux pêches, d'un Secrétariat d'Etat aux forêts et au reboisement, ainsi que la réorganisation en cours des institutions chargées de la recherche agronomique et de développement agricole traduisent concrètement cette volonté.

Le secteur socialiste ne posant plus aucun problème particulier, une attention accrue a été portée au secteur familial traditionnel qui constitue une composante importante de l'économie rurale et qui bénéficie au même titre que le secteur socialiste du soutien de l'Etat.

Le développement est une tâche immense et complexe qui suppose une mobilisation nationale permanente, ainsi que des sacrifices de tous les instants. Aussi sommes nous convaincus de ce qu'un ordre économique international nouveau rapprochera cette échéance, mais qu'il ne saurait y avoir de nouvel ordre économique sans un nouvel ordre agronomique et alimentaire international. En fait quels que soient les efforts entrepris par les pays en développement, en vue d'accroître la production et d'assurer l'autosuffisance alimentaire, les résultats demeurent encore faibles par rapport aux besoins de la consommation. Consentis au prix de lourds sacrifices, ces efforts voient malheureusement leurs effets érodés par le maintien de rapports commerciaux déséquilibrés qui s'effectuent au détriment des pays en développement.

Nous assistons en effet à une baisse inexorable de la valeur des produits agricoles exportés par les pays en développement, en même temps qu'à une hausse constante de la valeur des facteurs de production qu'ils importent.

Il est donc indispensable pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale:

- d'abord que chaque pays affecte le maximum de ses investissements agricoles aux cultures vivrières;
- ensuite que toutes les potentialités agricoles de la planète soient pleinement utilisées.
- enfin, que l'aide extérieure pour les produits agricoles des pays en développement soit concentrée sur la promotion de cultures vivrières et à l'assistance aux producteurs pour une utilisation optimale des potentialités locales.

Ces trois exigences situent, selon nous, les considérations à réunir pour assurer un développement endogène aux pays et pour donner à la coopération internationale toute son efficacité: A ce propos, si la meilleure manière de coopérer consiste à entreprendre en commun, au niveau sous-régional ou régional surtout, là où les conditions naturelles et sociologiques sont semblables, la solution de problèmes similaires, nous nous interrogeons sur l'activité que pourra avoir le bureau du Moyen-Orient dans la mesure où il est situé en un lieu auquel les pays arabes bénéficiaires ne peuvent pas ou ne veulent pas accéder.

En sa triple qualité de pays arabe, de pays africain et de pays ouvrant sur le pourtour méditerranéen, l'Algérie estime hautement la proposition en cinq points du Directeur général de la FAO. Nous considérons, en effet, qu'il s'agit là d'une proposition capitale capable d'atténuer les déséquilibres actuels qui caractérisent la production et la commercialisation des denrées alimentaires, ceci pour que la coopération au niveau régional et international s'installe dans l'optique d'un nouvel ordre économique.

Il reste entendu que les négociations pour un nouvel arrangement international sur les céréales devront reprendre pour aboutir dans les meilleurs délais à l'instauration de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et à la stabilité des marchés et des prix.

Ceci suppose, il est vrai, une volonté politique affirmée de la part des pays développés pour atteindre ces objectifs, de même qu'une reconversion des moyens d'information et leur mise au service des causes universelles plus justes.

L'expérience antérieure nous a laissé quelques doutes, quant à l'existence réelle d'une telle volonté politique, surtout si l'on se réfère aux faibles résultats de la Vième CNUCED.

Dans le même ordre d'idées, on constate que les pays développés persèverent dans leur surexploitation systématique des ressources halieutiques, alors même que des discussions sont en cours pour aboutir à la gestion rationnelle des stocks.

Sans attendre les résultats de ces discussions, notre organisation devrait consacrer plus d'efforts à l'assistance aux pays en développement dans les domaines particuliers de la pisciculture et des pêches.

Un tel objectif ne pourra qu'élargir le champ d'activité de la FAO qui saura orienter son action vers une meilleure connaissance des ressources halieutiques et des conditions optimales de leur exploitation en vue de faciliter aux pays moins favorisés la maîtrise des techniques de production et de gestion. Car, en accord avec toutes les instances du système des Nations Unies, la préoccupation essentielle de notre organisation doit rester l'élimination de la faim et de la malnutrition dans le monde.

N'est-ce pas là une participation notable au mouvement de solidarité universelle que se proposait de faire naître en cette fin du vingtième siècle l'année internationale de l'enfant, qui s'achève le mois prochain.

Les conclusions les plus optimistes de l'étude "horizon 2000" font ressortir qu'une coopération structurée est, en tout état de cause, également nécessaire, si l'on veut aboutir à la satisfaction des besoins élémentaires de l'humanité dans le domaine de l'alimentation.

Ces conclusions sont autant d'éléments qui serviront de bases à l'élaboration des plans nationaux de développement pour parvenir à un certain degré de compatibilité qui facilite une solidarité étroite et atteindre ainsi l'autosuffisance souhaitée.

Cette solidarité, nous en voyons d'autre part les prémices dans l'établissement du programme de coopération technique, qui, quoi que modeste, permet d'entreprendre des actions d'urgence dont l'efficacité n'est plus à démontrer.

La tâche à accomplir est immense, elle est à la mesure du dynamisme et de l'ardeur du directeur général, Mr. Edouard Saouma et de l'organisation qu'il anime. Encore faut-il que celle-ci puisse disposer des moyens nécessaires pour mener à bien la mission considérable dont la communauté internationale l'a chargée et pour répondre à l'appel des millions d'êtres humains qui souffrent de la faim et de la malnutrition.

Monsieur le Président, en clôturant une brève intervention, je ne peux m'empêcher de songer que non loin de Rome, à Paris, sous l'égide d'une organisation soeur de la FAO, l'UNESCO, s'achève une rencontre internationale sur la "Paix dans le Monde".

Puisse la communauté d'intérêt et la volonté de coopération engendrer dans tous les esprits la ferme détermination de préparer à l'humanité un avenir meilleur.

A. da SILVA (Guinée-Bissau): Au nom de la délégation de la République de Guinée-Bissau, je voudrais m'associer aux honorables délégués qui m'ont précédé afin de féliciter Lamo de Espinosa pour son élection à la présidence de notre Assemblée.

Nous voudrions également adresser nos plus chaleureuses salutations à tous les délégués qui participent à cette 20ème Conférence de la FAO et leur manifester notre appui dans leur participation aux travaux pour le succès de cette session.

Nous saluons chaleureusement les nouveaux Etats Membres: le Commonwealth de la Dominique et l'Etat indépendant du Samoa Occidental, et nous formulons des vœux pour que leurs valables contributions puissent enrichir notre Organisation.

A son Excellence le Dr. EDOUARD SAOUMA, Directeur général de la FAO, nous voudrions exprimer nos plus vifs remerciements et le féliciter pour la manière dont il exerce ses fonctions: agissant sans cesse pour faire de notre Organisation un outil efficace au service du développement, proposant aux pays et spécialement aux pays en développement une stratégie globale de développement dont la base s'appuie sur l'autosuffisance alimentaire, traduisant enfin en propositions et mesures concrètes les moyens propres à assurer une sécurité alimentaire au niveau mondial et l'élimination de la faim.

Avant de poursuivre, nous voudrions rappeler le grand événement des 12 au 20 juillet de cette année, que fut la tenue de la Conférence Mondiale sur la Réforme Agricole et le Développement Rural, afin de remercier et féliciter une nouvelle fois ses organisateurs et confirmer ainsi notre détermination à lutter pour atteindre l'objectif minimum qui est l'élimination de la pauvreté, de l'ignorance et de la maladie.

La République de Guinée-Bissau est un pays essentiellement agricole où près de 95% de la population vit de l'agriculture. Une agriculture reposant encore aujourd'hui dans la quasi-totalité du pays, sur la seule force manuelle de travail de la paysannerie dont les conditions sanitaires et d'habitat sont particulièrement basses et le taux d'analphabétisme élevé. Une agriculture encore dont les rendements unitaires sont bas, liés à l'absence de pratiques de défense et de protection des sols, des cultures, et à la faible utilisation d'intrants agricoles.

Cependant, notre détermination et notre volonté de modifier radicalement cette situation repose sur la compréhension claire du rôle central du secteur agricole dans nos objectifs. C'est ce que rappelait le IIIème Congrès du PAIGC: "Prendre l'agriculture comme base et l'industrie comme facteur dynamisant".

Pour nous, donner la priorité à l'agriculture en s'appuyant "sur la participation active et croissante des masses", signifie que notre préoccupation reste celle de faire bénéficier en premier lieu les masses paysannes sur lesquelles repose en grande partie la réussite de la reconstruction nationale.

En conséquence, le développement rural est et doit être, comme la définissait déjà l'une des plus grandes figures africaines, notre camarade Amilcar Cabral, la clef de voûte de toute notre orientation. Le développement rural doit refléter l'intégralité de notre stratégie de développement et être le prisme à travers lequel les politiques seront analysées et classées par ordre de priorité.

C'est dans ce cadre que nous venons de réaliser la "Première Conférence des techniciens et travailleurs du développement rural" du 17 au 21 octobre de cette année.

Débatant des problèmes liés à la mise en oeuvre de la problématique du développement rural intégré au niveau de nos régions administratives, notre Conférence, ouverte par le camarade Président Luis Cabrai, a analysé et a adopté les déclarations de principe de la Conférence Mondiale sur la Réforme Agraire et le Développement Rural et la situation agricole actuelle.

Réaffirmant la priorité absolue pour réaliser l' autosuffisance alimentaire, notre Conférence a porté une attention spéciale à la campagne en cours et à la sécurité alimentaire.

En effet, les grands efforts matériels et humains ainsi que la réelle mobilisation des paysans, ne traduiront pas les espoirs que nous pourrions attendre en termes d'objectifs de production. L'irrégularité du début et de la fin de la saison des pluies a obligé les cultivateurs, d'une part à refaire les semis en juillet pour les cultures de plateau et, d'autre part, à effectuer des repiquages tardifs sur les sols de mangrove insuffisamment dessalés.

Si l'on veut bien se rappeler le fait que la production de riz sur les sols de mangrove représente environ 90% de ce qui est la principale base d'alimentation de notre population, notre situation se complique une nouvelle fois comme en 1977, première année de sécheresse de notre pays, alors que de 1974 à 1976 nous avons commencé à réduire nos importations de riz blanc de 31. 000 à 11. 000 tonnes.

L'irrégularité des pluies liée cette année à une forte attaque de criquets dans les zones de l'est va incontestablement retarder l'obtention de l'autosuffisance alimentaire qui était notre priorité.

Au nom de la République de Guinée-Bissau nous voudrions exprimer ici le sentiment d'inquiétude que nous partageons sans aucune restriction avec le très estimé Directeur général, le Dr. EDOUARD SAOUMA.

Nous voudrions ensuite apporter notre appui total aux programmes et propositions formulés par le Directeur général car ils constituent des mesures réalistes pour promouvoir les progrès des pays en développement.

Les différents documents soumis à la Conférence mettent en évidence l'énorme défi lancé à la conscience des pays développés tant pour le début de XXI siècle que pour les perspectives à court et à moyen termes.

Ayant le triste privilège d'appartenir au groupe de pays ayant l'un des plus faibles revenus par habitant, nous devons constater que la définition pourtant claire de notre politique prioritaire du développement rural ne nous permet pas encore d'affirmer qu'elle suffira à réaliser les objectifs qui nous semblent correspondre sur le contenu aux priorités régionales données dans le document "Objectifs à moyen terme" (W/G8694/C).

En effet, le très lourd héritage laissé par l'ancien colonisateur vient encore battre en brèche notre politique. Nous sommes obligés de constater que la définition d'une politique correcte est loin de garantir les progrès notables de la production.

Sur la base de l'obtention de l'autosuffisance alimentaire, notre problématique de mise en place de structures de développement rural intégré au niveau régional, reposant sur la participation des masses paysannes, se heurte en effet à la faiblesse de nos infrastructures et au nombre de cadres et techniciens.

De plus, le passif économique et financier ne permet pas à notre Etat d'acquérir comme il l'entend les quantités de produits vivriers pour combler un déficit de production et les intrants et matériels agricoles qui permettraient de relancer la production et la situation nutritionnelle du peuple.

C'est pourquoi nous savons que sans un accroissement substantiel des aides extérieurs, il nous sera difficile de tenir nos objectifs à moyen et à long termes.

C'est pourquoi aussi nous appuyons avec force les plans d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, pour les pertes alimentaires et la lutte contre la trypanosomiase en faisant appel à la responsabilité majeure des pays disposant de stocks de céréales, des moyens et de la technologie. Mais il est impossible de tenir cette position si nous n'envisageons pas de concrétiser, à notre niveau, les mesures destinées à l'application du Plan d'action.

Nous envisageons ainsi d'inclure dans nos objectifs de production un pourcentage destiné au stockage en tenant compte des probabilités d'incidents climatiques.

Combinées aux mesures que nous tentons de développer pour la protection des stocks et des récoltes, les quantités à stocker sont déterminées par les moyens nécessaires pour garantir un fond de sécurité.

Afin de concrétiser davantage notre volonté de mettre en application le Plan d'action et la coopération régionale, nous voudrions nous permettre de suggérer à la FAO qu'elle étudie, avec les gouvernements des pays de l'ouest africain, la création de commissions techniques chargées, en particulier, d'examiner la question du stockage régional.

Dans le cadre du développement de la pêche et de l'amélioration de la situation nutritionnelle nous avons fait beaucoup d'efforts. Nous avons mis en route le programme de la pêche artisanale, des infrastructures et des sociétés mixtes.

Le rôle important que l'utilisation rationnelle des ressources halieutiques peut jouer dans le développement des pays du Tiers Monde nous amène à souscrire, sans aucune réserve, aux recommandations sur la politique des pêches du Directeur général.

Nous ne pouvons que nous réjouir du nouveau budget du PAM qui contribuera certainement à aider nos pays à minimiser nos problèmes pour la période 1979/80. Nous approuvons le travail réalisé dans le document "horizon 2000" dont les orientations et les lignes définies dans un cadre mondial et à long terme, devraient aider les Etats Membres à l'élaboration de leurs propres politiques et plans nationaux dans le contexte du Nouvel Ordre Economique International.

Permettez-moi, pour terminer, de réaffirmer notre appui à l'orientation qui a été imprimée à la FAO afin de promouvoir des moyens concrets de coopération pour la sécurité alimentaire, d'aider les Etats Membres à résoudre les problèmes techniques, économiques et sociaux du développement et de travailler pour concrétiser le mot d'ordre "alimentation pour tous" pour que le Nouvel Ordre Economique ne soit pas, comme le dit si bien son Excellence le Dr. EDOUARD SAOUMA "Un colosse aux pieds d'argile".

F. M. ABDULLA (Yemen, People's Dem. Rep. of): (interpretation from Arabic): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General of the FAO, heads and members of delegations, I would like to associate myself with those who in the past have congratulated you on your election to the Chair of this important Conference, which is the result of intensive efforts. We hope that the work of this Conference will be successful because the well being of mankind depends on it, especially the poor peoples of the world, and it is for them that the Conference is trying to adopt recommendations and resolutions in order to improve their standard of living.

I am happy to welcome here the new members, the Commonwealth of Dominica and Western Samoa as new members of FAO.

Agricultural development and the supply of the food to the world as a whole is an important problem especially as in certain countries the growth of the population is considerable. At the same time they have, therefore, to increase their agricultural output and to satisfy the need, at the same time economic, social and political problems have to be solved.

President Kuanda said that the developing countries are the victims of economic changes in the world, even though there are great resources throughout the world; land, water, rain and climate. However, there are also important agencies which limit development, agricultural development in our time, certain elements which are in the hands of the developed countries, that is to say the technological know-how, the use of agricultural equipment, improved seeds, fertilizers, abrogation of agriculture. Studies of this have become essential to developing countries in order to increase agricultural output and yet the price of these various factors is increasing constantly and, therefore, the value of our agricultural commodities in our developing countries is decreasing and does not give our farmers a possibility of competing with the developed countries, and this is reflected in the fact that the governments prefer to import food rather than producing it locally because of the great difference in prices.

The Director-General of the Organization says that we are living within an international economic jungle where the strong are eating the weak. This is a very bitter truth. In the Democratic Republic of Yemen and also in other poor countries we are the victims of economic factors such as the increase of fuel prices and also the victims of the price of agricultural equipment, fertilizers, etc. Furthermore, our country has very hard facts to face, where our land is short of water; the aquafall is inadequate; we have inadequate rainfall; we have too great salinity; we are trying to produce our agricultural minimum and we are trying to make available to the farmers as much equipment as possible because they are living in certain areas where sometimes they are flooded, when there is too much rain, and in other areas they are suffering from drought and we try to make available to our farmers all the necessary equipment for agricultural development which will then lead to economic growth and food self sufficiency.

The People's Republic of Yemen is making constant efforts to increase its economy and to strengthen in particular the agricultural sector of the fisheries which are the very basis of our national economy. In spite of our lack of agricultural resources and lack of funds, we have nevertheless made considerable efforts during the two past three-year and five-year plans in order to reinforce agriculture, in particular with regard to irrigation. This took up about 80 percent of our investment under our agricultural plans in accordance with the horizontal expansion which was necessary in the past. The plans and agricultural programmes in the course of the two past plans cover a series of projects, forage, irrigation, also veterinary campaigns, research and applied research and training. In our present five-year plan we provide for irrigation; irrigation occupies the first place in agricultural development.

We are also now trying to increase the production of grain for local consumption. We are trying also to improve the output of dairy products and animal fodder. We are trying to make available the necessary means for industrialising agriculture. We are also providing cotton for the textile industry, growing tomatoes, and so on.

Agricultural policies are a subject on which we should concentrate from the point of view of regional development, also international development. We should stress the improvement of production both from the qualitative and quantitative point of view. We should concentrate production towards consumption and exports, fix prices, and arrive at mechanised agriculture and also cooperate and exchange experiences and studies.

We have in our country conducted a policy of horizontal expansion, as I said. We have inherited this from the domination of the Sultans and the British and we are therefore obliged to concentrate on horizontal expansion and try to improve what we can improve and we have tried to improve the yield of the land. However, with regard to prices, in spite of the difficulties in our region from the point of view of agricultural production we are trying to give substance to the farmers who produce at a price which is below the world price. We are trying to give them improved seeds and fertilizers at a price which is 50 percent lower than the world price so that they can face the difficult situation with which they are confronted.

The New International Economic and Agriculture Order must also take into consideration fisheries. In this connection my country is trying to develop and improve fisheries according to the following objectives. First, it is aiming at increasing the fishery output and also increasing the productivity of local fisheries; secondly, increasing local consumption and facilities, the supply of fish to local consumption; thirdly, increasing the export of these fishery products to neighbouring countries. This is the result of the investments according to our Five-Year Plan.

The fishery sector in the course of the past eight years has developed considerably. We have also improved our trading programmes and our studies on fisheries. We have also increased our fishing fleet. The resources of fishery wealth in the Arabian Sea and other neighbouring seas are considered among the richest in the world. We are trying to cooperate with other countries in this area and arrive at exporting fish via an exchange of overall studies so as to improve the management of our fish resources in that area. We are continuing the fight against hunger which exists in the whole world.

We have studied the documents of the Conference which aim at increasing agricultural output and food output throughout the world and we hope that the Conference will lead to recommendations and resolutions which will be effective and arrive at food security.

We support the efforts of the Director-General of the Organization, Dr. Edouard Saouma, with a view to adopting new working methods. My Government feels that direct contact between FAO and the Member States is essential in this connection. This will lead to greater coordination between the Member Countries and FAO and other international organizations.

My Government supports such contacts and we hope that this cooperation will be achieved very soon and that all the necessary measures will be adopted.

With regard to the regional office in Cairo, which is paralysed at the moment, I would like to agree with the preceding speakers and ask all the members of the Organization to adopt a resolution to transfer the headquarters of the regional office from Cairo to any other city in that region so that it can play an efficient role.

I am happy to support fully the World Food Programme, which includes efficient projects for my country in the economic and social areas. Furthermore, I am happy to take this opportunity of thanking the other organizations and international programmes, the United Nations, Unesco, the ILO, the Population Fund, IFAD and other organizations who have helped us.

Furthermore, I would like to thank the FAO for the positive role it plays in strengthening agriculture in the Yemen. We would like to thank the FAO for its cooperation programmes in the Yemen and we hope that this will help to improve the agricultural sector in my country. Agricultural development and economic development in the developing countries can take place only providing local conditions and regional and international conditions are favourable. In the Yemen we feel that unity is necessary to guarantee success. The Zionist forces, which are backed by the Imperialist forces, are opposed to the aspirations of the Palestinian people led by the PLO who are fighting for their independence.

From the international point of view, we feel that the implementation of the policy for strengthening the policy of peace and creating a new international economic order, the doing away with any policy, the respect of people, the non-interference in domestic matters, requires the exploitation by a colonial power of the riches of the other countries to cease.

We would also like to refer to the Government of Pol Pot. We think that at present countries are interfering in the internal matters of Kampuchea, and we would also like to support all the revolutionary people of Africa and the liberation movement of Africa, Asia and Latin America, and we would like to pay tribute to them in their fight for freedom.

S. TAZI (Maroc) (interprétation de l'arabe): Ma délégation voudrait dire ce qui suit: conformément au paragraphe 45 du document C 79/LIM/14, qui contient le premier rapport du Bureau et qui a été adopté par notre Conférence, la délégation du Maroc ne voulait pas reprendre la parole; elle voulait simplement se contenter du discours qui a été fait au nom de notre pays par le Ministre de l'agriculture. Malheureusement, la délégation de l'Algérie a vu autrement les choses et elle a parlé des préoccupations économiques de son pays et d'une région qui est considérée, du point de vue historique, du point de vue réaliste et du point de vue du droit comme faisant partie intégrante des terres marocaines.

Voilà pourquoi la délégation du Maroc, conformément au paragraphe 45 du document ci-dessus cité, estime qu'il est de son devoir de reprendre la parole pour répondre à la délégation algérienne, en vertu du droit de réponse.

Cette délégation n'a pas accepté d'étudier simplement les problèmes importants dont nous sommes saisis, à savoir, l'alimentation de nos peuples, leur bien-être, elle a voulu, d'une façon indirecte nous entraîner dans un débat qui n'est pas utile. Nous refusons totalement cette action, et nous sommes étonnés de voir comment la délégation algérienne qui sait que mon pays a été appuyé totalement dans sa lutte pour l'indépendance et également l'Algérie qui a été appuyée dans sa lutte pour l'indépendance a soulevé ce problème concernant cette région en litige. Elle a parlé d'une façon indirecte de cette région qui a été reconnue d'une façon légitime par les Nations Unies comme appartenant au Maroc. Elle place notre pays aux côtés d'Israël et de l'Afrique du Sud qui ont été condamnés par les Nations Unies.

Je demande, Monsieur le Président, que mon intervention figure dans les comptes rendus des travaux qui seront faits à la fin de cette session.

CHAIRMAN: If there is no further point I adjourn this meeting.

The meeting rose at 18 00 hours

La séance est levée à 18 heures

Se levanta la sesión a las 18 horas

conference

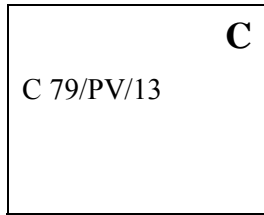
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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

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ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

THIRTEENTH PLENARY MEETING
TREIZIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
13ª SESION PLENARIA
(19 November 1979)

The Thirteenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 9. 30 hours J. Loma de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La treizième séance plénière est ouverte à 9 h 30 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 13ª sesión plenaria a las 9. 30 horas bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATION DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

U. YE GOUNG (Burma): On behalf of the Burmese delegation, it gives me great pleasure to join other delegations in expressing our warm and sincere congratulations to you on your election to the Chairmanship of the Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference. We are fully confident that under your esteemed guidance, this conference will certainly have fruitful discussions that will contribute towards the betterment of the world agricultural situation. At the same time the Burmese delegation wishes to place on record their deep appreciation to the FAO Secretariat staff, for the excellent arrangements made for all the delegations.

Furthermore, I would also like to extend our warmest welcome to the members of the Governments of Dominica and Samoa on their admission as new members to this World Organization. We sincerely believe that their participation will further strengthen the guiding principles of the FAO.

Mr. Chairman,

I need not stress that the FAO has been assuming greater responsibilities year by year and has contributed significantly towards the advancement of agriculture. The biennial conferences have fostered better understanding and cooperation among member countries, which at the same time have led to the initiation of new developments and strategies. We have noted with interest that the agenda for the current session includes a wide variety of significant topics.

The Director-General's report to the Conference on the State of Food and Agriculture, furnishes highly informative and factual data. The problems discussed therein have more or less, direct or indirect bearings on the development of agriculture in the member countries. The accelerated increase in the use of high yielding varieties, mentioned in the report, is highly encouraging. But on the other hand the projected increases in the prices of fertilizers and pesticides, as given in the document, tends to create a spirit of despondency, and we hope the Conference will give serious thought to this trend. Furthermore, we would like to note that some of the countries in the world are faced with the problems of hunger owing to the shortage of food. This fact has been stressed explicitly by the Director-General in his statement at this Conference. We sincerely believe that there are countries with tremendous potential for food production which are producing with limitations. If these countries will produce fully to their potential it will be as advantageous and effective as that of the functions of the Food Bank.

The Director-General in his report has also dealt with matters relating to "Trade Problems and Policies", and we highly appreciate the efforts being undertaken by the international bodies, mentioned therein, in approaching commodity and trade issues. However, the prices for export of agricultural commodities still remain low and unstable, while the prices of imported industrial goods continue to escalate steadily, to the detriment of the developing countries. Accordingly we sincerely hope that structural changes geared towards equitable trade and development could be achieved.

The document on long-term goals and medium-term objectives clearly portrays the problems and challenges that the developing countries are expected to encounter by the year 2 000. The document has also suggested and outlined relative areas of priority that need be adopted both under the long-term goals and strategies, as well as under the medium-term objectives. The suggestions merit deep consideration, and we hope this conference will be able to integrate a common strategy to meet the challenges of the year 2000.

The paper on "Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones" also, has reviewed both the opportunities opened for, and the problems beset, on the coastal states, due to the establishment of exclusive economic zones. The basic needs for adoption, suggested in the paper are highly creditable, while the intended role of the FAO is equally laudable. International assistance, expertise and technology, will obviously be necessary, but yet at the same time these would have to be considered within the context of national policies.

Mr. Chairman,

May I now proceed in brief to the agriculture situation of my country. Agriculture is still accorded the highest priority in our country and the performance during the last two agriculture seasons is most satisfactory. The year 1977-78 was fair despite exigencies of weather with an annual growth rate in the agriculture sector of 5.9 percent whereas in the year 1978-79 was 7.5 percent as against the targeted 5 percent. In the agriculture sector, priority was given to crops essential for domestic consumption, export oriented and industrial crops. Governmental support in the form of increased inputs, a wider measure of irrigation facilities, provision of substantial agriculture loans, and inducement towards adoption of scientific methods, and close guidance and prompt attention to the needs of the farmers were the strategies adopted.

Apart from the agriculture sector, livestock, fisheries and forestry sectors also achieved a high degree of performance, and all these successes are attributed to the correct guidance by the Burma Socialist Programme Party, the close supervision of the People's Councils and the full cooperation of the Lanzin Youth Organization, Peasants and Workers Organizations, the Defence Services personnel and the participation of the entire mass.

Please permit me to further elaborate on the selective strategy we employed for higher crop production. We selected two townships in 1977-78 and 23 townships in 1978-79 to concentrate our effort to increase paddy production and we labelled it as "whole township paddy production programme". These programmes involved expansion of high yielding paddy varieties, transplanting of correct seedling age, closer planting, proper and balanced use of fertilizers together with organic manure, integrated pest and disease control and prevention of crop losses. This selective strategy proved to be highly successful, in that the yield per acre, increased from 25 to 30 percent more than the planned target. Currently, this movement has been gaining momentum on a countrywide scale and has been recognized as a positive step towards accelerated increased production. This whole township production programme is planned to expand to the other important crops like cotton, jute, sugarcane, wheat and groundnut. Although there has been substantial increase in the yield rate of paddy, yet it has not attained the level of production as expected. Likewise the production of wheat, soya bean and pulses are still far from satisfaction. Therefore we earnestly welcome further assistance in the research, transfer of technology and in the form of agricultural inputs in this field of production.

Mr. Chairman,

As an agricultural country, the Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry sectors, also form an integral part of the rural economy. In the Livestock sector, due attention has been paid to veterinary care and animal husbandry. Similarly, appropriate measures, have been initiated to increase qualitatively and quantitatively draught power, as well as the production of meat and dairy produce. The measures have been strengthened by appropriate international assistance, wherever necessary.

In the Fisheries Sector, both inland and marine resources exist. However, since inland resources are limited and have been fully exploited, emphasis has been placed on developing aquaculture practices. The programme for producing fish seed, induced breeding by hypophysation under modern techniques, has proved highly successful and adequate quantities are always readily available for distribution or replenishment of stock in fresh waters.

Our marine resources, however, still offer immense potential, as a source of protein for domestic utility, as well as an important foreign exchange product. My Government has taken effective measures to tap this potential by the expansion of the current fleet of trawlers and gill-netters. With an approach towards proper fisheries development and management, a systematic marine resources survey and training of fishing vessel crews has already been implemented with international assistance.

May I now dwell briefly on the Forestry sector. We note with pleasure that the "Jakarta Declaration" on Forestry has been placed before this conference. The ideas and concepts in the declaration form a useful guideline for all Governments and forestry organizations.

Burma is still endowed with an abundant wealth of natural tropical forests. Apart from its ecological and environmental importance, it plays a vital role in the economy of the country. 57 percent of the total area of Burma is covered with forests out of which 14 percent is currently under reservation, and the policy of my Government is to further increase the reservation to a limit of 30 percent.

Simultaneously, plans have also been drawn up to reafforest the denuded areas in the densely populated regions in the dry zone of Central Burma and Lower Burma. Efforts in this direction, have already been actively implemented in the dry zones of Central Burma. Moreover afforestation is also carried out in other parts of the country. We shall continue to maintain our forest resources under scientific management, so that it remains both as an asset to agriculture and the economy of the country.

Mr. Chairman,

The above, is in brief, the situation, measures and policies adopted for the agriculture sector during the past biennium in Burma. In our endeavours during these years, the FAO, UNDP and other agencies rendered invaluable assistance to us, and we wish to take this opportunity of offering our gratitude and thanks to these organizations. However, I fervently hope that the present international economic system, functions equitably with respect to the division of the benefits of economic growth between developed and developing countries, as we undoubtedly are aware of the continued recurrence of recession and inflation, payment imbalances and persistent unemployment which in a way retards our endeavour for the progress of development. Hence, it becomes essential for all countries developed and developing, to find ways and means for an equitable international economic system by greater cooperation within the entire international community.

Mr. Chairman,

Earlier I had mentioned that the Food and Agriculture Organization has been called upon to assume greater responsibilities year by year. With its assistance member countries have, with dedication, geared their efforts towards accelerated food production. The dividends for these efforts may have been substantial in certain sectors, while marginal in others. All the same, from an overall assessment it could be safely assumed that, improvements for the better, have been achieved in the World Food Situation. It is our fervent hope that the FAO will continue to play a leading role, so that this momentum will remain unabated.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y Señores delegados antes de continuar con el debate, me veo en la obligación de comunicar a la Asamblea una triste noticia.

Como ustedes saben, el primer día de la Conferencia elegimos Vicepresidente de la Conferencia a D. Germán Bula Hoyos, Ministro de Agricultura de Colombia, y probablemente todos ustedes saben también que a los pocos días tuvo que regresar a Colombia dado que su madre se encontraba en estado de extrema gravedad.

Me comunican ahora que la madre de D. Germán Bula Hoyos, Ministro de Agricultura de Colombia y Vicepresidente de esta Conferencia, y de Gonzalo Bula Hoyos, Embajador de Colombia ante la FAO, ha fallecido hace unas horas.

Quisiera yo en este momento dirigirle unas palabras de aliento al representante del país hermano de todos nosotros, Colombia, comunicándole el dolor de toda la Asamblea y pidiendo asimismo simultáneamente que transmita a D. Germán Bula Hoyos y a D. Gonzalo Bula Hoyos el sentimiento de la Conferencia y que todos nos unimos a estos dos amigos en sus oraciones. (Muestras de asentimiento)

Reanudando el orden del día, pasamos al segundo orador, que es el representante del Iraq, Amer Mahdi Saleh, Ministro de Agricultura y de Reforma Agraria.

El representante de Iraq tiene la palabra.

A. M. SALEH (Iraq) (interpretation from Arabic): Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, Iraq's participation at this Conference illustrates its concern over the exchange of views which are being held in this community, representing all those who are concerned with problems of food who have the task of adopting resolutions in this international community on a problem which is of considerable standing, the problem of food and our daily bread which we have to give to all people throughout the world and everything concerning the production of food, namely husbandry and distribution within the countries and at an international level. You who are experts in this respect know that all the operations involved are very complicated. Man has produced food and concerned himself with agriculture for centuries but today this is an operation which involves planning and cooperation among peoples of the same continents and areas and also the international community at large. FAO, therefore, is the international parliament for such operations. It is the sole international agency of its kind, which was created to provide solutions for all problems, production, storage and distribution of foodstuffs.

Document C 79/24 on "Agriculture: Toward 2000" is a document on which we should congratulate the Organization. Thanks to the efforts of our brother and friend Dr. Saouma, the Director-General, this document covers all the problems. This has paved the way that we should follow in order to achieve our objective that is, the production of food for all mouths on earth.

Iraq represented in this Conference an Arab country in the Middle-East. This developing country of ours, which is aiming at developing or extending its possibilities, like the non-aligned countries, has devoted special importance to agriculture. In our policy we acknowledge that it is important to take into account the countries which really need food. There is no social future for these countries unless they produce food for their own people. On the basis of this the steps we have taken in our policy so far have involved us in agrarian reform aimed at the following. First there is the question of giving the land to

the real agricultural producers themselves, because they are concerned above all with agricultural production. Secondly, we have abolished the feudal and semi-feudal relationships of the past. We have also tried to manage land in such a way as to introduce drainage and irrigation and provide all that is necessary for agricultural production. Thirdly, we have aimed at establishing an agricultural sector which we developed, which would involve the State bodies and the cooperatives. Fourthly, we are concerning ourselves with improving the status of the workers.

I am very pleased to announce to the Conference the achievements of Iraq. We have 438,000 square metres of which 93,000 are food producing valleys between two main rivers, the Tigris and the Euphrates. This is the area of Mesopotamia. On the banks of these two rivers we saw the birth of civilization, and agriculture has existed since that very early time. On the hills to the north of the desert plains the population of Iraq is 12 million. More than 30 per cent are working on the land. They are working on an area of 12 million hectares of which 6 million are farmed on the basis of new irrigation methods.

The Government has taken over 2.5 million hectares from the feudal owners. These areas have been distributed to small farmers and agricultural families. We have introduced special plans for this and we are trying to distribute this land among the various villages. We have given new technical methods and we have set up fertilizer centres to satisfy the needs of the whole country. We have also introduced a scientific plan to overcome the problem of illiteracy. This is something which we have been boosting on the basis of a national campaign this year. Thousands of men and women are working in this area. We give them every possibility to work in this context. Those who are making the best of this campaign are of course the farmers, who have suffered from colonialist methods in the past. This is reflected in all developing countries which have suffered from colonialism, countries which have inherited hunger and malnutrition. Those who benefit most from this are the people themselves, the people we provide with the raw materials and the food they need. We are also trying to help the farmer to develop and prosper. This is in order to achieve the objective we seek—that is, an agricultural increase of 7 per cent per annum. This will, we hope, enable us to achieve world food security.

Iraq's presence at this Conference reflects our concern to cooperate with the international community at large in order to find the best radical solution for the problems of food security and agriculture, problems which call for an international effort in order to change the present situation for the better. This will enable us to achieve food security because the situation in developing countries as regards food and agriculture is far from a novelty. We see from our Agenda that these are serious problems because the number of people suffering from malnutrition in the world comes to 60 million.

There are other signs that the food and agricultural situation is far from encouraging. There are millions of people who are suffering from hunger and malnutrition because of the oppressive policies engaged in by the imperialist countries in the way that they monopolise modern technology, in the way that they occupy the land and plunder the natural resources, in the way in which they engage in racial discrimination and refuse to recognize movements, the difficult position in which they find themselves as far as obtaining agricultural credits and also the way in which they are hampered when it comes to marketing their products from the developing countries. The developing countries, therefore, are in a state of despair because they do not see the way to developing their situation. The introduction of a new international economic order is one which has not yet been implemented. There are still a lot of problems which have not been solved.

On the basis of this Iraq, following what the President of the Republic said, recently presented the conference of non-aligned countries with a long-term international fund which set out to help developing countries overcome the effects of inflation, so long as the oil producing countries and the industrialized countries, the developed countries, take into account the economic condition and will agree to contribute to this fund in proportion to the inflation.

I am pleased to say before this international Conference that Iraq has taken the initiative to implement this programme and the Government of Iraq has decided to help the poor developing countries which have direct links with Iraq. We have decided to give them interest-free loans to combat the increased prices as a result of oil price increases from 1979 onwards. We therefore ask countries throughout the world to implement the terms of this project and use it as a means of changing the relations to ensure that there is an equitable situation for all countries throughout the world, because the situation that exists in international markets insists that the international community should adopt speedy solutions for this. We should be realistic and understand that the responsibility for inflation is not just due to oil prices rising. It is a problem which concerns the whole of the international economy, because this international economy was imposed on developing countries because of our colonial heritage. We must replace this old economic situation with a new one and we have to discuss this on a scientific basis because the relations that exist between us are based on new economic relations, and this will enable us to bring about international justice. Oil prices should be on the same footing as other commodity prices, and I can tell you that oil is not as vital as some other commodities, for example wheat and other food commodities. I would say there is no international convention which governs the prices of all these commodities.

We have gone through the details of the programme of action and the Organization's budget and we feel that tremendous efforts have been made to achieve these results. Our delegation is aware of the importance of the efforts that have been made in all these programmes and Iraq as a member of the international community has placed her faith in the international community in all these respects through international agencies and through the efforts being made by FAO first and foremost. We have set up an international entity which is represented here in Rome to provide a regional office dealing with cooperation in Iraq. We believe this will strengthen the development projects in Iraq in the realm of food and agriculture. In this context Iraq has played an effective role. We have offered financial assistance in the programmes and projects implemented by the international organization, whether at regional, sub-regional or international level. We are only too pleased to provide all assistance to make sure that these projects are as fruitful as possible. Despite the number of projects which have been introduced among the countries of our region, we have welcomed three which are aimed at improving and managing the land, waters and animals.

Our country has offered \$700 to increase cooperation between the countries of the region. This satisfies our national objective, which is to strengthen our role in international and regional cooperation. Iraq has also agreed to offer annual aid to the Organization's budget and this comes to \$20 million. Our assistance from agricultural aid for developing countries through IFAD comes to \$20 million. Iraq has set up a special fund for external development which offers aid and special conditions for developing countries to ensure that they can enjoy economic development. The aid provided by Iraq comes to \$700 million. The total amount of aid provided by Iraq to all development funds comes to 2,220 million over and above the aid given by Iraq to the developing Arab countries on a bilateral basis.

All that I have said on cooperation with the Organization through the regional office for the Middle East can only be fruitful in the future as a result of the special circumstances. Because the regional office is where it is now our cooperation cannot be as effective as we would like it to be. For it to be effective and fruitful the bureau should be moved to another country so that we can go ahead with our aid and cooperation with this bureau.

I am bound to tell you that the Arab countries have already adopted a very clear resolution on this, that we would no longer cooperate with the bureau so long as it is in Cairo. As you will see in Document C 79 drawn up by the Director-General, the fact that no decision has been taken on this, well, this is something which will deprive Arab countries of our cooperation. This goes against the interests of our Organization directly. The bureau will remain empty and will be unable to satisfy the aims for which it was set up, and I do not think that your Conference will agree to this.

Iraq has tried to provide all the necessary conditions for cooperation with developing countries needing such aid in order to be able to solve their agricultural problems in accordance with the principles of self-sufficiency, that is that these countries should produce their own food commodities themselves.

We would also like to assert here the need to show the responsibility of developed countries *vis à vis* developing countries, the fact that the developed countries should provide material aid for the developing countries in proportion to the inflation they are exporting.

We would support the economic integration projects for developing countries, and the aid of countries for development is the reason why we have set up special bodies for fishery cooperation. Iraq is ready to enter into bilateral agreements with other coastal states, especially in the areas where these joint bodies can work in territorial waters.

Iraq has concerned itself with the problem of food security in order to restrict post-harvest losses. In particular we have done this by setting up and expanding storage structures, the use of pesticides and industrialization and marketing methodology.

Mr. Chairman, I see that I am forced to draw your country's attention to the fact that at a time when all countries throughout the world are working to increase food production for a greater number of people, at a time when FAO is doing its utmost to show the importance of food security for a long time now in a very studied and planned manner, a people expelled from its own lands, such as Palestine, the Palestinian people, that is, have had their roots drawn up, and here there are settlements being introduced in these invaded areas to enable the invading people to have greater land. All this is upsetting the state of peace and understanding. I want you to realize what the situation really is. I can tell you that the constant silence which prevails over these steps will not solve the problem. The situation in question will have repercussions in all countries throughout the world, not only in the Arab countries. We must remember the importance of the Arab area as regards oil production and other aspects. I think, Mr. Chairman, it is my duty to point out that we must follow the work of this Conference and re-examine the food situation in the world. We must make every effort constantly to introduce the New International Economic Order and this is an Order that can only be created if the food commodities and welfare are provided for all countries throughout the world.

I congratulate the Director-General of FAO for what he has done and the way he is wisely directing the Organization, and I wish him every success in the future.

S. M. SY (Sénégal): En l'absence du Ministre sénégalais du Développement rural, M. Djibril Sene, empêché, il m'échoit aujourd'hui le grand honneur de prendre la parole en son nom et au nom de la délégation sénégalaise, et d'apporter à la Conférence le salut de M. le Président Senghor, et de M. le Premier Ministre Abdou Diouf et de son Gouvernement, et le salut du Peuple sénégalais tout entier.

Mes premiers mots seront pour féliciter le président de cette 20e session de notre conférence, en la personne de S. E. Monsieur Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, Ministre de l'Agriculture d'Espagne, à l'occasion de son élection à cette haute fonction.

Les félicitations de la délégation sénégalaise vont également aux vice-présidents de la Conférence, aux présidents et vice-présidents des Commissions et des Comités, ainsi qu'aux autres membres du Bureau. A cet égard, je voudrais remercier tous les délégués des Etats Membres qui ont bien voulu assurer l'élection du Sénégal au Bureau de la Conférence.

Je voudrais aussi adresser nos félicitations et nos souhaits de bienvenue aux deux nouveaux Etats qui viennent d'être admis à la qualité de membres de notre Organisation. à savoir: le Commonwealth de la Dominique et Samoa. Leur admission, qui porte aujourd'hui à cent quarante-six le nombre des Etats Membres de notre Organisation, constitue une démonstration et une illustration du caractère d'universalité des organisations des Nations Unies, universalité à laquelle le Gouvernement du Sénégal demeure si attaché depuis toujours.

Tous les deux ans, la session de la Conférence de la FAO offre aux délégués des Etats Membres l'occasion d'arrêter la politique générale de l'Organisation et de dégager les moyens financiers pour sa mise en oeuvre, en approuvant le budget préparé et présenté par le Directeur général. En ce trentième anniversaire de la décision de transfert du siège de l'Organisation à Rome, qui coïncide avec cette 20e session, nous tenons nos assises dans une conjoncture économique internationale difficile pour tous les pays, singulièrement pour les pays en développement, et à travers eux et en dernière analyse, pour chaque individu contribuable.

C'est pourquoi, il convient d'apprécier et de louer les efforts de compression des dépenses entrepris par le Directeur général, pour maintenir le budget de l'Organisation au niveau minimum nécessaire de 278 millions de dollars U. S. pour le biennium à venir. L'exemple mérite d'être souligné, car il est unique et sans précédent dans l'histoire du système des Nations Unies.

Avec ce budget minimum, auquel s'ajoutent quelque 600 millions de dollars de fonds extra-budgétaires, notre Organisation va devoir faire face à la crise alimentaire qui continue de sévir à travers le monde, et à une demande accrue des services de la FAO pour résoudre le problème de la faim et de la malnutrition. Les orientations présentées à cet égard, dans des documents d'une rare qualité élaborés par le secrétariat, comme dans l'excellente déclaration du Directeur général à l'ouverture de nos travaux, constituent des thèmes de réflexion qui attirent et retiennent l'attention sur l'un des problèmes majeurs de notre temps, désormais perçu par la communauté internationale comme un problème politique mondial de première grandeur.

Par-delà l'exposé général des résultats ponctuels et concrets obtenus dans l'application des politiques nationales dans les nombreux domaines de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture, nous voudrions, comme le Conseil y invite les Ministres et Chefs de délégations dans leurs déclarations, consacrer notre attention particulièrement aux propositions du Directeur général sur les deux questions suivantes: le renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale d'une part, le développement et la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives, d'autre part.

Renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale

Il existe encore à travers le monde à peu près 450 millions d'hommes et de femmes qui ont faim ou sont mal nourris, pendant qu'il naît chaque année 75 millions de bouches supplémentaires à nourrir. Le système d'alerte rapide de la FAO nous informe qu'à la fin de 1978 et au début de 1979, beaucoup de pays en développement, dont la plupart sont situés principalement en Afrique, ont souffert de graves pénuries alimentaires, en raison d'une situation défavorable des cultures vivrières, affectant notamment les pays du Sahel.

La FAO a enregistré en outre un fléchissement de la production alimentaire et agricole mondiale pour 1979, tandis que la consommation mondiale de céréales dépassera la production de cette année, estimée à un milliard quatre cents millions de tonnes de céréales, que les stocks de blé vont baisser à 108 millions de tonnes, ceux des céréales secondaires à 100 millions de tonnes, et ceux de riz à 42 millions de tonnes.

Dans un tel contexte, on comprend et on ne peut que partager les préoccupations et les vues pessimistes du Directeur général, dans son analyse de la situation alimentaire mondiale et ses perspectives aux horizons de l'An 2 000.

C'est pourquoi, devant l'échec-que nous espérons provisoire-des négociations internationales sur les céréales et sur l'aide alimentaire, le programme d'action proposé par l'Organisation devrait emporter l'adhésion de tous les gouvernements, comme étant de nature à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, en aidant les pays en développement à promouvoir et à mettre en oeuvre leurs propres politiques nationales de sécurité alimentaire.

C'est à juste titre que plusieurs délégués de pays développés ont insisté sur cet aspect complémentaire des programmes d'action sectoriels de la FAO, et mis l'accent sur la priorité de l'autosuffisance alimentaire parmi les objectifs nationaux des pays en développement, et sur la nécessité pour eux de consacrer à cette politique des moyens budgétaires et humains importants.

Le Sénégal, dans ce domaine comme dans bien d'autres, n'a pas attendu pour prendre les devants, en élaborant un plan alimentaire national qui lui permettra de résorber son déficit vivrier et d'asseoir son autosuffisance alimentaire en consacrant à ce plan alimentaire quelque 42 milliards de francs CFA dans le 5e plan de développement économique et social.

Mais la contrainte majeure, qui n'est pas seulement d'ordre technique mais financier, réside dans le problème de la maîtrise de l'eau et, à cet égard, nous voudrions inviter la FAO à lui accorder une attention spéciale et une plus grande place dans son programme de travail et budget pour 1980-1981, notamment au regard de l'aménagement de terres irriguées, tant dans notre cadre national par la réalisation de barrages anti-sel, que dans les cadres sous-régionaux de l'Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Sénégal (O. M. V. S.) et l'Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Gambie (O. M. V. G.), par la réalisation de grands barrages sur le fleuve Sénégal et le fleuve Gambie.

Une agriculture naguère dominée par la culture industrielle de l'arachide a entraîné un déficit d'ordre structurel de la production alimentaire sénégalaise, et nécessité l'importation annuelle de 300 000 tonnes de céréales en moyenne, dont principalement le riz et le blé, qui ont connu des taux de progression/consommation supérieurs à la croissance démographique. Cela traduisait bien l'évolution d'une consommation alimentaire favorable aux produits les plus onéreux et les plus difficiles à produire localement, et laissait subsister une situation préoccupante, alors que la productivité de notre agriculture permet d'espérer une résorption de notre déficit vivrier en mil, sorgho et mas.

Devant cette situation, le Gouvernement du Sénégal a pris diverses mesures de politique alimentaire et nutritionnelle, tenant compte des possibilités réelles, et non des habitudes alimentaires acquises.

C'est ainsi que la décision a été prise d'introduire 30 pour cent de farine de mil dans la farine de blé pour la fabrication du pain. La technique de la panification a été mise au point à notre Institut alimentaire de technologie alimentaire, avec le concours d'experts de la FAO, dont notamment M. Harald Perten, de nationalité suédoise, spécialiste de la technologie des céréales, et de M. Pierre Abert, de nationalité française, spécialiste de la boulangerie, auxquels la Conférence vient de décerner le prix B. R. Sen (1978-1979). Nous renouvelons ici aux lauréats les félicitations du Gouvernement du Sénégal.

Une politique d'encouragement de la productivité et de la production céréalières pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire, notamment par un prix rémunérateur au producteur, se trouve inévitablement confrontée à des contraintes d'ordre humain et d'ordre logistique ainsi qu'à des contraintes d'ordre matériel: formation des agents pour encadrer efficacement le monde rural, colonisation de terres neuves favorables à la culture des céréales, amélioration de la collecte et des conditions de traitement facilitant le travail de cuisine par la femme rurale, restructuration et amélioration du système coopératif, du circuit de distribution et de commercialisation, construction d'unités de stockage et gestion des stocks.

C'est à l'égard de cette dernière contrainte que l'action de la FAO s'avérerait utile et efficace, dans le cadre de son programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, financé par des contributions volontaires des Etats membres. On ne peut donc qu'inviter le Directeur général à poursuivre ses efforts auprès de ces Etats pour accroître leurs contributions à ce programme, dont le montant actuel de vingt millions de dollars est nettement insuffisant pour faire face aux besoins et aux demandes d'assistance des pays en développement.

C'est aussi à l'égard du problème de stockage que mon Gouvernement a rencontré des difficultés dans la mise en oeuvre d'une politique efficace de stockage des produits collectés, avec un objectif de base de 130 000 tonnes en magasin et de 100 000 tonnes en silos, sans perdre de vue l'amélioration des greniers familiaux.

Comme j'ai déjà eu l'occasion de le dire lors des sessions antérieures du Comité de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, mon gouvernement est toujours disposé à accueillir dans la zone franche industrielle de Dakar la construction d'unités de stockage sur financement international au niveau national et sous-régional.

J'aborde maintenant la deuxième partie de ma déclaration.

Développement et gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives

Dans la matinée du 13 novembre, la Conférence a inauguré les plaques de marbre sur lesquelles ont été gravés les textes arabe et chinois du Préambule de l'Acte constitutif de l'Organisation.

Cette cérémonie d'inauguration a été symbolique à plus d'un titre, car elle a rappelé, fort opportunément, que la finalité de la FAO, telle qu'elle résulte du Préambule de son Acte constitutif, est de "contribuer à l'expansion de l'économie mondiale et de libérer l'humanité de la faim. "

C'est dans cet esprit que nous inscrivons le programme d'action de la FAO pour le développement et la gestion des pêches dans les zones économiques exclusives. Il faut se féliciter que le Directeur général ait pris cette nouvelle initiative, pour sensibiliser la communauté internationale sur la part grandissante que les ressources de la mer vont constituer dans l'alimentation humaine, et aussi, dans l'expansion de l'économie mondiale, en procurant aux pays côtiers du Tiers Monde l'essentiel de leurs recettes d'exportation.

Et c'est pourquoi nous souscrivons aux conclusions et recommandations du Comité des pêches en sa session du mois d'octobre, afin qu'un aménagement efficace des zones économiques exclusives permette aux pays en développement de ne pas se voir privés de moins de la moitié des captures mondiales de poisson, comme c'est le cas actuellement, et que des sommes importantes soient mobilisées pour alimenter le programme général d'assistance de la FAO dans ce domaine.

Mais l'attention de la FAO devrait être attirée sur la priorité à accorder à la pêche artisanale qui occupe le plus grand nombre de gens dans les pays en développement, et leur procure une importante source de revenus et de protéines.

Nous allons maintenant conclure pour inviter la FAO à accorder une attention spéciale à un problème particulier, non pas seulement à mon pays le Sénégal, mais à toute une sous-région, je veux parler des mesures de sauvegarde du cheptel, notamment dans les pays du Sahel qui souffrent de la sécheresse: mesures d'urgence avec ses deux volets alimentaires et sanitaire, et mesures à long terme adaptées aux conditions sahéliennes et à une meilleure utilisation des pâturages.

Enfin, pour clore cette déclaration qui, j'espère, n'aura pas été trop longue, nous tenons à féliciter le Directeur général de la FAO pour la façon dont il a su mobiliser l'Organisation en faveur des pays déshérités, pour en faire un instrument opérationnel de développement et un pivot du nouvel ordre économique mondial.

A. BINKAYA (Turkey): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Mr. Deputy Director-General, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen; the Turkish delegation would like to join all the other delegations which took the floor before me in congratulating warmly your excellency, Mr. Chairman, for your well deserved election to the chairmanship of this important conference.

At the same time, we extend a warm welcome to the new Members, Western Samoa and Commonwealth of Dominica. We are convinced that their contribution to the work of the FAO will be helpful to the accomplishment of its task.

Mr. Chairman, as we near the end of the 20th century and as the population of the world nears 4 billion, the difficulties involved in establishing a world-wide peace and prosperity for mankind, increase together with the responsibilities of all countries-developed and developing-as well as of all international organizations.

Based on information forwarded to us by FAO and in the light of our own experiences as a country, we have observed that heavy dependence of farming on natural conditions in many parts of the world and inadequacy in the distribution of modern technology to such farming areas, have resulted in rather indecisive agricultural production in our rapidly changing and developing world. Eventually this indecisive factor has come to endanger the socio-economic progress and even the proper conditions of nutrition in many countries, especially in the developing countries.

In 1979, world-wide agricultural production decreased by 6% over 1978, long-term trends dropped by 5% with new developments, world-wide consumption increased by 7%, the number of people in the world facing malnutrition reached, as it was underlined, 450 million, the share of less developed countries in the world food markets decreased by 5% (from 35% to 30%), no development was recorded in fisheries and forestry, while world population continued to show a rapid progress. All these trends have attained such dangerous dimensions that the need for future-oriented, wide and immediate measures is imperative.

Some other changes in the socio-economic conditions of the world can be summarized as follows:

agricultural developments realized in some developed countries have resulted in a surplus of cereal crops which accounts for 20 percent of world cereal consumption; however, such a surplus has unfortunately accumulated in only a certain part of the world;

international transportation facilities are confronted with additional difficulties caused by energy problems; therefore costs of production and transportation are showing an inevitable increase, thus creating new difficulties in order to meet urgent nutrition needs in many parts of the world.

Considering these and other socio-economic changes, the establishment of a new economic order on a world-wide basis, which means reassessment of agricultural potential in developing countries and assistance to them in order to relieve their heavy dependence on natural conditions, primarily to provide self-sufficiency, later on, to increase their production to its highest level for the benefit of other countries. Such a new economic order stands out as an inevitable item on our agenda.

The developing countries, with difficult socio-economic conditions in which they are, and with their chronic deficit of payments, are hardly able to find solutions by themselves to their economic problems, including food and agricultural development problems.

That is why international organizations such as F. A. O and developed industrial countries have to play a more and more efficient and contributory role for the solution of these problems.

After this summary about the world food and agriculture situation and the importance of the role of the developed countries and international organizations in this field, may I be allowed to deal with some details as to what the problems are in developing countries, and what measures could be considered in the way of their solution. These problems and their solutions which go together are mainly:

1. Poor agricultural production, then, improvement and increase of agricultural production;
2. Poor agro-industry, then, improvement of agro-industry.
3. Unfavourable international trade, then, improvement of international trade in favour of developing countries.

We can assume that developed countries are now reaching the last stage of their agricultural production's development, both in yield and use of the land, while the developing countries have still uncultivated land, manpower and goodwill but lack technology, know-how and capital.

These developing countries need, primarily, to be less dependent on weather conditions; this point should always be strongly emphasized. They need to improve their agriculture with better irrigation facilities, with more use of fertilizers, increased availability and utilization of herbicides and pesticides, mechanization of farming and introduction of research facilities and new technologies.

In this regard, another important aspect of the problem confronting the developing countries is the continued increase of the price of oil and consequently of every energy source based on oil. The need to exploit, more and more, other energy sources such as wood and forestry products may be a beneficial source for the developing countries but they still need in this field, to be assisted toward a rational and economically beneficial exploitation of the forestry products.

As for the improvement of the agrarian industry, we observe, here, in this field, a growing gap between developed and developing countries. The need of the population in developed countries with a large consumption capacity is becoming more and more sophisticated and standardization, processing and packing acquire much more importance than the foodstuff itself and the developing countries have no equipment for giving satisfaction to such high standard demands.

The progress of food industry in the developing countries is heavily dependent on the need for both basic and intermediary materials.

In other words, the pressing need for establishing food industry according to modern technology needs investments and know-how and those countries that are already confronted with a wide deficit in their balance of payments do not have the means to acquire the necessary technology.

Nor does international trade favour the developing countries, not only because of the gap between the prices of industrial and agricultural goods, but also because of the difficulty of transportation and the high standard qualities required from the agricultural products, as well as import limitations. All these elements create a very unfavourable trend for the agricultural products of the developing countries in the world markets. In this respect, it is our belief that developing countries should

be given the possibility and priority in utilizing their own transportation facilities. Stability of international prices should be attained in one way or another and a fair parity between the prices of industrial goods and agricultural items should also be reached.

We believe that P·A·O should intensify its activities in the following fields to contribute more effectively to the solution of the above-mentioned problems:

- Today as for the days to come, there is a definite need for the world to have stronger international coordination and cooperation than in the past. F. A. O., of course, is the most suitable organization to provide this coordination and cooperation the field of agricultural development.

- The main share of responsibility to assist F. A. O. in fulfilling such a coordination and cooperation falls on the developed countries.

- It will be appropriate to launch an appeal to the developed countries, through P·A·O and other parallel international organizations, for their contribution in meeting the urgent need for food and for fulfilling their promises for funds established for this purpose.

- As today's international economic order cannot answer the need of mankind and particularly of the peoples of the developing countries, a new international economic order should be established and the political efforts deployed towards this objective should find concrete implementation.

- Besides the food requirements for the developing countries, similar problems may arise for them in the long run. Therefore, a new Cereals Agreement should be reached.

- Any balanced and healthy nutrition needs cereal, meat, fruit and vegetables. In the transformation process from production to consumption of these foodstuffs, almost 60% is lost. The sum of 10 million dollars allocated for the efforts of preventing this loss may not be enough in the future, and an appeal to increase it is desirable.

- Steps should be taken for the use of I. F. A. D. funds in meeting the investment requirements of such projects to be dealt with under F. A. O. technical assistance programs, with the aim of preventing food losses in developing countries.

- In order to assure an increase in the storage capacity of the main food items, vital for nutrition and overall economy, attempts should be made to utilize I. M. F. sources at an increasing rate. In this way, the stability of domestic and international prices, as well as the food supply on a long-term basis, for the developing countries can be achieved.

- Special attention should be given to establish priority for those exportable foodstuffs of the developing countries during the selection of standards in F. A. O/W. H. O. Food Codex activities and also to eliminate differences between F. A. O standards and F. A. O/W. H. O Food Codex standards.

- Difficulties faced in transportation to remote areas of the world need to be overcome in order to achieve success on a short-term basis in the food and agricultural production of developing countries.

- The personnel selected from the developing countries to work for international organizations should be more numerous and placed in appropriate and responsible posts, in order to have a better understanding of the problems of these countries and to reach more adequate decisions in their favour.

- F. A. O. should play an effective role in eliminating hunger and implementing the resolutions reached at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. At the same time, emphasis should be placed on carrying out the duties and responsibilities bestowed on international organizations by the plan of action agreed upon at that Conference.

- We very much hope that the technical cooperation program which proved successful and effective, in recent years, in meeting the urgent needs of developing countries and in the preparation of investment projects will continue with a more extensive content in the next period.

- F. A. O. should attach more importance to a closer cooperation with existing financial organizations, in order to obtain more financial resources for investments aimed at increasing the agricultural production and assisting developing countries in their agricultural investments based on their own resources.

The insufficiency of protein is one of the main concerns of today's nutrition programmes.

The new regime of the oceans with the new concept of exclusive economic zones may bring some hope for the developing countries to exploit their own sea resources and to satisfy their own protein needs, as well as their economic welfare. But in this field, also they need the possibilities and means for fishing, for processing, cold storage and distribution facilities and marketing possibilities.

The Turkish Delegation believes that the program foreseen for the development of the fisheries and seafood industry in EEZ would play an important role in meeting these needs.

This Program, during its implementation phase, should take into consideration, especially in the beginning the immediate needs of the developing countries; it should foresee the safeguard measures of the small fishermen; take into account the particular situations of the seas where the 200 miles of EEZ limits are not applicable, as well as the situations of the countries without such a wide EEZ, but with a high potential of sea-food catch, and accordingly this program should be flexible.

We are convinced that the report of the very able Director-General of the F. A. O. and the work of his efficient staff, as well as the budgetary proposals, will be instrumental in satisfying the needs and fulfilling the aims briefly mentioned above, and that our discussions, resolutions and our spirit of cooperation will contribute to the success of the future activities of the F. A. O. (Applause)

S. GONZALEZ (Nicaragua): D. Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia; D. Eduardo Saouma, Director General de la Organización; Señores delegados y representantes,

Antes de comenzar mi exposición quisiera que se me permitiera agradecer a México el que, con la antelación debida, nos haya facilitado un cambio en el orden del día, y también añadir que se da la feliz coincidencia cuando nos corresponde hacer nuestra presentación en este foro, de que precisamente nuestra revolución cumpla cuatro meses. Y entro en mi exposición.

Por primera vez en la historia de esta Organización es el pueblo de Nicaragua quien se hace representar en la misma. Para ello fueron necesarios decenas de miles de heridos, decenas de miles de niños huérfanos; fueron necesarios decenas de miles de muertos.

Fue necesario que el saqueo, el pillaje y la represión de la dictadura de los Somoza alcanzara un punto culminante, y que se concretizara un genocidio contra nuestro pueblo, para que la atención del mundo se centrara en Nicaragua y para que fuese nuestro pueblo, y no quienes lo explotaban y reprimían, el que compareciera en los foros y organismos internacionales para hablar por sí mismo.

Los 139 000 kilómetros cuadrados de nuestro territorio estallaron en una insurrección general y final. Aunque la densidad poblacional de nuestro país es de apenas 18 habitantes por kilómetro cuadrado, en regiones del centro y del pacífico del país la violencia fue mayor. Es ahí donde se concentra la mayor parte de nuestra población, pero no el saqueo de las grandes empresas transnacionales y de los criollos vende-patrias: ese ha estado extendido en todo el territorio nacional desde 1909 en que llegaron los marinos enviados por el gobierno de una nación, no por su pueblo, y que al no querer reconocer nuestro derecho a la autodeterminación, ha sido corresponsable de los conflictos más agudos y de la violencia más acentuada desatada contra nuestro pueblo.

Nuestro país tiene recursos naturales que determinan un gran potencial de desarrollo, pero no ha tenido en dichos recursos un patrimonio para su pueblo. Hoy, la recuperación de esos recursos para todos los nicaragüenses es uno de los más grandes logros de la revolución popular sandinista.

Es uno de sus más grandes logros, pues para nuestro pueblo, mayoritario en campesinos y obreros del campo, la recuperación de sus recursos naturales es la principal reivindicación, no sólo por derecho propio, sino por privación de la historia, en el transcurso de la cual unas veces fue despojado por la fuerza de las intervenciones armadas, otras por la sutileza con que se ejecuta la diplomacia del dólar y las nuevas formas de la dominación internacional, y otras por el entreguismo de los vende-patrias que hasta ahora el triunfo de la revolución sandinista ejercieron la dominación local como herencia directa del colonialismo y el neocolonialismo.

Nuestro pueblo reivindica más que nada su patrimonio del agro porque fue ahí donde el saqueo extranjero se ensañó hasta llevarlo a su punto crítico.

El proceso de acumulación de capital condujo a la proletarianización de nuestros artesanos y campesinos. En ese proceso de despojo y proletarianización concurren diversos mecanismos, y cuando no fue suficiente la coerción económica, los explotadores recurrieron a la más brutal represión contra quienes defendían sus derechos. Y la misma suerte represiva corrían quienes alzaban su voz en defensa de los oprimidos.

Cuando los explotadores criollos no podían en su cobarde saña acallar esas voces y las protestas de los oprimidos, recurrían a manos extranjeras para que concurren en su ayuda: las mismas manos que se llevaban nuestro café, nuestro caucho, nuestro banano, nuestro oro, nuestras maderas, y que ocupaban nuestros puertos, ferrocarriles, bancos y aduanas, siempre apoyados en sus fusiles y soldados.

Ante esos hechos concretos que por conveniencia se olvidan con frecuencia, los vacilantes criollos claudicaban, como claudicaron en 1927 los que entonces se revelaron como simples compañeros de viaje del General de Hombres Libres, Augusto Cesar Sandino, quien con solo 29 hombre, 30 con él, inicio nuestra guerra de liberación, y dio un profundo contenido nacionalista a nuestras reivindicaciones.

Pero nuestra revolución además de nacionalista es también popular. El grupo de "muchachos" que en 1960 forma una organización político-militar-el Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional-que llegaría a convertirse en vanguardia indiscutible de nuestro pueblo y en artífice de nuestra revolución, lo hizo inspirado en el ideario de Sandino, y ese ideario abarca tanto la reivindicación de los intereses nacionales frente a la dominación extranjera, como la reivindicación de los intereses de la inmensa mayoría de obreros y campesinos que conforman nuestra población.

A la dictadura que hemos derrotado se asocia no solo la tiranía política, la represión y el entreguismo ante el extranjero, sino también la tutela de un sistema económico-social que beneficiaba a una minoría: la burguesía agro-exportadora, y sus ramificaciones industriales y financieras, mientras la inmensa mayoría de nicaragüenses ha permanecido al margen de todo concepto decente de vida humana.

De ahí que el carácter de nuestra revolución imponga no sólo el mejoramiento de nuestros términos de relación con el extranjero, sino también la realización de profundas transformaciones económicas y sociales para abrir paso a un desarrollo más justo y más humano.

Enfrentamos, pues, la enorme y doble tarea de reconstruir y transformar. La tarea no es fácil porque la nefasta herencia de casi medio siglo de corrupción, saqueo e ineficiencia, a lo que se agregan los daños directamente asociados a nuestra guerra de liberación y en particular a la obstinada y genocida resistencia de la dictadura, configuran un caso de desastre económico que difícilmente tiene precedente.

En efecto, y según lo ha documentado un reciente informe de la Comisión Económica para América Latina de las Naciones Unidas, durante 1978 y 1979 el producto interior bruto ha decrecido en un 32 por ciento. Esto significa que el ingreso bruto por habitante ha regresado a los niveles del año 1962, es decir, a los de hace diecisiete años, hecho insólito que no tiene precedente en la historia moderna.

Como si lo anterior fuese poco, nos encontramos además en una situación de absoluta insolvencia financiera externa. El pasado 19 de Julio en que como resultado del triunfo de la revolución popular sandinista se constituyó el Gobierno de Reconstrucción Nacional, al cual representamos en esta Asamblea, las reservas internacionales brutas del país apenas llegaban a los 3,5 millones de dólares, apenas capaces para financiar las importaciones de 2 días.

Por otro lado, la deuda publica externa acumulada asciende a la enorme suma de 1 600 millones de dólares, cantidad superior a la totalidad de nuestras exportaciones de 3 años; más grave aún es la situación de insolvencia si se toma en cuenta que la mayor parte del servicio de esa deuda corresponde a los 1979 y 1980, de tal forma que en el presente año ni con la totalidad de nuestras exportaciones podríamos satisfacer el servicio de esa deuda.

Agréguese a todo lo anterior la destrucción de gran parte de nuestros activos industriales, una pérdida significativa de nuestra infraestructura física y social, 80 000 heridos, 40 000 niños huérfanos y 1 000 000 de personal-iel 50% de nuestra población!-que requiere ayuda alimenticia hasta septiembre de 1980 en que hayamos tenido la oportunidad de recuperar nuestra producción agrícola. Todos esos daños se han venido a sumar a los enormes déficits sociales y económicos acumulados durante casi medio siglo de dictadura y los que corresponden a un país pequeño, subdesarrollado y dependiente.

Enorme es el reto que enfrentamos. Pero nuestra voluntad de vencerlo, templada en la dura guerra de liberación, es aun mayor. Lo que no podremos recuperar, lo irremplazable y doloroso son los 40 000 muertos que representan el 1,5% de nuestra población. Para que se comprenda la magnitud dramática de esa cifra, anotemos que ese mismo porcentaje en un país como Italia hubiera representado 1 000 000 de muertos; en Brasil 1 785 000 muertos; en Indonesia 2 175 000 muertos; en Estados Unidos 3 285 000 muertos y en la Unión Soviética 3 945 000 muertos.

Pero esos muertos, que no podremos recuperar, serán inspiración para nosotros y las generaciones futuras en el esfuerzo de reconstrucción, transformación y desarrollo a que ya, desde ahora, estamos abocados.

En efecto, en menos de 4 meses, el Gobierno de Reconstrucción Nacional ha adoptado trascendentes medidas que tienden a liberarnos de los lazos de postración, dependencia e injusticia heredados de la dictadura, y que se orientan a conformar un nuevo modelo de desarrollo.

Hemos nacionalizado el comercio exterior para tener mayor control sobre nuestros costos de producción y para impedir que los frutos de nuestro trabajo se transfieran impunemente al extranjero.

Hemos nacionalizado el sistema financiero para democratizar el crédito y garantizar que el ahorro nacional revierta sobre el país impulsando su desarrollo.

Hemos recuperado para el pueblo los bienes que el somocismo acumulo a través del hurto y la corrupción. En base a esos bienes hemos creado una fuerte área social de la economía que nos permite un crecimiento más estable y ordenado, a la vez que constituye un efectivo instrumento de redistribución de la riqueza.

Hemos nacionalizado las minas de oro y plata que constituían un verdadero "enclave" en el corazón del país, y hemos recuperado la propiedad de las empresas que explotaban nuestros recursos marinos, las cuales eran un 90% propiedad de la familia Somoza.

Finalmente nos hemos empeñado en un revolucionario programa de reforma y desarrollo agrario que coloca a nuestro país en la vanguardia de la ejecución de los lineamientos trazados en la reciente Conferencia Mundial de la FAO sobre la Reforma Agraria, y que satisface la más profunda e histórica reivindicación de la gran mayoría de nuestra población, que es rural. Pero nuestra perspectiva del problema agrario no es simplemente reivindicativa, sino también de desarrollo, porque estamos convencidos de que no podremos incrementar el excedente económico destinado a la acumulación, impulsar el desarrollo, distribuir justamente la riqueza y aumentar el bienestar de toda nuestra población si no es a través de una profunda y revolucionaria reforma agraria. Esperamos con ella, a corto plazo, superar los problemas básicos de alimentación y vencer el hambre; sólo así cumpliremos con el compromiso de ser miembros de este Organismo.

A la vez que estamos transformando las estructuras básicas de nuestra sociedad estamos eliminando las aristas más pronunciadas de la injusticia social. Es así que en Marzo de 1980 iniciamos la Cruzada Nacional de Alfabetización que sin duda asestará un golpe mortal al analfabetismo haciendo reducir su índice a un mínimo nivel.

como nuestra preocupación es TODO el hombre, hemos sorprendido al mundo con el espíritu y práctica humanista de nuestra revolución; no ha habido en Nicaragua ejecuciones, hemos promulgado un estatuto de garantías que tutela efectivamente la vigencia de los derechos humanos; hemos emitido una ley de prensa que puede contarse entre las más modernas, democrática y funcionales del mundo; hemos dado plenas facilidades para la organización sindical y política y estamos estimulando a los empresarios que deseen hacer una contribución patriótica al desarrollo nacional incrementado la producción.

para que nada de lo anterior resulte una concesión burocrática o paternalista hemos promovido la más amplia organización de nuestro obreros, campesinos, jóvenes y mujeres, para que sea nuestro pueblo organizado, el autor de su propia historia. Y a esa historia agradecerán nuestras generaciones el haberle permitido aceptar esta responsabilidad.

Reconstruir, transformar, crecer y distribuir, constituyen el eje de nuestro programa de desarrollo. Pero nuestro esfuerzo requiere ser fortalecido con la ayuda y cooperación de la comunidad internacional. Así lo consignó el Sistema Económico Latinoamericano (SELA) en su reunión de julio pasado habiendo emitido una resolución incitando a la comunidad internacional a movilizar la más amplia solidaridad económica con Nicaragua.

Esos llamamientos a la solidaridad internacional con Nicaragua fueron posteriormente ratificados en la declaración final de la Sexta Cumbre del Movimiento de Países no Alineados celebrada en La Habana, en la Sesión Plenaria de la Comisión Económica para América Latina de las Naciones Unidas (CEPAL), realizada en Nueva York en Septiembre, y más recientemente, el 25 de Octubre, por la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas.

Necesitamos ayuda de emergencia, alimenticia y médica, para el primer semestre de 1980 en que se manifestarán con mayor dureza las consecuencias de la interrupción durante 1979 del ciclo productivo agrícola.

Necesitamos ayuda financiera para superar nuestra situación de insolvencia. No es posible que recaiga sobre los hombros de nuestro pueblo y nuestra revolución toda la carga de una enorme deuda contraída por la dictadura en condiciones y plazos incompatibles con nuestras posibilidades de pago, y que fue administrada corrupta e ineficientemente ante la mirada complaciente de todos nuestros acreedores.

Necesitamos cooperación técnica que nos ayude a identificar y ejecutar proyectos de desarrollo que respondan al carácter popular e independiente de nuestra revolución.

Permítanme Señor Presidente y Señores Delegados, que aprovechemos esta oportunidad para repetir a la Comunidad Internacional nuestra llamada a la solidaridad con nuestro pueblo.

Estamos muy agradecidos con la oportuna y significativa ayuda que FAO y el Programa Mundial de Alimentos nos han prestado desde el triunfo de nuestra revolución, y queremos manifestar a la Organización, a través de su Director General, que nuestro gobierno espera que con prontitud se canalicen los recursos y la asistencia técnica necesarios para ejecutar los proyectos que la reciente Misión de FAO ha identificado y formulado.

No nos sentiremos totalmente libres mientras no hayamos derrotado a la pobreza, mientras el hambre, la desnutrición, las enfermedades endémicas continúen abatiendo a nuestra población. En ese sentido consideramos que hay un compromiso recíproco entre nuestro esfuerzo y la ayuda internacional. También en ese sentido sigue siendo válida nuestra consigna de lucha: Patria Libre o Morir!

J. ITADI (Congo): Permettez-moi de présenter, en mon nom personnel et en celui de mon pays, la République Populaire du Congo, nos voeux de plein succès à cette 20ème session de la Conférence de la FAO.

Cette session de notre Organisation se tient à un moment particulièrement révélateur, correspondant à la deuxième décennie de développement des Nations Unies; décennie qui se solde par une situation agricole et alimentaire mondiale alarmante. Ceci est particulièrement grave dans les pays en développement où, malgré des tentatives d'augmentation de la production, les disponibilités alimentaires et énergétiques restent inférieures aux besoins réels.

Cette situation peut être imputable à un certain nombre de faits dont nous retiendrons quelques caractéristiques à titre d'illustration:

Bon nombre de pays en développement-et c'est le cas du Congo-n'ont pas toujours pu satisfaire leurs besoins en inputs nécessaires à l'augmentation de la production agricole (engrais, pesticides, machines agricoles, etc.). Il se pose toujours avec acuité la question de la réduction des pertes après récolte qui, dans mon pays, se traduisent toujours par un manque à gagner de plus de 50 pour cent de la production obtenue.

Il est, dans ces conditions, difficiles de parler de réserves en vue de la sécurité alimentaire. La croissance de la production mondiale de poisson a stagné voire s'est dégradée. L'objectif de 10 millions de tonnes en vue de l'aide alimentaire n'a toujours pas été atteint. Le problème d'accès au crédit reste d'actualité dans les pays où l'accumulation ou l'épargne interne aussi bien en milieu paysan qu'au niveau de la nation entière se pose chaque jour. Cette pénurie ou cette modicité des moyens de financement n'est pas sans rapport avec la persistance des caractéristiques énoncées plus haut.

Dans le domaine forestier, bien que la première moitié de la décennie ait été caractérisée par une croissance rapide de la production et de la consommation des produits forestiers favorisant ainsi une

forte expansion de l'économie mondiale, d'une manière globale la chute des cours des années 73-74 a porté un coup fatal à la production forestière de nos pays, diminuant ainsi les espoirs d'une relance économique basée sur la production forestière jouant ou devant jouer le rôle de secteur d'accumulation. Cette crise du bois n'a pas été sans effet sur la production forestière au Congo, qui a entraîné de ce fait une baisse de plus de 50 pour cent de notre production, baisse qui a également entraîné une diminution sans équivalent des revenus forestiers du pays.

Cette situation globale confirme qu'il est nécessaire de tendre à la réalisation des objectifs non atteints de la décennie du développement pour et dans le cadre du nouvel ordre international.

La situation du Congo nous l'avons dit est restée dans bien des cas semblable à celle de bon nombre de pays en développement de la zone tropicale. C'est pourquoi à l'occasion de son 3ème Congrès Extraordinaire, le Parti Congolais du travail a adopté une stratégie alternative au modèle colonial, stratégie autocentrée et autodynamique dans laquelle l'Agriculture, joue le rôle de base de développement. C'est ce qui explique qu'à l'occasion du programme annuel 1980 déjà, l'Agriculture et la Forêt, en somme l'Economie rurale viennent au Premier plan des priorités de financement dans notre pays.

Déjà la traduction dans les faits de cette stratégie par la mise en place des structures spécialisées par spéculation ou groupe de spéculations, structures intervenant depuis l'apport d'inputs agricoles, la vulgarisation des Techniques, le conditionnement, le contrôle, la collecte et la commercialisation des produits: de même la mise en oeuvre du redressement des entreprises agricoles et forestières d'Etat s'est traduite par une augmentation globale de la production de près de 50 pour cent pour l'ensemble des produits par rapport à l'année dernière.

La mise en oeuvre des programmes de pêche, l'institution du crédit agricole, le développement d'un programme de lutte contre les pertes après récolte, le lancement des programmes vivriers ainsi que le maintien des pistes agricoles avec l'appui de la FAO, du FIDA, de la BAD et de la Banque Mondiale et du PNUD, s'ils sont réalisés dans des délais raisonnables peuvent augurer des perspectives intéressantes dans le cadre de la résolution du problème agricole et alimentaire au Congo.

Cette façon de voir combinant l'effort interne avec la coopération internationale bilatérale ou multilatérale justifie et explique tout l'intérêt et tous les souhaits que la République Populaire du Congo en mon nom porte à la réussite de cette 20ème session. Session qui devra prendre toutes les mesures adéquates et urgentes pour que tous les peuples déshérités du monde qui ont droit à la subsistance, apprennent à vivre au lieu de continuer à survivre comme ils le font actuellement. C'est pourquoi, il nous apparaît absolument impérieux que les pays membres de la FAO se prononcent de manière optimiste et sans équivoque sur: la nécessité pour les pays développés d'accorder des facilités aux pays en développement en vue d'obtenir ou d'accéder aux inputs nécessaires; le développement de la coopération économique et technique entre pays en développement en matière d'agriculture devrait être instauré et l'intervention urgente, massive, profonde des institutions financières dans le cadre de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation, décidée.

Nous ne pouvons pas terminer ce propos sans vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, de votre élection à la Présidence de notre Conférence. Nos félicitations vont également au Directeur Général de la FAO, M. Edouard SAOUMA, homme compétent et dynamique qui fait chaque jour de la FAO un des meilleurs instruments de combat contre la malnutrition et la faim ainsi que dans la lutte pour le développement.

J. T. KASANTAROENO (Suriname): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Permit me Mr. Chairman to congratulate you on your election.

A lot of hard work still lies ahead of us, but I am sure that under your able guidance and that of the Chairmen of the Commissions, positive results will be obtained, which we hope will lead to the production of more food, and help us in our fight against hunger.

I should like to avail myself of this opportunity to welcome the two new members, the Commonwealth of Dominica and Samoa.

For this increasingly complex world faced with difficulties like population explosion, inflation, energy, pollution and nutritional problems, it is impossible to present ready-made solutions. Because of this situation we should aim at a collective approach on a world level to reach acceptable solutions for the total world population.

Suriname became independent in 1975. Since then we have been in the process of finding our own way in the world society of peoples, primarily orientating ourselves in the region.

From the Government Statement for the period 1977-1981 I may quote: "The relations with foreign countries will continue to occupy an important place in the development policy. In the preceding period important contacts were established within the framework of multilateral assistance. In this connection mention can be made of: the United Nations; the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as the UN specialized organizations, in particular FAO and the UNDP; the European Community and the European Development Fund; the Organization of American States and the Inter American Development Bank".

It is the policy of my Government to continue and to stimulate these relations. We are guided by the principle of "Self-reliance" in the development cooperation, but we shall reserve the right and the liberty to adopt that model of development which, in our opinion, will make an actual contribution to the prosperity and welfare of the people of Suriname. Our prime objective is the achievement of national economic independence. Increase of the national production which is based on the development of our natural resources, in the sections of agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry, mining and energy production, is considered by my Government as an important means to prosperity for primarily satisfying the needs of the people in respect to employment, housing and food.

Self-activity as well as creativity and individual initiative however are necessary. In this respect the Government of Suriname will make arrangements for the full participation of the Surinamese women at all levels of our economic, social, cultural and political activities.

My Government is deeply concerned about the unabated arms race. The large amounts of money could have been utilized to fight hunger in the many countries where children and adults, as well as animals, are dying due to lack of food.

We have to take into consideration practical measures to speed up the production of more food for the hungry ones.

In the opinion of my Government undue delay is caused in the negotiating and decision-making process of among others the Buenos Aires Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries last year, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Manila, the recent Vienna Conference on Science and Technology, and of the many sessions of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

I hope Mr. Chairman, that these remarks made on behalf of my Government will result in a demonstration of the political will of all nations present to execute what has been said, agreed upon, and even promised during all these conferences.

Next to our fight against hunger we have the economic warfare between the rich and the poorer nations which threatens to descend upon us. My Government wonders whether the United Nations and its subsidiary and affiliated bodies will manage to survive as a political instrument for regulating meaningful and just international economic relations.

Past and present negotiations between the developed and the developing countries have spelt a succession of serious disappointments, owing to the fact that they failed to arrive at tangible and just solutions and at the establishment of a New International Economic Order. It is a fact that the future of the vast majority of developing nations is now largely decided by the industrialized powers, and the oil-producing states. There should be no attempt to hide this incontrovertible fact.

One of the essential objectives of the New International Economic Order, initiated by the Non-Aligned Movement at its 1973 Summit in Algiers, was to strive for rapid growth in developing countries so the latter would win full, equal and effective participation in solving their international economic problems. The past five years have been marked by the efforts to reduce the one-sided dependence of developing countries on the overall interests of the industrialized countries and to accelerate their development on the basis of collective, as well as individual self-reliance. However it is a matter of deep concern that so many expectations of developing countries, and commitments made by some industrialized countries, are as yet still not fulfilled. Official development assistance and other long-term aidflow have failed to expand adequately.

I should like to place some marginal notes and make some suggestions in relation to this New Economic Order. It is supposed to be known that five relevant factors play an important role.

1. Raw materials

Because of the lack of an efficient organization on a world and regional level, which among others protects agriculture, unwanted price fluctuations take place. As agriculture generally forms the most important production sector in the developing nations, price fluctuations are often disastrous for these countries.

We should strive for the introduction of the index system, in order to reach stable prices and to avoid unwanted price fluctuations.

2. Access to markets

In the past it was customary that products, which were competitive for developing nations, were taken from the list which allows free access of goods to markets of the developed nations. I wish to plead that in the future this policy is abandoned. In this respect my delegation refers to both the statement by the Director-General concerning the need to reduce protectionism, and the draft resolution in document C 79/LIM/19 on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment.

3. Assistance

The aid which developing nations receive is barely enough to keep the ordinary offices going. I may appeal that this aid is brought to an adequate level.

4. International Organizations

We plead also for a better representation of developing nations in International Organizations.

5. Transfer of technology

Last but not least, the transfer of technology plays an important role in the International Economic Order.

I may assure you, that based on hard facts, obtaining transfer of technology at reasonable prices is referred by us to the realm of fancy. It is distressing to note that exactly the shortage of organizing and managerial capacity on the developing countries causes us to end up in a vicious circle, because this expertise is not as yet available to the developing nations at affordable prices.

May I plead that our organization, the FAO, makes a contribution in this field, by bringing together this expertise, and places it at reasonable rates at the disposal of the developing nations, which cannot do without it in their-development.

The realization of the points mentioned above in our opinion is a condition sine qua non, in order to reach an acceptable level of existence in the world. World society has in our opinion a right to this.

It is clear that no individual country but a uniting of forces can lead to a socially acceptable level of existence. We must stress the point that only an open and honest approach to these problems, together with the political will to bring actual solutions, can give comfort in the rapids of problems in which world society has arrived.

Based on the notion that the factor man or humanity should be our line of action in fighting our problems on a local, national, regional as well as international level, my Government should like to emphasize the principle of "Social Economic Order". By constantly taking into account the social aspect, the idea of the Economic Order shall obtain a wider dimension.

It seems useful to state: "Nothing makes a country so vulnerable as being dependent on other countries with regard to her basic food supply".

Elaborating on this thesis, the question arises how we should line up to mitigate this vulnerability. We are convinced that only a world organization with far-reaching powers and an adequate planning apparatus, can alleviate this constraint. However, instructions need to be given to the countries that produce basic foods, indicating which country should produce what, how much and when. Of course, comparative cost advantages and other constraints should be considered with these instructions.

I can vividly imagine that some may think that I am engaged in a Utopia. But I assure you that I mean every word I said.

Concerning our contribution, I may state that Suriname offers possibilities for the realization of rice cultivation on an acreage of at least 250,000 hectares, of which presently only 50,000 hectares are in production. Furthermore, from experience gained and data obtained, it has become evident that our country is well suited for the cultivation of African oilpalm. Careful estimates indicate areas of at least 100,000 hectares. Other possibilities include cattle raising and the production of fish.

The problems with which we are confronted are a small population and a relatively small capacity of implementation. This relatively small capacity of implementation is especially due to a insufficient schooled and skilled labour supply, and a lack of organizational and managerial staff. With might and main this is tackled and we hope to deliver a greater contribution to the production of food for world society.

Our prime objective is the achievement of national economic independence. As a result, in 1977 a "Long-term Integrated Agricultural Development Plan" based on the following objectives was drawn up by my Ministry: full fledged employment, increase of incomes up to an acceptable minimum, justifiable distribution of incomes, favourable arrangements for production means, credits, marketing and services, production for local consumption at reasonable prices for the consumer and reasonable recompense for the producer, import substitutions and increase of export, diversification and regional distribution of production, improvement of living conditions in rural areas, promotion of self-activity and participation of the agrarian population, adequate land policy aimed at a rational and justifiable utilization of the soil, water and natural resources.

This Plan is a reflection of the position of the agricultural sector in the overall socio-economic development.

Suriname continues to execute several agricultural development projects, and once these projects are realized, the supply of sufficient irrigation water for agricultural crops will be ensured, resulting in the production of more food. As an example recently in a new area, in the eastern part of Suriname, the first crop of rice from a new development project was harvested. Before the end of the year, the area of this project shall be quadruplicated.

A balanced land policy aimed at the promotion of mechanized agricultural enterprises, as well as small-scale agriculture, will imply, among others, the adoption of strict measures to guarantee a justifiable allocation and utilization of arable land.

Due to the fact that an efficient marketing system is lacking, the farmer most of the time is not guaranteed security of marketing his produce at reasonable prices including at least the cost of production and a minimum reward for his labour. He however will invariably try to play it safe with regard to his production in order to minimize his risks as much as possible. The present high consumer

prices which are rather to the benefit of the middlemen and retailers, than to the benefit of the of the producers, call for an improvement of the structure of marketing and distribution and for the promotion of the processing of agrarian products.

This would result in: reduction of the cost of living, a better income for the farmers, an increase of agricultural production and, in this connection, an efficient and effective policy of import substitution and export promotion, increased employment, the possibility of fixing a guaranteed price for certain crops. Extension of the credit facilities for the development of agriculture will be a necessity.

With the extension of our territorial waters and the establishment of an exclusive economic zone, our potential of natural resources is increased. Within the framework of our natural resources policy, our fishery policy will consequently be aimed at a rational exploitation and management of these resources. This not only means a source of income but also a source of cheap animal proteins to supplement the diets of our people and that of people in other countries. My country welcomes assistance in exploring and exploiting its marine resources.

Technical and economic cooperation is a must. However, quite frequently before cooperation is given, economic as well as technical data are requested by donor countries. By the time these data are collected, the prices of material and machines have increased, and quite often the collecting of data has taken such a long time, that these are not longer of much value. What we need from the developed countries is justified fast action and technicians with practical knowledge that can help us with the geared development of our agricultural sector.

We are exporting large quantities of cargo rice to EEC markets. Processed rice from ACP countries imported into the Community however has a 50% levy. Shipping of cargo rice means that by-products such as vitamins, rice oil and ingredients for animal feeds are exported with the unprocessed product. If the rice can be processed before export to EEC markets, and the 50% levy is abolished, this would mean extra income for the rice-producing ACP States.

During the LOME II Conference which was held last October in Togo, the request of the Surinamese Government supported by the ACP States for preferential access for its exports of processed rice to the Community was reviewed.

It was agreed to undertake as early as possible after the coming into force of the new convention a joint examination of the real difficulties and obstacles impeding the commercialization of processed rice, originating in certain ACP States to the EEC market, with a view to the implementation of specific measures to promote or increase the production and exportation of this product.

Suriname has the land, but we need more than that: a good omen, Mr. Chairman, but we are not yet where we want to be, namely the production of more and better food.

If properly developed and financed, my delegation hopes the Suriname can be: 1. the rice suppliers for South America and the Caribbean area, 2. producers of large quantities of fish and fish products, 3. producers of large quantities of beef, due to the fact that our country is free from hoof-and-mouth disease as well as other dangerous cattle diseases.

I sincerely hope that all attending this 20th Session of the FAO conference will be able to put their hands to the plough and step up the fight against hunger.

The Republic of Suriname is willing to absorb a number of refugees, and Parliament adopted a resolution to that effect. We are now drawing up the necessary plans and even though we are a small country with limited facilities and funds, we are convinced that this small contribution will relieve the suffering of some human beings. We will sincerely try to give them hope, a new future and above all a good home.

In conclusion I should like to make an appeal to the energy-suppliers and the consumers. Let us both try soberness. The world's raw materials are not only for us living today, let us be economical with these commodities.

The coming generation will judge us Let their judgement not be negative !

M. DA GRACA MACHUNGO (Mozambique) (interpretation from Portuguese): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Your Excellencies: First of all allow us, honourable Delegates, to congratulate His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture of Spain for having been elected the President of the 20th Session of the FAO Conference. Through you we greet the Government of Spain. Between your Government and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique exist friendly diplomatic relations which are a basis for the development of a great cooperation of mutual advantage.

The admission of the Republic of Samoa and of the Republic of Dominica to FAO is a reason for jubilation by all the international community and we want to take this opportunity to express our support and solidarity.

We would like on this occasion to congratulate the Director-General of FAO for the manner in which he has directed this Organization, in contributing to the solution of problems of food and agriculture in our developing countries and those of our peoples. Having an origin of a country and people who know the stigma of underdevelopment, your Excellency who has shown firmness and courage in the direction of this Organization, is for us an assurance that FAO will more and more represent the preoccupation of the poor countries. We are pleased with the consequent proposals and programmes presented which reflect its just interest to promote world agricultural development, with particular reference to those countries which are still suffering from the vestiges of colonialism and imperialistic domination and exploitation.

The programmes of action presented, may appear to some to be ambitious and highly demanding, but in reality constitute a possible alternative to the solution of one of the worst misfortunes which afflicts today's humanity: hunger and misery.

A few months ago, when the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development took place in this very room, we realised how big was the task we have to face.

If we examine the final resolutions of that Conference, we feel that, besides the individual responsibilities expressed in the interventions and debates by each of our countries, there exists, as an open wound, the problem of the gap which separates rich and poor countries. The preoccupation persists that although great efforts have been achieved by some developing countries to promote growth of agrosilvicultural production it is still insufficient to satisfy the needs of an ever-increasing domestic demand; in many of our countries the nutritional situation of populations continues to deteriorate. The policy made by some imperialistic countries to decrease food production, the manipulation of prices of products and of means of production, is a weapon, in conjunction with manoeuvres of blackmail and intimidation, which has the objective of making underdeveloped countries vulnerable and dependent on capitalistic metropolises. It is, thus, easy for us to understand the reluctance of some developed capitalistic countries for the establishment of a New International Economic Order, the only way which will truly lead to the establishment of just economic relations between Nations, to the liberation of the great potentialities existing in our countries for the benefit of our peoples, to the elimination on a world scale of inequality between Nations and the abolition of hunger and misery.

We believe that the ideas formulated in the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development are still fresh in our memories. We surely remember the content of the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action which was considered by many as the Charter of the Poor Peasants.

We are pleased that in this 20th FAO Conference we see on the agenda a proposal for a programme of action to implement the decisions of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

In analysing with great attention the supporting documents of this 20th Session of the Conference we see the effort of the Secretariat systematizing the great volume of collected information, and we appreciate the effort in presenting the main preoccupations of developing countries.

What do we foresee in these documents?

- Hunger and misery are mainly localized in underdeveloped countries despite the enormous potentialities which they possess;

- The fight to do away with underdevelopment has been facing enormous obstacles due to the persistent action of imperialistic countries in maintaining and even aggravating today's world economic system.

This action is made worse by different forms of imperialistic threats, including military aggression with the point of view to impose backward political and economic systems, and by organized action divide developing countries preventing cooperation amongst them.

- Developing countries see their economic situation worsening by constant worsening of international terms of trade, namely with respect to agricultural products.

Actually, according to available information the transfers by developing countries in payment of know-hows, patents, licenses go up to an annual average of US \$1 500 millions. It is expected that this figure will reach an amount of more than US \$9 000 millions in 1980, which will represent more than 15% of the incomes from the exports by developing countries.

The external debt of developing countries reached a value of more than US \$300 000 millions in 1973 which, due to unfavourable financial terms gave rise to a drainage of resources for the payment of the debt in an annual value which increases at a higher rhythm than the incomes from exports. Only in 1977 developing countries spent about 21% of their annual exports for payment of costs incurred due to the accumulation of their external debt.

The international economic crisis which we are now experiencing is a consequence of structural imbalance of the world capitalistic system. If this crisis is not solved by taking measures of complete restructuring of international economic relations within the framework of the New International Economic Order we shall see in our countries an increasing deficit in the balance of payments and in the external debt, and with this the worsening of unemployment, hunger and misery.

It is necessary to respect the right of the peoples to choose their own way of social and economic development.

It is necessary to establish a climate of non-economic blockade imposed to some of our countries by the simple fact that the peoples have opted for a political, economic and social system in which there is no place for exploitation of man by man.

It is imperative that the peoples have freedom to promote the cooperation within the framework of economic complementarity to advance with their development.

Our agricultural development is based above all on the organization and mobilization of the peasants and agricultural workers, on increasing their scientific and technical knowledge.

To achieve these objectives and based on the state enterprise and cooperative we built Communal Villages that in the social, political and economic plan constitute centres of integrated rural development, nuclei of the future cities in the rural areas.

The establishment of a planned economy in the People's Republic of Mozambique will allow a harmonious development of all economic sectors.

Our plan foresees the transformation of our backward agriculture into a developed one able to produce the needed products to satisfy the food requirements of our People and to create surplus resources either for the building of food reserves and/or for exportation.

In our country it is our view that the establishment of a developed agriculture will only be realized with the establishment of an industrial sector whenever it is of economic advantage within the framework of the international division of work and whenever it is able to supply agriculture with the equipments and other adequate means of production.

Since we started from a colonial situation of utmost backwardness our agro-silvicultural development is based on the combination of small-and large-scale projects and on the mobilization of all our efforts.

The implementation of each one of these projects requires both small and huge investments.

Within this framework we reaffirm our determination to develop economic cooperation with all countries based on the principles of mutual advantages and non-interference in internal affairs. In this regard, allow us to quote a recent speech by Samora Moises Machel, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique

"There are in our region countries with different social systems. It is our responsibility as a socialistic country the defense of Peace, of peaceful coexistence, disarmament and of relations of good neighbourhood between countries with different and even opposed social systems. The People's Republic of Mozambique as a socialistic country has the flag of peace and cooperation amongst the peoples always well hoisted which simultaneously is the flag of solidarity in regard to the just struggle of the oppressed peoples.

We are open to develop economic and trade relations with all countries irrespective of their social systems. We are open to mutual advantage and cooperation with enterprises of other countries. A socialistic country we are not afraid to cooperate with private enterprises of other countries. Within the scope of the state and mixed enterprises it is possible to find mutual advantage for all partners. We need technology, we need financial resources. We possess resources, capability to work, organization and geographic position. We are above all conscious of what we want and how we want it. "

Still in the framework of our economic development, which is one of the items of the agenda of this Conference, we wish to refer to the question of Exclusive Economic Zones.

The Exclusive Economic Zone is a victory of developing countries. It is in its consolidation that we find the main means to develop the adequate economic complementarity amongst those countries possessing different natural resources.

We hope that this Conference will reaffirm the inalienable right of our peoples which constitutes one of the pillars for the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

We have already said that the building of a world without hunger or misery requires peace.

The People of Mozambique love Peace. We fought for ten years the Portuguese colonialism in order to establish peace in our country and create conditions for prosperity.

As Portuguese colonialism was defeated we initiated the mobilization of all our forces and potentialities to reconstruct our country destroyed by the war of aggression, by pillage and colonial exploitation. With our effort and our determination we contribute to the solution of the problems of hunger, to the solution of those questions which are the subject of our debate in this session.

But our experience has also taught us that when the peoples are determined to uproot misery which are the capitalistic and colonial exploitations, they have to face all forms of subversion and armed aggression.

In effect, we experience in our country, since our Independence, manoeuvres of economic sabotage which are aimed at destabilizing our State and at creating chaos and misery.

Since our People, directed and mobilized by our Vanguard Party-FHELIMO-knew how to fight and neutralize all manoeuvres of sabotage, imperialism did not hesitate to launch armed aggressions aimed at economic targets, destroying granaries, irrigation canals, agricultural cooperatives, bridges, railway lines, and massacring defenceless workers men, women and children.

We can conclude that the fight is within our homes, in the homes of all those peoples who suffered and are still suffering the effects of colonial domination and neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid and sionism.

The People's Republic of Mozambique has already had the opportunity to express several times to the international community her strategy for development.

We refuse to be the eternal suppliers of raw materials and to accept the continuation of the old colonial pact under any new form.

We refuse to participate in a subordinate position in the international division of work, to pay increasingly more for the manufactured products we buy, and to sell every time cheaper the efforts of our work.

We refuse to be the new centres of marginal and polluting industries.

Our experience, as well as that of other peoples of the world taught us that where there is exploitation and oppression there is misery and hunger; our experience of today shows that where there is colonialism neo-colonialism, racism and sionism there is unemployment, hunger and misery.

The liberated areas in our country during the War of National Liberation taught us that only the establishment of new relations of production based on collective property and work will allow the true development of the society and thus the true freedom of the large masses of workers and of the peasants in particular.

With the defeat of Portuguese colonialism and the proclamation of the People's Republic of Mozambique on 25th June 1975 we created conditions for the construction of a society of progress and peace of a country where there will never be a place for exploitation of man by man.

To materialize this goal we decided by our own will and based on scientific principles proved by our experience, and by many other countries to build Socialism in our country.

Therefore we decided that the decade 1980/90 should be the decade of radical transformation of our country, the decade of elimination of underdevelopment.

In accordance with the decisions of the Third Congress of our Party, agriculture is the base of our development and industry, its dynamizing factor and heavy industry being the decisive factor.

This position is based on scientific analysis of our reality and it aims at permanent improvement of the welfare of the working classes, the creators of riches and the makers of history.

Actually, what threat can there be to a poor country like ours, a country which proclaimed her Independence with more than 90% of illiteracy and about 80% of the people depending on agriculture? What threat can the People's Republic of Mozambique be to the so-called Free World to be so cruelly bombed? What threat do we constitute?

We are not potent. We are just poor people working, so that we no more suffer from hunger; industrious so that our children grow in happiness, working to have schools, hospitals, doctors, nurseries, medical care and that we do not die before the age of 35.

And because we want to be like this, free men, a free and prosperous Nation, we are attacked. It is because we want future generations to live in prosperity and happiness, our children are assassinated so as to remove from their memories the happiness that we now already have. We are attacked because we spread education to all children, health services are in the hands of the People and the working people live in houses; we are attacked because the peasants are developing their cooperatives; we are attacked because our People are the owners of their destiny; because in our legislative assemblies workers, peasants, women, students and revolutionary intellectuals are elected members.

We greet those Governments and Peoples which support us. We greet national and international organizations and the international community which have given us assistance during emergency situations to face the consequences of aggression in the Sahara as well as in Eastern Timor, in Zimbabwe as well as in Namibia, in Chile as well as in Palestine, the peoples are fighting for their liberty. The peoples are fighting to institute peace; the peoples are massacred because they refuse to die under exploitation and misery.

We wish to reaffirm our undefeatable support to these countries and to all the peoples which are still fighting for their freedom.

The question of peace is already a preoccupation of all of us. The war, the arras race constitute one of those serious obstacles towards the solution of the problems of hunger which we are now dealing with.

We all know that the annual expenditure in the production of war material consume fantastic sums which almost amount to US\$400,000 millions annually.

If we realize that to reach the goal of increasing agricultural production at the annual rate of almost 4% in the year 2000 as suggested by FAO an investment in the order of US\$100,000 millions will be required which represents only 25% of the annual expenditures in armaments we can conclude how urgent it is to find practical solutions.

In this context we salute the peace efforts initiated by the USSR and all socialistic countries in the hope that the steps made by the signing of SALT II will be followed by other solutions and actions along these lines.

Elimination of hunger and misery is within the reach of all of us.

J. MAGRONDI (République centrafricaine): Je voudrais d'abord, au nom de la délégation centrafricaine, me joindre à ceux qui m'ont précédé à cette tribune pour vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, de votre brillante élection à la tête de cette importante session de la Conférence biennale de la FAO. Mes félicitations s'adressent également aux autres membres du bureau de la Conférence qui ont été élus pour vous seconder dans votre importante tâche. La clairvoyance avec laquelle vous dirigez les débats depuis le début de la Conférence montre que vous réussirez dans cette tâche.

Qu'il me soit permis de saluer vivement l'entrée dans notre Organisation de la Dominique et du Samoa.

C'est avec beaucoup d'intérêt que je prends la parole devant ces assises, au nom du Gouvernement de salut public, pour annoncer à l'assistance la joie et la détermination que le peuple africain éprouve d'avoir retrouvé la République après 14 ans du traumatisme dans lequel il était plongé. Pendant cette longue période difficile à oublier pour un Centrairicain, non seulement les droits élémentaires de l'homme ont été bafoués, mais aussi le pays a été conduit à une faillite économique et a été plongé dans un marasme total dont il faudra plusieurs années d'efforts soutenus pour l'en sortir.

En effet, ces 14 années ont été marquées par une exploitation anarchique de toutes les ressources humaines, naturelles et industrielles de notre pays. Il s'en est suivi des conséquences importantes sur le plan du développement rural. Alors que les potentialités économiques de notre pays peuvent garantir un développement relativement facile, en particulier nos ressources naturelles qui peuvent nous permettre de dégager des excédents commerciaux et budgétaires, nous nous trouvons actuellement, après cette sombre et longue période de régime anarchique, confrontés aux réalités suivantes.

D'une façon générale, le taux de croissance économique réel a été de 2,2 pour cent en moyenne annuelle comparativement au taux de croissance démographique qui, lui est de 2,5 pour cent par an. Ce qui revient à dire que l'approvisionnement de chaque Centrafricain en biens de première nécessité s'est régulièrement dégradé au cours des dernières années. Au cours de cette même période, la production agricole n'a augmenté que de 1,5 pour cent en moyenne par an, ce qui, comparé à la progression démographique, nous oblige à constater que la production agricole par habitant a diminué de 13 pour cent au bout de quatorze ans.

Cette faible production résulte de causes multiples telles que : le faible encadrement du monde rural, le manque de matériel permettant aux agriculteurs d'exploiter de grandes superficies, un exode rural de plus en plus accentué rendant la population vieille et peu dynamique, la dégradation du réseau routier rendant difficile la circulation pour la collecte de produits agricoles, les intrants agricoles devenant de plus en plus rares compte tenu de leur coût de plus en plus élevé, rendant difficile une bonne protection phytosanitaire.

Dans le domaine de l'élevage, bien que le taux de reproduction du bétail soit satisfaisant grâce à des efforts appréciables dans le maintien d'une bonne couverture sanitaire avec l'appui des aides multilatérales, la commercialisation du bétail a été marquée par une très forte augmentation du prix du bétail vif suite à une demande de plus en plus croissante. La viande bovine, principale source de protéine animale, très appréciée par la population centrafricaine, tend à devenir inaccessible à cause de cette hausse spectaculaire de prix.

Dans le domaine de la forêt, l'une des plus importantes ressources naturelles de la République centrafricaine, l'exploitation s'est faite d'une façon désordonnée, sans programme précis de reboisement.

Dans le domaine de la faune, sur les 623 000 km² que couvre la République centrafricaine, 57 000 km² sont réservés à la protection de la faune, dont 32 000 sont à l'état de parc national. En plus, 130 000 km² sont divisés en secteurs de chasse comprenant l'une des plus grandes concentrations d'éléphants gros porteurs et l'une des plus grandes concentrations de rhinocéros noirs en Afrique. Cependant, depuis 1977, le braconnage s'intensifie de plus en plus, pouvant entraîner la disparition dans les prochaines années des espèces rares d'animaux sauvages qu'on rencontre en République centrafricaine. L'attention peut être attirée pour drainer des moyens nécessaires à la protection de cette importante ressource naturelle.

Telle est, ainsi brièvement esquissée, l'image de notre pays après 14 ans d'aventure, d'exploitation sauvage, désordonnée et anarchique, de nos principales ressources naturelles.

Depuis l'avènement de la deuxième République, le Gouvernement de salut public s'attelle à l'oeuvre de redressement de l'économie nationale. Pour y arriver, il faut d'abord compter sur la force de travail de tous les Centrafricains, sans laquelle aucun programme de redressement ne peut être possible. Pour appuyer cette force nationale, nous devons aussi compter sur les aides extérieures, aussi bien multilatérales que bilatérales.

Ce programme biennal de redressement qui couvrira les années 1980 et 1981 vise un double objectif.

Premièrement, amorcer et consolider la relance économique. Deuxièmement, assainir les finances publiques et mobiliser des ressources financières en vue d'actions à court et moyen terme.

Comme l'avait souligné Son Excellence David Dacko, Président de la République, dans son discours programme du 24 octobre 1979 : "La relance économique, nous en sommes convaincus, ne se fera que grâce au développement des secteurs productifs de notre économie et, pour la courte période choisie, la priorité sera donnée à l'agriculture au sens large. C'est bien ce secteur qui constitue la richesse potentielle du pays, c'est donc sur lui qu'il faut s'appuyer afin d'assurer à la population toute entière la nourriture dont elle a besoin, d'assurer à la masse rurale qui représente plus de 80 pour cent de la population totale des revenus substantiels et de dégager en faveur de l'Etat des sources d'autofinancement qui seront par la suite utilisées pour développer les autres secteurs de l'économie. "

Pour y arriver, il est indispensable de rapprocher les structures du développement rural auprès du paysan lui-même, grâce à une politique de décentralisation des organes d'encadrement agricole, pour

une large participation des ruraux aux prises de décisions qui les concernent, et d'aborder tous les aspects de la vie rurale dans une optique de développement rural intégré.

A court et moyen terme, et dans le cadre du programme de relance, il est nécessaire de fournir massivement des intrants agricoles aux paysans et organismes nationaux de production comme les coopératives agricoles, de sensibiliser les populations sur le développement des cultures vivrières et autres adaptées aux différentes zones écologiques du pays et de garantir aux producteurs des prix d'achat minimum acceptables.

La couverture sanitaire en faveur du cheptel bovin doit se maintenir et s'intensifier.

Dans le domaine alimentaire, la République centrafricaine est confrontée aux problèmes d'auto-suffisance; de même, l'apport protéinique provenant de l'élevage ne suffit pas pour couvrir les besoins. C'est dans le but d'une certaine complémentarité que des efforts particuliers doivent se porter sur le développement de la pisciculture et, en particulier, la vulgarisation piscicole auprès des paysans.

C'est pour cette raison que nous soutenons le point du programme d'action présenté par le Directeur général de la FAO concernant le développement de la pisciculture et tendant à aider les pays membres à gérer, à exploiter et à utiliser efficacement leurs ressources halieutiques, tant dans les eaux marines que dans les eaux intérieures.

Nous ne pouvons parler de relance économique du secteur primaire sans accorder une attention particulière à nos forêts et faune pour lesquelles nous devons veiller à une exploitation rationnelle en proscrivant une action désordonnée, de façon à concilier nos besoins immédiats et les préoccupations futures qui sont de garantir aux générations de demain un patrimoine forestier et faunique en quantité et qualité suffisantes.

Cependant, ces efforts en faveur du développement rural seraient vains si, en même temps, l'épineux problème de commercialisation conditionné par l'état des voies d'accès n'est pas résolu, le pays se trouvant dans une douloureuse situation de double enclavement, tant intérieur que vis-à-vis de l'extérieur. Il est donc nécessaire de s'atteler immédiatement à la mise en état et à l'entretien de notre important réseau routier.

Vous comprendrez que la réalisation d'un programme aussi vaste nécessite non seulement la mobilisation du potentiel de nos ressources nationales disponibles, mais aussi une aide accrue des organismes d'aide bilatérale et multilatérale.

A ce propos, nous tenons à être reconnaissants à l'égard de plusieurs organismes qui ont commencé à nous appuyer dans nos efforts de développement tels que la Banque mondiale, et précisément l'IDA, qui a pu entraîner dans sa lancée le FIDA, la Banque africaine de développement, de même que le PNUD, le Fonds européen de développement de l'élevage, le Ponds d'aide et de coopération français pour l'encadrement des paysans de la culture du coton, de même que la République fédérale d'Allemagne pour le développement rural intégré d'une préfecture agricole de notre pays.

C'est à ce titre que nous apprécions à sa juste valeur le programme de travail et de budget du prochain biennium que nous a présenté le Directeur général de la FAO; la délégation centrafricaine tient à lui adresser ses vives félicitations ainsi qu'au secrétariat pour l'important travail qu'ils nous ont présenté.

Qu'ils soient assurés de notre appui indéfectible.

En effet, la situation de la production agricole dans le monde, et notamment dans les pays en voie de développement, nécessite un programme de travail devant non seulement s'attaquer avec urgence à certaines calamités naturelles, mais aussi devant être de taille à garantir la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Le Programme de coopération technique de la FAO, inauguré il y a quelques années et qui porte déjà des fruits, doit faire l'objet d'une attention particulière; c'est pourquoi nous apprécions la proposition d'une augmentation substantielle des fonds alloués à ce programme.

Pour finir, je voudrais souhaiter beaucoup de succès à l'issue de cette vingtième session de la Conférence de notre Organisation.

EL PRESIDENTE: Como ustedes habrán podido observar en la mañana de hoy, de acuerdo con el programa de sesiones había dos estados miembros que debían hacer uso de la palabra, Libia y Costa de Marfil, que han solicitado posteriormente hacerlo en la tarde de hoy. Tendremos entonces que pasar al último orador previsto en la mañana de hoy, que es la CIPA, Federación Internacional de Productores Agrícolas, pero en el reglamento que aprobamos el primer día con el consenso de todos ustedes, se decía que las organizaciones internacionales harían uso de la palabra durante 10 minutos y que en ningún caso tales organizaciones tendrían prioridad en el uso de la palabra sobre las delegaciones de los estados miembros.

Por tanto, pregunto a los estados miembros si alguno quiere hacer uso de la palabra en este momento. Entonces si ninguno quiere hacer uso de la palabra, la cederíamos a la Federación Internacional de Productores Agrícolas. Desea hablar en este momento el señor Attoungbre. ¿Ningún otro? Tiene entonces la palabra el representante de la Costa de Marfil.

G. Y. ATTOUNGBRE (Côte-d'Ivoire) : Je voudrais m'associer aux différents orateurs qui m'ont précédé pour vous adresser les chaleureuses félicitations de la délégation ivoirienne pour votre brillante élection à ce poste. Il ne fait aucun doute que vos talents personnels et votre expérience nous permettront d'aboutir à des résultats fructueux.

Si la Côte d'Ivoire croit à l'effort collectif et solidaire des Nations pour faire face à la situation préoccupante de la production agricole et alimentaire mondiale elle croit encore plus à l'effort fait par chaque Nation pour organiser et résoudre ses problèmes de sécurité alimentaire. C'est dans cette conviction qu'elle a affronté depuis son indépendance les problèmes du développement du secteur agricole.

Au moment où la Côte-d'Ivoire prenait en main les destinées de son agriculture, les cultures d'exportation que sont le café et le cacao, étaient développés au détriment des cultures vivrières considérées comme des cultures de subsistance. C'est en 1963 qu'a démarré une véritable politique de développement agricole et de production alimentaire. Pour soustraire le pays aux aléas de la production du café et du cacao, soumise aux caprices des saisons et aux fluctuations du marché international, le Gouvernement a élaboré un plan de diversification des cultures dont le fer de lance a été le plan palmier à huile et le plan cocotier; puis la dynamisation de la culture de l'hevéa et le réaménagement de la production d'ananas et de la banane douce.

Cette politique s'est poursuivie avec bonheur jusqu'en 1970, année au cours de laquelle le 5^{ème} Congrès du Parti Démocratique de Côte-d'Ivoire, réaffirmait l'agriculture comme la priorité des priorités, avec un accent particulier pour la production alimentaire. C'est alors que fut lancé le programme de riz et d'élevage.

Enfin, selon le plan quinquennal 1976-1980 qui maintient encore et même améliore notre capacité de production, le souci n'est plus uniquement la production absolue, mais plutôt la recherche de la productivité et de la rentabilité du travail en milieu rural en même temps qu'une amélioration du niveau de vie du paysan. Ce plan est marqué par la recherche d'un équilibre régional qui met un accent tout particulier sur le développement des régions de savane. Il s'agissait de mettre à la disposition de ces populations laborieuses du Nord des moyens de travail. L'Etat s'est alors engagé dans la construction d'infrastructures de production: défrichement et aménagement des terrains de cultures, barrages hydro-agricoles pour maîtriser l'eau, l'exploitation de ces infrastructures étant laissée à l'initiative des paysans. On y introduit alors la culture intensive de riz, soja, de la canne à sucre et de cultures légumières.

Ainsi, si la zone forestière du Sud est le creuset des cultures industrielles d'exportation, la région des savanes du Nord devient déjà le grenier de la Côte-d'Ivoire.

Toutes ces actions de développement de l'agriculture et l'amélioration du cadre de vie du monde rural sont soutenues par une formation de tous les instants au moyen des mass média, le tout étant animé et orchestré par l'Office National de Promotion Rurale et stimulé par la Coupe Nationale du Progrès, véritable compétition pour le développement dont les lauréats régionaux et nationaux sont primés chaque année.

Ce faisant, les objectifs visés sont les suivants: produire suffisamment pour atteindre l'auto-suffisance alimentaire en combinant tous les facteurs de production possibles; favoriser la promotion du monde rural en lui apportant une assistance technique orientée vers la modernisation des structures de production et de commercialisation afin que le paysan produise mieux par lui-même et pour lui-même; introduire et développer de nouveaux matériels végétal et animal dans le cadre de la diversification des productions et de leur intégration aux cultures de rente; dans le but de faire disparaître sinon réduire l'inégalité régionale, étendre la production agricole à des zones jusque là

insuffisamment exploitées, par l'apport des facteurs déterminant la production, à savoir: l'eau, le matériel végétal adapté, les techniques culturales modernes; développer la recherche scientifique pour une agriculture intensive qui limite la destruction des forêts et le gaspillage des terres agricoles.

Mais, la Côte-d'Ivoire n'évolue pas en vase clos, et force lui est de compter avec tous les facteurs convergents ou adverses du contexte mondial.

Or, la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture est très préoccupante. Il est prévu qu'en 1979 l'éventuelle augmentation de la production alimentaire et agricole sera sans doute la plus faible enregistrée depuis 1972 alors que de manière globale, la Sécurité Alimentaire reste encore précaire, notamment dans les pays d'Afrique où la production alimentaire n'a progressé que de 2,3% par an entre 1970 et 1978.

Par ailleurs, il est souligné que, dans les pays en développement le nombre des mal nourris-essentiellement des femmes et des enfants-continue d'augmenter, et que le nombre des personnes sous-alimentées resterait voisin de 250 millions à l'Horizon 2. 000.

Cette situation difficile et cette sombre perspective pourraient évoluer favorablement si de vigoureux efforts sont consentis pour la réalisation des objectifs maintes fois réitérés, mais non encore atteints, concernant la sécurité alimentaire, la production vivrière, l'aide alimentaire, les approvisionnements en engrais, les ajustements agricoles et l'aide publique au développement en faveur de l'agriculture, et si surtout les énormes dépenses d'armement étaient distraites au profit du développement, dans le contexte d'un nouvel ordre international qui valoriserait davantage le fruit du travail des populations du Tiers Monde.

C'est dans ce contexte que la délégation ivoirienne, après avoir examiné avec attention les points soulevés par le Directeur Général, tient tout d'abord à le féliciter pour la clarté de sa déclaration, le dynamisme et la compétence avec lesquels il continue de diriger notre Organisation, et appuie sans réserve tous les points exposés dans son discours d'ouverture et particulièrement en ce qui concerne: son plan d'action en cinq points sur certains des problèmes les plus immédiats de la sécurité alimentaire; la décentralisation au niveau des Etats; le Programme de Coopération Technique; le Programme de Travail et le Budget.

Notre délégation voudrait mettre un accent tout particulier sur la Coopération Technique entre pays en développement.

Dans le cadre agricole, une entraide s'est instaurée entre la Côte-d'Ivoire et certains autres pays frères d'Afrique. Cette coopération: s'effectue soit sur le plan bilatéral soit au sein d'organisations multilatérales d'intérêts communautaires; elle s'appuie sur l'assistance technique et financière pour la production agricole, la recherche scientifique agricole, la formation de techniciens de l'agriculture et la défense des cultures contre les déprédateurs.

Ainsi, la Côte-d'Ivoire, comme tous les autres Etats de la région d'Afrique, participe à sa manière à la coopération technique entre pays en développement. Le concept de solidarité qu'elle applique, permettra, elle l'espère, à d'autres Etats en développement d'évoluer grâce aux aides de toute nature et au savoir faire qu'elle met à leur disposition.

Les quelques années d'expérience internationale qu'elle a vécues sont trop courtes pour lui permettre d'apprécier l'importance de la place qu'elle a prise dans ce contexte d'entraide internationale, de juger les résultats obtenus et d'entrevoir la manière de réaménager son action.

Ce qui est sûr, c'est que l'expérience de sa propre expansion agricole, lui permet de penser qu'aucune aide d'où qu'elle vienne ne peut constituer une atteinte à l'autonomie d'un Etat, encore moins si cette aide provient d'un autre Etat en développement et est dispensée dans un esprit de solidarité africaine.

C'est dans cet esprit que la Côte-d'Ivoire, par le biais de la coopération technique, souhaiterait améliorer la qualité nutritionnelle de sa production alimentaire qui a atteint un niveau quantitatif relativement satisfaisant. Point n'est besoin de dire que la F. A. O. , dans la poursuite de cet objectif nutritionnel est pour la Côte-d'Ivoire, d'un intérêt indéniable.

EL PRESIDENTE: A partir de ahora, daré la palabra durante lo que nos queda de sesión en la mañana de hoy a las distintas organizaciones que han pedido la palabra, recordándoles vivamente que, de conformidad con el punto número 50 del Primer Informe del Comité General, que aprobamos el primer día, pueden hacer uso de la palabra durante 10 minutos. Tiene en primer lugar la palabra la Federación Internacional de Productores Agrícolas.

P. BUKMAN (Observer for International Federation of Agricultural Producers): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers greatly appreciates this opportunity once again to address the FAO General Conference. Our two Organizations, FAO and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, were founded at roughly the same time to monitor and promote the development of world agriculture, you from a Government standpoint, we from that of the farmer.

At our last IFAP General Conference held earlier this year in Sorrento, we debated many of the vital issues which are before this FAO Conference. Our discussions ranged from world trade, commodity agreements and producers' prices to agrarian reform, rural development and other critical problems facing the developing countries. Our primary concern was and always will be the well being of the family farmer, both large and small, the world over. I shall concentrate my remarks on two vital subjects. The first is the importance of farmer-government consultation and dialogue, the second concerns world food security.

At our General Conference, a number of key issues were raised, some of which I would like to put to you today. We at IFAP were not convinced that increased food production and the improvement of nutritional levels is receiving the necessary priority in all developing countries. Doubt was also expressed whether effective measures are being taken to correct the existing imbalances between rural and urban development. We now ask: are all governments prepared to implement the plan of action to which they subscribed at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, especially the principle of people's participation through their representative rural organization? In our discussions, it became clear that the gap between acceptance in principle and realizing the practice can be closed considerably if governments had the means to carry on a dialogue with their farmers, encourage your farmers to become organized into independent bodies truly representing their viewpoint. I have confidence in their ability to analyze their own situation and to put forward proposals. There are many and complex reasons for the faster development of agriculture in one country or region than another. It must be noted that agriculture has developed strongest in those countries where farmers are best organized and represented, and that agriculture has developed fastest since those organizations gained the ear of the governments.

As the Director-General stated, almost 50 percent more food would have to be grown in the year 2000. Farmers will produce this food if they are encouraged, organized and are consulted by the decisionmakers. Past experience has shown that where governments do not value the views of their farmers, you will have a rather poor record in the area of agricultural production. Farmers' organizations can participate constructively in distribution of credit and inputs and organized product marketing, for instance, through farmers' cooperatives. They can assist governments in formulating policies for agriculture in such a way that they obtain the people's enthusiastic support instead of their grudging acceptance. They can guide research and agricultural sciences and techniques so that the results are readily adopted by local farmers. We at IFAP have been encouraged by the recognition of the need to consult farmers, which was accepted by the World Conference here last July. We realize that there is a long and difficult step from adopting such a principle to actually encouraging farmers to organize and then be ready to listen to them. It is also not easy for farmers to establish organizations to represent them. IFAP is, however, endeavouring to build up a capacity whereby the experience of its members who are today well organized can be placed at the disposal of farmers who wish to organize better along with the means to get started. We believe this in itself would constitute an important contribution towards more rapid improvements in the farmer situation and therefore in world food production.

I now come to my second subject, world food security. IFAP and its members have a direct interest in seeking a solution to the world food problem. Almost half of the world's population is engaged in agriculture, and farmer security is the key to world food security. For a farmer, it is tragic to see that his response to calls for more food production results in falling prices and a worse income position. The factors basic to achieving a necessary regular rise in agricultural production are remunerative farm prices and access to markets. Currently, while there have been bountiful harvests, the amount is also strong so that prices have held well. This is good for farmers and, indeed, good for consumers, since it should encourage seeding for a bountiful harvest again next year. This is fine if consumers can pay. World food security concerns those who cannot afford to pay, for whom special measures are required.

IFAP welcomed the proposals aimed at improving world food security which were put forward by FAO in 1973. We are most encouraged to note that those proposals have been developed and pursued within FAO since that time. In particular, the improvement in presentation, coverage and analysis of the world food situation in the FAO monthly food outlook has been remarkable.

We are far less enchanted with governments' responses to those proposals. In the mid-seventies, the excuse for inaction was that there was not enough grain. Today the excuse for the absence of progress of international plans to ensure world food security seems to be that there is plenty of grain.

As for grain stock policy and international coordination of national stock policy, we fully agree with the Director-General that this has to be achieved within the context of an international grain arrangement. We wish to warn against the temptation of endeavouring to establish a stock arrangement separate from a trade and pricing arrangement. The reason is risk of stocks depressing prices and thus discouraging much-needed future production.

On two other elements of the proposals, the emergency reserve and food aid, all of IFAP's members have been urged to contact their governments and seek more generous action. We are astounded that it has so far been beyond the means of government to maintain the 0.5 million ton reserve on a regular annual basis.

IFAP has also a long record of support for food aid programmes which contribute to agricultural development and which provide guarantees that the aid will be truly humanitarian.

We have also long been requested that food aid be guaranteed in quantity and not in value in order to avoid shortfalls when market prices rise. We recognize that treasuries are not keen on giving an open-ended commitment on the price to be paid for food aid commitments. It may be that government agencies, like private traders, could use the advance markets to make easier commitments in quantities while having a reasonably precise advance idea of what it will cost. This possibility merits an exploration.

Finally, on the Five-Point World Security proposals, we wish to return to the notion of farmer organization and farmers' responsibility. Storage, marketing, inputs and other related aspects and food production, distribution could all be handled by farmers themselves working together in cooperatives. We strongly recommend that every consideration be given to involving such organizations, where they exist, as an economical means of administering this important food assistance project.

W. KAMHAWI (Observer for Palestine Liberation Organization) (interpretation from Arabic): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, I have before me a prepared statement which I was to read out to you distinguished delegates, a statement full of beautiful expressions you have heard from all the previous speakers, words referring to our pleasure in attending this meeting, congratulations to the Chairman and various members of the staff, and expressions of appreciation to Dr. Edouard Saouma, the Director-General of FAO, for his efforts, and a brotherly salutation to brother and sister delegates attending this Conference.

It is also an expression of the importance we attach to the study on Agriculture: Toward 2000.

All these words were in our prepared statement, delegates. Our statement also refers a great deal, in the bitter words and bitter expressions which you have been accustomed to hear on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to the circumstances in which our Palestinian nation is living under Israeli occupation. In this prepared statement, which I shall not read to you, there are many details on how Israel is using science and technology to demolish houses: it has demolished 20,000 Arab homes, it has demolished many Arab villages; it has dispersed the Arab inhabitants of those lands through expropriation, and depriving them of their livelihood which mainly depends on land and water. In this statement there are many details about the measures resorted to by the Israeli occupation authorities to seize and expropriate Arab owned land, measures adopted by these authorities to take hold of vital water resources on the West Bank and on the Gaza Strip. The statement also includes information on the ways and means to which Israel resorts, to specific practices by which it prevents Arab farmers from digging artesian wells. It has also resorted to practices by which it has rationed the amount of water they may pump from such wells, their own wells which they had dug years before the Israeli occupation.

Other details in this statement deal with the way in which the Israeli occupation authorities have prevented our farmers from using the waters of the River Jordan to irrigate their lands and farms. The occupation authorities have also destroyed many of the irrigation canals in the Arab areas, especially in the Jefflec area of the Jordan Valley. There is other information with statistics and figures referring to the continuous operation of the Israeli authorities and the practices to which it has resorted to divert the Arab farmers and to make them a source of cheap labour in Israeli factories and in Israeli services, departments and sectors.

This and much more was included in the statement I had prepared to read out to you, Ladies and Gentlemen. However, Mr. President, I shall content myself with the few words I have just said. I would like, instead, to request you to circulate this statement as a document to the members of the Conference. As for the reason why I did this, I know you had a few minutes to hear the statement prepared by our delegation, but I made these few comments for a simple reason. I heard only an hour ago that the Israeli cabinet had unanimously decided—with its doves and hawks, as they are dubbed—last Thursday to set up nineteen new Israeli settlements on the Occupied West Bank. In accordance with the text of the decisions taken by the Cabinet, this was decided upon to increase the number of Israeli settlers living on Arab-owned land, to increase them threefold. What is the meaning of such a decision, Ladies and Gentlemen, you who are meeting here for the welfare of humanity, to secure food security for humanity, to provide man with his requirements for daily subsistence? The meaning, the implication of those decisions adopted unanimously by the Israeli Cabinet three or four days ago is that they are seeking to occupy and to seize tens of thousands of hectares of Arab agricultural land and to expel tens of thousands of Arab farmers from these lands so that the number of Israeli settlements on the Occupied West Bank and in the Gaza Strip will exceed one hundred settlements. These settlements exploit more than forty percent of the overall Arab land owned by Arabs in these territories. Such a measure will of course deprive forty percent of Palestinian farmers of their livelihood and source of daily sustenance.

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates, the Palestinian Liberation Organization is entitled—as the Arab people are entitled—to call on you to condemn such a measure. We are entitled to call on your distinguished Conference to adopt the necessary resolutions and decisions on such a measure. However, we shall not ask you for anything of this. Many an international organization and authority who had greater means to implement decisions, as for example the United Nations General Assembly, have adopted resolutions condemning the settlement policy adopted by the Israelis. Yet, much to our sorrow, the General Assembly of the United Nations has not been able to implement any effective measures which would remove a single settlement or budge a single stone from any of the settlements established on the Arab occupied territories, so we shall not embarrass you by asking you to adopt a measure which you will not adopt. We will content ourselves with informing you and having you live and feel with us the tragedy of the Arab Palestinian nation living under the yoke of Israeli aggression and occupation.

While you are all meeting, examining, discussing the measures that will enable you to adopt policies to enable mankind in the world everywhere to obtain sufficient amounts of food; at a time when you are meeting to provide man with security from hunger, you will nevertheless be aware of the fact that the Israeli authorities are adopting such measures and resorting to such expansionist policies and depriving the Palestinians of their own livelihood. Thank you for your kind attention.

I. M. NUR (Observer for Organization of African Unity): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen: It is a signal honour for me to address you on behalf of the Organization of African Unity at a time when you are about to discuss problems of special interest to Africa.

Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would like to join other delegations in congratulating you and your coworkers on your election.

Secondly, I should like to express my sincere thanks to the FAO Director-General for his kind invitation to the OAU to come and observe the proceedings of this Conference, an opportunity which I am now taking to make our modest contribution towards the issues before it. My thanks also go to the Italian Government and people for the warm welcome they have accorded my delegation. I would also like to join other delegations in congratulating the two new Member States for their admission to this Organization.

It is with deep satisfaction that I hail the presence in this Conference of the representatives of the African Liberation Movements and the Palestine Liberation Organization. By inviting these representatives to join you, you have not only done justice but you have explicitly condemned the forces of colonialism and racism whose exploitation of the territories under their domination is directly responsible for widespread illiteracy, poverty and the general development backwardness of the indigenous people of these countries.

In the Third World generally and in Africa, in particular, it is clearly noticeable that our countries are still suffering the consequences of colonial age exploitation during which the colonized peoples were deliberately employed in such agricultural production as was to the best economic interest of the foreign metropolitan powers.

The agricultural colonial legacy that Politically Independent Africa has inherited is such that agricultural production, which is the mainstay of the economies of virtually every member of the OAU, is preponderantly geared for export to developed economy market countries. This legacy has not only contributed to the present imbalance in the World Economic Order but has made Africa the only continent which by and large produces what it does not need and, consequently, has to import what it needs. The result of this is the continuing backwardness of Africa in economic and social development. While it is for the Africans themselves to initiate and implement corrective measures to rectify that situation, the International Community at large, for the sake of global peace, has a moral duty to lend Africa a helping hand.

It would be a very good thing if, especially the former colonial powers in Africa, jointly initiated genuine moves in that direction instead of tacitly continuing their age-old scramble for Africa through economic and technological competition among themselves.

As if this disadvantageous colonial legacy was not enough, agro-climatic changes, crop failure, drought and other natural disasters have added to food shortage in our Region. The energy crisis which has had far and wide repercussions, has compounded the situation even further. The overall result to Africa of this phenomenon is unnecessary food shortage and imported inflation of staggering proportions.

Since 1970, the average annual growth rate of food production in our Region has been half the annual growth rate of the population. As a result, many African countries are increasingly becoming dependent on imported food. The projection on cereal deficits indicates that the food supply situation will continue to deteriorate in future.

The nutritional situation deteriorated in 24 countries in our Region. The unequal distribution of protein supply between our sub-regions is more significant than calorie differences.

According to available statistics, Africa has been having about 150 million head of cattle, 129 million sheep, 127 million goats and 502 million poultry; the per capita meat consumption is estimated at slightly less than 4 kilogrammes against the world average of 11. 3 kilogrammes.

We are all aware of the spread of drought in many OAU Member States, especially in the Sahelian Zone. All the indications show that drought which is an ecological phenomenon occurs in cycles. There had been similar droughts in the history of Africa before, and they are likely to recur in future. The effects of drought will become progressively worse in terms of suffering, costs to the national budgets and depletion of the capital value of natural resources if their development and management are not placed on a sound ecological basis.

Climate in the Sahelian Zone is perhaps the most important factor in production. It is now clear that the weather variability of the Sahelian Zone can cause major fluctuation in agricultural production, exports, balance of trade and payments, government revenues, migration, industrial growth, tourism and so on. It is clear that the climate must be integrated as an explicit variable in any assessment of the long-term economic options of the Sahelian Zone.

The OAU General Secretariat would like to make a strong appeal to the FAO and other organizations of the United Nations and the other bodies of the international community to redouble their efforts to relieve the suffering of our people in the different drought stricken areas.

Mr. Chairman, forestry development in our Region faces a number of major problems. These are the non-availability of high resistance to diseases and insects and fast growing trees. They also include the development of economical methods for establishing plantations and the study of the technological properties of wood in order to make the best utilization possible of the scarce and available forest resources.

With regard to fishing, there is great need for the development and management of the inland fisheries in our continent, as these are assuming great economic and social importance. In many cases, fish as a rich source of protein, is a decisive factor between malnutrition and healthy survival. Regional co-operative development is needed in the exploitation of our fisheries.

Africa has great possibilities for greater agricultural development, but the tradition of land tenure, presence of middle-men, money-lending, sharecropping and the non-availability of certain inputs are some of the causes that are holding back agricultural development.

There is an urgent need for the diversification of our agriculture to reduce imports and improve nutrition. This can be achieved by planting more industrial crops, integrate livestock in agriculture and increase markets both at home and abroad. It is to Africa's economic interest and for the cause of world peace that Africa's inherited position of merely producing raw materials for export, and now importing basic necessities like food, should be urgently reviewed.

FAO, as an international institution, can help a lot in this regard-beginning from its own house by Africanizing its technical experts who are working in Africa. Our Region has a considerable number of indigenous, qualified and adaptable personnel who can easily fill the established posts. I hope that this Conference will give this issue serious consideration in its discussion.

I should like to sum up my intervention with the well-assessed observation of African specialists who participated in the Monrovia Colloquium early this year on the subject of what kind of Africa we aspire to by the Year 2000. On food situation, the Colloquium unanimously observed that "The capacity of the African nations to meet their own food requirements is one of the fundamental objectives of their self-help and self-sufficiency strategy. By the Year 2000, the African States must have succeeded in reversing the trend towards a reduction in food production, ending their growing dependence on imports and averting the catastrophic effects of drought. No efforts must be spared to ensure the vigorous application of the FAO/ECA Regional Food Plan for Africa, to set up a body to control the implementation of this Plan and propose strategies for the future, and to institute a regional inter-African food security scheme. The Symposium proposed that the degree of a country's dependence for its food imports should henceforth be considered as one of the most significant indicators of its level of development.

The entire membership of the OAU once again looks up to this conference for tangible results. May I wish this 20th Session just that.

The meeting rose at 13. 00 hours.

La séance est levée à 13 heures.

Se levanta la sesión a las 13. 00 horas.

conference

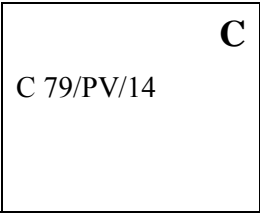
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

FOURTEENTH PLENARY MEETING
QUATORZIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
14ª SESION PLENARIA
(19 November 1979)

The Fourteenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14. 45 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La quatorzième séance plénière est ouverte à 14 h 45, sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 14ª sesión plenaria a las 14. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (Continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

A. M. FROMOYAN (Liberia): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Deputy Director-General of FAO, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Distinguished Delegates, Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I bring you greetings from my Head of State and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, Dr. William Richard Torbert Jnr, the Minister of Agriculture, and the government and people of the Republic of Liberia. My delegation would like to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to the Director-General of the FAO and his staff for so ably organizing this Conference; and to congratulate you and your Vice Chairman for your election to Chair the affairs of this Conference. We wish at this time to welcome our fellow states of Dominica and Samoa into the Organization and to pledge our support and cooperation to them.

Mr. Chairman, my statement shall be limited to two main parts:

- (1) Liberia's development efforts in Agriculture and Forestry since 1977; and
- (2) Comments on major policy issues on the Agenda before this Conference.

Agricultural Efforts

The agricultural situation in Liberia since 1977 has been characterized by institution building and strengthening of productive capabilities and support measures to ensure a take-off for self-sustained and vibrant agricultural growth and development

This process has included:

- (1) the establishment of regional development agencies with objectives and improving the overall quality of life in the rural areas, reducing the disparities in income and amenities between the rural and urban sectors and involving the rural masses in their development efforts;
- (2) the establishment of tree crops development agencies to promote the production of oil palm, coconut, coffee, cocoa and rubber so as to increase export earnings from these crops, direct income to Government and farmers' income; and
- (3) establishment of the Agricultural and Cooperative Development Bank as an autonomous entity and the primary financial institution for agricultural lending with emphasis on farmers' cooperatives and individual small farmers. This Bank was established with assistance from the FAO

Achievements to date in the food sub-sector have shown that even though food production is increasing, this increase is not commensurate with the increase in the growth of our population. As a result, the food import bill for Liberia over a five-year period (1973-1977) has amounted to \$228 million, constituting 14 percent of total imports.

To reverse this trend, the present administration of the Ministry of Agriculture is giving priority to food research especially research to develop high yielding varieties, increase acreage and improve agronomy practices; seed multiplication and distribution of high yielding varieties in an extension package to farmers; and priority to be accorded reaching small farmers so as to increase their productive capacities

For tree crops, agricultural export earnings have increased from \$50. 1 million in 1973 to \$116 million in 1977. Plantings of tree crops since 1977 have increased by over 20,000 hectares. Planned tree crops programs in the public sector involving oil palm, coconut, coffee cocoa and rubber will result in planting of about 57,000 hectares and will reach about 6,800 small farmers

Our rural development efforts have met with considerable success in the two projects of Lofa County and Bong County Agricultural Development Projects presently being implemented. For the most part, the targets established have been excelled. To date, these projects have reached over 4,500 rural farm families and have

benefited them in a number of measures including crops improvement, provision of credit facilities, road construction, construction of sanitary facilities, training in agricultural and cooperative development, some health measures and provision of banking facilities.

There is a third rural development project for Nimba County which should commence by 1980 and a fourth such project for the southeastern region which is still in the feasibility stage. Both these projects will be much more integrated than the existing two projects, and will include besides agricultural-related activities, rural industries, health, education, communication and the strengthening of existing institutions for project administration.

Recently, a new administration was ushered into the Ministry of Agriculture in accordance with the Government's desire to continually rejuvenate and increase the impetus of agricultural development. Subsequently, the policy objectives, strategies including tactical measures of the Ministry of Agriculture, were revised to emphasize the new thrust on extension.

As a result, the Ministry of Agriculture has instituted the following policy objectives: (1) Diversification of the agricultural economy taking into account physical and human resources endowment; (2) Increase participation of Liberian citizens in modern agricultural production by provision of relevant technology, technical advice, support measures and training; (3) Increase farmers' income, create purchasing power and develop a market for consumers goods. This objective takes into account the constraint on the overall market due to very low income in the rural sector; (4) Maximize the national income of Liberians through agricultural and forestry pursuits. This can be achieved through increase in the number of gainfully employed and through increase in the productivity of the labour force already employed; (5) Development of agriculture as the base for rural development on a self-sustaining scale. The evidence and rationale for this is that agricultural-related activities are the predominant source of income generation and employment for livelihood in rural areas and will be for a long time to come.

The strategies to be employed have extension as the pivot with all other activities supportive of the extension efforts. Extension will be structured to serve the particular needs of three broad and separate client groups with each of the three levels in the extension system interacting with the appropriate level of local government and with the appropriate entity in the rural development structure. Other strategies relate to institutional and support measures.

Forestry Efforts

Recognition of the importance of the potentials of the forestry sector in the economy in terms of its contribution to the gross national product, export earnings, employment, taxes and revenues for development, and industrialization led to the separation of forestry from agriculture by my Government and the establishment of the Forestry Development Authority as a government-owned corporation empowered with the primary functions of formulating forest policies, controlling forest concessions, assessing forest revenues from forest activities and researching and managing forest resources.

A significant development in this sector is the increase in the level of production and the related foreign exchange earnings over this period. During the fiscal year 1977/78, round log production was 508,000 (cubic meters) and increased to 805,000 (cubic meters) an increase of 48 percent. Foreign exchange earnings of about \$26 million in 1977 rose to \$47 million in 1978, an increase of about 70 percent. 1978 exchange earnings represented approximately 10 percent of the total country's exports and ranks third behind iron ore and rubber. It contributed about 5 percent of the gross domestic product. Revenue of the Government from forest resources increased from \$10 million to about \$15 million from 1977/78 to 1978/79.

Policy Issues

At this time, we will address ourselves to a number of major policy issues on the Agenda of this Conference.

Mr. Chairman, the Liberian Delegation is concerned about the shortfall in world production of wheat and coarse grains in 1979, the likelihood that carry-over stocks, which are concentrated in a few major exporting countries, will be drawn down in 1979/80 due especially to large increases in grain requirements of major consuming countries, the main constraints to meeting import demands due to transportation and handling bottlenecks in the few major exporting countries and the withdrawal of areas from production in major producing countries. All these factors have adverse implications for world food security in terms of availability of grains in a timely manner and at prices which least developed countries can afford.

Therefore, my Delegation endorses the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action and especially urges that Food Aid and International Emergency Food Reserve targets be met, and the proposal that the International Monetary Fund provide additional balance of payments support for meeting the rise in food import bills of low-income food deficit countries in the event of domestic food shortages and rising import prices be implemented.

My Delegation supports the separate negotiations of the Food Aid Convention from the Wheat Trade Convention.

Due to the importance of rice in the diet of Asian and African countries and its apparent greater food insecurity since only about 5 percent of world rice production is traded on the world market, we recommend that rice be included in the international grain arrangements.

One of the causes of the rising food import bill in developing countries is that cereals are rapidly replacing traditional staples in the diets of urban consumers due to their ease of preparation and palatability. Therefore, the Liberian Delegation recommends that more attention be accorded improvement of traditional staples to enhance their attractiveness and to reduce strain on increased cereals production which are more difficult to produce than traditional staples.

World food security is hollow without increasing food production capacities in developing countries to attain self-sufficiency. This statement takes due cognizance of the realities that not all developing countries can be self-sufficient in food production. Recent trends, where surplus food grains are concentrated in only a few countries, have increased risks of food insecurity. Therefore it is imperative that developing countries produce sufficient food to ensure adequacy of supply. My Delegation endorses and supports the Action Program for Prevention of Food Losses of which Liberia is a recipient. The great potential of this Program to ensure increased food availability cannot be over-estimated.

Liberia is one of the original six countries selected for the pilot project of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development. Liberia has exceeded the terms of reference of the Task Force by establishing the institution framework and implementation arrangements for rural developments which permeate all sectors; and developing policies, objectives, strategies and tactical measures for rural development with emphasis on decentralization which involves transfer of development responsibilities and authority to local level, popular participation of local people in development efforts with emphasis on self-reliance, coordination of activities of different implementing agencies with regard to complementarity, and integration of functions of sectoral agencies. All agencies of Government and local institutions are reorganizing and preparing action programmes in consonance with these strategies. Also, specific programmes and projects in support of the new rural development strategy are being prepared and/or implemented.

Therefore, we embrace the Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Furthermore, FAO's role as lead agency in the ACC Task Force on Rural Development should be supported and strengthened.

We have tremendous fishery resources which are not fully exploited. This resource base has been immensely increased by extending our jurisdiction of sea area to 200 miles.

Liberia is an animal-protein deficit country. The demand including imports of animal protein exceeds 6 percent per annum. Fish is our cheapest source of animal protein. Unfortunately, our marine fishery has not been inventoried and studied. However, we are aware of the potential of fisheries to transform Liberia from an animal-protein deficit country to a surplus one and thereby increase food consumption and nutritional level of the country, provide more gainful employment and income to small fisherman and increase export earnings and revenues to Government.

On these lines, Liberia supports FAO's proposed role in development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones and requests FAO's assistance in undertaking an inventory of our fishery resources and in formulating fisheries policies and strategies.

One of our chief constraints to animal production in particular and to a lesser extent agricultural development has been the occurrence of animal trypanosomiasis. Its incidence has resulted in lack of economical-sized animal for production purposes, lack of animal traction and lack of integration of crops and animal husbandry.

Against this background, my Delegation endorses fully FAO's Programme for Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis and Related Development and the coordinative role which FAO will exercise. Areas of development for Liberia should initially be areas of high growth potential and then spreading to other areas in the country. The Programme should be implemented under the aegis of our rural development strategy.

Mr. Chairman, the Government of Liberia has not only anticipated the intentions of the Jakarta Declaration in the formulation of our forest institution, but has succeeded by establishing priorities in forestry development programmes within the framework of the Declaration.

The Liberian Delegation accepts the challenge to adopt proper land-use planning including reforestation, introduce forest resource conservation and to provide a proper support and political backing to forest administration. However, all these are dependent firstly upon an assessment of the forest resource base which unfortunately has not yet been done for Liberia. We are implementing a programme with this objective which will have to be supplemented with external assistance. The FAO's Remote Sensing Unit could adequately fulfill this need, and we anticipate such assistance.

Mr. Chairman, review of the world agricultural situation is far from reassuring but rather appears gloomy especially in meeting world food security. Greater effort and resources are required to meet the basic need requirements of our people, especially rural dwellers. We have the requisite resources at our disposal to eradicate hunger and malnutrition off the face of the globe. What is lacking is the will and commitment on a sustained basis. Now is the time for our concerted collective action to achieve this our mandate to our common humanity before the opportunity eludes us.

L. PURMESSUR (Mauritius): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Deputy Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture of Mauritius who has not been able to be present today due to unforeseen circumstances, I have the pleasure of making this statement on his behalf.

On behalf of my Delegation, I wish to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, my warmest congratulations on your election to preside over our deliberations. I am confident that under your leadership and guidance, this 20th Session of the FAO Conference will have a meaningful outcome.

We note with satisfaction, that at each session of the FAO Conference there is an addition of the membership of the Organization. This is an indication of the vital role that the FAO is playing in helping countries to free people from the scourge of hunger and malnutrition. At this session, we have the pleasure of welcoming the Independent State of Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica to our Organization. I wish to congratulate the new member nations, and I am sure that they will make useful contributions to the activities of the FAO.

The problems facing the world today are really disturbing, to say the least. We are suffering from conditions which we have never experienced before. Inadequate growth, inflation, unemployment and recession are prevailing in the industrialized countries, and their governments have not so far succeeded in finding solutions to these problems. What is worse is that these conditions are resulting in growing protectionism together with a slow-down in world trade. All these are having a negative and grave impact on the economies of the Third World.

This year is the last year of the Second Development Decade called by the United Nations to close the gap between the developed and the developing countries. But the results of the two development decades are far from satisfactory. In so far as agricultural development is concerned, with particular reference to food production, we note with concern that very little progress has been made. In fact the increase in agricultural production in the developing countries during the eight years of the Second Decade is still more than one quarter below the target of 4 percent a year. It is thus virtually certain that this basic target will not be achieved for this decade as a whole. What is more disquieting is that production has been slowest in the poorest developing countries.

It is time that we asked ourselves the question-why the results of the two previous decades have been below expectation? The rich industrialised countries content that in order to achieve better economic growth, developing countries should strive to follow better domestic policies and to create an environment which private and foreign investors will find attractive. On the other hand, the plea

of the Third World, which has been expressed for a long time at many international fora, is that it is difficult for them to achieve a continued economic growth if they are compelled by circumstances to accept a situation of mendacity rather than receiving reasonable prices for their primary products which will reward their efforts and also enable them to finance their development.

It is difficult for developing countries to create a better investment climate when they are compelled, as a result of their unfavourable balance of payments, to have recourse to vigorous measures such as devaluation, financial and import controls. Their efforts at self-reliance in many sectors are thwarted by factors which are beyond their control. Investment in agricultural development which is really essential for their survival, is threatened.

If the objectives of the two previous development decades have been below our expectation, the real cause is that the efforts of third world countries for increased development have not received adequate support of the international community in general and industrialised countries in particular. We are alarmed at the low prices of goods, especially for the Third World and upon which their economies are solely dependent. On the other hand, the prices of manufactured goods from the developed countries have increased to such an extent that the transfer of technology which is so essential for increased production, has become prohibitive. What is more deplorable is that in recent years, industrialised nations have tended to intensify their restrictions on the imports of semi and manufactured goods produced in the developing countries; this is more tragic when we consider that these same countries assisted in promoting the industrialisation of those nations in the 1950's and 1960's. The problems are known to everybody, yet so little has been achieved to find the proper solutions. Various fora have been organised over the last five years to discuss these problems, such as the North/South dialogue, UNCTAD V, the Geneva Conference and the Tokyo round of negotiations; and many pious resolutions have been approved. The developing countries are still waiting for the benefit of these resolutions. In the meantime they have found their economic situation worsened as world inflation is gathering momentum.

The only example where something concrete has been achieved is the recent agreement between ACP/EEC Countries, resulting in the Lome Convention which indeed can be looked upon as a model of cooperation between developed and developing countries. Commercial and economic cooperation between the EEC and ACP countries in terms of free access of all manufactured goods and primary products originating from ACP countries to the European Market, guaranteed prices and firm import quotas together with the STABEX System are all positive steps towards a more equitable trade system. It is my fervent wish that such form of cooperation could be realised in a much wider context, for the benefit of both industrialized and developing countries.

While we appreciate the importance of assistance to developing countries we have to deplore that the commitments are far from adequate. The 0.7 per cent of GNP target set for official transfer of resources from the developed to the developing countries during the First United Nations Development Decade has become largely mythical, and the plea to raise the present aid level from the present 0.33 per cent is unlikely to meet with a response. This sad state of affairs can no longer continue, especially at a time when developing countries require massive investment for agricultural development.

Mr. Chairman, I have dwelt on some of the fundamental issues affecting the world today. There are other issues, no less fundamental, which will come up for discussion during our deliberations. I should now like to say a few words on the food and agricultural situation in Mauritius. Like many other countries, we are adversely affected by the present economic conditions prevailing in the world. We are a small country, mainly dependent on sugar exports for our foreign exchange earnings. The depressed price of sugar in the past three years on the world market coupled with the increasing cost of our imports has adversely affected our balance of payments. Although Mauritius has an export quota for sugar to EEC under the Lome Convention, the price obtained for that sugar has not been commensurate with the increasing costs of our imports. In the case of tea, which is our next agricultural export, the position is far worse. The low price of tea on the world market has created a desperate situation, threatening the survival of our tea industry, which provides livelihood to quite a number of small farmers. It is unfortunate that in spite of all the efforts made by the FAO and UNCTAD, nothing positive has yet been achieved towards an International Tea Agreement. Here is a typical instance where the efforts made by a small developing country to promote agricultural development for the benefit of the rural population, are being annihilated by factors which are beyond its control. To see prices of imported goods going up every day and to find that earnings from exports diminishing to a greater extent, is really a situation where hope is giving way to despair.

We appreciate that many countries, especially of the Third World, are facing great difficulties. But in the case of Mauritius, the position is worse because we have, on account of our limited land resources, climatic conditions and other factors, to rely only on sugar and tea for our agricultural exports. If the prices of these two commodities are depressed, our economy is in peril. The International Community in general and donor countries in particular should bear these facts in mind when external aid to countries like Mauritius is considered. Experience has shown that these special circumstances are often overlooked by the International Financing Agencies.

Mr. Chairman, in spite of our difficulties and our special adverse circumstances, we are doing our utmost to intensify our agricultural development. It will be noted from Document C 79/2 that agricultural investment in Mauritius has in the period 1974-76 increased by 90% over the period 1971-73. In fact investment in agriculture is the key element in our present 1975-80 development plan. The next development plan 1980-85 will continue to give a predominant place to the agricultural sector. The plan will propose increasing food production by more intensive cultivation of the sugarcane plantations and their interlines.

One of the major constraints for more intensive cultivation of our limited land resources is the lack of sufficient irrigation over a good part of our otherwise good agricultural land. Two irrigation projects had been identified by a land and water resources survey sponsored by the FAO as far back as 1969. When the projects were submitted to the World Bank and other agencies for financing, the rates of return of 8% to 9% were found to be rather on the low side to warrant the loans. Today because of escalating prices the cost of providing irrigation water has increased tenfold whereas the export price of agricultural produce has but increased fivefold.

Despite all this my government still believes that the only way to increase food production in our country will be through the implementation of these irrigation projects with certain modifications so as to make the projects still viable.

The demand for non-plant protein has been increasing and the livestock sector is therefore called upon to play an ever increasing role. In view of our limited grazing areas, we are intensifying our efforts to make maximum use of the by-products of our sugar industry for livestock development.

As far as poultry and egg production is concerned we have reached self-sufficiency. As regards fisheries, despite the fact that Mauritius has declared that it has jurisdiction over the resources of the sea 200 miles around it, it finds itself in the same unfortunate position as all tropical islands surrounded by a vast ocean expanse but without a capital base and the technology to support an ocean going fishing fleet with its attendant infrastructure. Consequently fish resources in the regions are exploited mainly by distant countries while Mauritius is importing fish. In this context my delegation fully supports the Director General's proposals contained in document C 79/21 for the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones.

My delegation is also in agreement with the concept of agrarian reform and rural development as being synonymous with true and effective economic and social development for the mass of mankind. It is in pursuance of this concept that my Government has launched itself in massive investment in the rural sector so as to improve the equality of life of the people. The successful implementation of the first phase of our rural development project has encouraged my Government to implement a second phase which will cover a larger area, with particular emphasis on small scale agricultural projects.

We are conscious of the fact that we would not be able to achieve the targets we have set ourselves, without recourse to external aid. In this connexion we have approached the International Fund for Agricultural Development to finance some of our agricultural and rural development projects. We are grateful to that Organisation for having promptly responded to my request by sending an identification mission to Mauritius. We look forward to IFAD's participation in the intensification of our agricultural development and in our efforts to better the quality of life of our people.

The present critical world food situation calls for emergency measures at all levels, both international and national. The FAO has an important role to play. We fully appreciate the efforts made by the Organisation, under the dynamic leadership of the present Director General, to help the developing countries. In particular we appreciate the steps he has taken to bring relief to famine stricken areas and to alleviate the problems of those countries facing food shortages. We fully agree that, in the absence of an International Grains Agreement, some measures are urgently required. In this connexion, my delegation fully endorses the 5 point plan of the Director General, adopted at the meeting of the Committee on World Food Security. This

plan will go a long way to meet food shortages and also stabilise the price of grains. We also fully support the proposal that IMP should consider the possibility of providing additional balance of payments support to meet the rise in food import bills of low income food dependent countries. Mauritius imports most of its cereal requirements and has therefore taken steps to increase local storage facilities for these commodities. A flour shed with a capacity of 15,000 tons has been constructed and it is within the development plan to set up a grain complex where adequate reserves of rice and wheat representing some 6 months' consumption will be stocked.

Our common aim is to save this world from the scourge of hunger and poverty. This challenge can only be met through the closest possible cooperation between developed and developing countries, in a spirit of common responsibility. In the aftermath of oil crisis and recession, it is more than ever obvious that a stable world economy is in the interest of both groups.

Each time we meet we pass pious resolutions in the hope that these resolutions will be translated into action. But it is sad to note that we are far from achieving the goals we have set ourselves. So long as the industrialised countries continue to pay lip service to some of the fundamental issues such as stabilisation of prices of the primary products of the developing countries and the elimination of protectionist policies, nothing will prevent this world from slipping into social unrest and chaos. Let us therefore hope that the Third Development Decade which is about to begin will usher in a new era in which the international community will look at the overall development of the world in a broader perspective and thus make the New International Economic Order a reality.

G. GOMES (Angola) (interprétation du portugais): Permettez-moi avant tout, Monsieur le Président, au nom de ma délégation et en mon nom personnel, de vous présenter les chaleureuses félicitations du Gouvernement de l'Angola pour votre élection à la Présidence de cette vingtième Conférence générale de l'Organisation, à laquelle incombe, comme son nom l'indique, de s'occuper du problème relatif à l'alimentation et à l'agriculture, et de proposer les solutions les plus appropriées.

Nos félicitations vont aussi aux membres du Bureau de la Conférence auxquels nous souhaitons un travail fructueux et profitable. Nous saluons enfin chaleureusement les nouveaux membres de notre Organisation dont la présence contribuera à rendre universelle la participation des peuples à la solution des problèmes qui nous préoccupent. Nous sommes certains que sous votre habile direction les travaux de cette Conférence tenue à un moment où la faim des spoliés de la terre alarme les pays riches, donneront les premiers fruits réellement capables, lorsqu'ils seront mûrs, de nourrir les 500 millions d'affamés des pays sous-développés. Ces affamés seront certainement plus de 700 millions en l'an 2000 si des mesures ne sont pas prises en vue d'augmenter la production mondiale de denrées alimentaires pour le développement de l'agriculture des pays sous-développés, et si on n'assure pas leur distribution d'une façon équitable garantissant la nourriture indispensable à chaque être humain.

La République Populaire de l'Angola est un pays essentiellement agricole et une partie importante des efforts que nous pouvons soustraire nous-mêmes, la défense contre l'agression sud-africaine est consacrée à la réorganisation, à la dynamisation, à la consolidation et au développement de ce secteur fondamental de notre économie.

Le onze novembre 1975 en lisant la proclamation de l'Indépendance de la République Populaire de l'Angola, notre immortel guide, le Docteur Agostino Neto, affirma que l'agriculture est la base, et l'industrie le facteur décisif de notre développement économique; étant donné que seule l'autosuffisance alimentaire peut nous mettre à l'abri de l'influence des pays riches qu'à maintes reprises de soit-disant philanthropes cherchent à éterniser le niveau de dépendance des pays sous-développés; à leur égard, le développement de l'agriculture permettra aussi la production des matières premières capables de nous procurer par l'exportation les moyens de paiement à l'extérieur et, à moyen terme, de donner à notre pays la capacité industrielle réellement autonome.

A partir du rapport harmonieux entre le développement agricole et le développement industriel, nous pensons pouvoir construire un modèle de développement autocentré dont le but est la satisfaction des besoins toujours croissants des masses populaires.

Mais aux énormes sacrifices et aux efforts consentis pour réactiver l'agriculture et valoriser l'immense potentiel agricole de notre pays, au travail de remise en ordre de toute l'infrastructure agricole abandonnée et sabotée par les colons, nous devons ajouter, en République Populaire d'Angola, la nécessité constante de résister à l'agression des racistes sud-africains qui non seulement occupent illégalement le pays mais détruisent nos cultures, bombardent nos routes et tuent les paysans, sous prétexte de poursuivre, dans un pays étranger et souverain, les représentants légitimes du peuple qu'ils oppriment, les vaillants combattants de la SWAPO.

Comme vous le savez, car la presse mondiale l'a *révélé*, les racistes sud-africains ont effectué il y a quelques jours de nouveaux raids au sud de notre pays, dans le seul but de détruire des objectifs économiques. A l'aide de bombardiers, d'hélicoptères et de forces hélicoptérées, la soldatesque raciste a miné une large section du chemin de fer de Moçâmedes et bombardé les très importants réseaux routiers qui relient le plateau du sud à la région côtière.

Aux dizaines de morts, mitraillés à bout portant au cours de ces agressions, il faut ajouter les dommages matériels subis par les voies de communication, les seules reliant les zones productrices de biens alimentaires et les régions de consommation. La remise en place des infrastructures détruites obligera notre pays à investir d'importants moyens matériels et humains et entraînera un grave retard dans la mise en oeuvre des programmes de développement agricole en cours.

Cette agression constante est aussi responsable de l'exode de notre population rurale qui représente environ 80% de la population angolaise et cherche aujourd'hui dans les centres urbains la sécurité que le banditisme international du régime sud-africain lui refuse dans ses campagnes et sur leurs terres.

Nous considérons que l'ordre du jour de cette 20ème Conférence de la FAO est de la plus haute importance et nous avons lu attentivement les documents qui nous ont été présentés par le Directeur général et qui confirment l'énorme capacité d'action de la FAO et la profondeur de sa connaissance des questions relatives aux régions sous-développées.

Nous voulons exprimer ici notre opinion sur l'ensemble des points en discussion, étant donné que notre position sera exprimée en détail au niveau des commissions. Et nous constatons que les objectifs fixés par le Plan d'action de Colombo, qui fait partie de la résolution sur les produits alimentaires et la production agricole adoptée en 1966 par les 86 membres du mouvement des Pays non alignés, non seulement ne furent pas atteints mais on constate que la situation alimentaire et agricole s'est aggravée depuis lors, en particulier dans les pays sous-développés.

Et nous constatons que l'expansion moyenne annuelle de 4% de la production agricole n'a pas été atteinte, alors qu'elle était considérée en 1971, dans le Programme d'action de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies pour la 2ème décennie des Nations Unies pour le développement, comme étant la condition à l'accroissement jusqu'à 6% du taux de croissance annuel du produit social global des pays sous-développés; et nous constatons que les objectifs fixés par la 7ème Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale de l'ONU en 1975 n'ont pas été atteints.

Et nous constatons encore que le taux de production de produits alimentaires en Afrique au cours des années 70 a été inférieur à celui de l'augmentation de la population.

Nous avons étudié avec la plus grande attention le projet de plan à moyen terme ainsi que le document intitulé "horizon: 2000". Nous aimerions dire que, compte tenu de quelques légères modifications d'ordre méthodologique, nous sommes entièrement d'accord avec le premier et qu'à notre avis les perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du 20ème siècle-le sombre horizon 2000-constituent un cri d'alarme et un défi de l'Histoire auquel il est urgent de répondre en donnant à la communauté internationale les moyens adéquats pour combattre et éliminer la faim dans le monde.

En termes de sécurité alimentaire, notre préoccupation dominante est d'assurer l'autosuffisance du pays en denrées alimentaires de première nécessité, de promouvoir l'introduction de nouvelles cultures afin d'améliorer les habitudes alimentaires de notre peuple, ainsi que de rendre possible la production d'excédents alimentaires pour l'exportation. Tout cela passe par l'augmentation de la production et de la productivité qui n'est possible que grâce à l'introduction des facteurs de production et des moyens techniques avancés qui permettent le passage d'une agriculture primitive à une agriculture développée propre à rémunérer l'effort de chaque travailleur aujourd'hui dépourvu des conditions techniques et des moyens matériels nécessaires au démarrage de l'agriculture, condamné à chercher et à trouver à des conditions défavorables la nourriture qu'il est impossible de produire sur place et, souvent, comme c'est le cas de l'Angola, obligé d'échanger la charrue contre le fusil pour défendre sa terre des agresseurs racistes.

Mais pour pouvoir poursuivre sur la voie préconisée, il est fondamental de prendre en considération le problème des prix, non seulement des prix de vente des produits agricoles mais aussi des prix des moyens de production et des équipements.

Comme d'autres délégations, la délégation de la République Populaire de l'Angola considère indispensable l'exécution urgente d'une étude sur l'incidence réelle de l'augmentation du prix du pétrole sur le coût final des équipements destinés à l'agriculture. Car en essayant de diviser les pays sous-développés en producteurs et non producteurs de pétrole on n'aboutit à rien d'autre qu'à jongler avec un concept objectif-le sous-développement-qui résulte exclusivement d'une longue domination coloniale. Car il faut bien comprendre que l'agriculture ne pourra pas se développer dans les pays sous-développés tant qu'ils seront obligés de payer le coût de l'inflation en faveur des pays capitalistes.

A la base de la stratégie du développement agricole de l'Angola, il y a deux formes d'organisation: l'association des paysans en coopératives de production et la constitution de complexes agro-industriels. Nous cherchons par là à rationaliser les moyens disponibles et, pour atteindre ces objectifs stratégiques, nous avons basé notre politique dans ce domaine sur l'appui au petit exploitant agricole et sur la réactivation des grandes fermes abandonnées par les colons. Pour ce point, nous avons dû reconstruire tous les circuits de distribution et ouvrir des crédits agricoles.

Avec l'organisation et la consolidation des unités étatiques, nous dynamisons les coopératives agricoles dans le but d'aider les paysans à abandonner les méthodes rudimentaires de l'exploitation individuelle pour s'intégrer progressivement dans le système socialiste de production en même temps que sont modernisés les moyens de production en vue de l'accroissement de la productivité.

De façon plus précise, la production agricole dépend du petit exploitant agricole. C'est pour cela que le Gouvernement lui fournit son soutien afin de lui garantir une production accrue et un marché sûr à des prix fixes et contrôlés.

De cette façon, la politique agricole de la République Populaire d'Angola consiste fondamentalement en une série de mesures propres à restituer la terre à celui qui la travaille.

Il est clair que nous recevons, pour atteindre ces objectifs, une aide précieuse de la part de certains pays de la Communauté internationale et de la part des Organisations internationales. Nous voulons notamment remercier la FAO, le PAM et le PNUD, pour l'aide précieuse qu'ils nous ont accordée en un temps relativement court pour réactiver notre production laitière qui, bien qu'insuffisante, peut être considérée comme raisonnable pour un pays qui a connu, après les pillages des envahisseurs, la réduction à néant de sa production laitière. Nous avons déjà importé des animaux de productivité élevée, et nous allons installer des usines pour la production et la conservation du lait.

Nous espérons aussi que bientôt nous serons en mesure de proposer à l'approbation des Organisations concernées quelques projets agro-industriels, notamment dans le domaine de l'aviculture et de la création de porcheries.

En réalité nous sommes conscients du fait que les possibilités de fournir des protéines animales aux populations reposent, en plus du développement de la pêche industrielle que permet la zone maritime angolaise, sur l'implantation de systèmes technologiquement avancés de production de volailles et de porcs.

Nous réaffirmons dans cette Conférence les principes de base que nous avons énoncés lors de la Conférence sur la Réforme agricole et le Développement rural selon lesquels seule la concentration de la production dans les zones de la plus grande capacité productive, l'intensification, par l'incorporation de capital fixe, et l'intégration de l'agriculture et de l'industrie dans des complexes agro-industriels implantés en milieu rural, permettent la matérialisation progressive des objectifs en vue.

Quand les objectifs de la production seront atteints, une sécurité alimentaire effective passera par la constitution et la gestion des stocks des principaux produits de consommation. Mais à notre avis la constitution des stocks, la sécurité alimentaire d'un pays, ne sont possibles que là où une infrastructure d'emménagement et de conservation existe. Dans un pays comme le notre, où tout le long de la période coloniale la motivation du système consistait principalement dans l'exportation de matières premières, l'infrastructure existante en fonction de cette motivation était tournée vers l'extérieur. Nous cherchons maintenant à la reconvertir, de façon à ce qu'elle serve d'élément utile de liaison entre la production et la consommation.

Lorsqu'une telle reconversion n'est pas possible, ou lorsque la capacité existante n'est pas suffisante, nous cherchons à créer de nouvelles installations. A titre d'exemple, je veux parler de la construction de deux silos de 50,000 tonnes chacun et de la construction du complexe de froid de Luanda pour le traitement, l'emballage et la conservation de 10 000 tonnes de produits agricoles et d'élevage.

En plus de cet aspect d'ordre interne de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, nous pensons que le problème des stocks est de la responsabilité de la Communauté internationale toute entière, étant donné qu'en réalité les importants stocks de blé dont disposent certains pays industrialisés pèsent davantage sur la balance des relations politiques et commerciales avec les Etats pour lesquels ce blé est essentiel, et qu'ils ne résolvent pas le problème de plus de 200 millions d'enfants sous-alimentés ou affamés en cette Année internationale de l'Enfant. Et il semble évident que la manutention des stocks alimentaires doit avant tout garantir le ravitaillement régulier à chaque être humain et la stabilité des prix des produits et en aucun cas constituer un moyen de pression politique ou économique.

Lorsque nous parlons d'audace, il faut avoir à l'esprit l'implication en termes de nécessité d'implantation d'un Nouvel Ordre Economique International qui non seulement établisse des rapports plus justes entre pays développés et pays sous-développés, mais détermine aussi la rationalisation de l'utilisation des ressources

disponibles et mette un terme à la folle société de gaspillage qui met en péril la continuité de l'espèce humaine à la surface de la terre. Notre pays suit attentivement et avec préoccupation les efforts des Organisations internationales en vue de concrétiser les principes énoncés, tout en se rendant compte que la bonne volonté des ces Organisations est constamment bloquée par les pays qui ne veulent pas renoncer à leurs privilèges actuels, ce qui représente à plus ou moins long terme un véritable suicide.

Pour la République Populaire de l'Angola, le développement est synonyme de transformation radicale des structures sociales. Cette transformation passe avant tout par l'abolition du colonialisme et du néocolonialisme, ce qui implique l'existence d'une volonté politique de la part des peuples dominés.

De cette façon, quelques pays africains, comme la plupart des pays sous-développés, pratiquent toujours une agriculture imposée par le rythme que l'application de capitaux étrangers anime, dans le sens d'une spécialisation de la production agricole en fonction des besoins de consommation du monde capitaliste. Certaines cultures vivrières ont été réduites, ou tout simplement abandonnées, et remises à une paysannerie mal équipée et dépourvue de toute amélioration technique.

De l'abandon de la population à grande échelle de ces cultures vivrières découlent de graves problèmes de ravitaillement en denrées alimentaires. res.

Avant de terminer, je voudrais exprimer mon espoir que cette Conférence analyse les conséquences des agressions militaires perpétrées par le régime minoritaire raciste de Prétoria, qui constituent le facteur le plus grave de stagnation de notre agriculture, qui sont un crime contre la paix et la sécurité internationales et qui contribuent à déséquilibrer la situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture mondiale.

Et j'aimerais aussi attirer l'attention de cette Conférence sur le fait que pour atteindre les objectifs que nous nous sommes proposés, il est nécessaire que les peuples encore sous domination coloniale puissent participer librement de l'effort commun de développement agricole qui nous unit en ce moment.

Tant que les peuples de Palestine, de Namibie, du Zimbabwe, de la République arabe Saharaoui et de Timor oriental n'accéderont pas à l'indépendance et à la libre disposition de leurs ressources naturelles, nous n'aurons pas fait notre devoir.

L'agriculture mondiale continue à être dominée par les intérêts des grands monopoles capitalistes qui ont conçu une stratégie du développement agricole dont ils sont les principaux bénéficiaires et qui contribue fortement à aggraver et à élargir la faim dans le monde.

Confrontés à une situation dont les difficultés ne nous échappent pas mais qui nous sollicitent entièrement, nous ne proposons en ce moment aucune nouvelle solution au problème alimentaire mondial, ni pensons qu'il soit nécessaire pour le résoudre de trouver d'autres méthodes ou d'autres voies différentes de celles qui nous ont été proposées, notamment en septembre 1975 par la 7ème Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies et par la 5ème Conférence au sommet des Pays non alignés en août 1976, étant donné que les progrès réalisés nous semblent avoir été nuls, comme l'a constaté récemment à la Havane le 6ème Sommet des Pays non alignés.

Les réserves exprimées il y a quelques mois ici à Rome par un certain nombre de pays industrialisés quant à la Déclaration de principe et au Programme d'action adoptés par la Conférence mondiale sur la Réforme agraire et le Développement rural, sont pour nous une raison supplémentaire de préoccupation puisqu'elles traduisent l'intention des gouvernements de ces pays de ne pas soutenir les mesures, telles que la réforme agraire, capables de contribuer à diminuer les inégalités sociales, à éliminer la pauvreté, la faim, les maladies et la stagnation rurale dont souffrent les pays sous-développés.

Grâce à la solidarité internationale dont nous avons bénéficié, nous avons pu vaincre les graves difficultés que l'ennemi multiplie devant nous et contenir l'agression de l'impérialisme et de ses laquais.

Nous espérons donc que la solidarité internationale se manifeste finalement de façon concrète pour aider le monde à atteindre l'horizon 2000 dans des conditions de dignité pour tous les êtres humains.

La lutte continue, la victoire est certaine.

C. CARDENAS SOLORZANO (México): Sean las primeras palabras de la Delegación de México para felicitarle, señor Presidente, por su elección para dirigir los trabajos de este importante evento.

Expresamos asimismo nuestro reconocimiento al Director General de FAO, por la calificada preparación que la Secretaría ha dado a esta reunión, y sobre todo, por la gestión realizada a lo largo de estos dos años últimos, en la que destacan el planteamiento de cuestiones fundamentales y la búsqueda de soluciones que tienen por interés central el mejoramiento del hombre y el progreso de los pueblos, propósitos, actitudes y prioridades en los que el Gobierno de México encuentra coincidencia con la presente conducción de FAO.

Transcurrido ya prácticamente el Segundo Decenio de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo, México puede declarar que ha hecho un importante esfuerzo en los campos de la producción agrícola, de alimentos en particular, de la pesca, la reforma agraria y otros relacionados con el cumplimiento de los compromisos morales contraídos en los foros de FAO, estando plenamente consciente de las graves carencias que aún debe superar; pero ve aún con profunda preocupación que las metas que se fijó la comunidad internacional en esta década han sido muy escasamente alcanzadas.

En materia agrícola internacional, se afirma reiteradamente que de todo lo dicho y acordado colectivamente, poco es lo que efectivamente se ha realizado y cumplido.

La seguridad alimentaria mundial parece estar quedando sólo como concepto hablado o escrito, alejándose de convertirse en realidad en la medida en que los estados miembros de este organismo se muestran incapaces de llevar a la práctica los acuerdos, como lo demuestra, por ejemplo, la interrupción de las negociaciones tendientes a concluir el nuevo acuerdo sobre cereales: la meta del 0.7% de su PNB, que se fijaron los países industrializados para contribuir al desarrollo de otras naciones, nunca ha llegado en términos globales al 50 Por ciento de lo estipulado; el propósito de establecer reservas alimenticias nacionales, coordinadas internacionalmente, se ha enfrentado con innumerables obstáculos e incluso la prevista reserva de emergencia se encuentra defasada respecto a los requerimientos; por su parte, la denominada ayuda alimentaria aún tiene por delante acreditar sus contribuciones potenciales al desarrollo.

Ante este balance, ha debido plantearse el Reajuste Agrícola Internacional, cuyas directrices renuevan de hecho compromisos que ya antes se habían contraído y respecto al cual esta Delegación expresa su apoyo.

Asimismo, considera necesario se haga realidad, en escala internacional e internamente en cada país, el Plan de acción de 5 puntos propuesto por el Director General para reforzar la seguridad alimentaria mundial así como también materializar las recomendaciones surgidas de la reciente Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

México, por convicción y decisiones propias, coincidentes con recomendaciones y compromisos derivados, de su participación como miembro de FAO, da en sus programas de desarrollo atención prioritaria a los sectores agropecuario y pesquero, tanto para la elevación de sus producciones y el mejoramiento de las condiciones de vida de quienes trabajan en estas actividades, como en lo que hace a la reestructuración administrativa y al fortalecimiento de las instituciones de ambos sectores, con lo que se da una mayor eficiencia a sus operaciones.

Así, por una parte se atiende con preferencia a la agricultura y a los agricultores de las zonas tempo-raleras o de secano, ampliando en lo general sus servicios técnicos y mejorando los sistemas de coordinación del extensionismo, el crédito, la comercialización y el seguro de cosecha; y se efectúan muy diversos trabajos para aumentar las tierras productivas, tanto de riego como de otras calidades. Por otra parte, frente a las muy amplias posibilidades que ofrece el potencial pesquero de su zona económica exclusiva, México como digo, da prioridad a su ordenación y desarrollo en los planes y programas correspondientes.

El 70% del territorio mexicano, 137 000 000 ha, corresponde a terrenos forestales, 44 000 000 ha son bosques templados, fríos y tropicales y el resto lo constituyen cubiertas vegetales en lo general no maderables.

Siendo México un país forestal, hace hoy un importante esfuerzo por estimular este sector productivo, planeando e iniciando acciones a realizarse en el largo plazo.

Se han instrumentado así importantes programas de mejoramiento silvícola, que están aumentando y diversificando la producción, al mismo tiempo que dan a las masas forestales mejores condiciones para su regeneración e incremento.

Atención especial se da también al aprovechamiento de nuestras selvas tropicales, donde por primera vez se llevan a cabo inventarios de manejo, que permiten racionalizar el manejo de estos bosques mezclados, considerándolos parte del complejo suelo, cubierta vegetal, fauna, agua.

Tomando en consideración las amplias posibilidades de los recursos forestales para contribuir al desarrollo de los pueblos, esta Delegación considera importante que la Dirección General pudiera encargar la elaboración de un estudio, que se presentara por ejemplo, en la próxima reunión del Comité Forestal, en 1980, sobre las diversas alternativas y medios a los que pudiera recurrirse para aumentar los apoyos financieros técnicos, de investigación, etc. al sector forestal y se permite recomendar que se vean las posibilidades de dar, dentro de FAO, una significación mayor a los programas forestales.

Por otro lado, consciente de la importancia de su propio esfuerzo en esta área, que es coincidente con el espíritu de la Declaración de Yakarta, mi gobierno desea aquí reiterar la invitación que ya hiciera en ocasión del 8 Congreso, para que México sea la sede del 90 Congreso Mundial Forestal de 1984

Los energéticos han sido, son y serán decisivos en la producción agropecuaria y en la satisfacción de las necesidades alimenticias humanas.

Frente a la vida limitada de las reservas de hidrocarburos de nuestro planeta y ante la realidad mexicana de una producción petrolera en aumento, basada en el descubrimiento y cuantificación de yacimientos de grandes volúmenes, el Presidente de México ha sostenido, en el seno de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas, la tesis de que los hidrocarburos deben administrarse y aprovecharse como responsabilidad de la humanidad.

Para los mexicanos es muy claro entonces que uno de los consumos prioritarios de los hidrocarburos debe ser la producción de alimentos, y que destinarlos a una industria "bélica o a la carrera armamentista, que ya arrebatan al desarrollo constructivo y pacífico miles de millones de dólares, muchas veces más que el apoyo que se brinda a instituciones como FAO, o incluso utilizarlos para mantener en movimiento ejércitos y material de guerra de países que no viven conflictos bélicos, constituye, sin duda una agresión para las grandes mayorías y un atentado al futuro de la humanidad.

Los países en desarrollo hacen frente hoy día a un estado crítico y desordenado de cosas, que ellos de hecho no han contribuido a crear, en el que destacan la existencia de injustas relaciones de intercambio, agravadas por la inflación y recesión procedentes de las economías más avanzadas; una menor participación relativa en el mercado mundial, sobre todo por la creciente e inapropiada oleada de medidas proteccionistas, arancelarias y de otros tipos, que un buen número de países económicamente fuertes y grupos dominantes dentro de ellos han impuesto unilateralmente; la importación de insumos en lo general y de cereales en particular, que, a pesar del acelerado incremento en sus precios, llegan ya a niveles sin precedente, y parece no se reducirá en corto plazo; en fin, el nivel y perspectivas de una deuda externa creciente que interfiere cualquier propósito de desarrollo autónomo presente o para el porvenir.

A resolver los problemas en su origen, atacando sus causas reales e históricas, nacionales e internacionales, debe dirigirse nuestra acción y en ello FAO juega y habrá de jugar un papel decisivo.

En esta perspectiva, mi gobierno manifiesta su apoyo en lo general al programa propuesto por el Director General para el bienio 1980-1981, considerando, además, que FAO debe recibir apoyo y estímulo crecientes de sus integrantes, a fin de que con capacidad plena pueda atender, puntual y eficientemente, sus responsabilidades y compromisos en estos finales del siglo XX.

A este respecto, expresamos nuestra preocupación por la posibilidad que pudiera darse de que FAO, en los próximos dos años, se viera limitada y dispusiera de una capacidad operativa relativamente menor a la actual. Grave sería nuestra responsabilidad si a eso nos condujeran nuestras deliberaciones y decisiones en el seno del Organismo.

Está por iniciarse un nuevo decenio. La Organización ha replanteado sus objetivos y metas y revisado los medios de su acción.

Es responsabilidad de todos lograr que en este período los pueblos alcancen un desarrollo efectivo, y erradicar, de manera definitiva, el hambre y la desnutrición que hoy padecen más de quinientos millones de seres, con sus irreversibles consecuencias biológicas, sociales, económicas y políticas.

Y será la acción decidida y concertada de las naciones pequeñas y grandes, la que asegure para siempre el alimento suficiente y oportuno para las grandes mayorías de la humanidad, con lo que se dará el paso definitivo para el establecimiento y consolidación del Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional y el surgimiento así de una comunidad internacional donde se impongan y prevalezcan la colaboración, la solidaridad, la equidad y la justicia, Muchas gracias, Sr. Presidente.

M. NGOBI (Uganda): Mr. Chairman, Deputy Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen, my delegation and I congratulate you heartily on having been elected to chair this august Conference. We wish to register our sincere appreciation for the able manner in which you are conducting the proceedings of this Conference. My delegation assures you of our fullest support for the rest of the Conference. We would also like to thank the Secretariat for the work they have done in producing the many documents for the Conference and the Commissions. Also, Mr. Chairman, I would like to convey, on behalf of my delegation, our Government's greetings and best wishes to this Conference as it seeks solutions to the world's problems of hunger and malnutrition. The deliberations of this Conference are being watched eagerly by the poor and hungry of the world.

Mr. Chairman, let me also, on behalf of my delegation, congratulate and welcome the delegations of the Independent States of Samoa and of the Commonwealth of Dominica who have been admitted to the brotherhood of the FAO. We are confident that they will further strengthen this Organization, and we wish them the best of luck.

Mr. Chairman, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform this Conference that Uganda has now been liberated from the clutches of the tyrannical military dictatorship, which had for eight years become so notorious for its atrocities to humanity. We would like to thank all the individuals, friendly countries and organizations which assisted in the overthrow of the Amin regime. The country is now free and the new government has already committed itself to a policy of respect for human rights, human dignity, human freedom and democracy. Uganda now seeks friendship with all countries and is ready to live at peace with all her neighbours in the region. Also, Mr. Chairman, Uganda is ready and happy to take her rightful place in the International community to play her part without fear and to participate fully in the activities and programmes of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Mr. Chairman, the eight years of military dictatorship followed by an intensive war of liberation has left the once healthy Uganda economy in shambles. It is my unpleasant duty to inform this august Conference that the Uganda economy is in ruins. Normal economic activities are almost at a standstill, as those who have lately visited the country can testify. Worse still, the country by itself has limited means at its disposal to rectify this situation. It is for this reason, Mr. Chairman, that Uganda is launching an urgent appeal to friendly people, governments and international organizations to assist her in efforts of reconstruction and rehabilitation of the economy. The country's doors are once again open, and the government has already adopted laws and economic policies which protect foreign investments and which will guarantee fair returns and repatriation of profits to such investments.

On the state of food and agriculture in the country, Mr. Chairman, I regret to report another disturbing situation. Generally, Uganda has normally been more or less self-sufficient in its basic foodstuffs, but as I have already reported, this state of affairs has been disrupted. Consequently, general food shortages of varying degrees of severity and magnitude are being experienced in large parts of the country. A combination of factors related to the poor management of the economy by the ousted government has given rise to this situation. In addition to this, low rainfall throughout the country in 1979 and more particularly the complete absence of the Second Season rains have resulted in failure of the Second Season crops. As a result of all this, there is fear that food shortages in 1980 will be more widely spread necessitating massive food aid assistance. This dismal picture is supported by the Report of the FAO Emergency Assistance Mission which recently visited the country at the request of the Uganda Government. I think, Mr. Chairman, it would not be out of place for me to inform this Conference how touched I was when the Director-General invited me to his office during the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and informed me of the offer for the emergency assistance. This is a clear illustration of the effectiveness of the Technical Cooperation Programme. I should like to convey my Government's gratitude to the Director-General of the FAO for his prompt response to our appeal.

The situation prevailing in the rest of the agricultural sector is not any different. Improper Government policies and lack of investments in the agricultural sector in the last eight years have meant acute scarcity of means of production, i. e. tools and equipment, inputs including drugs for animals and of course for human beings as well; lack of fishing gear and others. These have resulted in the present low levels of production and reserve productive capacity. Consequently, production of major industries has dropped to levels which cannot support the economy. Coffee production for instance has dropped from 213. 8 thousand tons in 1972/73 to an estimated 137. 9 thousand tons in 1979/80. Cotton, has dropped from 467. 7 thousand bales of lint in 1969/70 to an estimated 40. 0 thousand bales in 1979/80; tea has dropped from 21. 9, that is, nearly 22 thousand tons in 1973/74 to a mere 6. 3 thousand tons in 1979/80; whole milk collection for processing from about 20 million litres in 1972 to practically nothing now. There has been a serious decline in the fishing industry, wood industry, sugar industry and others. This has drastically reduced the capacity of the economy to rely on its own resources in the reconstruction process. In addition, the war disrupted the normal planting programme and management activities, and fleeing soldiers have caused extensive damage to machinery, farms factories, transport system and

livestock. It will, thus require substantial financial and technical assistance to reactivate and reestablish agricultural activities. Both the Report of the Commonwealth team of Experts and the Report of the FAO Emergency Assistance Mission to Uganda concur with this picture and call for increased external assistance.

If this grim picture is weighed against the fact that agriculture looms large in Uganda's economy both in terms of its place in the overall economy, its size relative to other sectors and its dominant role as the source of livelihood for over eighty percent of the population, it becomes clear that rehabilitation of the economy will necessarily mean rehabilitation of the agricultural sector. Mr. Chairman, I have deliberately told this Conference the true facts about my country and avoided glossing over them. However, I wish to assure the Conference that there is now political will and determination on the part of our people to reverse the black image of our country in the last eight years, to mobilize our resources with the assistance from friendly sources and to put Uganda back on the path of development. But, as His Excellency Kenneth Kaunda put it very rightly in his memorable McDougall Lecture, there cannot be peace and security without food. So we have to concentrate on finding food now for the people in order to secure peace and stability which we are re-establishing and which are necessary for development.

On the question of World Food Security, the Uganda delegation regrets to note the failure of the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a new International Grains Arrangement, which is a set back to the continuing efforts to strengthen World Food Security. While we call for speedy conclusion of this and other commodity trade negotiations, we welcome and support the Director-General's action to avert a crisis with the proposed Plan of Action on World Food Security. On our part, the government is in the process of formulating appropriate policies necessary for the implementation of the proposed Plan of Action.

Uganda supports the proposed programme to assist developing coastal states in developing and managing fisheries in their exclusive economic zones. However, landlocked Uganda has inland fishing activities which, too, merit, comprehensive development programmes. With a large water area of some 42 380 square kilometers, teeming with fish, Uganda has fishing prospects which need assessment and development programmes.

Concerning forestry, my delegation and indeed the Government of the Uganda Liberation Front fully supports the Jakarta Declaration of the Eighth World Forestry Congress held in October 1978 at Jakarta in Indonesia. At our present stage of development, we in Uganda depend very largely on forestry for energy in the form of firewood and for building materials. Forests are also very critical in our climatic and environmental stability. We, therefore, urge member nations of this great Organization to support and adopt the Jakarta Declaration.

Mr. Chairman, let me now refer to the activities and programmes of the Organization. Looking at the programme of work of the FAO, and the magnitude of what is expected of it, in this world plagued with hunger and malnutrition, Uganda would have been happier, with an increased level of the budget. However, bearing in mind the present economic situation prevailing in the world, my delegation gives full support to the Director-General's proposed programme of work and budget for 1980/81. To us, the proposals are clear and reflect the Organization's intimate knowledge of our aspirations and needs which are reflected in special action programmes such as the Technical Cooperation Programme and the process of decentralization at country level.

Regarding the programme for the control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis and related development, my delegation fully supports the proposals put before the Conference by the Director-General, and hence endorses the formation of a Commission of African Animal Trypanosomiasis. Uganda is one of the African countries most seriously affected by this animal scourge, and therefore welcomes these proposals wholeheartedly. On behalf of my delegation and my Government, I ask the member countries of this Organization to endorse the Director-General's proposals quickly, so that he can go ahead and draw up the necessary statutes. Once the Commission is formed, Uganda will seek for membership without hesitation. My delegation endorses and urges this Conference to endorse all the proposals made by the Director-General.

On the review of FAO's Regular Programmes 1978/79, my delegation is gratified to note how successfully these programmes have achieved their objectives. We urge the Organization to increase its efforts even further in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, We equally appreciate the progress achieved in the use of national institutions and other developing country inputs and urge that this be strengthened even further. The wise words of His Holiness Pope John Paul II, the illuminating McDougall Lecture by one of the Great Sons of Africa His Excellency Kenneth Kaunda, the President of Zambia and the foresighted statement to this august Conference by the Director-General, give us confidence and hope in the future of this great Organization: especially concerning its commitment to fight against and eliminate hunger and malnutrition and the determination to promote economic development of the Third World. The Uganda Government will always welcome and support any proposals or actions which are geared to achieving these objectives.

Before concluding, Mr. Chairman, allow me to express my country's deep appreciation to all those who have so far responded to our call for assistance in our endeavour to rehabilitate the country's economy. In particular we would like to thank the Commonwealth Secretariat for compiling a report identifying Uganda's economic needs and areas for immediate rehabilitation. This report has been adopted by Government, as a basis for rehabilitation and reconstruction. Special thanks are due to the FAO, UNDP, EEC and several individual countries and other National and International Organizations which have given us immediate assistance.

Special thanks are also due to the FAO, for the Emergency Mission Report and for all that FAO has done for us; to UNDP, the European Economic Community, and to several individual countries, National and International Organizations which have given us immediate assistance.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the Uganda delegation wishes the Twentieth Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization Conference success in its deliberations.

J. Y. A. OSMAN (Somalia): Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of my delegation to this historic meeting of FAO 20th Conference, I would like to extend to your Excellency our heartfelt congratulation upon your election as the Chairman of the Conference. My delegation is confident that under your able leadership and wise guidance this meeting of the world body will succeed in finding better solutions to the problems we are facing in producing enough food and developing agriculture the world over.

My delegation would like also to express its appreciation and support to the Director-General and the staff for their effort in improving and injecting new dynamism into the services of this organization which is holding its 20th session today in order to discuss and deliberate the agenda items prepared for the improvement of the world food situation which we fully endorse.

Mr. Chairman, it is rather painful to read from the report prepared by the Director-General that the world production pattern remains unchanged. The import of food commodities by developing countries is increasing day after day, in spite of the effort put by the same countries in trying to increase their national production to satisfy locally needed food stuff.

In this connection, I would like to mention here the great effort made by my Government in developing agriculture upon which our entire national economy is based presently. A substantial amount of the national budget is devoted to make agriculture achieve the level of production required to meet local needs and be able to become exporter of same agricultural commodities. But to be frank, we are still far away from those goals.

The majority of our farmers are small and subsistence, in nature and their production is very low as well as their standard of living. As I have mentioned earlier, the Government has made great effort to change this unhappy situation by creating and strengthening research centres, extension activities, formation of cooperatives, farmers training, development of irrigation facilities as well as establishment of credit facilities.

In order to reach the goal of food security strategies, policies for increased agricultural production are laid down by each and every country. But still the rise of increased production remains slow. Therefore, it is time that we look for the reasons behind this and come up with concrete solutions to overcome it if we are serious in combatting and eliminating hunger, poverty and malnutrition among our fellow men.

Agricultural production, even with today's technology still remains to be subject to adverse weather conditions. My country, as you are aware experiences, failure of a complete crop year once every four years due to droughts. 1973-75 drought which struck the whole country has adversely affected the overall development strategy of the country in that it has necessitated the allocation of huge state resources financial, material and labour towards that end in order to render effective assistance to the sinistred people remaining with no means of livelihood, mostly nomads. The calamity was beyond the ability of our meagre resources but the Government and people, have displayed courage, détermination and unity. Necessary steps were immediately taken to overcome the frightening situation. If the task of feeding the drought stricken people was difficult the rehabilitation of the same people in different occupations was more serious and challenging. Hundreds of thousands of nomads have been evacuated and settled in the riverline area to become agriculturists and more than twenty thousand others in the coastal area become fishermen. It took us a great deal of effort and time to accomodate the nomads and make them adjust to the new habitat quite different from what they used to live in. These undertakings have been successful not only by the effort of the Government and the participation of the people but, thanks to

the generous help rendered by the UN Organisations like FAO, WHO, WFP and friendly nations. At this very moment we are facing another very difficult problem: that of refugees whose number is in the neighbourhood of a million people. This has again necessitated the diversification of resources meant for development in order to render assistance to these displaced people. We are thankful to those international organizations and friendly nations who assist us in this difficult task.

Huge agricultural projects cannot be financed entirely by the developing countries whose basic economy lies on agriculture and its related sectors. On this ground, we always find there is a big gap between project preparation and implementation. This fall-back naturally reflects on the country's agricultural strategies and policies. Limited inputs and technical know-how are other factors that are slowing down the production rate in the developing countries. Great effort is put into training the nationals in and outside the country. But most of these trainees go to other countries with better financial possibilities.

Many development projects are being implemented in all developing countries and this has brought about a shortage of real experts with practical and financial ability to implement projects according to the objectives. As a result very low level experts are recruited and in most cases caused project failure.

Our development strategy emphasises among other things the following:

Agriculture Production

To increase and stabilize cereals and oil crops production to meet domestic demand and reduce imports.

To increase and raise the quality and quantity of banana production in order to meet the increased local and world market demand.

To develop the irrigation potential of the country in order to have more secured production.

To increase production of industrial crops to meet the demand of existing agro-industries: sugar, textile, oil and flour mills.

To educate farmers as well as extension workers in better farming methods and managements.

Livestock

Livestock constitutes an important sector in the economy of the country. About 80 per cent of the population derive their livelihood from this sector. To help raise the economy of the country many projects on animal health and animal production are implemented by the Government. Trypanosomiasis is one of the problems we are facing today as it imposes heavy losses to our livestock. Disease control and eradication schemes are amongst the most important programmes given high priority in the development strategy of the livestock industry. These include tse-tse and trypanosomiasis control, establishment of disease free zones, and quarantine sites, and control and eradication of infectious and parasitic diseases. In the field of prophylactic service, a vaccine Institute was established in the country and is producing several kinds of vaccines which are given free of charge to livestock owners. In addition, the Government has been providing free of charge most of the veterinary drugs and services since 1973. The result has been a considerable improvement in the health of the national herd.

My Government acknowledges that the desertification process is apparent to a greater or lesser extent and in one form or another in many areas. Four forms of desertification are currently of major concern to us, these are:

Range land degradation

Deforestation

Sand dune formation

Destruction of arable land

Range land degradation

Classic signs of overgrazing are not uncommon over much areas of Somalia. In the most extreme form, large areas of rangeland have so far degraded as to be totally devoid of vegetation and appear to be truly desert. Social and economic effects are inevitable catastrophic when a severe drought strikes and there are inadequate forage and permanent water reserves.

Deforestation

Only 14 per cent of Somalia is covered by natural woodland. This resource has suffered continuous and serious deterioration for good many years, as a result of uncontrolled cutting and uprooting of woody growth, excessive and unregulated grazing in woodland areas and shifting cultivation.

Sand dune formation

For nearly 2000 Km. along the Indian Ocean coast and up to 25 km. inland, there is an intermittent chain of sand dunes reaching heights of 150 M. and covering an estimated total area of 5000 Km². They occur mostly in lightly wooded grazing areas and result in some loss of forage and water points.

Destruction of arable land

Valuable arable land is being lost to erosion in some of the most favourable areas. Cultivation practices are generally poor and the increased pressure combined with livestock density growth have led to destruction of arable land.

My Government is actively engaged to halt this desertification process and I am pleased to say that large grazing reserves and forestry plantation areas have been established. Earthbinding to assist retention and spreading of water in supply of grass and fodder crop growth has been successfully introduced at several sites in Central and Northern Somalia. The creation of a Government body responsible to combat desertification and a law to control rangeland were two acts showing the Government will to control and combat desertification.

We believe that antidesertification activities should be global as it involves continents and therefore joint efforts are required with sufficient technical and financial means.

Fishery

Prior to the early years of the present decade no serious efforts had been made to exploit the country's potentially lucrative fishery resources and, therefore, supplement the two other components of the agricultural sector. Fishery is one of the Government's top priority fields and substantial funds have been allocated for that purpose. The investment so far put in fishery seems to be a drop in the ocean in view of the vastness of the geographical area involved and in view of the virtual absence of the basic infrastructure conducive to a quick breakthrough. The need for investing more resources in that field is therefore self evident.

Since 1973 a separate Ministry has been created for fishery development and the basic approach to it has been three fold:

Improvement and development of artisanal or traditional fisheries

Rationalization of existing industrial plants and

Introduction of high sea fishing.

Fishermen scattered along the 3330 Km. coastline have been grouped into cooperatives and the Government has undertaken to provide them with the initial material as well as managerial assistance. The result has been a notable increase in production.

Realising her being a maritime nation by virtue of her long coastline, the Somali Government is trying hard to introduce high sea fishing operation with bilateral as well as multilateral cooperation. The objective of these operations is not only to increase the catches but also to train the personnel who will eventually have to man the nation's maritime fleet in the future. The actual fishing operation of the vessels is combined with gathering of the necessary scientific data such as the assessment of sustainable catches, identification of species, observation of migratory species and season wise areas of concentration. We are grateful to FAO for the catalytic role it is playing in the fishery development of my country as well as to those friendly countries who are giving us a helping hand in our endeavour.

Allow me to state confidently that the Somali Government and people did not spare any effort in promoting food production and agriculture development both economically and technically; but the nation has faced many financial and technical problems that are beyond the country's possibility to deal with. The state of food and agriculture in the world has been reported to be deteriorating with high prices of fertilizers, pesticides and farm machinery still persisting a fact that does not

favour production expansion. Somalia, like many developing countries if they do not get these very indispensable farm inputs at favourable terms, their effort will be minimized and their role in alleviating the human from hunger will be insignificant. We believe, that only our efforts cannot resolve the existing problems in the agricultural development, therefore, there is need of a substantial support from International Organizations like FAO and other financial institutions for capital investment and technical assistance.

In conclusion, my delegation highly hopes that the 20th session will be crowned with concrete decisions that will lead towards a better food situation in the world. Our organization should be a dynamic one in its policies and strategies in order to meet the changing needs of the developing world.

Along this line, we feel that FAO should play a bigger role than before in encouraging agricultural investment in developing countries. It should delegate more power to its Regional offices so that they can expedite project implementation from their part.

My statement would be incomplete if I failed to mention the need for practical training for the nationals so that they can fill the vacancy in the know-how. The present level of training programme is far from being satisfactory. The last but not the least most important step that will open a new dimension in FAO activities is the recruitment of local experts for FAO projects. We strongly believe that this important step will definitely minimize if not bring to an end the present brain drainage facing most of the developing countries.

M· K· SAROA (Papua New Guinea): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Deputy Director-General, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is an honour to be here today to be able to present the views of my country, Papua New Guinea. Before I do so, Mr. Chairman, it is with great pleasure that I join the other delegations to this important Conference in congratulating you on your unanimous election as Chairman of this Assembly. I would also like to congratulate the three Vice-Chairmen, who will I am sure share the same difficult task with you during our discussions.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the two new members of our organization: Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Papua New Guinea is a newly independent nation and a relatively small country with a population of about 3 million people whose economy is based on the production of primary commodities. Agriculture is the major activity for the majority of the people with only about 25% of its population wholly engaged in the monetary sector.

Papua New Guinea has tremendous potential for development but has also a number of difficulties and problems to which it must find its own unique solutions before its potential can be fully realised.

The economy of Papua New Guinea can be briefly summarised as follows:-

- a dependence on the utilisation of our natural resources
- a substantial subsistence sector
- a small but growing manufacturing, constructing and business sector
- a poorly developed infrastructural base
- a high population growth rate (about 3 per cent per annum) and a high rate of urbanisation
- a relatively open economy depending upon substantial imports, especially food imports and upon exports of copper, coffee, cocoa and to a lesser extent on coconut products, timber, fish, palm oil, tea and rubber
- a high degree of dependence on foreign aid
- a serious shortage of skilled technical and managerial manpower.

With regard to the topic of 'Strengthening World Food Security', I would like to make some brief comments. Firstly, Papua New Guinea has had relatively little problems with large scale disasters; problems created by droughts, floods or frost have generally been localised and within the capacity of the country to meet. In addition many staples in the country are less vulnerable to climatic variations than grains.

Papua New Guinea therefore does not see any problems in the area of internal food security. Nor would it be in a position to participate actively in inter-country co-operative arrangements on food security because of the bulk handling and transport difficulties of root staples.

However, there are a few developing countries in the world who can claim to have reduced post-harvest losses to tolerable proportions, or who can consider themselves adequately secure from major disasters affecting production of basic food crops. The Government of Papua New Guinea therefore applauds the efforts of PAD to put into practice the Programme of action of World Food Security.

I now turn to the subject: The Development and Management of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones which is so vital to the economies of small developing Pacific Island Nations, including Papua New Guinea.

Since the opening of the Law of the Sea Conference some years ago, Papua New Guinea has involved itself with the issue arising from these Conferences. We are proud of the role we have played and the general consensus which has been reached on fisheries matters.

Papua New Guinea has supported the views expressed by the Law of the Sea Revised Negotiating Text and in 1978 we declared our 200-mile fisheries zone which totals over one million square miles of the finest tuna fishing grounds in the world.

Papua New Guinea in co-operation with ten other Pacific independent nations all members of the South Pacific Forum has formed a Fisheries Management Organization known as the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency. One of the prime reasons for establishing the Agency was to "Co-ordinate and harmonize their policies on the Law of the Sea so as to ensure the maximum benefits for their people and the region and to adapt a co-ordinated approach in their negotiations with distant-water fishing nations. "

We choose to do this in a manner which will encourage fair use of our resources by distant-water fishing nations in exchange for an appropriate payment for the fish taken from our fisheries zone and the transfer of technology which will allow us to develop our own fishing, processing and marketing industry.

Through participation in the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency we expect to achieve this in a manner which will also aid the smaller Pacific nations not so blessed as we are with rich year-round fisheries resources.

As much as 100 000 tons of tuna has been harvested within our 200-mile fisheries zone in a year's time. As raw fish in the United States' tuna market, this tonnage of tuna has a value of U. S. \$100 million; processed, its value would come to U. S. \$250 million, a figure of real significance to any nation, particularly a developing one such as Papua New Guinea.

Last year foreign tuna vessels based in our country harvested nearly 50 000 tons of skipjack, but we received only a small percentage of the full value of this catch.

All of the vessels were foreign owned; they were manned by foreign captains, engineers and fishermen. Those fishermen of ours who did get jobs earned less money for the same work than did the foreign fishermen.

Virtually none of the tuna caught in our waters was consumed in our country, it was all exported to overseas canneries where people from other nations more wealthy than us found employment packing our fish for developed nations to eat.

Clearly, an industry which uses foreign-owned and manned vessels with no shore-side support facilities contributes little to the developing economy. However, there is no way that we Pacific islanders can take over these vital functions at this stage so, therefore, we must work towards a realistic localization schedule for the entire industry. Until such time as nations such as ourselves take a determined stand to achieve those benefits which are rightly ours, we can expect little progress in building our own industrial capabilities and take our rightful place in the developed world.

While our efforts to gain full benefits have yet to bear real fruit, we do know what we want and to achieve our objectives we have established a set of principles to guide us on our way.

Our first and most basic principle is that our fisheries resources will be developed for the optimal benefit of the people of Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea will not enter into any long-term agreement which does not adhere to this basic concept. To achieve it, however, we will grant favoured status to those who help us on our way.

In determining how we intend to develop our full resource potential, we have encountered many problems and effected solutions which if applied on a regional basis can bring real benefits to the developing countries in the region.

Management of the resources is a basic problem encountered by most developing countries. Papua New Guinea and other member nations of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency hold strongly to the concept that coastal States have the sovereign right to manage the stocks which occur within their fisheries zones.

Unlike coastal States with continental shelves and diversified fisheries stocks, the typical small Pacific nation has only tuna in its surrounding seas and it is this species on which we must rely if we are to derive any real benefits from our oceanic resources.

To ensure control over the stocks which occur within our 200-mile fisheries zone, Papua New Guinea has declared another principle which recognizes coastal State control over all fisheries stocks within a nation's fisheries zone.

Recognising that tunas are a highly migratory species that has no political boundaries and move from one nation's zone to another, we recognised the need for nations sharing stocks of tunas or other species to co-operate on their conservation and management.

Papua New Guinea strongly feels that only those nations which share stocks have the right to make decisions about their management.

Distant-water fishing nations that do not share stock with another nation or nations should have no right to make decisions about the management of such stocks. However, they could be invited to participate in recommending of conservation and management measures of such stocks.

Papua New Guinea believes that unless these basic principles are observed meaningful development of the nation's fisheries resources becomes impossible as it cannot say just who can and cannot fish its waters.

The 200-mile fisheries zone came about because of the tuna issue in the Eastern Pacific, and the means established to manage those stocks failed because of the lack of recognition of the coastal States' rights.

The prime purpose of establishing exclusive fisheries zones was to ensure that developing coastal nations would be able to gain real benefits from their fisheries resources and not be dominated and dictated to by the larger developed distant-water fishing nations.

Remove this basic concept of sovereign rights of the coastal States and we, the South Pacific nations, will be unable to gain the full benefits from the only real resource which occurs in our waters-the tunas.

The present system whereby the distant-water fishing nations negotiate unilaterally with those countries with large known resources is unsatisfactory.

Papua New Guinea holds that access arrangements and fees must be structured in such a way as to allow foreign vessels access to the region as a whole with payments for fish taken being directly related to the amount actually harvested from within a nation's fisheries zones.

Such arrangement can best be effected through a regional organisation where neighbouring nations who share a stock agree on a unified set of terms for access to the area and a fee for the fish taken.

In the meantime, we are working toward the development of a cost effective surveillance and enforcement system, which considering the vast distances involved is a truly formidable task, complicated by the lack of funds from all countries in the region.

In the next few years significant changes will occur in the harvesting, processing, marketing and management of the Pacific tuna stock.

The growing realisation of coastal states' control over all stocks including tuna within the exclusive economic zone will bring drastic changes to the industry which will surely benefit those developing coastal states which co-operate on the conservation and management of the stocks.

Mr. Chairman, in this regard, Papua New Guinea endorses and welcomes the proposed role of FAO in the development and management of fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones as outlined in document C 79/21.

A. LISBOA RAMOS (Cap-Vert): Permettez-moi Monsieur le Président, de vous féliciter chaleureusement au nom de ma délégation, de votre brillante élection à la Présidence de la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO. Vos qualités donnent l'assurance que les objectifs poursuivis par cette Assemblée seront complètement atteints.

J'aimerais aussi féliciter le Directeur général, le Docteur Edouard Saouma, de la façon dont il a conduit notre Organisation, et qui a toujours mérité le support total de notre pays pour son dévouement à la cause des pays les plus défavorisés dans la lutte menée contre la misère, la famine et l'ignorance. La préparation de la Conférence, les excellents documents préparés et les programmes d'action proposés méritent notre appui sans réserve.

Aux nouveaux Etats Membres admis au sein de notre Organisation, la délégation de la République du Cap-Vert adresse ses fraternelles félicitations et leur souhaite la bienvenue.

Nous voulons réaffirmer notre engagement aux importantes décisions prises à l'occasion de la Conférence Mondiale sur la Réforme Agraire et le Développement Rural, tenue à Rome au mois de juillet dernier, conférence à laquelle notre pays participait. Il y a envoyé une importante délégation dirigée par son Excellence le Ministre du Développement Rural. Nous espérons que ses résolutions seront mises en application sans délai, de façon à permettre l'amélioration de la vie des populations rurales, l'établissement d'un nouvel ordre économique mondial pour anéantir le fossé qui sépare les riches des pauvres.

Notre délégation avait, à cette occasion, bien décrit notre pays, son processus de développement, son climat, sa condition de pays nouvellement indépendant, ainsi que sa faible économie, sa politique agricole; je m'excuse, d'ailleurs, d'y revenir.

Qu'il me soit permis d'attirer l'attention de la Conférence sur la situation vivrière, qui peut être qualifiée de désastreuse, à laquelle le Cap-Vert devra faire face encore une fois en 1980. En effet, la sécheresse qui a, pour la douzième année consécutive, frappé les îles, a détruit la quasi-totalité de la présente récolte de maïs et réduit considérablement celle des haricots, les deux principales denrées de base de l'alimentation du peuple cap-verdien.

Ces ravages ont été constatés par une mission conjointe de la FAO et du PAM qui a visité le Cap-Vert durant la première semaine de novembre pour évaluer l'état des cultures et de la production vivrière.

Notre principale préoccupation, découlant de la situation décrite, consiste donc à garantir des stocks alimentaires. Cependant, si les réponses de la Communauté internationale à nos appels ne nous parviennent pas à temps, une situation très grave pour nos populations pourrait en découler.

D'autre part, il faut souligner qu'à l'indépendance nationale il n'existait pas de structures de stockage, sauf des silos à Mindelo et quelques petits magasins dépourvus du minimum de conditions requis pour protéger les denrées des dépradateurs.

Je voudrais aussi signaler combien est utile pour mon pays le Programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire de la FAO.

Ce programme nous a aidés tant sur le plan des conseils pratiques que sur celui des réalisations qui vont incessamment voir le jour; il nous a aidés à mobiliser les fonds requis pour réaliser la construction d'un silo à Praia. A mon avis, il est essentiel que les ressources du PASA soient augmentées afin qu'il puisse continuer son travail essentiel. En conséquence, nous soutenons fortement la réalisation proposée par l'Inde, le Zaïre, la Colombie et la Yougoslavie.

En dépit de toutes ces difficultés, nous ne nous attachons pas seulement à résoudre les problèmes immédiats de la fourniture des denrées alimentaires. Conscients de la disponibilité et de la décision de notre peuple, et confiants dans le fait que la solidarité n'est pas un mythe, nous nous sommes surtout engagés dans la construction d'un avenir meilleur pour notre peuple, en insistant particulièrement sur le développement de la communauté rurale.

C'est dans ce contexte que l'on conduit toute une série d'actions dont l'objectif principal est d'augmenter la surface cultivée et la production. C'est ainsi, Monsieur le Président, que la République du Cap-Vert, membre du Comité inter-Etats de lutte contre la sécheresse dans le Sahel, a consacré ses efforts dans les domaines suivants:

contrôle de l'érosion et de la conservation des sols et des eaux; lutte contre la désertification; reboisement; recherche et exploitation des eaux souterraines; mise en culture de terres nouvelles; élevage; développement de la pêche.

En effet, grâce à la participation active de notre peuple et à la solidarité des organisations et pays amis, nous avons construit des milliers de digues et des terrasses supplémentaires qui ont permis l'augmentation de l'infiltration de l'eau et l'adaptation de nouvelles surfaces aux cultures irriguées, outre la diminution des effets néfastes de l'érosion.

Dans le cadre du programme de reboisement et de la lutte contre la désertification, nous exécutons actuellement un grand projet qui couvre la plupart du territoire national. Ce programme a conduit à la plantation de 500 000 arbres en 1978 et à un million en 1979, grâce à la participation enthousiaste et engagée des populations.

Dans les îles où cela constitue déjà un problème, nous avons entamé des travaux importants pour empêcher l'avancement des dunes de sable sur les champs, les routes et même dans les habitations.

Concernant la recherche et l'exploitation de l'eau souterraine et les difficultés pour l'approvisionnement de la population et son utilisation dans l'agriculture, un vaste programme est en cours, un nombre important de forages étant déjà exécuté et équipé. Une attention particulière est aussi donnée à la recherche de méthodes permettant une économie de l'eau et l'utilisation des énergies renouvelables pour le pompage.

L'élevage aussi joue un rôle important dans l'économie de notre pays. C'est ainsi que, tenant compte de nos limitations fourragères dues aux aléas climatiques, nous avons organisé une campagne de sauvetage du bétail pour aider les paysans à préserver leurs troupeaux. L'aviculture, l'élevage des petits ruminants et des porcs sont des secteurs qui méritent aussi notre attention.

La mise en place d'un système de crédit agricole dans le cadre du Programme de Coopération Technique de la FAO et la renforcement du mouvement coopératif, surtout chez les agriculteurs et les pêcheurs, constituent des aspects importants de notre politique de développement.

Notre principale richesse est l'homme cap-verdien. Comme je l'ai déjà affirmé, il est décidé à transformer son pays et pour cela il demande, aujourd'hui, l'appui de la communauté internationale.

La paix sera toujours une utopie si d'un côté on trouve les désespérés de la famine et de l'autre ceux qui gaspillent. Il faut que l'égoïsme ne soit pas la caractéristique des rapports entre nations, qu'une coopération chaque fois plus dynamique et authentique s'établisse entre les pays en voie de développement, et entre ceux-ci et les pays développés, tout en respectant les principes des avantages mutuels et la souveraineté de chacun.

Le rôle des Nations Unies et de ses organisations spécialisées, notamment la FAO, est extrêmement important pour un avenir de progrès et prospérité et de paix pour l'humanité. Que cette Conférence en soit la confirmation.

M. PANJSHERI (Afghanistan): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies and Honourable Delegates, Ladies and Candidates. I feel highly proud and privileged in representing my beloved and great country, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in this assembly of learned and scholastic international personalities.

Prima facie, it is my pleasant duty to extend very warm congratulations to the Chairman on behalf of my Government and on my personal behalf on his election to the prestigious office. I earnestly hope that he will spare no possible efforts in carrying on the heavy responsibilities of his office.

I also express my Government's deep sense of gratitude and thankfulness to Dr. Edouard Saouma, Director-General, for his broad and advance thinking for freeing the human populace from the cruel clutches of hunger and poverty. His programmes and policies have, beyond doubt proved his great sense of devotion and dedication to his noble cause. My Government highly commends and appreciates his continued interest in Afghanistan and grant of all the possible financial as well as technical assistance. I have no element of doubt in my mind that Director-General's interest in Agricultural development in Afghanistan will continue and new programmes, policies and strategies of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will receive his adequate and timely support for expeditious and balanced growth and development of Agriculture.

Mr. Chairman, I deem this august assembly an appropriate forum to throw light on new directions and dimensions provided since September 14, 1919 (Sunbula 26,1358) by the democratic regime in my great country. These include appointment of a commission to safeguard and restore legal and human rights issuance of Khalqui statement urging and guaranteeing security, legality and justice to one and all the appointment of a broad-based commission to draft the constitution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Comrade Hafizullah Amine, General-Secretary of the Central Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, President of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan immediately on assuming the charge of the State categorically spelt out that one man rule has been put to an end once and for all. Now, the country will be ruled by the true servants of our great people. All the major and minor policy decisions will be taken by the democratically appointed commissions, cabinet and the Revolutionary Council.

The valorous and high commander of the Great April (Saur) Revolution on the advice of the Revolutionary Council established some new offices and reorganized some departments to cope with the needs and requirements to carry on state affairs efficiently through capable and competent persons possessing high professional skills.

Mr. Chairman, we in Afghanistan have adopted "Non, lebas and khana" means food, clothes and shelter as not only a slogan but also as the national policy. The Revolutionary Government is leaving no stones unturned to provide food, clothes and shelter to one and all of our noble countrymen. I will deal with the Government's policies, programme and priorities elsewhere in this address. But here I desire to bring to your notice that the world is being told time and again by some agencies that the Afghan Government is a minority Government and has no support of the masses. This is just lies and propaganda against the Revolutionary Government of Afghanistan.

Mr. Chairman, facts have been falsified to create panic among our noble people because the dominance of these agencies has been eliminated from the country and their friends are not able to exploit the poor as they used to in the past.

The very fact that we completed our land reform programme is a sufficient proof that the Government enjoys full support and confidence of the masses.

Mr. Chairman, above 98 percent of our countrymen are with the Government but the remaining handful of feudals and imperialists are fighting a futile battle to retain the monopolies and wealth which they have built up by exploiting the poor. We are sure that the masses will continue to build a new Afghanistan in which all will get their full meals, enough clothes and good houses. We are in complete control of the situation and will carry on the programme spelt out by our Great Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Mr. Chairman, I have critically and carefully scanned through the agenda particularly the Programme of Work and Budget for 1980-81, Review of the Regular Programme, 1978-79, and the most important one Agriculture: Toward 2000. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan highly commends and appreciates the approach, strategy and plan of action chalked out by the dynamic and dedicated Director-General.

The Review of the Regular Programme is comprehensive and critical. It has rightly focussed attention on technical back stopping, spread of appropriate technology to realize the maximum payoff, and use of national institutes to promote TCDC, which constitutes the king-pin for the advancement of integrated agricultural development in the developing countries.

The Technical Cooperation Programme is recognized as a model instrument for action. It provides urgently needed assistance by short-term intervention. It helps in emergencies, fills crucial gaps and acts as a catalyst for larger scale, programmes of assistance. Our country has been benefitted by this programme and the Government is hopeful to continue to benefit in future too. Our Government highly commends and appreciates the Director-General's practical approach to extend timely help to the needy nations.

AT 2000 speaks of the Director-General's advance thinking, dynamism, foresight and depth of sense of concern about food for all. The actions and strategies proposed based on critical analysis using FAO's rich experience are excellent from a practical point of view. It has been rightly visualized that the food and agriculture are inevitable components to build a New International Economic Order. New International Development Strategy calls for whole-hearted implementation to end the scourge of hunger.

I perfectly agree and endorse the view that the Agricultural development cannot be isolated from industrialization in appropriate and adequate measure.

My delegation shares the dismay and disappointment of the Food Security Committee in that one of the targets for alleviating human suffering in the world have been met. Official development assistance is low and the World Food Programme pledge remains unfulfilled.

My delegation is also not satisfied that the global and international nature of the World Food Programme is considerably damaged by the need for reference to donors for individual contributions. That means that politics continues to be played with food.

The slow pace of negotiations on international Grains Agreement, is a cause for worry. The Executive secretary's painstaking effort to highlight areas of agreement cannot conceal the fact that disagreement is far more substantial and, from the point of developing countries, more dangerous.

My delegation supports the Plan of Action on World Food Security and commands the resolution for adoption. It is our hope that the IMF and developed countries would honour their obligations under the plan.

And also we believe without peace stability the world food security be meaningless. We see, by open eyes, the imperialistic states and their allies, including zionism destroy the source of food, causes hunger and poverty of the world population.

However, our democratic Government shares the concern about the widening gap in food consumption between the developed and the developing countries. Feeding cereals to the livestock in the world of hungry populace does not appear appropriate. The dependence for food imports on a particular region only may prove disastrous and hence, efforts should be made forthwith to reduce this dependence by identifying potential regions for cereal productions within the developing countries. My country possesses a profound potential to double the wheat and rice production within the next half a decade if adequate technical and financial assistance is provided through IFAD and other financing agencies. I will emphasize here that boosting agricultural production is the overriding objective of this conference and therefore, should assume an increasing role or for promotion of investment in agricultural development projects. This should be successfully accomplished by involving the international, regional and national funding agencies for formulation of economically viable investment projects.

The Government of the Democratic of Afghanistan is fully determined to minimize, mitigate and finally to drive out hunger and poverty out of our dear country. I can take legitimate pride in reporting to this august assembly that we completed land reforms within a historically short period of six months. This is a strong advocate of our determination and dedication for the cause of providing food security, equality, justice and legality to our brave and noble countrymen.

The main characteristics of the democratic land reforms are: Elimination of feudal relationships and end of oppression by local influential elements through enactment of laws, cancellation of loans extended by feudal lords and the back-breaking interests thereon, just management of tenancy all-out support to peasants movements, helping and encouraging peasants to get organized, abolishing of feudal ownership of land without compensation and determining the maximum land area for ownership and finally; placing and free of charge at the disposal of landless peasants and petty landholders, establishment of cooperatives for provision of agricultural services, consumer cooperatives, agricultural production cooperatives, extension of the credit for the purchase of chemical fertilizers, improved seeds for cultivation, agricultural implements, etc and prevention of mortgage and sale of lands owned by petty landholders.

In order to eliminate the old pre-feudal relationships the urgent solution of Kochis (nomads) has also been included in the democratic land reforms programme by establishing sale and purchase cooperatives, improving pastures and animal breeding and intensifying combat against animal diseases, expanding veterinary services and live-stock raising and finally encouraging Kochis to get engaged in modern cattle raising, agriculture and industry.

Further, developed agricultural land has been distributed free to the landless labourers and the poor to salvage them from the cruel and centuries old feudal system. We are fully conscious of the fact that mere distribution of land is not all that is required to be done. A vigorous follow-up action is the king-pin for success. The Government has made as many adequate arrangements as possible through available resources for the supply of essential inputs, namely improved seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and above all the package of improved production technology. We are also sparing no efforts to unlock and fruitfully deploy our vast human capital effectivity to achieve a break-through in the field of agricultural production.

Our first Five Year Plan for Social and Economic Development will by far, usher in a new era of prosperity in Afghanistan in the very near future. An adequate priority has been accorded to agricultural and allied rural industrial development. The achievement within this short period has been encouraging.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform has distributed 583 534 hectares of agricultural land to 248 114 families and earmarked 40,000 hectares to establish State Farms and 30 000 hectares to the Agricultural Service cooperatives. Service cooperatives numbering 1450 with a membership of 90 754 farm families. We target to establish 5 130 cooperatives both for agricultural services and production with a membership of 1 890 000 households holding over 2 million hectares of arable land. We produced 216 million tons of cereals as against our total demand of 3 000 million tons leaving a gap of 200 000-300 000 tons of wheat which has to be imported.

Mr. Chairman, the package of improved agro-practices has been formulated based on available research information and our Department of Agricultural Extension is currently engaged in transference of this technology to the farmers as an important component of the country-wide winter season campaign to boost agricultural production.

However, we are working against numerous odds and bottle necks. To illustrate, the improved seeds are an important component of a production programme. The estimated seeds need of the land recipients stands at 36 000 tons of wheat seeds. The Afghan Seed Company has produced 6 000 tons; 10,000 tons has been received from USSR as aid and 4 000-5 000 tons will come through the exchange programme. It leaves a gap of 15 000-16 000 tons and is likely to affect our targets seriously. The FAO has sanctioned 200 tons of Foundation seeds for its multiplication and distribution to the farmers.

In respect of nitrogenous fertilizers, we are a bit better placed. We produce 105 000 tons of urea annually. But, there exists a gap of 12 000 tons equivalent of triple superphosphate as 42 000 tons of diammonium phosphate has already been imported. Our soil being calcareous is generally deficient in phosphorous. We produce neither phosphatic nor potassic fertilizers nor pesticides nor small agricultural implements.

The estimated credit requirements stands at 4. 2 billion Afghanis as against the available 1. 5 billion Afghanis with the Agricultural Bank. The credit applications are being processed by the Agricultural Development Bank and the credit is being made available to the needy farmers. I will implore FAO to accord a favourable consideration to our above immediate needs to extend a hand of help in augmenting the agricultural productivity in my country.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is fully aware and appreciates the role of strong research-base in pushing up agricultural production. Therefore, we have reorganized our Department of Agricultural Research and Soils. The Afghan Council of Agricultural Research will now be the supreme agricultural research body to lay down the national policies for an integrated development of agriculture commensurate with the policies and programme of the Government. The efforts to achieve the predetermined goals and objectives will be done by the Agricultural Research Institute of Afghanistan through a network of Regional Research Stations. The Institute will enjoy full operational autonomy within the existing framework of rules and laws. The World Bank has kindly agreed to assist in the establishment of the national institute. My country will warmly welcome and looks forward hopefully to receiving the FAO's help in training Afghan personnel to assume and provide agricultural research leadership in future.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is fully aware of the need for wheat stabilization and an IDA loan of \$90 millions for this purpose is being negotiated.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan reviewed the programme of rural Development seriously and streamlined its functioning to give its full advantage to the rural population. The programme envisages an overall improvement of agriculture, education, public health and hygiene, small scale industries, multi purpose service cooperatives, women and child welfare and minor irrigation, system.

The Department has initiated the work in the above fields in nine provinces and aims at increasing the number of provinces by three each year.

The water is an essential component of an agricultural development programme and unfortunately we are in short supply of this. The Government has vigorously undertaken the construction of dams to divert the available river flows for more efficient utilization of existing water resources and also to generate hydro-electricity. Drilling of tube wells will enhance the irrigated area. However, it would not be possible to bring the whole arable land under irrigation. We have substantial reserves of land available for the extension of rainfed agriculture. A beginning has been made to recognize and determine the potential of expansion of rainfed farming and also to intensify cropping in fully and partially irrigated and assured rainfall regions during the plan period.

An immediate solution for nomads (Kochis) problems attracted Government attention and the democratic Government quickly responded in abundant measure. Sale, purchase and service cooperatives are being established for their livestock and animal products. Improvement of grazing lands, sheep and goat breeding, provision of clean drinking water for nomads and their animals, balanced animal food and intensification of combat against animal diseases through expansion of veterinary services are the priorities to improve the quality of life of nomads. The Government is also encouraging them to undertake modern cattle raising, agriculture and other small scale rural industries.

We also intend to make the full use of meat production especially due to Karkul production. A large percentage of meat goes to waste due to poor storage and transport facilities. The Government is actively engaged in formulating plans for cold storage and creating transport facilities.

Afghanistan has 1 990 million hectares of forest land. It provides wood as fuel, packing material for fruit and vegetables for local and foreign markets. The method of cutting forests is very primitive and it causes a lot of damage to forest lands.

Because of such unplanned cutting and over exploitation the forest area is decreasing by more than 3 percent each year. If enough attention is not paid for the protection and preservation, no forest will exist in Afghanistan within the next 20-25 years. It would be desirable if FAO could sanction a project under the TCP for the survey and planning of forests in Afghanistan.

I am happy to inform that the first population census has been recently completed in our country and the Afghanistan's population placed at 15. 54 million. Out of this about 89 percent are rural and nomads and 11 percent is urban population.

It would not be possible for me to furnish full details of the programmes and projects which are either underway or will be launched on priority basis in the near future. In a nut shell, other priority items for an integrated agricultural development are intensification of research and development activities in dry land farming, soil and water conservation, soil and hydrological surveys, development of forestry, inland fisheries, livestock, dairy, agriculture, rural industrialization etc. The foregoing account clearly brings out that we are encountered with a large and complex gammet of problems as nothing was practically done by farmer royal and exploitive regimers. Apparently, it would not be possible for the democratic government to attend even to the most urgent problems with the existing resources. Therefore, FAO should sympathetically consider the liberal grant of techno-financial assistance to the Afghan agriculture. The assistance will definitely prove blissful to transform the fate of those who have been exploited ruthlessly in the past and need governmental help to produce enough from their fields to being about austerity, peace and prosperity to our noble country in the near future.

The initiative to extend investments support activities deserves commendation as witnessed during the last biennium. Hopefully, it will continue with the same spirit of dedication.

I greatly admire the format of the programme of work and budget and in my view it is a complete and wholewome proposal for implementation during the next biennium.

I hope that my learned fellow delegates will agree with me that the state of food and agriculture in the developing countries continues to be grim and cause of concern. The average annual rate of increase in food production virtually remains stagment well below the target set out in the strategy of the second International Development Decade. Incidence of under nourishment still records onward march and the food aid has not yet reached the minimum level accepted in the World Food Conference nearly five years ago. This conference should address itself to determine and identify the reasons and bottlenecks for proper remedy and rectification in future.

I am of the view that now the time has come to look the facts in the face and accord top priority to projects and problems calling for quick and lasting solution to improve the quality of life of the poor living in the less fortunate part of this world. In my own country, we are engaged in a grim and historical battle to restore the fundamental rights and amenities to the poor who have suffered the exploitation by feudals and agents of imperialists. We are hopeful to transform our society and steer it towards prosperity and austerity in these days to come.

We call on the Twentieth Conference of the FAO to express the solidarity and the support for the people of Palestine, Zimbabwe, Rhodesia, Namibia, South Africa and the Sahnawe people in their just struggle for independence and for the construction of their countries.

L. XHUVELI (Albania): Mr. Chairman, it gives me pleasure on behalf of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania to extend to you the sincere congratulations on your election as Chairman of the 20th Conference of FAO. I also extend on the behalf of my delegation to the newly elected members, the Independent State of Western Samoa and Dominica, our heartiest welcome. The 20th Conference of Food and Agriculture is convening at a time when the progressive and freedom-loving people of the world are opposing the aggressive and predatory policies of the imperialist and social-imperialist powers and are making efforts to strengthen the unity in their struggle for national sovereignty, for their independent economic, cultural and social development.

The delegation of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania hail the victories scored by the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their just struggle to defend their freedom and national independence. We express our conviction that they will resolutely oppose the plots and the interference of the imperialist and social-imperialist powers to consolidate their political and economic independence.

The imperialist and social-imperialist powers endeavour through deception, dictation, threats and aggression to subjugate the peoples and to intensify their neo-colonialist exploitation, They strive to put the peoples and countries one against the other, to incite armed conflicts and to interfere in the inner affairs of the sovereign states so as to maintain intact their interests in different parts of the world and to intensify their exploitation.

In pursuance of the policy for world hegemony, the two superpowers, the USA and Soviet Union create hotbeds of tension and ignite war fires in different parts of the world; they rival with each other to the detriment of the peoples.

The events in the Middle East, in Indo-China, in Africa and in many other regions of the world are proof of the fierce rivalry between two imperialist superpowers, the USA and Soviet Union. In this rivalry is continually involving itself the social-imperialist China which is trying by all manner and means to enter into alliance with the blackest forces of mankind, "to take its place in the world" and to become a third superpower.

Today the capitalist and revisionist world has been gripped by a grave and all-round crisis which has its own consequences and which worsens the economic status of the peoples.

The imperialist powers in order to shift the burden of the crisis onto the backs of other peoples, are striving to preserve intact the unjust existing international relations. Through their reactionary theories such as the "world interdependence", the "international division of labour" and through their so-called "aids", "credits", etc. they strive to deepen the gap between the industrially developed countries and those under development. The practices followed by the imperialist powers and superpowers so as to keep up their established monopoly over the fields of science and technology, clearly show that they are not interested in creating a "balanced world economic structure" as their apologists propogate but in perpetuating the existing disproportions and keeping up their neo-colonialist exploitation.

The imperialists and revisionists are trying to spread the views that the general backwardness of many countries of the world, hunger and poverty, as well as the agricultural backwardness will be eliminated only through the progress of science and technology. We hold the view that the economic development in general and the introduction and exploitation of advanced science and technology are inseparable from the political and social factor. It is only by consolidating the national sovereignty and by putting an end, on a national and international scale, to oppression and exploitation, to plunder and subjugation, and by establishing just relations among people and various countries, that favourable conditions are created for an independent national development and progress, for the advancement of economy, culture, science and technology.

The continuous drop of the agricultural production, especially of cereals, which as shown in the statistics made available by the Food and Agriculture Organization during 1979 is forecast to be 6 per cent lower than that of 1978, brings about the lowering of the wellbeing and the further impoverishment of the labouring masses in many countries of the world.

At a time when over 8 hundred million people in the world are suffering from hunger and lack of food the imperialist and revisionist powers continue to pursue their plundering policies and of accumulating stocks of agricultural products.

The imperialist price policy on many agricultural products has become today a device which limits production, a factor which further plunders the peoples. During 1979 alone, it is envisaged that the imperialist monopolies will secure about 2 billion more dollars in profits than last year. Such a plundering policy is part and parcel of the colonialist and neo-colonialist policy followed by the imperialist powers against the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In the face of this grave situation created by the imperialist powers, the opposition and struggle of the progressive and freedom-loving countries is forcefully growing. They are better realizing that it is only in this way that they will be able to defend their national interests and freedom and march forward in the road of progress and development.

The Albanian delegation after studying carefully the Draft Programme and the Plan of Action tabled for approval by this Conference observes that in it have been included many issues about which we wish to state that we have reservations. We cannot approve the appraisals made in these documents about the "aids", "credits", "multi-national companies" and other problems of this kind, for the mere fact that the imperialist powers make use of them in the interest of their predatory policy. Likewise we hold the view that the so-called détente, disarmament, international security and co-operation which are propagated especially by the superpowers are nothing else but demagogy and deception which aim at lowering the vigilance of the peoples.

Radical transformations have taken place in Albania during these 35 years of liberation and of the establishment of the People's Power. Thanks to a centralized and well-planned management and resolutely abiding by the principle of self-reliance we have at present set up in our country a powerful, complex and modern industry, and an advanced agriculture.

Socialist Albania is completely independent politically and economically.

The Albanian people have always rejected the pressures and blackmail by the imperialist and social-imperialist powers which through various ways and means have attempted to obstruct and sabotage our country's socialist construction and its economic and social development. Our people have never stretched their hand for aid to the imperialist, social-imperialist and revisionist monopolies. Consistently pursuing the policy of self-reliance, our people have and are successfully coping with the imperialist-revisionist blockade and have scored numerous successes in the overall development of the economy, agriculture included.

Today Socialist Albania is turning from an agrarian-industrial country into an industrial agrarian country with an advanced industry and agriculture. In our country the people pay no taxes whatsoever, health service and education are free-of-charge and electric light has been installed in the remotest houses of the countryside.

Albania has never been hit by such negative phenomena as stagnation, the drop in production, the rising of prices, unemployment, inflation and other elements of economic crisis. Social production and national incomes continue to grow at an average annual rate which is bigger than that of the population growth. The successes in the industrial development have created a sound basis for the further advancement of agriculture which is increasingly developing and modernizing. It is developing harmoniously like all the other branches of economy.

The rates of the agricultural production growth have been so great that it has been possible for our country to overcome within a short span of years the backwardness inherited from the past. The overall agricultural production has increased 5 times, whereas population 2.5 times. Instead of a primitive agriculture existing before liberation, today we have a modern agriculture. Now almost all the tilling of the land and other farm work is performed by machines. During these years of liberation the irrigation capacity and the energy power have grown more than 12 times and 50 per cent of the arable land is under irrigation whereas more than 145 per hectare of chemical fertilizer as active matter is used. Before liberation such things as chemical fertilizers and tractors were practically unknown whereas today they are produced by the Albanian plants.

Comrade Enver Hoxha, the leader of the Albanian people has underlined that the struggle for an all-round and accelerated development of agriculture is "the struggle for socialism and independence the struggle which hampers the enslavement and impoverishment of the country". Therefore agriculture in Albania is the concern of all the people.

Though a highly mountainous country, possessing an arable land area which is several times lower than the world per capita average, our country is capable of securing the main needs for the most part of the agricultural and dairy products. The year 1979 marked the fourth successive year during which the needs for cereals were met by the country itself and agricultural production has reached the highest level attained in our country. Outstanding successes have also been achieved in the production of other crops, such as industrial crops, vegetables and fruits. The dairy production which has witnessed a considerable growth is capable of meeting almost all the needs of the people and of the industry.

The development of our agriculture testifies to the great possibilities created by the socialist system. An important role in the agricultural development and the increase of the productivity is played by the state sector in which all conditions for the utilization of the more advanced farming methods and techniques exist. The collectivisation has also created favourable premises for the scientific regionalization and specialization of our agriculture, thus putting an end to the one-sided and mono-culture development prevailing in agriculture before liberation.

The Albanian agriculture is assuming an ever more intensive character which is readily seen in the continuous growth of investment and of the labour done for each arable hectare of land, as well as in the constant increase of the labour productivity.

The socialist system in agriculture creates numerous possibilities for carrying out scientific experimentation, for utilizing the new technique and technology which during the years of the People's Power has witnessed a rapid development.

There are now in the country a number of central and local institutions, such as the Institute for Pedological Studies, the Institute for Agricultural, Zootechnical and Veterinary Research etc, the Higher Institutes of Agriculture and other Institutes at the Academy of Sciences which turn out high cadres. Scientific research work in Albania is not simply a privilege of a limited number of people but a kind of work in which are involved the broad masses both in town and countryside. This was made possible thanks to the wide-scale education of the labouring masses of town and country. While before liberation there was only one agricultural middle school, at present in most agriculture co-operatives there are vocational agricultural middle-schools and middle-schools of general learning.

Thanks to the great care shown by the Party and Peoples Power there is no comparison between the economic and social status of our peasantry of today and of the pre-liberation period. Nowadays in our villages which have completely changed their aspect the necessary social and cultural amenities have been set up. In addition to the agronomist and other highly trained agricultural cadres, there are in our villages doctors, pharmacists, dentists, teachers etc. The Albanian peasant of today pays no taxes of any kind, he, like the rest of the population, gets free of charge medical and education and has his own social insurances and pension.

It is already known that on 15th of April of this year a powerful earthquake hit and heavily damaged a number of regions of North Albania. It razed to the ground the dwelling-houses of about 100,000 inhabitants and many social and cultural amenities. But our people, relying on our own forces, raised as a single body, organized the work and within five months liquidated its aftermaths as predicted in the Decision of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. 17,000 houses and apartment buildings and 165 economic, social and cultural amenities have been built, which are much better and more beautiful than the former. They were given to the people to be their personal property, free of charge and without any tax or rent whatsoever.

The Albanian delegation, just as heretofore, at present too will not fail to render its modest contribution to the successful proceedings of this Conference for the good and prosperity of the peoples fighting to win and consolidate their genuine freedom and independence.

A. ANTOINE (Grenada): Mr. Chairman, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. Grenada joins the other delegates, Mr. Chairman, in congratulating you on your election. We have been discussing issues of major importance to the survival of the human family, and we are pleased with the way you have been conducting and directing our deliberations.

The Grenada delegation notes that the World Food Conference of 1974 recognised adequate diet as a basic human right. According to that declaration, Mr. Chairman, in the 1974-76 period some 420 million people in the developing market economies, or 22 per cent of their population, were denied the basic right to eat. In the MSA countries the figure was 28 per cent of the population.

In such a world any gathering dealing with rural development and food production must be considered vital.

Mr Chairman, the Grenada delegation views the food problem from both the short-and the long-term perspectives. In the short run, it has to do with distributing what is produced more equitably by providing food aid, financing food imports, etc. , but in the long run, the solution has to do with increasing production and the capacity to produce.

We do not oppose short-term measures as a necessary first aid, but too often food aid, for example, is used as a means of getting rid of excess production. Further, we support the existing International Emergency Food Reserve, the efforts to encourage stocking policies, the dissemination of information on crop prospects, import requirements, anticipated emergencies, etc. Similarly, we support the proposed Action Plan and hope that the details will be worked out speedily.

But we give much firmer support to plans and programmes which seek to improve the productive capacity of food-deficit countries.

Such approaches must begin with appropriate domestic policies in the area of agrarian reform, marketing arrangements, reasonable access to inputs, research and extension support.

But the food problem cannot be successfully attacked on the domestic front alone. International action will be necessary to remove trade barriers, to provide necessary technical and financial support. Nowhere is the need for International action more critical than in the development of the new Economic Fishing Zones.

Similarly, in most of the developing world, increases in food production and improvement in food security will not be achieved without substantial agrarian reform. In that attempt, many developing countries come face to face with the international might of the multi-national cooperations. In attempting to deal with these firms, developing countries, and especially small developing countries, need international support. Moreover, agrarian reform often involves costly land transfers which the developing world as a whole cannot afford. With funds in short supply, pressures mount for acquisition without compensation and of course increase the socio-political problems inherent in any agrarian reform programme. Perhaps the international community should investigate the possibility of providing funds to finance land transfers as part of its action programme of agrarian reform.

Mr Chairman, Grenada's position on these issues is clear and straightforward. We welcome short-term, first aid approaches to world food security, but we are anxious to see greater attention placed on the more meaningful, more permanent approaches.

As a small, traditional agricultural country just breaking out of the bonds of colonialism, we have traditionally imported most of our food; never as a people have we consciously, systematically attempted to feed ourselves.

Since our revolution in March this year, we have begun to diversify the agricultural sector, including the production of fish and meat and forestry development. We have for the first time embarked on the development of a national food strategy involving the production, marketing and processing of five products which we have, in fact, already begun to implement.

The problems we now face involve shortage of appropriate agricultural equipment, and almost complete absence of livestock, which was depleted under the previous regime, and absence of a marketing system. As I told you before, we did have a feed farm for livestock, but the friends of the old regime needed meat, so animals were slaughtered, and they needed land to build housing, so the land was distributed for housing.

With small inputs of equipment, technical and financial assistance, we shall be able to produce enough food to sustain our population adequately.

We are dependent on and making full use of the technical and financial support of the FAO system. This support is critical if small developing countries such as ours are to ensure food security for their population and make their very small but important contribution to world food security. This does not mean that we are transferring our responsibility to the FAO system. We recognize that the responsibility and the duty of providing food for our people rests squarely on our shoulders.

Finally, access of goods-agricultural and non-agricultural-into the markets of developed countries, reasonable prices for agricultural commodities in the markets of developed countries, equitable terms of trade, a New International Economic Order; and transfer of appropriate technology are essential to world food security. In a word, the Grenada delegation stresses the need for increased efforts designed to assist food-deficit countries to transform their agriculture so that measures such as food aid will in the long run not be necessary.

A. AMAURY STABILE (Brazil) (interpretation from Portuguese): Mr. Chairman, honourable delegates, it is a great satisfaction for us to participate in this conference because we know that here is the place where the great problems of the international community are dealt with, problems which have been of increasing intensity over the last few years. We believe this is an excellent occasion for us to give succinctly the Brazilian position with respect to these problems.

On various occasions in the past, Brazil has participated in FAO conferences and has provided the best proposals in order to move towards a solution to that crucial problem, which is hunger in various regions of the world. In maintenance of this tradition, we would reiterate the Brazilian position in support of the general objectives of this Organization. We state our hope and expectation that in the discussions and decisions which will be taken here which you contribute to minimize the food shortages in the world, particularly for the least developed countries, Brazil's voice will be heard.

Mr. Chairman, we would like to congratulate you and your officers for having been elected to your important jobs in this Twentieth Conference of the FAO. Furthermore, our warmest greetings to Western Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica, new members of our Organization.

We would also like to express our thanks to Dr. Edouard Saouma, the Director-General, for his efficient management of the FAO and particularly for his very realistic opening speech.

Brazil considers that this session of the conference is to establish a new strategy to see that indeed we can fulfill the objectives of the FAO, for which purpose we should also contribute into this discussion statements made by His Holiness Pope John Paul II and His Excellency President Kaunda of Zambia.

In this Conference we must move towards a mobilization of technical and economical operation which the international community of the United Nations system can promote.

After relatively high hopes, the agricultural situation in the world is still a concern, particularly for those countries which are just developing, where generally speaking there have not been significant improvements. Unfortunately, the goals laid down by the World Food Conference have not been fulfilled, and the long-term prospects are not encouraging, as indeed is set forth clearly in the document produced by the FAO, "Agriculture Toward 2000" as FAO's contribution to new actions. We know that the Organization in isolation is not sufficient for solving problems to be examined by our Conference, but what is certain is that the FAO can facilitate cooperation between member countries with different experiences in agricultural development to contribute. FAO can also help them to beef up their technical and institutional capacities in response to their own requirements and can also promote better investment in agriculture as well as help to generate any food surpluses.

FAO can also intensify specific actions to move towards the New International Economic Order, towards better marketing and production of agriculture, fisheries and forestry products.

Hence, Brazil has high hopes in this Conference and in the efficiency of the Organization to use the various experiences which are being presented.

May we, first of all, offer a quick commentary on some recent changes in the orientation of Brazilian political economy which imply the establishment of a high priority for agriculture. The contribution to agriculture, stock raising, forestry and fisheries can give to the Brazilian economy are extremely useful indeed, not only for their direct effect in generating employment and income and the production of food, but also for their indirect effect which will tend towards a better distribution of income and a better balance of payments.

Furthermore, agriculture can make a great contribution to the present energy shortfall. The development of agriculture in a country like Brazil, which has very high natural resources in terms of climate, land availability, forestry and labour, is the best choice in the present world economic situation. Over the last few decades, agriculture in Brazil has achieved in real terms a 4 percent growth rate per year.

Over the same period, the urban sector has also been under rapid expansion. The economy has been increasing by about 7.5 percent-this is the mean for the year-with relevant population increase of 3 percent.

In this period, Brazil has tripled the number of people in the cities who depend upon people who have remained working the land. Agriculture has sustained urban growth by providing food and underpinning oil imports, capital goods and intermediary imports whose use is absolutely necessary for economic expansion. Exports in agriculture have also been decisive and agricultural exports represent half of our exports to date. Agriculture now has a high additional responsibility to produce the biomass which is necessary for the generation of renewable resources of energy. This is genuinely a strategic sector in the sustained process of growth in Brazil.

Changes in this decade, when humanity has become conscious of the unviability of drawing continuously upon non-renewable sources of energy, requires of all countries in general and of Brazil in particular, necessary adjustments in economic policies to find a response to the difficulties which are bound to grow. A new economic policy is being formulated in Brazil and is being implemented now. At its base there is a new agricultural policy, the objective of which is rapid production, expansion through the use of two simultaneous programmes; one is the expansion of a cultivated area and the expansion of productivity *per se*. Within the terms of this new orientation we have already implemented certain instruments which can give short-term effects and the first information which is available for various regions of the country which are at the forefront of this programme, has demonstrated the efficiency of these instruments. In this first stage of the process which includes immediate use of new agricultural areas without additional investment, the farmers have been mobilized and have become aware of the importance of agriculture for the development of their country. They enjoy the support of their Government. We already have a system of guaranteed prices and we are perfecting and establishing a minimum remunerative process for their products. The Government is providing finance with preferential tax systems in support of this.

At the same time as these measures to stimulate production, we have also started a process of supply policy to make it more flexible. In spite of the difficulties caused by lack of adequate production due to bad harvests, and because of the recent character of the new agricultural policy, we are not

ready to state fully what are the results of these policies. Nevertheless, the first results are encouraging, particularly for the low income brackets. The new agricultural policy is not, of course, only a short-term measure; on the contrary, its most important characteristic is precisely the long-term and more durable programme. Thus, because we have an enormous reserve of land which can be incorporated into the productive process, the Government is providing specific tax structures the aim of which is to increase production by exonerating from taxing economically producing lands and by hitting with high taxes those lands which have not been properly used.

Concomitantly, programmes to use the humid fertile valleys are moving forward to improve agriculture there and we are preparing other measures of a fiscal nature so as to stimulate urban savings flows into the Government.

With respect to the rise in productivity, programmes of intensification are moving forward in the area of research for more yielding species. We are also stimulating the use of fertilizers so as to obtain a higher yield per hectare. This aspect is important because the programme to bring under production the humid valleys represents an important contribution to the rise in grain productivity, in that it is along this path that we will be able to obtain biannual crops. The extension of the humid valleys comes to something like twenty million hectares which can be brought into the national economy and will give us an average yield of 7,000 kilos per hectare per year, as compared to 1,000 previously. Hence, this is an important component in the fulfillment of our present agricultural policy. The incentive to promote rapid expansion in agricultural production will, however, require considerable financial re-sources, considerable volumes not only of direct investments, not only the preparation of new areas for the plough, but also in the preparation of new infrastructures such as housing, transport, technical assistance and, of course, investments in public health, education, sewage, so as to lay down the necessary conditions for human settlement.

Other countries have similar conditions to ours and we "believe that some initiatives could be developed by FAO so as to set up specific funds together with the necessary organization so as to stimulate those countries which, due to their own internal conditions, can produce the necessary extra food. The use of these funds, based on a financial operation in the long term which could be amortized by the food produced from the credit given, would be an excellent solution to the problem of hunger from which millions of people suffer. Such operations will have, in the short term, a double effect. First of all, the country which would receive the financing could promote and develop agricultural production in favourable areas basically by increasing the productivity, and this would also be an excellent example to follow. A second effect would be that the country would thus be able to amortize the initial credit which had been given to it, to the benefit of the population.

Cooperation and technical assistance of FAO in ray country has been highly significant. This experience is important, particularly in those activities intended to raise the diet level of the low income brackets of our population, but we think this contribution can all the better follow the new direction which FAO has taken. Industrialized countries will make an important contribution to the developing countries by providing them with the relevant easy access to international markets and better conditions of competitiveness. We know that agricultural development of various countries is limited by problems of international trade. The protectionism of certain developing countries' markets is a difficulty for the exports of developing countries. It restricts the generation of income which would be the result of a free trade. Such limitations are worsening the already unfavourable terms of trade between the agriculture exporter countries and the developed industrialized countries. These conditions have become worse recently, and indeed the stability of agricultural prices has also suffered. A good development of input markets is absolutely essential if we are to raise the activity of agricultural developing countries. In a situation where there is food at low prices, we find ourselves at the same time in a situation where there is an unjustifiable rise in modern inputs for agriculture. There is a considerable challenge, therefore, to stabilize the price of food products at low levels and to stabilize at proper levels agricultural inputs, to move out of the present spiral of inflation.

In spite of a certain amount of progress, we must recognize that protectionism is still an obstacle. Hence, we have a great deal to do in order to achieve genuine changes in international trade.

With respect to the items on the agenda for this meeting, Brazil would like to state its full support for the Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1980/81, especially concerning the areas of agriculture, fisheries, forestry and the relevant austerity limits for administrative costs. Brazil would like to express its concern at the inequitable distribution of responsibilities in the area of contributions to the FAO budget. Our delegation is extremely interested to see the Programme for the development and management of fisheries in the EEZ's and we believe that the capacity and technical experience of FAO can make a substantial contribution towards raising incomes and nutrition

al levels of the poor population through fishery resources in certain specific countries. In relation to World Food Security the Brazilian Government expresses its concern at the interruption of discussions on the New International Food Grains Agreement. We would hope that these negotiations could be resumed as quickly as possible. Brazil has increased its storage capacity by more than 100 percent in the last five years and has attempted to develop its own schemes of buffer stocks for food commodities which, when necessary, could supply both the external and internal markets.

The ways to find the proper instruments and tools to reduce world famine have been supported by many efforts but have given rise to few concrete results. Brazil will not fail in its commitment to the international community and will make its contribution to an increase in the world food supply towards the promotion of a New International Economic Order. We are a country which has physical resources that offer partial solutions to some of the world's problems, the world where the population is going up so quickly. We have land and vegetation resources, solar energy and hydric resources which can be formed into food and energy, which elements are increasingly rare in this world. We have an agricultural area of 500 million hectares 30 percent of which is being utilized with cattle raising and only 10 percent, or 50 million hectares under agriculture. We have more than 300 million hectares to help to increase world food production and to increase energy biomass.

As a developing country short in its own capital we require investors to give us the necessary implants so that all this potential can be mobilized for the benefit of the world. We are certain that our country is aware of its prospects and is aware of its position in history.

My Government, in spite of difficulties, has associated with the present crises and is attempting to provide our country with the necessary political, social and economic conditions that will lead us to a development, which aims at an improvement in the standard of living of the poor population. From this point of view we reaffirm our support to the general objectives of this Conference and make clear our trust in the capacity of science and increasing understanding among people as the best path to be followed to gain a solution to the present world problems.

z. GREGOR (Observer for World Federation of Trade Unions): First of all I would like to thank you for giving me the possibility of expressing the positions of the World Federation of Trade Unions on certain questions which are at the centre of its concern, before this august assembly.

Our Organization, as well as the Director-General of the FAO, is seriously concerned about the fact that hunger and malnutrition are not on the decrease. On the contrary, statistics show that this situation is growing worse.

Like the Director-General, the WFTU is of the opinion that concrete and efficient actions are necessary to fight against the ever deepening economic crisis which hits a great number of countries as a result of the capitalist social system and which directly affects the living and working conditions of agricultural workers and peasants. It is therefore necessary to seek and find appropriate and adequate solutions.

We do not believe that national or even international action only by governments would be sufficient. The workers' and peasants' organisations certainly could also contribute specifically to this action of vital importance.

In this direction we have already submitted concrete proposals both at the 19th session of this Conference and at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. However, these proposals have been taken into account neither by the governments concerned nor by the FAO.

Before this Conference we declare that our organisation, with the strength of 190 million organized workers behind it, several tens of millions of whom are agricultural workers, is ready to carry out actions with a view to promoting a genuine participation by workers, especially those from the countryside, more participation by women and young people, in economic and social development and in eliminating hunger and misery from our planet. In this connection the World Confederation of Trade Unions appreciates the initiative taken by the FAO Director-General in submitting to this Conference the Plan of Action on World Food Security.

All these aims and objectives can only be achieved in a world of peace. This is why the WFTU insists so much upon the necessity of ending the arms race and upon the gradual realisation of a general disarmament. A part of the enormous means thus saved could be used for the promotion of urgent economic and social projects and especially for giving greater assistance to developing countries.

In this respect the WFTU fully supports the historic call of the Soviet Union made by President Brezhnev in his speech on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the GDR, in Berlin, the capital of the German Democratic Republic, aimed at maintaining and strengthening the policy of detente and disarmament, and at overcoming the dangerous manoeuvres of the enemies of world peace.

Concerning the implementation of the results of the recent World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, the WFTU and the Agricultural and Food Workers Trade Unions International consider that its results do not respond fully to the demands and needs of hundreds of millions of men, women and children who suffer from hunger and misery. Moreover, it is with sadness and deep regret that the trade unions do not see any evidence of the vital political desire on the part of many governments to arrive at genuine, radical and democratic agrarian reforms, giving the land to those who work it and limiting the harmful power of monopolies and transnational corporations over life and work in rural areas. These are vital preconditions for economic and social development and for the establishment of a new international economic order.

Nevertheless, this Conference has enabled the advancing of certain ideas and principles which will inspire the countries concerned in particular developing countries to promote the principles of their economic and political independence and to administer their own national wealth.

The WFTU stresses the essential importance of Chapter III of the Programme of Action concerning "Popular participation". It draws the attention of governments to 8 A (i) regarding the application, in rural areas, of ILO Conventions No. 87 on freedom of association and No. 141 concerning the organizations of rural workers and their role in economic and social development. On this occasion we would like to launch a new call to governments to ratify and apply these conventions.

The adoption of the "Declaration of Principles" and of the "Programme of Action", certainly is the result of a compromise. Nevertheless, these two documents favour the application of agrarian reforms with popular participation and stress the irreplaceable role of agricultural workers and their organizations and that of rural women and young people in development.

These documents must not remain dead letters. At national level, workers and their trade union organizations, along with peasant organizations, must work in order that documents adopted by governments at the end of the Conference do not remain as a simple declaration of good intentions but that the words of governments are matched by their actions.

In addition, we would like to inform you that already before the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development the trade union organizations realised a great initiative at the international level with a view to mobilising the workers all over the world, in particular those from rural regions, for action in favour of radical transformations in the rural world by genuine agrarian reforms. This initiative led to a World T. U. Conference held in Algiers in November 1978 in which also participated the representatives of the FAO and of the Arab Labour Organization, and the delegates of 55 national T. U. organizations from 46 countries in four continents. Represented were also three international T. U. organizations (World Confederation of Labour, World Federation of Trade Unions, Trade Union International of Agriculture), and three regional T. U. organizations: the Internat. Conf. of Arab TU's, the Organization of African TU Unity and the Permanent Congress of TU Unity of Workers in Latin America. This TU Conference adopted a declaration addressed to the workers all over the world, and an appeal addressed to the participants of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which took place in the same hall in the month of June.

This TU Conference set up a Permanent Committee the task of which is to follow the implementation of workers' demands cast at the TU Conference in Algiers. The Permanent Committee held its session last week in Brussels (on the invitation of the WCL) and inter alia has initiated a study on the impact of the "Declaration of Principles" and of the "Programme of Action" of the Rome Conference with an objective to ensure an active participation of both industrial and rural workers in the realisation of genuine agrarian reforms which would contribute decisively.

At international level, the World Federation of Trade Unions is ready to co-operate actively with the FAO in order to contribute towards the implementation of its own engagements in accordance with Chapter XII of the Plan of Action and which are mentioned in document C 79/28, as well as the tasks arising for the FAO within the framework of the new international development strategy planned by the United Nations for the 1980s.

Therefore, we suggest that the FAO co-operate more actively and more efficiently with the international TU organizations.

This is why the WFTU and the Agricultural and Food Workers TUs wish to emphasise from this rostrum the necessity that the Director-General of the FAO continues to hold regular annual FAO/Trade

unions consultations, taking special account of the contribution that trade unions can and must make to the solution of the great problems which are posed before the FAO so urgently at present. It is necessary to use all the possibilities the FAO and the trade unions have at their disposal at the regional level in all the continents.

In this connection, we rely upon not only the FAO itself, but also upon the willingness of all governments to contribute thereto.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señores delegados, cuando antes el Representante de la Delegación de China ha pedido la palabra, he indicado que de acuerdo con el punto 39 del primer informe del Comité General, que aprobamos el primer día, le rogaba que lo hiciera al final, dado que en dicho punto se dice que cuando un delegado desea replicar deberá hacerlo preferiblemente por la tarde del día en que se ha expresado la crítica y después de que todos los que desearan participar en el debate hubieran tenido la oportunidad de hacer uso de la palabra.

Queda en este momento tan solo una organización que desea hacer uso de la palabra, el Representante de la Organización Meteorológica Mundial. Por tanto, podríamos proceder o bien dando ahora la palabra al delegado de China, puesto que los delegados de los gobiernos tienen prioridad, y después a la Organización Meteorológica Mundial; o bien interviniendo ahora la Organización Meteorológica Mundial y después el Delegado de China.

Dejo la decisión al delegado de China.

Entonces, si les parece, hablaría ahora el Representante de la Organización Meteorológica Mundial e inmediatamente después intervendría el Delegado de la China. Tiene la palabra el Representante de la Organización Meteorológica Mundial.

M. CONNAUGHTON (World Meteorological Organization): Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for allowing me this opportunity to speak. In view of the lateness of the hour you will be glad to hear that my statement is very brief.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: it is my pleasure to convey to you the greetings and the good wishes of Dr. Davies, the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization.

Down through the years FAO and WMO have as sister specialized agencies of the United Nations family had a close and friendly relationship. I believe it is true to say that this relationship has over the past few years become even closer. Tangible evidence of the close collaboration between our two Organizations in the field of agrometeorology may be found in various forms. I will just mention a few. The Joint Secretariat Unit of Agricultural Meteorology was formed during the past year. There is a continuous meteorological input to the FAO Global Information and Early Warning System. There is the presence of a WMO meteorologist in the Locust Control Unit of FAO. There is also the joint sponsorship by FAO, WMO and the European Space Agency of two training courses on the application of Remote Sensing to Agricultural Meteorology. There is also the Agroclimatic Survey of Southeast Asia which is currently being carried out by FAO, WMO and UNESCO. All these joint activities bear witness, I believe, to our mutual desire to cooperate in fields of common interest.

Such collaboration follows logically from the fact that weather and climate play such important roles in all aspects of agriculture. This fact was indeed well recognized by the World Food Conference when it called for close cooperation between FAO and WMO in the field of agricultural meteorology. This fact was recognized too by the Nineteenth Conference of FAO when in its Resolution 12/77 it called for the closest collaboration between agriculturists and meteorologists at both national and international levels.

I am confident that the future will bring continued and even closer cooperation between our two agencies. In particular I believe that there is much scope for the introduction of a meteorological component into many of FAO national agricultural projects and that such input would enhance the value of the projects to the countries concerned. I would assure you that WMO would be glad to cooperate with FAO in arranging for such input into appropriate agricultural development projects.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, may I wish you on behalf of our Secretary-General a most fruitful Conference.

XING CHONG-ZHI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: The delegate of Albania makes use of this forum in which we are discussing important problems in the field of food and agriculture to attack China. For this we feel very regretful. The stand of the Chinese Government is known to all. Distortions about Chinese policy are utterly groundless and not worth refuting. In order to ensure that the proceedings of the Conference should go ahead smoothly we think it unnecessary to pay much attention to the unjustifiable attack by the delegate of Albania.

L. XHUVELI (Albania): Our delegation is of the opinion that the Albanian Government has problems on the present state of agriculture and food in the world today as well as the factors that exert their influence on them. We have always voiced our views openly and so we did in this Conference. In this Conference we voiced our opinion on China, an opinion which has been testified to with each passing day. We oppose the interference of the Chinese delegation.

XING-CHONG-ZHI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): The Chinese delegate has to reiterate its position, that the attack by the Albanian delegate is not worth refuting. I have nothing more to say.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Antes de levantar la sesión quisiera hacer dos indicaciones. La primera, que el señor Secretario General de la Conferencia, aquí ausente, continúa con una mala costumbre y es la de citarnos a los miembros del Comité General a horas tempranas. Entonces quiero recordar a los señores delegados de la China, Líbano, Panamá, Arabia Saudita, Senegal, Reino Unido y Estados Unidos de America que mañana nos volveremos a reunir el Comité General a las 8. 45 horas en punto y ruego a todos su asistencia.

La segunda cuestión es que mañana tendremos una agenda cargada de trabajo. Probablemente habrá del orden de unos 14 oradores en la mañana y otros tantos por la tarde. Si bien algunos de ellos por ser representantes de organizaciones y no de estados miembros intervendrán tan solo durante 10 minutos, pero como tenemos que mantener el orden y terminar mañana, yo agradecería a todos que su intervención se ajustara mucho al tiempo e indico que, en la medida que sea necesario, prolongarán el debate de la mañana durante 15 minutos más y el de la tarde hasta que terminen todas las intervenciones, con el fin de terminar nuestro programa de trabajo.

Nada más señoras y señores, se levanta la sesión hasta mañana a las 9. 30 de la mañana.

The meeting rose at 18. 45 hours

La seance est levée à 18 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 18. 45 horas

conference

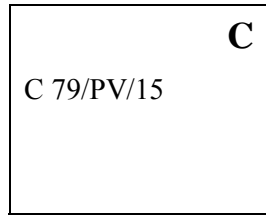
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

FIFTEENTH PLENARY MEETING

QUINZIEME SÉANCE PLENIERE

15ª SESION PLENARIA

(20 November 1979)

The Fifteenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 09. 45 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La quinzième séance plénière est ouverte à 09 h 45 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 15ª sesión plenaria a las 09. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS Y HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

EL PRESIDENTE: Buenos días, señoras y señores delegados. Vamos a continuar con el punto del orden del día relativo al debate general.

F. ZENNY (Jamaica): Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

My Minister of Agriculture was not able to attend the Conference because of other pressing political engagements.

However, he joins me in congratulating you on your election to the Chairmanship of this FAO Conference. We also wish to congratulate the Vice-Chairmen and other Officers on their election to their respective offices.

To Dr. Saouma go our congratulations for a masterful opening statement and to him and the FAO Staff for the excellent arrangements for this Conference as well as the quality of the documentation provided to us.

We take a particular pleasure in welcoming Samoa and the Commonwealth of Dominica to FAO. Like them, Jamaica is a small island nation, a member of the Commonwealth, and a predominantly agricultural country.

The fact also deserves attention that the Nobel Prize for economics has been awarded to two economists, whose main concern has been with the development and transformation of traditional agriculture in developing countries. One of them, Sir Arthur Lewis, is a West Indian who worked for many years in Jamaica in the fields of education and agriculture.

This Conference was opened by his Holiness the Pope and President Kaunda. In their own individual styles they both underlined the need for mankind to come to grips with the scourge of poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

Much of the documentation before us graphically illustrates the point. Thus the State of Food and Agriculture, the FAO's medium-term Objectives, and "Agriculture: Toward 2000-to cite but a few-constitute a balance sheet of past efforts and an indicator of the magnitude of the task that lies ahead.

As we enter the decade of the 80s and prepare for the next international development strategy, as part of the International Economic Order, the picture is indeed grim.

In 1979 total wheat and coarse grain production is estimated to be 75 million tons and present increases in grain prices are estimated to add \$2 billion to the import bill of developing countries. Moreover, we observe that production trends in developing countries continue to remain well below the 4. percent annual target set by the World Food Conference of 1974; that developing countries will have to produce about 50 percent more food at the end of the century just to maintain present inadequate levels of consumption; that trade protectionism remains widespread and the terms of trade of most developing countries continue to deteriorate; that food imports continue to increase in value with cereal imports growing twice as fast in the 70s as in the 60s; that prices of vital inputs such as farm tools, machinery, fertilizers and pesticides continue to escalate; that food aid in cereals remain below the target of 10 million tons; that the 500 000 tons of cereals required by the International Emergency Reserve still remains out of reach; and that the 0. 7 percent target for ODA from developed countries is as far from being attained as ever.

As if this were not enough, a larger and more apocalyptic picture looms in the background. While the developed world continues to spend \$400 billion per annum on armaments, the world population will increase to 600 billion by the end of the century, with 80 percent of that population in the Third World. At a conservative estimate, the wretchedly poor and malnourished will increase from 400 to 600 million. And, finally, we are faced with a fossil fuel energy crisis, the effects of which on developing country economies are already nearing catastrophic proportions.

Mr. Chairman, what can a poor small country such as Jamaica do to help stem the tide and to ensure that mankind avoids the disaster that is implicit in the grim prospects that lie ahead? We believe that our contribution to world peace and economic development must be based on two basic principles. One is self-reliance and the other is cooperation.

Our major contribution must be to ensure that we achieve, as much as possible, self-sufficiency in food production.

Our agriculture employs a third of our labour force but contributes only 11 percent to GDP. It represents the area of greatest potential growth in our economy, providing we have the political courage and will to significantly increase its share of national investments so as to break the cycle of underdevelopment.

But this is not easy. We are currently faced with serious economic difficulties. These are characterized by a serious shortage of foreign exchange; a high level of unemployment; adverse terms of trade for most of our main export commodities and the escalating costs of imported energy, manufactured items, and agricultural inputs.

Nevertheless, our Current Five Year Development Plan is intended to bring about a mix of economic and financial measures; institutional reform; and major investment projects: the aim of which is to increase production and productivity in the farming sector. Measures such as land reform, the provision of physical and social infrastructure, and access to more incentives and inputs such as extension, training, credit, fertilizers, pesticides: together constitute an integrated rural development programme. The objective is to develop both the domestic food and the export sectors of agriculture, thereby raising the income level and standard of living of our rural people, particularly women and small farmers. We are thus committed to putting into practice the WCARRD Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action.

With regard to the principle of cooperation, we are pursuing this at the regional level through institutions such as CARICOM, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Food Corporation, the Caribbean Regional Food Plan, and the Caribbean Regional Agricultural Research Programme under CARDI. TCDC has almost been a way of life in the Caribbean, and will also be pursued vigourously through our Latin America Regional Institutions. However much more can be done at the international level, among developing countries generally, and in the field of food and agriculture, in particular. FAO has an important role to play in bringing about such cooperation.

At the international level, while Jamaica stresses the virtues of self-reliance, we also recognize the interdependence of nations, and the need for international cooperation. We believe that the New International Economic Order is of particular relevance because it does offer a strategy for self-reliance; the removal of the present inequity in international trade arrangements; and the transfer of resources and technology by way of, for example, increased levels of appropriate investments and technical and development assistance. A special session of the UN General Assembly in 1980 is expected to focus on these matters, and it is our hope that in this forum as in others where the North South Dialogue is occurring, FAO's support will be provided to ensure that food and agriculture development constitutes one of the centerpieces of the New International Economic Order and the Third Development Decade. Already a study such as AT 2000 represent a very useful contribution. It challenges us to give rural development the absolute priority, both at the national and international level as part of the basic needs strategy.

Having stated Jamaica's position on certain issues of general importance, my delegation would like to make its position clear, in as brief a manner as possible, on some of the remaining issues before the Conference.

The recent Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the Fifth Session of UNCTAD have achieved little progress. The developing countries have put forward rational proposals for reforming the present international trade structure and for establishing an Integrated Programme of Commodities. The developed countries must now show the necessary political will to do away with measures which entrench economic disparities, by restricting access of products from developing countries while promoting their exports at the expense of developing countries.

We urge that the UN Negotiating Conference on an International Wheat Agreement be reconvened. Without such an agreement we are faced with a crisis similar to that in 1973-74. At the same time we support the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action for the establishment of national food reserves and stocks and for the provision of assistance to ISA countries.

A new Food Aid Convention should be completed and the 10 million ton target for annual food aid commitment be met and increased progressively to the 15-16 million tons required by 1985.

Jamaica also supports the \$1 billion target proposed by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme; as well as the attainment of the 500 000 tons target required for the International Emergency Food Reserve.

As the major organization responsible in the UN System for Food and agriculture, we endorse the priorities reflected in the Programme of Work and Budget as being in line with the needs of developing countries. FAO has the knowledge and experience to be of great assistance to these countries, provided they know what want and are determined to use the Organization for their own benefit. However, we have some serious reservations regarding the amount made available to the Organization, in the light of the vital role that we have unanimously called on it to play. There is here a basic contradiction between-on the one hand-the importance and magnitude of the problems facing the developing countries; their reliance on the FAO as a channel for an increased transfer of resources and technology; the consequent growth in the more practical and developmental aspects of the Programme of Work; and-on the other hand-the very marginal increase in the Budget. Is it always to be the case that, whenever we come to the budget, food and agriculture will continue to be the victim of an excess of rhetoric and a paucity of means? Let us hope this is not a reflection of a general trend.

We have noted with satisfaction the continuing thrust in decentralization; the maintenance of the special action programmes on food security, fertilizers post harvest losses and improved seeds; the growth-albeit limited-in the Technical Cooperation Programme; and the continued emphasis being given to the North-South Dialogue on trade, commodity agreements and arrangements, food security, and other related matters within the framework of the New International Economic Order.

We welcome the emphasis on strengthening FAO's investment activities, as a means of supporting efforts to mobilize and absorb an ever-increasing amount of funding from bilateral and multilateral sources. In this respect the agreements reached with the World Bank, the Regional Banks and IFAD augurs well for developing countries. However, the Organization must do more in bringing about the shortening of the project cycle, and in improving the procedures, term and conditions which apply to such financing. All too often these appear unnecessarily time-consuming and burdensome.

We wish to make special mention of the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action coming out of the WCARRD Conference. Jamaica is at present evaluating its land reform programme with a view to consolidating and strengthening it. We intend to seek FAO assistance in this matter. We view this as an integral part of the mandate being sought here by FAO for a follow-up programme and the necessary voluntary funding of \$20 m. Progress in Agrarian reform must be monitored and evaluated in terms of literacy, income distribution and nutrition to ensure that the barriers to social justice are removed. Increases in production by technological means are not enough. Developing countries must exercise the necessary political will to ensure a more equitable distribution of existing resources and future benefits. In particular, rural development must proceed on the basis of the full integration of women. In Jamaica their importance in food production, marketing and human development is self-evident. Yet we have done little to release this vast potential. As producers in their own right they must benefit from credit, training and all other inputs and have a major contribution to make in the rational use of land and improved technology.

As an Island nation, Jamaica has a particular interest and has been very active in the developments on the Law of the Sea. We welcome the FAO programme of assistance to developing countries to manage their Extended Economic Zone. FAO has an important role to play in ensuring that these states benefit fully from the opportunity and challenge offered by the new Regime of the Sea. Such assistance should include joint venture agreements development funding, and technical assistance. At present we in Jamaica have completed a major fishing port facility and are undertaking the assessment of the resources with a view to expanding our fishing effort, including joint ventures with neighbouring states.

However, the EEZ programme should not be carried out at the expense of small scale fishery programmes, including inland fisheries and aquaculture. We feel strongly that FAO should intensify its efforts in these areas for the benefit of the rural poor.

In the area of Forestry, Jamaica welcomes the greater emphasis being given to forestry for rural development and its integration with food production. This is what we are attempting to do under our rural integrated projects and the soil conservation and Watershed Development project recently launched with the assistance of FAO, UNDP and the Government of Norway.

Finally, I should like to comment on two aspects of FAO's programme with which we are not altogether satisfied. These concern fertilizer use and the question of agricultural research. On the fertilizer question the diminishing availability and constantly escalating price of fertilizer is of great concern. We are aware that Jamaica does not fall in the category of MSA countries which are to receive assistance under the International Fertilizer Supply Schemes. But there is a great deal that can be done by FAO to develop systems of fertilizer use and application, including organic fertilizer, on a cost benefit basis in the context of small hillside farmers, operating intensive multicropping systems under rain-fed conditions and using hand labour. This would be of practical and immediate benefit. It also leads me to the next point. A great deal is being done in the areas of research but it is difficult for small countries like us to keep pace with and absorb the results of such research. At the very best it is an expensive and time consuming exercise. Under our Regional Research Institution CARDI and our Current IBD Assisted National Research Programme we would hope the Organization would act as a clearing house and source of practical assistance in helping us to determine our priorities and obtain the best possible results in the shortest time to suit our local conditions and constraints.

T. J. KELLY (Australia): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates: The Australian Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. Peter Nixon, very much regrets that it is not possible for him to be present at the Conference with his colleagues from so many countries throughout the world. He has had Ministerial responsibility for agriculture, forestry and fisheries for only a short time in addition to long held responsibility for another portfolio, and his Australian commitments prevent him from being here on this occasion.

The Australian delegation congratulates you, Mr. Chairman, very warmly on your election as Chairman of the Conference. We congratulate also the Vice-Chairman and the other delegates who have been elected to hold various offices during the Conference.

We express appreciation to the Director-General, Dr. Saouma, and his many colleagues at FAO for the characteristic efficiency with which the Conference preparation has proceeded; for the quality of the documents; for the professionalism of the Secretariat members who are associated with our work.

We welcome to membership of the Organization the Commonwealth of Dominica and, as members of the South West Pacific Region, we extend a special welcome to Western Samoa. We hope that both of these countries will have a fruitful association with FAO.

Our Conference began with three addresses, from His Holiness Pope John Paul II, from the distinguished President of Zambia, Mr. Kaunda, and from the Director-General, Dr. Saouma. Taken together, those addresses embrace the sense of compassion, urgency and sober realism with which we must all approach our task.

Australia is firmly committed to the ideals and objectives of the FAO. We see the practical task of each Conference as being to establish in a businesslike way the immediate programme of work and the associated priorities and costs which will constitute the activities of the Organization for the ensuing biennium. We also see merit in the Conference seeking to identify problems in the somewhat longer term, so that they can be averted, or at least their effects can be diminished, by appropriate early action.

We have found it heartening, Mr. Chairman, to observe that in our proceedings so far at the Twentieth Session of the Conference the grass roots activities have commanded the attention they deserve both in the Commissions and in large measure here in the Plenary.

The Australian delegation has been impressed by the constructive approach adopted by the distinguished Minister of Agriculture and Water of Saudi Arabia, who, in his address to the Plenary, offered some suggestions for avoiding routine and for concentrating on important and essential issues, thereby enhancing the practical orientation of our work. Responding to that lead, and in the same spirit of cooperation, we too see scope for change.

We accept as inevitable, Mr. Chairman, that some of the great economic issues which divide the world, for example, the rate of progress, will be adverted to in our discussions. They are part of the background against which we form national and international policies. We do not, however, see this form as one in which this kind of issue can be resolved. Our concern is not only about whether it is appropriate that discussion be had at length of these matters here but even more importantly about whether such discussion is useful.

We believe that the performance of FAO in the field is the essence of its contribution to alleviating the problems of people in developing countries. Examples are its cropping and livestock work, pest control and disease elimination, rural development, nutrition and all the other country-oriented components of its programme. The concern of every Conference with the advancement of those programmes contributes to the unique capacity of this Organization to help eliminate hunger.

We suggest therefore that a greater concentration on these issues in our discussions does more to help poor and hungry people than does repetitive discussion of wider issues which are under consideration in other fora having charters to help resolve them.

Our welcome to Western Samoa reminds us that we have in the South West Pacific Region a living example of the bridge which this Organization can help to build between developed and developing countries, and of the value there is in a special association between countries with some geographical affinity. Australia is very happy that as part of its relationship with countries in our region we have been able to help with forestry conservation and management projects in Papua New Guinea, Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Western Samoa; in the food security context with balance of payments support to Fiji for rice imports; and as well with bilateral programmes in other South Pacific countries including Cook Islands, New Hebrides, Gilbert Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu.

We are pleased to take up, although briefly, the suggestion of the Secretariat that Country Statements might take into account two key issues, namely, world food security and the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones.

We see the evolution of satisfactory food security arrangements as something to be achieved through the efforts of both developing and developed countries. We readily accept that, because we are concerned with hunger and deprivation, the lack of national capacity in developing countries carries with it the right to be assisted. We believe also that the developing countries themselves are best placed to take the local initiatives necessary for successful progress.

For Australia as a developed country and as a food exporter, there is no lack of will. What is to be determined is simply a matter of how most effectively within the resources that we have we can make an equitable contribution to what is being done.

The interest which many distinguished delegates have expressed in the international grains negotiations is very relevant to our concern in Australia about world food security. We agree that grain must be available for the needy. We are no less aware than anybody else of the need for a new International Grains Agreement on realistic terms. But we include in the expression "realistic terms" a price relationship which will ensure that returns to farmers, whose investment is high, are sufficient to make sure that grains continue to be produced in the quantities which the world requires.

We share the concern expressed by many delegates about the need for a new Food Aid Convention. We have to date taken the view that there is a link between the negotiation and entry into force of a new grains agreement and a new FAC, but we are at present reviewing Australia's position on that point.

Turning to the extension of fishing zones under national jurisdiction to 200 nautical miles, it is useful to reflect that this extension in itself will not increase the supply of fish products. The seas and oceans have always been there to exploit. What is changing is the extent to which governments can control events in off-shore areas. There are now better prospects than there have been for managed harvesting of certain marine resources and the application of suitable conservation policies. There are also opportunities for greater international cooperation in the exploitation and management of offshore fishery resources. The observations made yesterday in the Country Statement by our colleagues from Papua New Guinea are of particular interest in this regard.

We welcome the Director-General's perception of the need to accelerate the provision of the means by which countries whose food resources are otherwise meagre may take advantage of the opportunity now highlighted to expand their food supplies from the sea and whilst retaining the usual concerns about finance and priorities we do generally support the programme in this field.

In our own case the 200-mile zone was proclaimed on 1 November and we are already involved in access negotiations and feasibility studies, the latter involving cooperation between Australian commercial interests with Japanese, Korean, American and Polish fishing interests in a number of areas.

I conclude by assuring you of our continuing support for the Organization and for its practical programmes designed to help eliminate as quickly as can be the problem of poverty and hunger throughout the world.

G. SCHWARTZMANN (Perú): Señor Presidente, señores Ministros, señores representantes de los países, señor Director General, señoras y señores. En primer lugar mi más cordial felicitación a usted, señor Presidente de la Conferencia por la acertada elección de que ha sido objeto y la brillante forma en que está desarrollando su labor, y al señor Director General por la organización y el éxito de esta reunión. Igualmente mis felicitaciones a los países de Samoa y Dominica, recientemente incorporados a esta Organización.

Es para mí un honor ser portavoz del Gobierno Revolucionario de la Fuerza Armada del Perú, ante el 20º período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO, a fin de exponer en forma breve, los aspectos más importantes de la agricultura y la alimentación del presente en mi país y los esfuerzos que está haciendo para eliminar la pobreza y el hambre en la sociedad peruana.

El Gobierno de mi país, consciente del reto que significa mejorar el nivel alimentario y nutricional de la población peruana, compatible con la superación de las condiciones de vida de la población rural; y consciente también del obstáculo que para tal fin eran las formas antisociales de tenencia y explotación de los recursos naturales, consideró como condición previa, la ejecución de una política integral y agresiva de reforma agraria, mediante la cual se haga posible el acceso de los campesinos a la tenencia de la tierra.

La política de transformaciones estructurales, recogiendo las aspiraciones de la población rural, no ha significado únicamente la reforma de la empresa agropecuaria en una política sectorializada; más bien, ella ha constituido una política nacional de desarrollo rural, mediante la cual se ha articulado un conjunto coherente de políticas multisectoriales concurrentes a la consolidación de la nueva estructura agraria emergente. Es necesario indicar que la política agraria en general, no ha sido subordinada hacia objetivos productivistas solamente, antes bien, la confluencia de importantes recursos económicos hacia el medio rural, a la vez que buscan la aceleración de la producción de alimentos, están tendiendo hacia la eliminación de los todavía vigentes desniveles en la distribución del ingreso y hacia la superación de las condiciones de vida de la población del medio rural.

A fin de dar una idea cabal sobre la magnitud del esfuerzo realizado, haré un recuento breve de los logros alcanzados por la aplicación de la reforma agraria peruana. De un total de 30,6 millones de hectáreas que constituyen la superficie agropecuaria del país tan sólo 1,2 millones cuentan con riego y 1,8 millones de hectáreas son de secano o lluvia, los 27,7 millones de hectáreas restantes corresponden a pastos naturales de baja calidad.

De esta área disponible se han adjudicado más de 8 millones de hectáreas, a cerca de 350 000 familias. Además se ha otorgado titulación a 314 comunidades campesinas sobre 1,2 millones de hectáreas y adjudicado en asentamientos rurales 0,6 millones de hectáreas a 25 000 familias adicionales. Se han constituido alrededor de 1 800 empresas asociativas y, además, se han formado 300 cooperativas de servicios y 43 centrales de cooperativas, fortaleciendo de esta manera la organización económica a partir del medio rural e incorporado a la producción y al trabajo una mayor cantidad de población.

Este gran esfuerzo que han realizado el pueblo y gobierno peruano, no ha sido hecho en vano. Las nuevas relaciones sociales en el campo, están creando bases más sólidas y aparentes para la instalación de una agricultura moderna; la misma que constituye ahora un soporte poderoso para la activación del resto de la economía, mediante los retornos de una mayor producción agropecuaria y por la creación de un mercado ampliado para los productores industriales.

Otra de las preocupaciones del Gobierno Revolucionario de la Fuerza Armada, ha sido el de darle continuidad histórica a este conjunto de transformaciones estructurales en la agricultura peruana. Para ello, ha apoyado y favorecido la elevación de la conciencia política de la población rural a fin de que las organizaciones sociales, representativas de los campesinos, en forma independiente se hagan presentes en la escena política nacional.

Ello es congruente con lo aprobado en la nueva Constitución que regirá los destinos de mi país a partir de 1980, en donde, además de participar los campesinos en forma organizada, por primera vez, el campesino analfabeto tendrá participación en la formación del nuevo y de los futuros gobiernos que se establezcan democráticamente en nuestro país.

En relación a la mayor activación de la producción de alimentos, el Gobierno Revolucionario de la Fuerza Armada, ha definido una política vigorosa tendiente a asegurar un nivel manejable de autosuficiencia en los alimentos básicos de consumo nacional. Al respecto ha dedicado preferente atención a la ejecución de importantes obras de irrigación, las mismas que nos están permitiendo mirar con cierta confianza el futuro alimentario de la población peruana. Por otro lado, a fin de incrementar la producción de alimentos en el corto plazo, se han concentrado importantes recursos económicos para el financiamiento, la investigación, promoción y extensión agropecuaria, las mismas que están incidiendo en mejorar los niveles de productividad de los recursos en actual uso. Aún cuando creemos que en estos aspectos nos queda mucho por realizar.

En el campo de las relaciones económicas internacionales, el Gobierno Revolucionario de la Fuerza Armada, ha luchado y sigue luchando, ahora en forma conjunta con los países del Pacto Subregional Andino, por el establecimiento de un nuevo Orden Económico Internacional. Es así, como estamos adoptando acciones comunes, como las líneas de acción relacionadas con la producción agropecuaria, con el desarrollo de un poder comprador y vendedor multinacional, el mismo que haga frente al control y renovado proteccionismo de los países desarrollados en los mercados internacionales; con la ejecución de programas conjuntos a fin de sistematizar y desarrollar una tecnología apropiada a las condiciones en las cuales se desarrolla nuestra agricultura y con acciones muy definidas en el campo de la sanidad animal y vegetal, que a la vez de proteger a la Subregión de la introducción de plagas y enfermedades exóticas, permita un mayor intercambio al productor. Entendemos que en estos campos a nuestros países, nos queda mucho más por hacer, pero los logros que estamos consiguiendo nos animan cada vez más a redoblar nuestros esfuerzos e incrementar los beneficios que estamos alcanzando.

Sin embargo, somos conscientes de que los esfuerzos nacionales y conjuntos-que se realizan son insuficientes para eliminar en corto plazo la pobreza y el hambre en nuestros países. La solución a ellos, sería en largo plazo tal vez una meta inalcanzable sin el decidido apoyo de los países desarrollados. Somos conscientes también, que nuestra solicitud de apoyo no debe constituir una ayuda dádiva, por el contrario consideramos que constituye un derecho que debemos exigir como compensación mínima al injusto trato que reciben en el mercado internacional nuestros productos primarios. Dejar de entender esta situación, significaría desconocer los peligros que significa la asimetría creciente en la distribución de la producción mundial, la misma que concentra la riqueza en pocos y la pobreza en muchos, con los peligros consecuentes para la estabilidad y expansión futura de la economía mundial.

Por otro lado somos conscientes también de que los organismos internacionales como la FAO, deben jugar un rol importante en ayudarnos a encontrar la tecnología apropiada que nuestros pueblos están buscando. La agricultura en secano, en trópicos húmedos y en semi-áridos, constituyen los ambientes naturales en los cuales se desenvuelve nuestra agricultura. Las tecnologías modernas originadas y sistematizadas para regiones templadas, han mostrado sus limitaciones cuando se les aplica en la explotación de recursos con las restricciones mencionadas. Es necesario por tanto, avanzar rápidamente hacia la búsqueda de tecnologías acordes con nuestras propias condiciones naturales. Esfuerzos racionales de esta naturaleza, ya resultan ser ahora sustantivos; sin embargo, también nos falta todavía mucho por realizar.

Es necesario, en este sentido, rescatar y sistematizar las técnicas de nuestros campesinos, perfeccionada en milenios de años en su lucha con la naturaleza. Cualquier esfuerzo en esta dirección no debe dejar de reconocer este hecho. La contribución de la FAO en este campo, que es bastante importante ahora, creemos que debiera ser incrementada.

Finalmente me resta manifestar que sólo en la medida que los países en vías de desarrollo encuentren suficiente respaldo de los países desarrollados, podrán cumplirse los propósitos establecidos en la Organización de Alimentación de las Naciones Unidas, de tomentar el bienestar comun, levantar los niveles de nutrición y los standards de vida de los pueblos, asegurar los adelantos en la eficiencia de la producción y distribución de todos los productos alimenticios y agrícolas, mejorar las condiciones de las poblaciones rurales y de esta manera contribuir a una economía mundial desarrollada.

Sra. M. IVANKOVICH DE AROSAMENA (Panamá): Sr. Director General, Sr. Director General Adjunto, Sr. Presidente, señoras y señores: antes de comenzar deseo expresar mi sincera felicitación al Excmo. Sr. D. Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, Ministro de Agricultura de España, por su elección para presidir los trabajos de esta 20a Conferencia de la FAO, y felicitar también a los Vicepresidentes que le acompañan en su misión. Estamos seguros de que bajo su atinada dirección lograremos frutos positivos al concluir nuestros trabajos.

Damos también nuestra bienvenida a los representantes de Dominica y Samoa, por entrar a formar parte de nuestra Organización. Y ya entro en mi exposición.

Es para mí un honor traer a esta Vigésima Conferencia de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación el saludo del Gobierno y del pueblo soberano de Panamá.

La República de Panamá adquirió su independencia el 3 de noviembre de 1903; en ese entonces, la Junta de Gobierno se vio forzada a firmar un tratado con la Nación más poderosa del mundo, los Estados Unidos de América, un tratado que ningún panameño negoció. En los 76 años de duración de este ignominioso pacto, nuestro pueblo sufrió los más duros embates del imperialismo americano que campeaba a cuatro vientos por el mundo entero. Fue la época del garrote, del desembarco de los marines y de las amenazas abiertas y descaradas a los pueblos y gobiernos débiles en el mundo entero.

El pueblo panameño, con gran dignidad y coraje y sin la menor sospecha de su misión histórica, después del sacrificio de tres generaciones, el 11 de octubre de 1968 decidió tomar las riendas de la nación, bajo el liderazgo del General Omar Torrijos Herrera, para encauzarla dentro de objetivos precisos y de metas a cumplir en un futuro inmediato.

Uno de los objetivos fue iniciar las negociaciones con los Estados Unidos para abrogar el Tratado de 1903} Hay Bunau Barilla, que lesionaba la soberanía y la libertad de nuestro pueblo; fueron negociaciones arduas y pacientes que gracias a la solidaridad mundial lograda en la Reunión del Consejo de Seguridad, celebrado en la ciudad de Panamá el 21 de marzo de 1973, y gracias al respeto profundo de los pueblos hermanos de América Latina que tomaron como suya la causa panameña, en especial Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela, México, Perú y Jamaica, nos permitimos hoy 20 de noviembre de 1979 destacar lo que nuestro Presidente Dr. Aristides Royo declaró el 1 de octubre de 1979;

"Hoy hemos entrado a la Zona del Canal por la puerta ancha de la dignidad, del patriotismo y de las luchas libradas por el pueblo panameño. A partir de este momento y flameando orgullosa nuestra bandera la cima del Cerro Ancón, la República de Panamá ejerce jurisdicción sobre todo su territorio. Ya el panameño no continuará siendo juzgado por leyes extranjeras en su propia tierra, ya no existe un Estado dentro de otro Estado".

Esta fue la meta principal dentro del marco de la política exterior panameña; sin embargo nuestro Gobierno estaba consciente de la necesidad de "poner orden en casa". Y es entonces, a partir de 1968, con el advenimiento del Gobierno Revolucionario, cuando comienza un proceso de participación popular, en donde las masas rurales, los marginados tradicionales, los hombres que trabajan en el campo, han sido asimilados y su trabajo es debidamente recompensado a través de sus frutos, porque definitivamente, el hombre del campo no es solamente el agricultor, sino el hombre que forma parte de una sociedad civilizada que progresa día a día, el hombre que tiene derecho a participar activamente con su voz y su voto en las grandes decisiones históricas que vive nuestra Patria.

En este proceso cambiamos los términos de la democracia representativa por los de una democracia participativa del poder popular.

Señores delegados, sería largo darles las cifras estadísticas de los cambios fundamentales que se han producido a lo largo de estos últimos diez años. Nos bastará decirles que nos encaminamos a una autosuficiencia en los principales renglones de la alimentación de nuestra población; que hemos prácticamente eliminado el analfabetismo mediante la creación de las escuelas de producción o núcleos de desarrollo educativos que tienden a actuar o compaginar una relación entre el trabajo y la educación, para que el trabajo sea parte del proceso educativo de liberación del hombre y al mismo tiempo aporte a éste los elementos para liberar a los demás.

Por eso, el Ministerio de Educación creó los Ciclos Básicos de Producción, porque es allí donde el hombre empieza a liberarse y no espera que le traigan lo que necesita, sino que lo produce.

Nuestro Gobierno dedica a los renglones de educación y salud pública más del 55 Por ciento del presupuesto nacional. Se ha ampliado la asistencia de los servicios de salud, prestando particular atención a las necesidades de las poblaciones rurales.

El Gobierno de Panamá considera que el desarrollo es el objetivo común de todos los pueblos y el gran desafío a las organizaciones de cooperación internacional. El desarrollo está en la bandera de todos los movimientos revolucionarios y en el de todos los Gobiernos, cualquiera que sea su ideología y organización. El problema más importante que confronta el desarrollo es alimentar enseguida, de manera continua y eficiente, a imponentes y crecientes muchedumbres en las ciudades, en los campos, en las minas, en los bosques. Es el pueblo mismo en toda su dimensión y como factor protagonista de los actuales procesos revolucionarios de cambio, el objetivo que debe alcanzar el desarrollo.

La mayor y mejor producción de alimentos requiere planes, organización, tecnología y continuidad, además de una inversión cada día más pujante. En cualquier parte de la tierra, en el mar, en los trópicos húmedos, en las tierras desiertas hoy, e irrigadas mañana con agua marina desalinizada, se deben obtener las proteínas, carbohidratos, grasas, calorías en suma, que demanda con trágica urgencia la alimentación del hombre.

El Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario de Panamá integra funciones de planificación y ejecución de planes, programas y proyectos en el sector agropecuario. Además controla las políticas gubernamentales relacionadas con estímulos económicos a la producción, reforma agraria, créditos, comercialización, asistencia técnica e insumos.

En el sector rural, el paso de una democracia representativa a una democracia participativa del poder popular, ha permitido incentivar y promover un mejoramiento cuantitativo y cualitativo de la organización participativa de la población rural en el acontecer nacional, que permite al Representante organizar una presión consciente, orientada a la mayor y mejor utilización de fondos públicos para el desarrollo rural.

En los primeros diez años del proceso revolucionario panameño, el Gobierno prestó una especial atención a la Reforma Agraria y al Desarrollo Rural. Nuestro Gobierno estaba consciente de que a un país con las especiales características del nuestro, le era prioritario incorporar el desarrollo nacional a amplios sectores que durante años habían estado marginados y que no obstante soportaban en gran medida el peso del progreso económico de Panamá.

Nuestro Gobierno sostiene que la Reforma Agraria y el Desarrollo Rural necesitan un acceso equitativo y un empleo eficaz de los recursos, de tal manera que ningún sector quede postergado de las medidas que se tomen y que todos los sectores puedan incorporarse integralmente a los planes que se desarrollen, de manera que no se produzcan desequilibrios entre quienes elevan el nivel de su condición social y económica.

El Gobierno de Panamá está convencido de que las políticas nacionales de desarrollo deben fomentar una mayor transferencia al sector rural y proporcionar incentivos para el incremento de la producción, procurando que estos incentivos beneficien a quienes lo hacen posible, eliminando la injusticia de que sea el sector rural el que subvencione el desarrollo, crecimiento, prosperidad y riqueza del sector urbano a expensas del postergamiento rural.

Durante la celebración de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, que se celebró en julio del presente año en esta Casa, nuestro Gobierno apoyó la Declaración de Principios y Programa de Acción, por considerar que mediante su cumplimiento se contribuye al establecimiento de un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional que afiance y robustezca la paz entre todas las naciones de la tierra, y que sirva de parámetro de acción a aquellos gobiernos que, ajenos por múltiples razones a los intereses de las grandes mayorías nacionales, se obstinan en mantener el aislamiento y la postergación de grandes núcleos urbanos y sobre todo rurales, así como de minorías étnicas secularmente sojuzgadas.

En lo referente al comercio internacional, Panamá visualiza dos frentes estratégicos para estimular su crecimiento económico. El de mayor importancia lo constituye la asociación y apoyo mutuo entre países en desarrollo para la defensa de intercambios justos en rubros tradicionales de exportación de nuestras economías y que por su significación los convierten en sumamente vulnerables. El segundo frente lo constituyen los ingentes esfuerzos que dentro del orden económico internacional deben realizarse en la búsqueda de mercados amplios y seguros a la exportación de rubros no tradicionales.

En base a esto, Panamá promueve un mayor control productivo nacional en rubros de exportación como el banano en el ámbito del comercio internacional. En este sentido nuestro Gobierno apoya y estimula la iniciativa que representa la Unión de Países Exportadores de Banano (UPEB), así como también la Comercializado ra Multinacional de Banano (COMUNBANA).

A este respecto, debemos hacer notar que COMUNBANA es la primera empresa multinacional de comercialización de un Grupo de Países en Desarrollo creada para defender la comercialización directa de un producto básico.

La UPBB, creada en 1974, comenzó a funcionar en el año 1976, teniendo por objeto el establecimiento y defensa de precios remunerativos y justos en la venta del banano producido y exportado por los Países Miembros, que permitan mejorar el nivel de vida y los ingresos de todos los sectores vinculados a esta actividad.

La UPEB estableció un impuesto a la exportación de banano. Este impuesto se aplicó antes de la creación de la UPEB como primera forma de cooperación entre los países productores de banano,

Entre los programas y acciones de cooperación de la Organización está el establecimiento de un Programa COORDINADO de Investigaciones Científico-Tecnológicas entre los Países Miembros (cooperación horizontal). El programa es un programa nuevo en América Latina y cuenta en la actualidad con sesenta investigadores, en materia de banano y plátano, provenientes de veinte instituciones de los países que forman parte de la UPEB. Ha puesto en marcha 36 proyectos de investigación.

La UPEB ha venido recibiendo asistencia técnica del PNUD y de la UNCTAD y de la FAO a través de cuatro expertos permanentes, tres de UNCTAD y uno de la FAO, y de diversos consultores a corto plazo. Esta asistencia cubre todas las áreas de actividad de la organización.

Además, Panamá apoya todas aquellas iniciativas internacionales encaminadas a la consecución de un trato justo por parte de los países desarrollados, que involucren particularmente en nuestro caso la apertura y ampliación de cuotas de exportación.

En lo concerniente al Programa sobre las Zonas Económicas Exclusivas, nuestro Gobierno apoya los dos elementos principales del Programa Global para el Desarrollo y Ordenación de la Explotación Pesquera, que consiste en un plan de acción para atender las necesidades inmediatas de los países costeros, así como también la realización de estudios básicos complementarios a largo plazo. Consideramos también que los cinco temas principales en los cuales debe concentrarse la asistencia técnica y la investigación son: la legislación nacional, vigilancia y cumplimiento de los acuerdos, corporación de desarrollo pesquero y otros organismos paraestatales, empresas pesqueras conjuntas y el fomento de la pesca en pequeña escala.

Sobre este particular, deseamos aclarar que el Proyecto PNUD/FAO para el Desarrollo de Pesquerías en el Atlántico Centro-Oriental, que actualmente se lleva a cabo, tiene como base de operaciones a Panamá.

Antes de finalizar, deseo expresar nuestro agradecimiento por la valiosa cooperación y asistencia que hemos recibido de la FAO. Desde 1976, se han iniciado nueve proyectos, cinco de los cuales fueron terminados y cuatro están en ejecución. Además, están en ejecución tres proyectos FAO/PNUD y tres Proyectos Regionales que adelantan estos organismos del Sistema de Naciones Unidas en Panamá. Mediante esta asistencia se logró el estudio "Perspectivas para el Desarrollo Agropecuario en Panamá" excelente mecanismo orientador a largo plazo, que ha servido de plataforma para el "Plan Trienal de Desarrollo Agropecuario".

Para finalizar, deseamos felicitar al Director General, Dr. Eduardo Saouma, por todos los esfuerzos que ha realizado y por los logros que ha conseguido durante estos años, por su capacidad, dinamismo y preocupación por encontrar una rápida solución a los impostergables problemas que afligen al mundo en desarrollo, en donde el hambre y la malnutrición siguen azotando a millones de seres humanos que no quieren creer más en promesas, sino que exigen una solución rápida y estable mediante el establecimiento del Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional.

E. A. SMITH (Bahamas): Four hundred and eighty seven years ago an Italian explorer sailing on the ship "Santa Maria" sponsored by a Spanish Queen entered Bahamas waters and opened the new world to the European continent. I have come to this conference to bring you greetings from the Government and people of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas on an air ship and to confirm the commitment of The Bahamas to play its role in these deliberations in the interest and advancement of all our peoples. I should also like to add my congratulations to the distinguished Minister of Agriculture of Spain on his election as Chairman.

Fellow Delegates, my country has benefitted from the efforts of this Organisation, and I extend my highest praise and deep gratitude to the Director-General and all who are concerned with projects in The Bahamas. These projects have been extremely beneficial to us, and they have had a very profound effect upon agricultural and fisheries development.

I would like to acknowledge the prompt attention which was given by the Director-General and his staff to the request from The Bahamas and our sister Caribbean State, Dominica, for assistance and relief as a result of the devastating effects of Hurricane David on the Agricultural sectors of our respective countries.

The Bahamas has set an objective of self-sufficiency in those foods which we are able to produce, and I am happy to report that we are well on our way to achieving our objective. The role of the Food and Agriculture Organization has been a positive one which we are grateful for.

We are an archipelago of 700 islands and, 2 000 Cays in the Atlantic Ocean. Our immediate geographical neighbours are the United States of America, Cuba and Haiti. The Bahamas claims jurisdiction over 100 000 square miles about 94 percent of which is sea. With uncharacteristic modesty but with some accuracy, we in the Bahamas claim this area to be the most beautiful archipelago in the world.

On 10th July, 1973, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas became a sovereign nation and in September of the same year we were admitted to membership in the Organization having joined in November 1975. We have affiliated ourselves with these world bodies because we are committed to the principles of freedom and justice, and because we are conscious of the need for united action in the elimination of poverty, hunger and sub-standard conditions wherever they exist. We fully believe that the high principles for which the Food and Agriculture Organization strives will only be achieved by the serious commitment of Member States.

The population of the Bahamas is about 250 000. We are a nation drawn principally from the continents of Africa and Europe and are of various religious beliefs who share the commitment to wipe out the vestiges of poverty and deprivation.

Except for aragonite and salt, the Bahamas is without known mineral resources, but with our physical and marine attractions, economic survival virtually commanded the promotion of the tourist industry which now accounts for 70 percent of our Gross National Product, two thirds of our employed labour forces and 60 percent of our total national revenue.

Our waters, our marine life and their character, our beaches and sands are no less important to us as natural resources than for example, oil is to some nations of the world. These things are not readily understood by others to be natural resources, but they are to us, as they provide the physical environment for our resort industry which is still the basis upon which the economic life of the Bahamas depends, survives and thrives.

In 1974, a Land Resources Survey was completed which indicated that some 230 000 acres of land can be classified as land which has agricultural potential. Fortunately 79 percent of the total land area is under the control of the Government, and policies have been established with constant review to allow the use of such lands mainly for agricultural development.

The three main farming systems are:

1. Specialized vegetable farms producing for local and export markets.
2. Mixed farms producing vegetables, tree crops and livestock (sheep and goats) for local consumption.
3. Highly capitalized and specialized farms producing poultry and pork for domestic consumption.

Certain islands have been the major producing centres for crops and livestock using the mixed farming system for the following reasons:

1. High natural fertility of the land.
2. More favourable land tenure arrangements.
3. Relative ease of preparing the land for farming by non-mechanized methods.

With the introduction of suitable mechanical techniques for clearing pine lands, ripping the limestone rocks and applying chemical fertilizers, mixed farming is now shifting to other islands.

The economy of the Bahamas however still remains overwhelmingly dependent on Tourism. In the early 70's agriculture has been given greater support in order that it may play a bigger role in the diversification and strengthening of the economy. This greater support was primarily designed to reverse the rather perilous position of the country relying on imports to satisfy the greater part of its food need. In addition, increased local production was expected to do the following:

1. Increase foreign exchange savings.
2. Increase the potential to develop agroindustries, thus creating demand for trained technical personnel and also value added to local products.
3. Increase the income of producers in the rural areas. The major areas to which increased support and funding were directed over the past 8 years are as follows:
 - a) Land Clearing and Land Tenure.
 - b) Research and Training.
 - c) Marketing.

Farmers particularly those on pine islands were limited by lack of access to good agricultural land.

In order to alleviate this problem Government embarked on a programme to designate large farming tracts of Government lands in close proximity to the rural settlements. These areas were cleared, subdivided and then leased to farmers. The leasehold system had the following advantages:

- (i) It relieved farmers of the burden of land purchase,
- (ii) It gave the Government control in ensuring that the lands were used effectively, and
- (iii) It prevented the purchase of agricultural lands for speculative purposes.

In addition, a major programme of land clearing subsidization was implemented for the whole country in which Government financed 50 percent of the cost.

The net result of this approach was that several hundred acres of new land in various parts of the country were brought into production.

The increased support given to the agricultural sector over the past 8 years has produced positive results.

In 1974, the estimated value of local farm production was \$10. 5 million. It increased to some \$17. 7 million in 1978-a growth rate of some 16 percent per year. Growth for the total economy over the same period was 5. 4 percent per annum.

Substantial increases were made by the Fruit, Vegetables and Poultry subsectors.

The Government intends to promote a National Mutton Production Development Scheme and increased attention will be directed to this area in the coming decade.

The expansion of the sector has created increased employment opportunities. When the 1970 Census of population was taken, the labour force in Agriculture was 3 099 which represented 4. 4 percent of the total labour force of 69. 791. The 1978 Census of Agriculture has shown that the agricultural labour force is now 5 561 and this represents 6 percent of the total labour force of 93 450. This increase in agricultural employment is in comparison to a 33. 9 percent increase in total population over the period and making the rate of increase of the agricultural employment greater than the rate of increase of population.

The Food and Agriculture Organization has performed a vital service to my Country in the area of Fisheries Development. In 1972 a Fisheries Development Study was undertaken which initiated extensive exploratory fishing activities primarily for deep water fisheries resources. Local fish handling and processing were also examined.

Some of the major recommendations resulting from the project findings were as follows:

1. that a Fish Handling and Marketing Complex be constructed;
2. the improvement of Fish Processing and the establishment of fish inspection and quality control;

3. that training be undertaken for fishermen and the nucleus of staff for further development;
4. that financial assistance be sought for fleet development;
5. that a proper marketing system be instituted.

In addition the study projected the potential of the resources/and it is estimated that an annual catch of 10 million pounds of spiny lobster, 10 million pounds of deep water scalefish and 10 million pounds of shallow water scalefish could be taken annually without harm to the ecological balance of our waters.

The spiny lobster, better known as crawfish, has revolutionized the Bahamian Fishing Industry which until a few years ago could be best described as subsistence level fishing.

The Government, in 1974, declared certain species "creatures of the Continental Shelf". Under the Geneva Convention of the High Seas such creatures so declared are reserved entirely for exploitation by nationals. This declaration prohibited foreign fishermen from fishing in Bahamian waters. This exclusion coupled with the increasing international demand for crawfish marked the beginning of a new interest for many Bahamians who took the opportunity to invest in the Industry with the introduction of new capital, vessels and equipment.

The Government continuing its efforts to protect and preserve the marine resources of the Bahamas updated the Fisheries Regulations extending its Economic jurisdiction to 200 miles.

The Director-General's comments on Forestry Development is welcomed with much interest. The Bahamas has large tracts of forestry reserves and we are most anxious to cooperate with FAO in the development of this industry.

I have looked at FAO's Programme of Work and Budget for 1980-81 and would like to commend the Director-General on the excellent work of this document which displays the Organization's sensitivity to the problems of food production on this planet in general but specifically in Developing Countries where the problems of hunger and malnutrition are constant and daily threats to human existence and national development.

I have taken note that consideration has been given to agriculture: toward the year 2000. The Bahamas will continue its thrusts in food development in the 1980s, not only towards self-sufficiency, but towards doing our part in feeding others beyond our territorial limits. The Commonwealth of the Bahamas will continue to be fully involved in the activities of this Organization as we are confident that the united efforts undertaken here, and the experience of other nations interacting will result in the attainment of the goals for which this Organization exists. I am convinced that we can meet the challenge.

J. Mavoa (Fiji): Mr Chairman, Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I should like first of all to join with others who have already spoken in extending to you, very warm congratulations on behalf of myself, and my delegation, on your unanimous election as Chairman of this 20th Session of the FAO Conference. I am confident that with the guidance and competent leadership you have shown right from the beginning and the efficient manner the Conference has been organised by the Director-General and his colleagues in the Secretariat, much will be accomplished towards the attainment of our common good.

My delegation would like also to associate itself with those who have complimented the Director-General and his colleagues about their devotion and dedication to the cause espoused by this world body. Their dynamic and imaginative approach to the problems before us, is a source of inspiration to us all, to continue and strengthen our efforts in the right direction.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to me, as I am sure, to all of us, to see the admission of two new members, the Republic of Dominica and the State of Samoa, so overwhelmingly approved. The warm welcome extended to them is yet another testimony to the universally accepted objective of all nations working together and sharing responsibilities, irrespective of a country's geographical location, physical size and attributes.

These two new member Nations, in many respects, can be identified with my own. We share common problems. As small developing island nations, our development efforts are further handicapped by reason of our distant location from our overseas markets, internal fragmented physical character, and our particular susceptibility to natural disasters.

My own country, which comprises over 300 islands, are widely scattered and separated from each other by sea, ranging between 6 to 200 miles in distance. Thus, transport and communication difficulties between our islands, and with the rest of the world, constitute major obstacles which hamper our efforts, as a nation, to organise and co-ordinate activities in the field of agriculture, food production, marketing and distribution.

Another major obstacle to our development is the frequent occurrences of hurricanes, tidal waves and floods in our region. In each of the last five years, Fiji has been struck regularly by hurricanes, each leaving in its wake extensive damage, and in many cases, total destruction to crops and livestock. The last one which occurred in the first half of this year took tolls of human lives, and left many, many more homeless. These have caused severe setbacks to our development efforts, particularly in the outlying islands and rural areas. In consequence much effort and resources have had to be diverted to rehabilitation of crops and rebuilding of homes and schools. However, we have been comforted by the generous assistance we have received from so many quarters and I would like to take this opportunity of acknowledging our deep debt of gratitude to all those who have extended their help.

In spite of these difficulties, we are firmly committed to giving the rural and agriculture sector high priority in our development plans. We are only too well aware that now, and in the foreseeable future, we are and we will continue to be heavily dependent on agriculture, fisheries and forestry for our livelihood, and indeed our very existence. Thus we will not be deterred and we will not allow ourselves to be deflected from the goals we have set for ourselves, and for our future generation.

Fiji's economy is heavily dependent on sugar which alone accounts, on average, for 75 percent of our total export earnings. In 1975, when the world sugar supply was precariously low, public investment was accelerated, primarily with a view to increasing sugar production, developing new avenues of export earnings, and promoting self-sufficiency in food.

The production of sugar grew by an average rate of 15 percent per annum in 1976 and 1977, fell by 4 percent in 1978 due to drought conditions, but is expected to reach an all-time high of 470,000 tonnes this year, representing an average 13.3 percent per annum growth rate for the years 1975-79.

Thus, a matter of great concern to us is the question of markets for our sugar, and at a price remunerative enough to afford a fair return to our farmers, and on capital investment. To this end we cooperated fully with others in the negotiation for the new International Sugar Agreement, even though the consequence in our case has been to limit the amount of sugar we are allowed to sell. Our basic export tonnages quota of 125,000 tonnes under the Agreement is well below our production level, and this year's allocation from the Special Hardship Reserve of an additional 130,000 tonnes greatly assisted us in the disposal of our surplus stocks. Of crucial importance to us also is the special arrangements we have with the European Community under the Lome Convention. We are however hopeful that the review to be undertaken by the International Sugar Organisation in 1980 will result in an upward revision of our quota allocation.

Earnings from coconut oil exports remain substantial but this industry is particularly susceptible to fluctuation in price, and has also been detrimentally affected by frequent tropical cyclones. Nevertheless, given the considerable number of rural and island people who depend on coconuts for all or part of their cash incomes, this crop is extremely important. In this connexion, I would like to take this opportunity to express my Government's appreciation to the FAO for agreeing to undertake a review of our coconut industry. We are hopeful that the review will suggest ways of, and the direction we should take in, revitalising this important crop-important because of the vital role it has played and undoubtedly will continue to play in the economy of many of our widely scattered islands, that have few, if any, viable crop or livestock opportunities.

The promotion of import substitution is being vigorously pursued under our development plan. Our geographical situation, such as it is, put us at a disadvantage in so far as markets and supplies are concerned. Consequently we face high freight charges, high transfer and distribution costs, both externally and within our islands, making us vulnerable to inflation pressures. Appropriate measures have therefore been introduced by my Government to encourage agricultural activities, aimed at achieving some degree of self-sufficiency in food production, including poultry, beef, pork, dairy products and rice.

My Government is also playing an increasing role in encouraging and promoting investment for export oriented commodities. Much emphasis has been put on developing our forest industry, based on *pinus caribea*. Also in operation is the skipjack/yellow fin/albacore fishing industry. We see them as having great potential, and playing an increasingly important role both economically and socially in Fiji's economy.

Although a large section of our population are fishermen by tradition, Fiji has up to now had to resort to importing an increasing quantity of fish, especially canned mackerel, to meet domestic requirements. My Government has therefore embarked on an ambitious programme aimed at assisting small fishermen to improve their catches and market outlets. This initiative has led to the establishment of a locally-owned Fishing Corporation, whose primary aim is to encourage our people into commercial fishing, particularly in skipjack tuna. These efforts, together with the establishment in 1974 of a fish-canning plant on a joint venture basis with a foreign company, have been rewarded by a rapid growth in export earnings from fish products, which moved into third place in 1978, and may well move to become second only to sugar this year. The EEC market has become an important outlet for our exports of skipjack tuna, and, in this respect I wish to acknowledge the economic benefits which accrue to us from our association with the European Community through the Lome Convention under which this particular commodity enjoys free access.

Along with many other nations, Fiji has accepted the concept of Exclusive Economic Zone to the extent that may be declared as agreed under the current on-going International Law of the Sea Conference. The actual declaration has yet to be made as this is subject to negotiations with neighbouring nations whose Exclusive Economic Zones overlap with our own. Conscious of the importance this extension will mean to all of us, the nations in the South Pacific region have taken the first step by getting together and agreeing to adopt a Convention, establishing what is now known as the Forum Fishing Agency. Its members comprise as the 12 independent island countries in the Region, including Australia and New Zealand, with Headquarters in Honiara, in the Solomon Islands.

The Agency's role is to assist its member states to coordinate and harmonise policy in the Law of the Sea so as to ensure maximum benefits for the people and the region as a whole, facilitate the harmonisation of fisheries policies within the region, and improve the capability in the surveillance and in the policing of the activities of foreign vessels in the region. My delegation, therefore considers the Director-General's proposed programme of assistance in the development and management of fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones, although modest, to be timely and most welcome. We, and I am sure our neighbours in the South Pacific region, look forward to whatever guidance and assistance FAO can give in this area.

I have attempted in this statement to give a brief outline of our situation, the difficulties and problems we have had to face, and how we are trying to tackle them. It is, in our circumstances, an enormous task. But we humbly believe that the priorities we have set for ourselves constitute a modest contribution to the international effort to satisfy the urgent needs for increased food production, particularly the needs of the people in the developing countries.

The way to self-sufficiency in food requirement is in diversification of agricultural activities. It is also the way in which, once self-sufficiency is achieved, contributions can be made to the World Food Supplies.

I would like now to touch briefly on some areas which I feel this Organization might wish to address itself to, with some urgency, during the 1980-81 biennium.

In the world in which we now live, we increasingly look to the farmers, wherever they may be, to produce more and more food. In order for them to go on doing so, it is for us to see that their other needs are catered for, that the price they are paid for their produce is remunerative and not subject to violent fluctuations, that they have good living conditions and that they have access to amenities available to all others. Farmers need assistance in various ways, including easy availability of inputs, distribution and marketing, and some guarantee of fair return for their labour and investments. There is nothing more frustrating to them than to find that what they produce cannot be sold or that the price has depressed to a level below their expectations. The problem in developing island countries like mine is the small size of the domestic market and their remoteness from overseas markets. Ways must therefore be found to preserve and utilize excess farm supplies which are easily perishable. There is therefore an urgent need to develop new technology for agro-based industries, particularly food-processing, since the majority like Fiji have economies which are agriculturally based. Here again I would like to suggest that if we are seriously thinking of equitable return from export commodities, then there must be a case for taking into account the high freight rates paid by distant island groups. Some formula must therefore be devised to ensure that they get returns commensurate with those obtained by countries selling the same product to the same buyer.

Our development in rural areas in the agricultural sector is oriented towards individual land holdings. Of course, this creates pressure on available agrarian lands which is likely to become acute with passage of time. We have areas of land with easy access which through misuse in the past are either lying idle or under-utilized. These can be restored to productive use with proper drainage, but will require a massive injection of capital which unfortunately is beyond our resources. This is an area in which we would require expertise in technical advice as well as to the source to which we might turn for financing.

I have mentioned earlier the development of our marine resources and the steps we are taking to encourage commercial sea fishing. These are resources which are not inexhaustible and already there are signs in some fishing areas that depletion has started to take place. Not only do we need to undertake conservation measures, but we need also to seriously examine the potentials which exist for fish culture. Pilot projects which have been attempted have shown promising results. This is a field in which we will look to the FAO for assistance in the provision of expertise and also in the acquisition by our people of the necessary skill. A small project in salt-making has been started and this, when expanded, could be combined with fish culture.

We believe that this organization can no longer remain indifferent to the need to assist developing countries exploit indigenous energy resources in order to reduce dependence upon costly and increasingly uncertain oil supplies. Escalating cost of oil seriously jeopardises our national development objectives. The problems faced by Fiji in providing energy at a reasonable cost are similar to those of other developing countries, only exacerbated in our case by our extreme dependence upon imported oil and high freight costs.

These energy problems clearly require international co-operation. We would like to suggest therefore that this Organization might wish to arrange a programme of studies, consultancies and information exchange, concentrating on one or two concrete energy problems shared by Member countries. Possible areas of action might include measures to help the rural majority meet basic domestic energy needs, while conserving wood and reducing kerosene use. This could include a programme for replacing kerosene with substitute fuels manufactured on a small scale from local biomass, development of cheap efficient wood and charcoal stoves, and possibly biomass farms for growing fuel for small-scale electricity generation.

It can be said that pre-occupation with domestic economic problems has reduced the responsiveness of the developed world to the needs of developing countries. While there is general recognition of the realities of interdependence, there is a lower level of concern about other people's problems.

Perhaps the main issue before us today is whether a longer and broader vision that accommodates the national interests of all countries can take the place of various short-term perspectives.

Mr Chairman, my delegation believes the saying "He who helps the developing world, helps himself" to be good economic sense.

We therefore support FAO's proposed Programme of Work, and the Budget for the 1980-81 biennium. The small increase in the budget may not satisfy everyone's development needs. But it could well mean the difference between life and death for those who are hungry or sick, or it could change their whole horizon to give them a place in human societies.

K. SAYAKONE (Lao): C'est un grand plaisir pour la délégation de la République Démocratique Populaire, Lao et pour moi-même de venir participer à cette 20ème session de la Conférence générale de la FAO, ici, à Rome, la ville éternelle.

Au nom de la délégation Lao, je voudrais m'associer aux orateurs qui m'ont précédé pour présenter mes sincères félicitations à S. E. M. Jaime de Espinosa pour son élection unanime à la présidence de cette 20ème session de la Conférence générale de la FAO. Je suis convaincu que grâce à sa grande expérience et à sa haute compétence, les travaux de notre Conférence dont les difficultés et la complexité ne sont plus à prouver seront couronnés de succès. Je tiens également à féliciter les vice-présidents et le rapporteur de leur élection.

Je voudrais rendre hommage à S. E. M. Edouard Saouma, Directeur général de la FAO pour les efforts qu'il a déployés durant ces années écoulées en vue de réaffirmer le rôle de la FAO dans la recherche des solutions aux besoins des peuples déshérités dans le monde.

Je tiens également à exprimer mes félicitations et mes amitiés aux délégations des différents pays ici présentes. Qu'il me soit permis de prier la délégation italienne de bien vouloir transmettre au Gouvernement et au peuple italien les sentiments d'amitié sincère et de vifs remerciements du Gouvernement et du peuple Lao pour avoir accordé à notre délégation toutes les facilités et un accueil chaleureux.

La 20ème session de la Conférence générale de la FAO s'ouvre au moment où partout dans le monde, chaque pays s'emploie à résoudre les problèmes de l'alimentation afin de parvenir à son autosuffisance. Néanmoins, la situation mondiale de l'alimentation est loin de satisfaire les besoins de l'humanité et plus particulièrement les populations des pays en développement. Cet état de chose provient de multiples causes, principalement du fait que ces pays n'ont pas encore obtenu leur indépendance complète et ont encore à lutter ardemment pendant de longues années contre l'agression des impérialistes et des réactionnaires internationaux pour l'indépendance, la liberté et la démocratie. Par ailleurs, les conditions climatiques y sont peu favorables à toute oeuvre de développement, sans lesquelles les populations mènent une existence peu décente et dépendante de la nature, de même que l'emploi des techniques modernes dans la production agricole et forestière n'est encore qu'à ses débuts. Tout ceci constitue un grand obstacle à la production des denrées alimentaires pour le bien-être de l'humanité.

C'est ainsi que plusieurs pays en développement si riches soient-ils en ressources naturelles ne parviennent pas à exploiter toutes les potentialités en vue d'améliorer les conditions de vie de leurs populations, faute de quoi le déséquilibre alimentaire persiste en grandissant.

Si seulement, la paix et la sécurité du monde sont assurées les pays en développement auront plus de coudées franches et de grande latitude pour se consacrer au redressement de leur économie visant à devenir, tout en comptant sur eux-mêmes, autosuffisants en matière alimentaire et par la suite pour pouvoir contribuer effectivement à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Compte tenu de la situation que nous venons de décrire la Conférence consacrera non seulement son temps à l'examen et à l'approbation des activités, des programmes et du budget de l'organisation, mais procédera encore à la revue de la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture pour arrêter un plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, lequel plan d'action englobera nécessairement les mesures découlant de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural. Elle constitue la pierre fondamentale de la nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement dans la préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies en 1980.

Aussi, le Gouvernement de la République démocratique populaire Lao attache-t-il un intérêt particulier à cette Conférence, y participe activement et souhaite qu'elle aboutisse à de brillants succès.

La République démocratique populaire Lao est un pays qui vient d'être instauré il y a à peine 4 ans. Afin de répondre aux aspirations du peuple lao épris de paix et de liberté et de créer les conditions favorables à l'indépendance économique, le Parti et le Gouvernement adoptent et appliquent avec rigueur la ligne suivante en tant que politique étrangère. Paix, Indépendance, Amitié et Non-Alignement.

Nous avons renforcé le lien d'amitié, de solidarité et de coopération avec les pays socialistes frères tout en entretenant et en améliorant les relations spéciales avec le Viet Nam et le Kampuchéa, nous entretenons de bonnes relations avec tous les pays sans distinction de régime politique, notamment avec ceux du sud-est asiatique dans le but de faire de cette partie du monde une véritable zone de paix et neutre. Nous appliquons la politique de bon voisinage et l'intégrité territoriale de notre pays, nous supportons activement la juste lutte des peuples opprimés pour l'indépendance, la liberté et la démocratie des populations du monde entier, ce qui contribue à préserver la paix en Indochine, dans le sud-est asiatique et dans le monde.

Cette politique étrangère a été l'objet du soutien ferme de la part des populations Lao et des peuples opprimés épris de paix, de justice, dans le monde entier. Elle constitue la condition sine qua non pour la sauvegarde de la paix, pour l'édification d'une économie indépendante, pour le développement de l'éducation et pour le progrès culturel et social.

Ainsi, malgré toutes sortes de difficultés, dont certaines proviennent des manoeuvres subversives et des menaces continuelles des impérialistes et des réactionnaires de toutes sortes pour saboter notre nouveau régime et d'autre part des fléaux naturels provoquant de gros dégâts à nos récoltes, la politique économique basée sur le développement de l'agriculture et des forêts en tant que fondation pour servir au développement de l'industrie a abouti durant ces dernières années à des résultats très satisfaisants dans tous les domaines.

Avec votre permission, je voudrais brièvement présenter à la Conférence quelques faits réels dans notre pays: la construction des réseaux d'irrigation, jadis lente et inefficace, est devenue maintenant un mouvement populaire plein d'enthousiasme à travers tout le pays, ce qui entraîne nécessairement une augmentation de nouvelles superficies de cultures et de la deuxième culture du riz en saison sèche et des cultures intensives. Le mode de vie traditionnel et arriéré de la population vivant en petites productions individuelles et dispersées est progressivement transformé en unités de grande production de type socialiste. C'est ainsi qu'en une seule année 527 056 fermiers et paysans, c'est-à-dire 17 pour cent de la population rurale ont consenti à devenir membres de coopératives, aussi 127 137 hectares de rizières soit environ 19 pour cent de la superficie totale des terres arables, autrefois appartenant aux fermiers individuels sont maintenant mises volontairement en commun par leurs propriétaires. Le nombre des coopératives en 1978 était de 1 600, il atteignait plus de 2 000 en 1979.

De toute manière, il est certain que le mouvement coopératif représente encore pour nous une entreprise tout à fait nouvelle, il nous reste beaucoup à apprendre et plusieurs coopératives ainsi créées manquent encore de perfection. Mais il n'en reste pas moins que les conditions matérielles et morales d'existence des membres des coopératives se trouvent nettement améliorées par rapport au système de production traditionnelle et individualiste.

Nous avons la ferme conviction qu'à travers les mouvements coopératifs, l'emploi des techniques modernes en agriculture est plus aisé dans le but d'augmenter le rendement et améliorer le standard de vie de la population.

Compte tenu des particularités qui nous sont propres, la promotion des mouvements coopératifs et l'abandon de la pratique des cultures itinérantes au profit des cultures permanentes, constituent la forme la plus appropriée de la réforme agraire et du développement rural dans notre pays.

Dans le domaine des épizooties, des efforts sont consacrés aussi bien dans la lutte préventive que curative contre les maladies épidémiques diminuant ainsi le taux de mortalité des animaux et en revanche donnant effet à un accroissement sensible du cheptel.

La protection et l'exploitation forestière font l'objet d'une réglementation rigoureuse dont l'effet est plus que profitable.

Nous avons mis l'accent sur la formation technique et professionnelle de nos cadres dans différentes branches d'activités et durant ces quatre dernières années plusieurs brigades techniques ont été constituées dont certaines d'entre elles sont déjà à pied d'oeuvre.

En somme, sur la voie de l'édification socialiste, la jeune République démocratique populaire Lao, durant ces années écoulées tout en subissant les épreuves de toutes sortes a accompli honorablement ses fonctions d'avant poste du camp socialiste dans cette partie du monde.

Tout ceci démontre manifestement une fois de plus la politique juste et humanitaire du Parti populaire révolutionnaire Lao, l'esprit du maître du pays, de la société et de soi-même de notre population. L'aide matérielle et morale des pays socialistes frères, des pays amis et des organisations internationales, en particulier la FAO, a ainsi contribué efficacement à l'oeuvre de transformation et l'édification du socialisme dans notre pays dont les premiers résultats s'annoncent très satisfaisants. Aussi, permettez-moi au nom de mon gouvernement et de la population Lao, de leur exprimer nos sentiments sincères de gratitude pour l'assistance qu'ils nous ont apportée. Nous formulons l'espoir qu'ils continueront à nous épauler dans l'accomplissement du Programme annuel 1980, dernière année du plan triennal 1978-1980 et dans la création d'infrastructures pour la réalisation du premier plan quinquennal 1981-1985 afin de nous permettre d'atteindre notre auto suffisance en matière alimentaire et de contribuer efficacement à l'amélioration de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Au nom de la délégation Lao, je voudrais assurer la FAO de notre confiance dans la réalisation des objectifs que lui a confiés la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural en vue d'intensifier l'assistance aux pays en développement, en particulier la mise en oeuvre du Programme d'action, visant à instaurer le Nouvel Ordre économique international et à exploiter les potentialités de l'agriculture et des forêts dans les zones rurales pour que chaque pays progresse vers l'auto suffisance en matière alimentaire réduisant progressivement la faim et la malnutrition d'ici l'an 2000.

Pour terminer, je souhaite à notre Conférence de brillants succès.

L. LAPEBY (Gabon). Monsieur le Président, au nom de la délégation qui m'accompagne, c'est avec un vif plaisir et une agréable joie que je me joins à tous ceux qui, du haut de cette tribune, vous ont félicité de votre brillante élection et ont rappelé, avec éloquence, vos qualités exceptionnelles qui permettent de faire une conjoncture favorable de nos travaux.

Nos félicitations vont aussi aux Présidents de commission, à tous les Vice-Présidents et aux membres du Bureau de la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO.

Avant que je n'aborde mon propos, vous voudrez bien me permettre de renouveler à M. Edouard Saouma en particulier, et à ses collaborateurs en général, les félicitations du Gouvernement gabonais pour le dynamisme qu'il a infusé à notre Organisation, en lui demandant de continuer à l'orienter encore davantage vers les actions concrètes.

Aux représentants des autres Organisations internationales du système des Nations Unies, gouvernementales et non gouvernementales, qu'il me soit permis d'exprimer la profonde satisfaction que j'éprouve de les voir contribuer de plus en plus, directement et indirectement, aux efforts globaux des pays en développement.

J'aurais failli à la mission que m'ont confiée Son Excellence le Président de la République, M. El Hadj Omar Bongo et le Gouvernement gabonais, si je ne saisisais l'occasion qui m'est offerte pour dire combien nous sommes heureux d'accueillir parmi nous les représentants du Samoa Occidental et de la Dominique, Si le Gabon a quelque expérience de la FAO, je voudrais les assurer de notre disponibilité à les aider dans les limites de cette relative expérience.

La tradition voudrait que les anniversaires soient pour nous l'occasion de quitter les sentiers battus de notre monde déchiré, pour nous tourner vers le passé et vers l'avenir,

Nous sommes réunis ici à l'occasion de la 20ème session de la Conférence de la FAO, soit comparativement et théoriquement par rapport à la vie d'un homme, le double de la majorité de notre Organisation, ce qui peut être donc un anniversaire important. Malheureusement, aucune date de l'histoire ne correspond à cet événement, si ce n'est le trentième anniversaire du transfert du Siège,

En effet, ce que d'aucuns parmi nous ignorent probablement, les origines de la FAO auraient pu se situer en 1936, plutôt qu'en 1945, car c'est en 1936 que la Société des Nations s'adresse pour la première fois à l'Institut International d'Agriculture pour une évaluation de la consommation alimentaire.

Le Comité initié à cet effet par l'IIA devait, on ne saura jamais pourquoi, décider d'exclure les pays tropicaux et asiatiques de cette importante étude. Il travailla donc exclusivement sur la partie du monde la mieux nourrie, limitant ce faisant l'intérêt mondial du problème alimentaire qui ne cesse de préoccuper la communauté internationale aujourd'hui.

Plus tard, en 1942, les problèmes alimentaires, par le fait de la guerre, inquiétèrent les alliés européens, mais le Conseil international de la crise alimentaire qui vit le jour ne tint pas plus compte des pays sous le joug colonial.

Il fallut attendre que la 4ème session de la Conférence de la FAO, réunie en 1948, adopte une résolution recommandant à tous les Gouvernements des Etats Membres de dresser leurs propres bilans alimentaires. Combien de pays où sévissent la pauvreté, la malnutrition et la faim étaient alors membres lorsque parurent, en avril 1949, les premiers feuillets mobiles sur les disponibilités alimentaires dont la publication cessa malheureusement en 1950, faute de personnel au sein de la FAO, pour les reprendre en 1955, sous forme d'éléments, dans l'annuaire de la production.

Le problème de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale n'est donc pas nouveau et c'est à travers ce bref aperçu historique que j'ai essayé de le montrer mais aussi et surtout, de relever que les pays en développement ont, pour la plupart, été tenus à l'écart, jusqu'en 1960.

Pourtant, à la fin de la même année durant laquelle la 4ème session de notre Organisation adoptait la résolution sur les bilans alimentaires, le 10 décembre 1948 exactement, la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme étaient adoptée. On peut y lire, en son article 25:

"Toute personne a droit à un niveau de vie suffisant pour assurer sa santé, son bien-être et ceux de sa famille, notamment pour l'alimentation..."

Les historiens sont mieux armés que nous pour relater ce qu'il en fut dans le développement des pays colonisés. Toutefois, nous pouvons constater que c'est seulement presque trente ans après, c'est-à-dire en 1976, que le Pacte international sur les Droits économiques, sociaux et culturels est venu répéter la Déclaration de Hot Springs en quelque sorte, au point que l'on peut se demander si cette dernière n'a pas été trop en avance sur la "conscientisation" internationale.

L'examen de la situation alimentaire de l'après deuxième guerre mondiale nous montre que, quatre ans seulement après la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme, la ration alimentaire dans les pays développés dépassait de plus de 10 pour cent les besoins nutritionnels, alors qu'elle était inférieure de plus de 15 pour cent dans les pays colonisés.

Si donc les pays développés avaient pris conscience de ces faits, il est permis de se demander si le problème de la sécurité alimentaire aurait la place importante qu'il occupe.

Concernant plus précisément l'Afrique, tous les rapports font apparaître que le degré d'autosuffisance ne cesse de décroître pour les principaux produits alimentaires, malgré le potentiel dont dispose ce continent pour assurer, de manière soutenue, une production vivrière qui devrait être en constante augmentation au regard de la croissance démographique. Les problèmes de la sécheresse au Sahel et en Afrique australe, des sauterelles en Afrique orientale et de la mouche tsé-tsé en zones tropicales humides sont-ils si insurmontables pour que l'on assiste à une insécurité alimentaire chronique ?

En Afrique, en Asie et en Amérique latine, outre les aléas naturels: inondations, retards de moussons en général, les guerres fratricides mobilisent plus que la production vivrière et les pays développés assistent à ces drames, attendant les flammes des feux qu'ils ont allumés, pourvoyant en armement les uns et les autres à la fois.

Tout dernièrement la Rhodésie a bloqué la quantité de maïs acheté par la Zambie nécessaire pour lui permettre de faire la soudure entre deux récoltes.

L'Afrique du Sud ne cesse de multiplier ses attaques contre les pays indépendants de cette partie du continent, défiant ostentatoirement une communauté internationale dont elle s'est exclue délibérément, pour n'entretenir qu'avec une minorité des relations qui l'encouragent dans sa politique raciale.

Tout ce contexte crée dans les pays en développement, une déstabilisation économique et politique soutenue afin de les maintenir dans une situation de dépendance perpétuelle meublée comme disait un humoriste "de bla-bla, des mots, des mots, mais toujours rien à manger".

Oui, car ce qui prévaut c'est que le monde a faim, et il a tellement faim qu'on en est arrivé à créer un système d'alerte rapide et un comité de sécurité alimentaire mondial.

Mais le monde a-t-il vraiment faim?

Les informations que nous pouvons exploiter d'une part, dont certaines émanent de la FAO, les spectacles qu'offrent les producteurs dans les pays développés d'autre part, et les situations dans les pays en développement enfin, nous conduisent à conclure que la Communauté internationale veut bien entretenir une aberration conjoncturelle qui satisfait pleinement une minorité tout en étant une constante problématique pour la plus grande partie de la population du monde.

En effet, il est aisé de constater que: primo, un tiers au moins de la production mondiale des céréales est utilisé pour nourrir les animaux dont plus de 7/8ème dans les pays industrialisés; secondo, l'engagement international sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale repose essentiellement sur les céréales dont l'arrangement international est dans l'impasse, les principaux producteurs de céréales étant, bien entendu, les pays développés; tertio, les comportements des producteurs qui, délibérément jettent dans les routes ou brûlent en signe de protestation des produits agricoles alors que des millions d'êtres humains en manquent et pourraient être mieux nourris avec ces produits, est un spectacle d'inconscience démesurée, indigne de notre société; quarto, les exportations des pays en développement vers les pays développés, sous prétexte qu'ils constituent leur meilleur espoir de progrès en exploitant les avantages naturels qu'ils présentent et dont l'objectif consiste à leur permettre d'importer leur nourriture et leurs biens d'équipement, sont une extraversion insoutenable. A titre d'exemple, les pays du Sahel ont exporté vers les pays développés 15 millions de kilos de légumes durant la sécheresse de 1971.

Je ne rentrerais pas dans l'analyse du commerce mondial des produits agricoles qui illustre d'autres aspects de la dépendance entr-303-

etendue par les pays développés vis-à-vis des pays en développement auxquels, à juste titre, mais conscients qu'ils ne le peuvent pas, les pays développés reprochent des insuffisances d'efforts en vue des accroissements indispensables des productions dont ils ont le plus besoin d'abord.

Sur le plan des disponibilités en terres propices aux cultures, les informations que nous tenons de la FAO permettent d'estimer à seulement 50 pour cent des terres cultivables, actuellement mises en culture.

D'abord parce que la terre est considérée comme un investissement avant de l'être comme une source de produits alimentaires. Les grands domaines réservés en sont un témoignage.

En second lieu, les pays en développement ont hérité d'une situation dont ils ne se sont pas débarrassés et qui consiste à réserver les bonnes terres aux cultures exportables. Pour ne prendre que l'exemple de l'Afrique, depuis 1960, les productions de café, de thé, de cacao, de coton et de canne à sucre ont été respectivement quadruplées, sextuplées, doublées et triplées alors que les cultures vivrières autochtones ont enregistré un recul alarmant.

La croissance démographique aurait par ailleurs créé d'après certains, un surpeuplement, cause de famine. Mais alors comment expliquer que l'Inde qui compte deux fois plus de surfaces cultivables par tête d'habitant que la Chine soit plus sous-alimentée que celle-ci? Le Brésil, par rapport aux Etats-Unis, se trouve dans une situation analogue.

On peut donc raisonnablement affirmer qu'il n'y a véritablement ni manque de nourriture, ni manque de terre cultivable et que la pression démographique ne constitue pas un facteur déterminant. D'où la nécessité peut être de poser le problème en d'autres termes qui correspondraient mieux aux réalités.

Les résultats enregistrés en faveur du peuple cambodgien sont une illustration plus récente des disponibilités alimentaires mondiales, mais ils ne pourront pas effacer de l'histoire le fait que le Bangladesh ait pu accumuler quatre millions de tonnes de riz après les inondations de 1974, simplement parce que la grande majorité de la population est trop pauvre pour acheter le riz produit sur place ou importé.

Nous saisissons là un aspect à l'intention des uns et des autres qui estiment soit qu'il faille produire plus d'aliments pour résoudre le problème de la faim, soit qu'il faille des politiques adéquates faisant appel aux techniques modernes pour augmenter les rendements. Ils oublient que les intrants: engrais, pesticides, machines et même formation, non seulement ne profitent qu'aux propriétaires de la terre, mais encore et surtout, à ceux qui ont les moyens de les acquérir.

Parmi ceux-là, les grands propriétaires terriens qui détiendraient les clés du problème. Qui n'a pas entendu, qui n'a pas lu qu'il était essentiel pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire de faire appel à ces grands qui représentent le moyen le plus rapide pour augmenter la production agricole?

Le spectre des grands espaces agro-industriels n'a pas été perçu avec toutes ses conséquences. La concentration des investissements sur les grands propriétaires orientent la production vers l'exportation plutôt que vers les produits agricoles de base nécessaires à ceux qui ont faim, et vers des prix abordables. Ils sont les responsables des économies agricoles extraverties des pays en développement, qu'il s'agisse de multinationales privées ou d'ensembles étatiques. N'a-t-on pas irrigué le désert, au Sénégal, pour produire des aubergines et des mangues destinées aux consommateurs des pays développés?

Après la crise des engrais, celle des pesticides a préoccupé les chroniqueurs agro-economistes. Heureusement que partout dans le monde des hommes essayent de contenir la domination de la nature par l'homme et les dégâts causés par lui à l'environnement. Un spécialiste américain me disait qu'une agence de son pays a conclu, après des recherches, qu'il y a une trentaine d'années les fermiers américains ne perdaient que 7 pour cent de leur culture en utilisant moins de pesticides; ils en perdent deux fois plus en utilisant actuellement 12 fois plus de pesticides. Je crois que les ordres de grandeurs sont éloquentes sur les prix de revient et sur le fond du problème technique.

Si, donc, à la lumière de ce qui précède, la faim n'est pas un problème technique, qu'en est-il exactement ? Nous allons essayer de le percevoir:

1) Les valeurs des exportations agricoles des pays en développement, manipulées par les pays développés n'ont pas suivi l'inflation des prix des biens manufacturés et cela a été démontré par des organismes spécialisés.

2) Un examen des éléments du commerce international des produits agricoles fait apparaître, non seulement que la part des pays en développement est en diminution par rapport à celle des pays développés; en 1963 elle était tombée à 40 pour cent; en 1972 à 30 pour cent, etc. , mais que les 2/3 des bénéficiaires les plus importants, consécutifs aux hausses des prix des exportations de produits agricoles vont aux pays développés.

3) Sur le plan des expressions "monde pauvre", "monde affamé" ou encore "monde sous-alimenté", il convient de relever le masque des réalités, le caractère régional et géographique des "Pays de la faim" où tous les ressortissants sont étiquetés comme affamés. Ce masque conduit à penser que les aides consenties, sous quelque forme qu'elles soient, vont à ceux qui en ont vraiment besoin. Il n'en est rien car les facilités tarifaires et autres concessions vont d'abord à ceux qui peuvent en tirer partie, c'est-à-dire les grands.

Plus qu'un problème technique, il est clair que nous avons à faire à un problème politique:

Problèmes politiques entre deux blocs: d'une part les pays développés, qui ne veulent pas céder un pouce de leurs privilèges, de leurs droits et de leur mainmise sur l'économie mondiale, d'autre part les pays en développement qui aspirent à donner à leur population les conditions minimales d'un bien-être décent et humain;

Problème politique entre deux conceptions du développement agricole: d'une part une conception qui mesure ce développement en termes de recettes d'exportation et d'autre part une conception qui le mesure en termes de bien-être. La première conception est quantifiable, la seconde n'est que qualifiable;

Problème politique, enfin entre deux systèmes: d'une part la petite propriété et d'autre part l'agroindustriel.

Au regard des constatations qui caractérisent notre monde, force nous est de conclure que la sécurité alimentaire ne peut être atteinte par les grandes options actuelles. Le vrai problème est un problème politique, mais il exige le courage des choix politiques; choix dans la manière d'exercer un véritable contrôle des ressources alimentaires; choix de ceux qui peuvent efficacement exercer ce contrôle; choix de ceux qui seront chargés de décider de ce qui doit être prioritairement contrôlé et donc produit, par rapport aux besoins des couches les plus démunies.

La sécurité alimentaire doit viser à mettre fin à l'insécurité et au paupérisme qui sont conséquentes de la mainmise croissante d'une minorité sur les ressources alimentaires mondiales. Elle suppose donc que chaque pays exploite plus rationnellement ses ressources pour nourrir d'abord sa population car, ni l'aide alimentaire, ni les organisations internationales gouvernementales ou non gouvernementales ne pourront jamais résoudre le problème de la sécurité alimentaire ne sera pas envisagé sous l'angle d'une démocratisation à tous les stades.

M. LEROTHOLI (Lesotho): Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, we add our voice to the other delegations in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the chairmanship and other members of the bureau and commission of this Conference. We would also like to congratulate the Director-General and his Secretariat for all the preparatory work leading to this important Conference. Permit us to acknowledge and appreciate the many and very very various development projects of FAO in the developing countries, without which progress in agriculture would have been more difficult.

We recognise the grim situation of food in the world as a whole. We are different, very different as peoples and nations and in our approach to these problems here at the FAO we have a common focus.

The problems facing the development of agriculture in Lesotho are many and complex. There is no doubt that for many years to come agriculture will continue to be the mainstay of the national economy in terms of its contribution to gross domestic product. Its share percentage of the total volume of exports is very high. It also provides employment opportunities to the majority of our population, 85 percent of which is living in rural areas.

During the triennium 1975/76 through 1977/78, a percentage share of agriculture to gross domestic product fluctuated 37.3 percent, 41.3 percent, and 35.5 percent, respectively. These fluctuations are largely attributed to unstable production due to labour shortages, capital deficiency, untimely farming operations, and inadequate farming practices.

Although this sector is subjected to a myriad of uncertainties, it continues to be given special attention and top priority in the allocation of development resources as a backbone of the country's economy.

Our agricultural policy in the coming third five-year development plan is designed not only to produce enough food grains for local self-sufficiency and reduction of imported foodstuffs, but also for the export market. We are striving to exploit our agricultural potential in order to foster general development in the other sectors of the economy. Our primary objectives in the agricultural sector are inter alia:

1. To increase productivity of land and water resources through judicious utilization and conservation practices.
2. To increase productivity in both crops and livestock sub-sectors through efficient distribution of inputs and establishment of marketing facilities for farm produce and by improving agricultural education of both technicians and farmers.
3. To raise rural incomes, improve nutrition and the well-being of the nation as well as to produce surpluses for export market, and raw materials for agro-industrial development.
4. To mobilize the farming population into more efficient, productive and economic units through their associations, societies and even cooperatives.

It is a comprehensive national policy to face the issues of development in the country.

During the second plan period, these goals have only been partially met mainly due to slow processes in procuring funds to implement some of the major programmes geared towards their realization, and constraints in involving farmers in the early stages of planning and evaluation of projects as eventual implementors and beneficiaries of the development effort I have referred to.

Our third five-year development plan which is commencing in 1980/81 derives from the recognition of the need to mobilize and judiciously employ all resources at the disposal of the country for agricultural development including the natural, financial and human resources.

The human resources operative in the field of agriculture are basically in two categories, i. e. farmers and their back-up service of technical advisers.

In the past agricultural development policies and strategies have been pronounced, projects have been conceived, appraised, financed and implemented by government with the cooperation and support of donor agencies and friendly countries, all the while the farmer was a beneficiary and much less a co-participant.

In the third plan this situation will be reversed; nothing will be carried out without the necessary involvement that ensures full participation and support of the ultimate beneficiaries.

In recognizing the latent potential of the farming communities to plan, organize and direct their own destiny, the government undertook measures to activate close cooperation by consultations with the farmers. This consultation took the form of national agricultural conferences at which all interests in agriculture are represented through an elective committee system by area, the first of which was held in January 1979. Preparations are now under way for the next one due in January 1980.

The outcome of the initial conference has been "Agricultural Policy in the Third Plan", whose main thrust centres around land reclamation and its judicious utilization which naturally provides a sound base for both crops and livestock production. This is indeed the farmers' agricultural policy and strategy to which they have vowed their loyalty and commitment. The success of the implementation of this policy depends on continuous dialogue between farmers and the government. With farmers fully involved in agricultural activities we are confident that sectoral objectives laid down in the third plan will be achieved.

In pursuance of the most efficient and effective ways of achieving self-sufficiency in agriculture, my government has recently adopted a policy of village-based cooperatives. The solid foundation of this cooperative movement will be laid at village level. The new approach takes advantage of the system of social organization in Lesotho dating back to early ancestry of our nation. The entire society has always been divided into basic units commonly known as villages with a territorial and administrative definition. The fundamental principle of a village is inter alia the democratic management of affairs of the inhabitants of the village by themselves.

In the spirit of these principles the most basic characteristic of a village has always been a common responsibility of carrying out various activities in society such as organized operations in ploughing, hoeing, harvesting of lands and rendering other social services in all aspects of life where these essential activities may be beyond the capabilities of the individual. The equitable sharing of resources was and is still assured by communal rights of use of land and other basic resources. The entire system is intrinsically cooperative in character and the new policy will re-define the cooperative movement in terms of these social coordinates. It should also be noted that while the new policy puts emphasis on village-based cooperatives, it does not, however, preclude agricultural activities on individual basis. Much of the land is held by individuals.

In the light of the decision of the Lesotho Government to modernize agriculture and accelerate development, the present land tenure system has had to be modified to conform to modern trends. The result is the land act of 1979 recently passed by parliament which, while preserving those fundamental socio-cultural aspects so important to our nation, aims to provide increased security of tenure and inheritance of rights to use land for various purposes; and through its leasing provisions, establishes a mechanism whereby the efficiency of land use can be substantially increased while also guarding against possibilities of dispossessing small farmers by some land hungry tendencies in favour of the elite. In the special provisions for selected "agricultural areas" we further note the possibility of developing the concept of village-based resource management which is one of the cardinal principles of our agricultural policy during the third five-year development plan period.

On the subject of World Food Security, my government is actively engaged in the formulation of strategies which will help us achieve our main objective of self-sufficiency in basic food grains. Supportive projects and programmes have been formulated, among which we can name the following:

Basic agricultural services programme-The fundamental strategy of the programme is to make farming more than a marginal source of income for rural people. The strategy is based on the premise that farmers will make changes in their cropping patterns and cultivation practices if they realise that changes are to their advantage. "Each component of the programme is designed to relieve a specific constraint to the improvement of production of existing field crops-maize, sorghum, wheat, beans and peas, principally for the consumption of our society. Low income groups will be the beneficiaries of the programme since they have, at present, only limited access to the kind of services that this programme is designed to bring about.

The major components of the basic agricultural services programme are a system of railhead stores, unit-level stores and lock-up stores for supplying inputs; mobile crop purchasing teams, initial improvement and subsequent maintenance of roads, extension, credit system to facilitate farmers' equitable access to inputs and farming equipment, and training courses for animal drought contractors; assistance to farmers in the repair and maintenance of farm equipment.

In an attempt to increase yields in 1976 a second special programme, cooperative crop production programme, was devised in mechanized wheat cultivation based on share cropping between the government and farmers as partners, government providing primary operations and inputs and the farmers providing land and labour. The yields of this programme proved to be about more than 200 percent higher than average. It must be noted that the idea of share cropping is an institutionalized practice with our people. This signifies even further the permanent cooperative spirit that exists in our society. It is in this light that we firmly believe that the principle of share cropping in a Lesotho Agrarian society will remain unsurpassed for a long time to come. In fact this is a factor that cements our communities and distinguishes the country as having a fairly equitable distribution of resources, none in abject poverty and none in affluence. We are not necessarily sharing poverty.

In order to reduce post-harvest food losses simple threshing machines will be introduced in the inaccessible areas of the country. Improved storage facilities are being built in rural areas and will be constantly checked against grain damage, when in operation.

A reserve of 5,000 metric tons of maize has been established to provide a readily available supply for people living in inaccessible mountain areas, in case of disruption of normal supplies by adverse weather conditions which are very frequent. Storage facilities have been built at a number of places in the mountains to store the grain.

A reserve of up to 20 000 metric tons of whole grain wheat and a further 30 000 metric tons of maize has been facilitated to provide a source of wheat and maize for domestic consumption in case imports, which are still dominant, are disrupted or local production fails.

We have embarked upon the farming systems research project which aims at strengthening our research division. Besides this, the project aims at developing more productive mixes for agricultural enterprises acceptable to the farmers, within their management ability, appropriate to their available resources and protective to the land base. Our research division continues to be in touch with other regional and international organizations like Sarcus, Icta, Cimmyt and Agris on the exchange of information regarding food and agricultural development.

The approach on the marketing of agricultural products is also being modified to allow the participation of farmers in the formulation of the marketing policy, and to facilitate the amalgamation of the various agencies involved in the marketing of agricultural products. The objective of this arrangement is to eliminate duplication, increase efficiency and make better use of the resources employed by the various agencies involved in the distribution of farm inputs and marketing of agricultural products. Presently the marketing thrust relates to livestock products, wool and mohair, which have formed the mainstay of the country's foreign exchange earning capacity. Livestock production will spearhead agro-industrialization of our economy in various forms, especially beef industry, poultry and fisheries.

In the field of nutrition, strategies are being formulated which are particularly geared towards putting the problem of hunger and malnutrition under control. Nutrition training for field staff and target communities is given top priority in our Third Five-Year Development Plan.

With regard to fisheries, very modest work has been done. Much more can be accomplished with financial assistance from our friends. Lesotho being a landlocked country has no access to the resources of the sea and is not in an unfortunate position of being associated with the exclusive economic zone, which seeks to exclude us, the land-locked countries. Fishery activities are directed towards the production of fresh-water fish. Up to twenty metric tons of carp, the main fish species under production, are produced each year. Plans are under way to increase the present total pond area from 27 hectares to **AO** hectares aimed at producing some 60 metric tons of fish annually.

On the subject of the Jakarta Declaration on forestry, like in fish farming, a humble start has been made. Lesotho is naturally a grassland country with only shrubs and "bushes in a few areas. We have the woodlot project, which is designed to provide fuel and building materials for the rural people. The project also serves as a useful soil and water conservation measure and has had very far-reaching results in areas where trees have already reached maturity and firewood services are available. The programme by itself is very useful in relieving the women's labour force towards other social services.

As I said earlier, this is only a modest beginning. There is room for expansion of the woodlot scheme as an afforestation programme by increasing resources tendered in this department.

We profoundly appreciate the commendable contributions of FAO and its divergencies in the development of agriculture in Lesotho. Permit us, Mr. Chairman, to single out just as an example, the international fertilizer supply programme, by showing the impact it has had, which has been in net to increase the productivity and the use of fertilizer some 200 percent between 1969 and 1977.

Frankly, agriculture is a very expensive venture. Without the necessary capital investment, agriculture turns into a mirage, a progressive illusion in a void. The tragedy of our world today is the misleading tendency, especially in the developing world, to leave agriculture as a preoccupation of the have-nots-those without capital and without expertise-and expect productivity to fall like manna from the hands of the poor. This is the paradox of our time-expectations of productivity in perpetual poverty. Let us rethink issues properly and equally redefine the dimensions of cooperation between the industrialized nations and the developing world to broaden the perspective of investment in agriculture. Productivity is more than mere words. We would therefore appeal once more to our friends from developed countries to redouble their usual cooperation in our long and troubled road of agricultural development. We are confident that given the necessary assistance, we can contribute much to the solution of the twin problem of hunger, starvation and malnutrition. As a special contribution, may I take advantage of this moment and appeal to FAO and other donors to give the following three--point suggestion a careful consideration:

1. That all donors should consider the relaxation of those disbursement policies and other constraints in economic relations which delay timely and expeditious implementation of projects and programmes.
2. That FAO endorse the idea of permanent country representatives in individual countries, preferably meeting the costs of the project out of the FAO budget and not the UNDP. This arrangement does not only expedite progress and improve communication in the negotiation of projects, but also keeps FAO up to date with the country's activities.
3. That FAO does not only consider assistance in fertilizer alone, but also credit facilities for acquisition of farm machinery by the farming communities in the developing countries, whether as individuals or cooperatives.

Then productivity in agriculture will begin in earnest as a major step towards the elimination of poverty.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates.

P. AKPO (Benin): Je voudrais tout d'abord, Monsieur le Président, au nom de mon pays, la République Populaire du Bénin, au nom de la Délégation qui m'accompagne et en mon nom personnel vous féliciter pour votre élection à la présidence de notre Conférence.

En effet, la Communauté Internationale suit, avec beaucoup d'intérêt, les efforts déployés depuis quelques années par votre pays, l'Espagne, pour s'ouvrir de plus en plus et de manière conséquente, à la coopération internationale.

Permettez-moi de voir dans votre brillante élection la manifestation de l'intérêt profond que cette communauté attache à cette politique de progrès, de justice et de paix.

Nul doute que c'est là un gage certain de succès pour les travaux de la présente Conférence.

Je voudrais aussi remercier le Directeur général de la FAO et le Secrétariat général de la Conférence pour la qualité des documents de travail mis à notre disposition.

Enfin, nous adressons nos vives félicitations aux deux nouveaux Etats Membres de votre organisation: La République Dominicaine et le "Saouma-Occidental".

La 20ème Session de la Conférence générale de la FAO revêt à nos yeux une importance toute particulière.

En effet, deux ans se sont écoulés depuis la dernière Session et la FAO, pendant cette période, a mené diverses activités positives dont notamment: l'intérêt particulier accordé aux investissements correspondant à des besoins concrets et urgents sur le terrain; le Programme de Coopération Technique en faveur des pays en développement qui fonctionne à la satisfaction de tous; la décentralisation des structures amorcée se concrétise de jour en jour par l'ouverture de représentations au niveau de nos Etats; l'aide apportée aux organisations telles que l'OCLALAV, l'OICYA, la DLCO dans leur lutte contre les déprédateurs des cultures.

En dehors de ces activités, la FAO a organisé un certain nombre de rencontres qui répondent aux grandes préoccupations des pays en développement. Nous en voulons pour preuves: La Conférence sur la Sécurité Alimentaire Mondiale tenue à Rome en Avril 1979 et son Plan d'Action en cinq points visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire en attendant la renégociation de l'Accord de Genève: La Consultation sur la Coopération Technique et Economique entre pays en développement réunie à Rome courant Juin et Juillet 1979: La Conférence Mondiale sur la Réforme Agricole et le Développement Rural tenue à Rome en Juillet 1979 et dont les différentes résolutions issues des travaux font appel aux engagements politiques sincères des pays développés pour leur application sur le terrain; la création à Arusha en Tanzanie du Centre pour le Développement Rural Intégré en Afrique au mois de Septembre 1979.

Il découle de cette analyse qu'en deux ans notre organisation a inscrit à son actif beaucoup de réalisations concrètes allant dans le sens du combat quotidien des peuples contre la faim dans le monde.

Le bilan, encourageant à plus d'un titre, est le résultat d'une orientation nouvelle et d'une action dynamique de l'équipe dirigeante de notre organisation d'une part, et d'autre part le fruit de la cohésion et de la collaboration saine qui existent entre la Direction générale, les Organes centraux et les Représentations au niveau des Etats. Ce dynamisme a contribué à mieux faire connaître aux gouvernements de nos Etats les objectifs et les disponibilités réelles d'assistance de l'Organisation au développement économique et social de nos pays respectifs.

Nous en remercions vivement le Directeur général et l'encourageons fermement à poursuivre son action dans cette voie.

Malgré ce progrès indéniable, plusieurs problèmes, non des moindres, restent à résoudre pour garantir des conditions de vie meilleures pour une population en pleine expansion.

Monsieur le Président, je voudrais attirer votre attention ainsi que celle des délégations présentes sur les foyers de guerre qui, combien nombreux, allumés çà et là, agitent le monde entier et qui perturbent tous efforts de développement.

Ces foyers allumés et entretenus à grands frais pour la plupart par les pays développés, sont le résultat logique des luttes d'influence que ces derniers se livrent dans le vil dessein de contrôler les énormes richesses des pays en développement que nous sommes et d'appauvrir davantage nos économies par les ventes d'armes pour nous entretenir et nous divertir des tâches de production.

Aux assises de l'Unesco pour la Paix, organisées à Paris du 12 au 16 novembre 1979, les dépenses militaires pour 1979 ont été évaluées à 500 milliards de dollars, soit l'équivalent du produit national brut des soixante-quinze pays les plus pauvres du monde. "Le taux d'inflation, en rapport direct avec le coût et la course aux armements, atteint aujourd'hui un million de dollars à la minute".

Nous nous trouvons ainsi placés devant le dilemme suivant: être présent sur le front de la défense de nos souverainetés nationales en permanence menacées par l'impérialisme international; être présents sur le front de la lutte pour la production qui doit libérer nos populations de la misère qu'engendrent la malnutrition et la sous-alimentation.

Dans ces conditions, comment pourrions-nous envisager de réaliser cette unité de pensée et d'action nécessaire à l'instauration du Nouvel Ordre Economique International que nous réclamons tous?

Les échecs répétés enregistrés au niveau des dernières CNUCED sont les manifestations tangibles de cette dualité.

En comptant d'abord sur leurs propres forces et sur leurs propres ressources, les pays en développement se doivent de tout mettre en oeuvre pour contrôler l'arme de taille que constitue la production alimentaire. Conscients du fait qu'un peuple qui ne mange pas à sa faim est un peuple vite soumis, les pays développés ont choisi, par diverses manoeuvres savamment orchestrées, de tout faire pour que la lutte pour la production que mènent les pays en développement ne soit pas couronnée de succès. Il en est ainsi; de la réduction de l'aide au développement, de l'exportation, de l'inflation, des investissements improductifs de plus en plus nombreux, notamment dans l'armement, en créant des conflits entre les pays en développement.

C'est ici le lieu de rappeler aux grandes puissances leur lourde responsabilité dans le maintien et la persistance de la faim dans le monde.

Des énormes sommes d'argent affectées à l'armement, des énormes crédits ouverts pour susciter ou entretenir contre ou entre pays en développement des agressions armées et conflits fratricides, une infime fraction aurait suffi à soutenir efficacement les efforts conjoints de la FAO et des pays en développement dans leur noble combat quotidien contre la faim, la malnutrition et la sous-alimentation dont souffrent les 3/4 de l'humanité.

C'est en ce sens que nous espérons que l'appel historique lancé par Sa Sainteté, le Pape Jean Paul II, à cette même tribune sera entendu. C'est aussi dans le même sens que nous sommes convaincus que la nouvelle forme de coopération internationale basée sur une véritable aide au développement et non sur une aide à la consommation préconisée par le Président Kenneth Kaunda dans son allocution en l'honneur de Mc Dougall à cette même tribune trouvera un écho favorable auprès des pays nantis.

C'est pourquoi, mon pays, la République Populaire du Benin soutient fermement les grandes lignes du programme de travail et de budget pour le prochain biennium.

Nous voudrions mettre un accent particulier sur la mise en oeuvre des points suivants: le développement de la production halieutique dans les Zones Economiques Exclusives telles qu'elles ont été définies lors de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le Droit de la Mer; le Programme de lutte contre la Trypanosomiase animale africaine et d'aide aux pays africains dont les territoires sont investis par les diverses espèces de mouches tsé-tsé; le renforcement du programme de Nutrition; l'application des mesures découlant de la Déclaration de Djakarta suite au huitième Congrès Forestier Mondial.

En conclusion il ne servirait à rien si les nombreuses déclarations faisant état de la situation dramatique de l'alimentation dans les pays en développement n'étaient suivies dans les faits de réalisations concrètes de la part de la Communauté Internationale en générale, de la part des pays développés en particulier. C'est à ce seul prix que les unes et les autres feront la preuve de leur volonté politique d'assister l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture dans son noble rôle de prévention de la famine dans le monde.

Nous voudrions espérer que la prochaine Conférence de la FAO, s'appuyant sur les progrès sensibles qui auront été enregistrés dans le domaine du développement pour le bien-être de l'humanité toute entière, ouvrira à la Communauté des Nations de nouvelles perspectives.

M. N. LOSSIMIAN (Tchad): Je voudrais tout d'abord au nom du Gouvernement de mon pays, au nom de ma délégation et en mon nom propre, adresser mes très sincères félicitations à M. Lamo de Espinosa, Ministre de l'agriculture d'Espagne, pour sa brillante élection à la présidence de la vingtième session de la Conférence de notre Organisation.

Mes félicitations vont également à M. Edouard Saouma, Directeur général de la FAO ainsi qu'à ses collaborateurs pour la parfaite organisation de cette Conférence et pour l'effort constant d'adaptation de notre institution qui a caractérisé son mandat.

J'adresse par la même occasion mes félicitations aux nouveaux Membres de notre famille, je veux citer le Samoa occidental et Dominique.

Je tiens à adresser mes très vives félicitations au Dr Boukar Chaib qui a présidé avec compétence et dévouement ces deux dernières années le Conseil de notre institution et souhaite qu'il soit réélu à cet important poste.

La présente session revêt à nos yeux une importance particulière, car elle se déroule à un moment où mon pays, le Tchad, vient de tourner une page importante de son histoire par la mise en place d'un Gouvernement d'union nationale de transition, mettant ainsi fin à treize années de guerre fratricide. Certes, la République du Tchad a toujours participé au programme de développement mis en oeuvre par la FAO et les autres organismes internationaux, mais les efforts déployés durant des années n'ont pas répondu pleinement à l'attente du peuple tchadien soit à cause des aléas climatiques, soit à cause de la lutte armée intérieure.

Cependant, des progrès appréciables ont été enregistrés dans certains secteurs de l'économie rurale malgré le combat mené sur plusieurs fronts. Puis survint la tragédie du 12 février 1979 dont les séquelles ne disparaîtront pas de si tôt.

Puisque l'objectif fondamental de la Conférence est d'apporter des solutions jugées acceptables aux problèmes identifiés, d'évaluer les résultats des décisions prises antérieurement en vue d'élaborer une nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement, je puis assurer cette instance que mon pays s'associe aux autres Etats Membres dans la recherche des voies et moyens appropriés pour atteindre le bien-être social dans les pays en développement. Pour illustrer mon propos, je vous dirai que, contrairement aux prévisions d'accroissement de la production alimentaire et agricole mondiale dont le taux est fixé à 4 pour cent par la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation, les Tchadiens constatent avec amertume la régression brutale de la production pour des raisons à présent connues du monde entier.

Comme vous le savez, le Tchad est un pays dont l'économie à dominante rurale est axée principalement sur la monoculture du coton. De gros efforts portant sur la diversification des cultures ont été réalisés. Pourtant, la situation alimentaire est encore préoccupante à la fin de la campagne 1979/80.

Ainsi, la stratégie consistant à assurer l'autosuffisance alimentaire dictée par l'inclémence des éléments naturels aux pays du Sahel au cours des années 1972/75 et conforme à la politique de sécurité alimentaire mondiale, a donné lieu à une véritable politique nationale alimentaire caractérisée par la création de l'Office national des céréales, grâce au concours technique de la FAO.

Malheureusement, les circonstances actuelles ne permettent pas de présenter les premiers effets de cette nouvelle structure.

C'est pourquoi le Gouvernement d'union nationale de transition m'a chargé d'appeler votre bienveillante attention sur le douloureux problème d'aide alimentaire aux victimes de la guerre. La contribution de la communauté internationale au peuple tchadien éprouvé traduira sans nul doute la solidarité des peuples et la coopération entre les pays. Demeurez toutefois convaincus que notre souci est d'arriver à produire suffisamment pour notre propre alimentation. Votre concours en technologie et moyens de production sera sollicité dès la reprise normale de toutes les activités.

Le système de développement socio-économique mis en place au cours des deux dernières décennies laisse entrevoir des écueils qui lui sont inhérents :

Sur le plan des cultures industrielles, principalement le coton, nous enregistrons cette année une baisse de production de 40 pour cent par rapport aux objectifs fixés, pour des raisons dues à la conjoncture. Cette culture contribue pour 70 pour cent à nos recettes d'exportation. La diminution de production et la variation des prix sur les marchés internationaux ont une incidence directe sur le revenu du paysan et sur les finances publiques.

Sur le plan des cultures vivrières, malgré une production moyenne de mil et de sorgho en zone soudanienne, nous estimons le déficit vivrier global à 100 000 tonnes. En effet, la production rizicole a baissé d'environ 60 pour cent par rapport à la normale et la zone sahélienne, comme les années passées, a enregistré un important déficit dû à une mauvaise répartition pluviométrique dans certains secteurs et aux événements qu'a connus notre pays ces derniers mois.

Tous les projets de grande envergure qui ont bénéficié d'importants investissements sont interrompus provisoirement, sinon connaissent d'énormes difficultés pour réaliser les objectifs qui leur ont été fixés.

Je suis certain que, le moment venu, le Gouvernement tchadien pourra compter sur le concours des organismes qui ont participé au financement de ces projets pour la reprise de leurs activités.

Il va sans dire que le Gouvernement d'union nationale de transition entend élaborer dans un bref délai un plan de redressement en vue d'effacer les séquelles de la guerre et des calamités de toutes sortes qui se sont abattues sur le Tchad depuis dix ans.

Le développement de l'élevage : après les lourdes pertes causées par la sécheresse et une mauvaise exploitation du capital, la reconstitution du cheptel tchadien constitue pour nous un objectif prioritaire à moyen et long termes.

Alors que la pêche, troisième grande activité économique du pays connaît des débuts de modernisation difficiles, la mise en valeur des ressources halieutiques n'a encore pas donné lieu à de grands projets, malgré l'action néfaste de la sécheresse sur la faune aquatique.

Dans le domaine de la foresterie, la désertification a pris des proportions gigantesques. De petits projets ponctuels montrent que la lutte contre l'avance du désert est bien engagée avec des moyens insignifiants.

C'est pour vous dire à quel point la stratégie utilisée est incomplète et qu'un ajustement s'avère indispensable.

Cette présentation sommaire des secteurs clés de l'économie nationale prouve que le Tchad est résolument engagé à mener la bataille contre la misère et la pauvreté. Il est entendu que la priorité est accordée à l'autosuffisance alimentaire.

Mais la situation conjoncturelle, engendrée d'abord par treize années de lutte armée et consacrée par la tragédie du 12 février 1979, illustre parfaitement la dispersion d'énergies et de ressources qui, si elles étaient affectées au développement économique, auraient pu avoir un effet bénéfique sur la qualité de la vie de l'homme tchadien.

D'ailleurs, la participation de l'Etat dans les investissements agricoles est insignifiante par rapport à l'aide extérieure qui s'élève à 80 pour cent environ. Cependant, un effort considérable sera consenti au cours de la prochaine décennie.

Désormais, le Tchad orientera de plus en plus sa politique de développement rural vers l'auto-suffisance alimentaire en cherchant à accroître sa production agricole. Nous pensons en effet que la sécurité alimentaire au niveau national devrait être un objectif prioritaire sans que cette orientation exclue la coopération régionale dans ce domaine. Cet objectif ne peut être atteint que grâce au soutien des organismes internationaux et des pays amis qui ont le regard tourné vers nous et s'interrogent sur les chances d'une reprise normale des activités auxquelles ils contribuent.

L'honneur me revient donc d'informer la Conférence du dénouement heureux du drame tchadien et le Gouvernement d'union nationale de transition, reflet authentique de l'Etat, entend prendre ses responsabilités pour garantir la paix et la sécurité dans tout le pays. Notre vœu le plus ardent est de restaurer la coopération sous toutes ses formes avec tous les pays amis et les organisations internationales.

Je faillirais à mon devoir si je ne déclarais pas à la communauté internationale que le peuple tchadien, qui a tant souffert dans sa chair et dans son âme, fait appel aux Etats Membres de cette instance pour l'aider à sortir de son marasme économique.

La République du Tchad possède des potentialités insoupçonnées. Le sous-sol recèle des minerais de toutes sortes et les prospections de l'or noir se sont révélées positives. Les ressources en eaux souterraines et de surface, facteur déterminant des aménagements hydro-agricoles, sont inexploitées

faute de moyens financiers. Les pâturages naturels sont abondants; le cheptel et la faune sauvage sont variés et numériquement importants. La nature tchadienne n'est pas aussi ingrate qu'on le pense. La paix revenue, avec le concours technique et financier de tous les amis de bonne volonté, nous pourrions doter le pays d'une économie saine en vue d'améliorer les conditions de vie des masses rurales.

Au nom du Gouvernement d'union nationale de transition et en mon nom personnel, j'adresse mes très sincères remerciements aux pays amis et aux organismes internationaux qui apportent au Tchad leur concours désintéressé pour soutenir ses efforts dans le cadre du développement social et économique.

Je souhaite que les travaux de la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO soient couronnés de succès, en espérant qu'une attention particulière soit portée au problème tchadien.

TEO SUN HOA (Kampuchea démocratique): Avant de faire ma déclaration, permettez-moi de dire quelques mots concernant ce qui vient de se passer, que je regrette vivement, et permettez-moi de ne pas m'arrêter longuement sur ce point.

Je préfère passer tout de suite au texte de ma déclaration.

Tout d'abord qu'il me soit permis, au nom de la délégation du Kampuchea démocratique, d'adresser à Son Excellence M. Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, Ministre de l'agriculture de l'Espagne, mes très chaleureuses félicitations pour sa brillante élection à la présidence de la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO. Ma délégation tient également à rendre hommage au Directeur général et à tout le personnel de la FAO pour leurs efforts inlassables et leurs initiatives, notamment dans le domaine de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Que tous, au siège et sur le terrain, soient assurés de nos cordiales félicitations et de nos remerciements sincères.

Je voudrais aussi adresser mes vœux de chaleureuse bienvenue au Samoa occidental et au commonwealth de Dominique, à l'occasion de leur admission au sein de la FAO.

Depuis plusieurs décennies, le problème de l'alimentation de l'homme a toujours été au centre des préoccupations de la communauté internationale. Consciente du danger qui menace une grande partie de l'humanité, la FAO s'est employée à prévoir l'avenir, à suggérer des mesures et à encourager la production alimentaire sous toutes ses formes. Les pays du tiers monde ont mis en oeuvre, dans les limites de leurs possibilités, d'importants moyens humains, économiques et financiers, pour réaliser divers projets de développement, notamment ceux visant directement la production alimentaire. De nombreux pays en développement ont ainsi réalisé des progrès substantiels. Malheureusement, ces progrès n'ont pas été suffisants, en raison notamment d'un ordre économique international inadéquat et dépassé.

Aussi notre Conférence se devrait-elle de se considérer comme partie intégrante des efforts déployés par la communauté internationale pour instaurer un nouvel ordre économique international. Les négociations, tant bilatérales que multilatérales, gagneraient à être traitées sur la base d'un esprit de coopération constante et de non-confrontation. Le développement de l'agriculture et de l'industrie étant généralement complémentaire, tout objectif industriel n'est atteint que si l'agriculture elle-même bénéficie d'un taux élevé de croissance. Naturellement, il est indispensable de préserver l'environnement dans le processus de développement, étant entendu que l'agriculture joue un rôle primordial dans ce domaine en tant que principal utilisateur des terres et des mers. Ce sont là, à notre avis, des impératifs fondamentaux devant être considérés dans la formulation de la nouvelle stratégie internationale de développement. Par ailleurs, notre délégation voudrait exprimer son soutien au Programme de travail et budget présenté par le Directeur général, tout en l'assurant de notre sympathie et de notre entière coopération. Notre délégation apprécie hautement le souci de réduire les dépenses au siège au profit de celles de terrain. Nous souhaitons enfin plein succès à la réalisation du Plan en cinq points qui constitue une étape essentielle vers l'établissement d'un nouvel ordre économique international.

Les problèmes qui confrontent l'agriculture mondiale de nos jours ne peuvent être examinés seulement dans un contexte de simple croissance quantitative ou pour atteindre les objectifs d'un tel ou tel ordre économique. Le problème de la faim, et de la malnutrition notamment, ne sera résolu sans une croissance accélérée de la production alimentaire, certes. Mais ce terrible fléau ne disparaîtra pas tant que l'indépendance et la paix des peuples restent menacées et tant que l'agression et l'ambition expansionniste menacent les peuples et les pays.

Qu'il me soit permis d'apporter aujourd'hui notre humble contribution à cette importante Conférence . en lui faisant part des expériences de notre pays concernant le développement, expériences chèrement acquises par le peuple héroïque du Kampuchea. La première expérience c'est qu'en comptant principalement sur ses propres forces, c'est-à-dire la force du peuple tout entier, un pays, si pauvre, si petit soit-il, arrive effectivement à se développer. La deuxième expérience c'est qu'un pays, même s'il est en plein essor, voit tous ses acquis techniques et économiques complètement anéantis quand il est victime d'agression.

En effet, lorsque le Kampuchea démocratique a recouvré son indépendance en 1975 et jusqu'en 1978, date de son invasion par les troupes étrangères, le Gouvernement du Kampuchea démocratique a fondé sa politique de développement sur la situation concrète du pays et la nécessité du moment, à savoir une agriculture arriérée et une infrastructure économique dévastée. La tâche la plus urgente qui s'imposait était donc de relever au plus vite l'économie du pays, afin d'assurer les besoins fondamentaux de notre peuple. Grâce à l'application d'une politique de science de masse et de technique de masse, nous avons pu stimuler un grand mouvement populaire dans tout le pays, où jeunes et vieux s'efforcent d'améliorer les techniques traditionnelles de production qui ont fait leur preuve depuis des siècles et s'initient avec enthousiasme à la science et à la technique modernes. De cette façon, nous avons pu former sur le tas des techniciens dans tous les domaines, des médecins, des pharmaciens qui, en trois ans, ont pu arriver à redresser fondamentalement l'économie du pays, à éradiquer fondamentalement également le paludisme et assurer à tous une vie matérielle, morale et spirituelle convenable, ce qui nous permit d'ouvrir nos monuments d'Angkor au tourisme, d'inviter des amis et de rechercher activement la coopération économique, scientifique et technique internationale.

Hais hélas, avec l'agression étrangère depuis maintenant onze mois, non seulement tous ces acquis sont complètement détruits, mais le peuple du Kampuchea est menacé dans son existence même en tant que nation, en tant que race. Les troupes étrangères qui opèrent actuellement sur notre sol s'élevaient à 100 000 au début de l'invasion et à plus de 220 000 maintenant contre un pays aussi petit que le Kampuchea et contre un peuple aussi peu nombreux que le peuple du Kampuchea. Les massacres et destructions que ces troupes causent à notre peuple, à notre économie et à notre patrimoine culturel, bouleversent l'humanité actuellement. Après onze mois de mise à sac, le Kampuchea, cette vieille et glorieuse terre d'Angkor aux multiples trésors artistiques et culturels et riche en ressources naturelles et agricoles, est devenu aujourd'hui un pays de désolation où rien ne pousse. Hais, fait plus douloureux encore, les troupes d'agression ont déjà massacré plus de 500 000 de nos compatriotes, hommes, femmes, enfants et vieillards. En même temps, dans le dessein de faire mourir de faim notre peuple, pour briser sa résistance, elles l'ont empêché de se livrer aux travaux agricoles et détruit systématiquement les rizières et champs qui ont pu être cultivés au cours de la dernière saison des pluies, elles ont détruit tous les instruments agricoles et plus d'un million des animaux de trait (boeufs et buffles) que compte notre cheptel. C'est à cause de cette politique de famine systématique que déjà plus de 500 000 de nos compatriotes ont péri de faim, ce qui porte le total des victimes au cours de ces dix mois d'agression à plus d'un million. Parallèlement, les envahisseurs ont chassé des centaines de milliers de nos compatriotes de leur foyer, les réduisant à l'état de réfugiés en Thaïlande. En même temps, plus de 300 000 colons de repeuplement amenés directement de leur pays sont implantés dans nos régions de l'est, dans les provinces maritimes du sud-ouest et dans la zone des grands lacs, à la place de nos compatriotes massacrés ou chassés de leur foyer.

La famine imposée au Kampuchea par les troupes d'agression fait de plus en plus de victimes chaque jour qui passe. Cette famine, que l'humanité entière s'attache à combattre depuis des décennies, est aujourd'hui aiguisée en une arme d'extermination contre le peuple pacifique du Kampuchea. Elle frappe avant tout les femmes, les enfants et les vieillards. Soucieux de la survie de la nation et du peuple du Kampuchea, le Gouvernement du Kampuchea démocratique appelle toutes les organisations internationales, et notamment la FAO, et tous les pays épris de paix, de justice et d'indépendance, à accorder leur aide humanitaire au peuple du Kampuchea. Cette aide constitue une arme efficace contre les tentatives des agresseurs d'exterminer le peuple et la nation du Kampuchea. Le Gouvernement et la Croix-Rouge du Kampuchea démocratique accueillent avec gratitude toutes ces aides humanitaires et font tous leurs efforts pour apporter leur coopération et faire en sorte que toutes ces aides profitent directement au peuple du Kampuchea. Parallèlement, nous estimons que l'envoi d'urgence du personnel de la FAO en nombre suffisant et des autres organisations humanitaires sur le terrain du Kampuchea est nécessaire pour assurer la distribution de toutes ces aides directement et partout à tout le peuple du Kampuchea victime. Nous considérons que la présence de tel personnel pourra contribuer également à sauver chaque jour la vie de centaines et de milliers de Kampuchéens, car cette présence constituerait un obstacle aux troupes d'agression dans leur sinistre entreprise d'extermination, comme elles ont pu le faire à leur guise dans le passé et continuent à le faire actuellement.

Les aides et secours humanitaires permettront certainement de soulager les malheurs et souffrances incommensurables de notre peuple. Mais ils ne sauront y mettre un terme. Le danger d'extension de la guerre d'agression à toute l'Asie du Sud-Est ne saura être écarté tant qu'une solution définitive ne sera pas apportée au problème. Seul le retrait de toutes les troupes et forces étrangères du Kampuchea pourra mettre fin à la guerre au Kampuchea. C'est là l'unique solution pour que la paix et la sécurité reviennent dans cette partie du monde. C'est également l'unique voie qui permettra d'ouvrir une nouvelle ère de compréhension et de coopération entre tous les peuples de cette région. Pour notre part, pour grands que soient les sacrifices à consentir, notre peuple et notre armée, sous la direction du Gouvernement du Kampuchea démocratique, sont déterminés à poursuivre résolument le combat pour chasser tous les agresseurs hors du Kampuchea. Ils sont convaincus qu'avec l'aide et le soutien agissant de la communauté internationale et de tous les pays et peuples épris de paix, de justice et d'indépendance dans le monde, la victoire leur appartiendra.

The meeting rose at 13. 10 hours.

La séance est levée à 13 h 10.

Se levanta la sesión a las 13. 10 horas.

conference

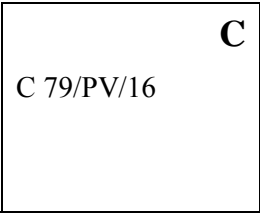
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

SIXTEENTH PLENARY MEETING
SEIZIEME SEANCE PLENTERE
16ª SESION PLENARIA
(20 November 1979)

The Sixteenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 14. 45 hoars J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La seizième séance plénière est ouverte à h 45, sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 16ª sesión plenaria a las 14. 45 horas bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL (continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

EL PRESIDENTE: Buenas tardes, señores delegados, vamos a continuar con la lista de oradores inscritos en el debate general.

En primer lugar, tiene la palabra el Presidente de la Oficina Internacional de Epizootias, Sr. A. Laaberki.

A. LAABERKI (Observateur de l'Office international des Epizooties): Monsieur le Président, au nom de l'Office international des Epizooties, je voudrais d'abord m'acquitter d'une tâche agréable: celle de joindre ma voix au concert d'éloges qui a salué votre élection ainsi que celle des vice-présidents de la vingtième Conférence de la FAO. Le choix qu'a porté sur vous cette très honorable assemblée s'il consacre vos qualités personnelles n'en est que plus conforme à l'image et aux traditions de votre pays.

Et je relève avec satisfaction que l'Espagne est, avec le Maroc (au nombre des vice-présidents), l'un des 28 Etats fondateurs de l'Office international des Epizooties, Organisation intergouvernementale créée à Paris en 1924, qui réunit aujourd'hui près de 100 Etats Membres.

Je voudrais aussi m'adresser au Directeur général de la FAO, M. Edouard Saouma, pour lui rendre un hommage reconnaissant pour le redressement spectaculaire qu'il a pu réaliser depuis son élection à la plus haute charge de cette illustre Organisation.

Le nouvel élan qu'il a su donner à ses services nous concerne d'autant plus que l'OIE et la FAO sont liés par un accord de coopération depuis 1952 et que notre collaboration doit se poursuivre de façon exemplaire.

Fidèle à sa vocation, l'OIE veille sur la santé animale à l'échelle mondiale grâce à son système d'alerte permanente, d'information rapide, de documentation à la disposition des Etats Membres. Grâce aux travaux d'experts de ses commissions spécialisées, il fixe les conditions sanitaires et les normes biologiques devant régir le commerce des animaux et produits animaux, et édicte dans ce but un code zoosanitaire international, mondialement reconnu, et largement appliqué, même par les Etats non membres de l'OIE.

L'OIE par ailleurs encourage et coordonne la recherche et la diffusion des connaissances scientifiques et techniques pour la lutte contre les maladies animales, et pour le contrôle des épizooties qui occasionnent encore trop de pertes dans les pays en développement.

L'OIE réunit chaque année, au mois de mai, à Paris, en présence de nombreux observateurs, d'organisations régionales et internationales, une Conférence de près de 100 Etats Membres pour débattre des problèmes sanitaires selon une échelle d'urgence et, en considération du caractère d'évolution des épizooties, des répercussions des maladies sur le plan économique, social et humain dans les régions géographiques. Les débats sont consacrés par des résolutions et des recommandations qui sont adressées aux Etats Membres et aux organisations internationales, plus précisément à la FAO et à l'Organisation mondiale de la santé.

Ainsi donc, l'OIE joue pleinement son rôle international en matière de coopération sanitaire vétérinaire pour le plus grand bien des Etats Membres, de l'OIE et de la FAO, en contribuant de façon déterminante à promouvoir le commerce international des animaux et produits animaux en s'associant activement à tous les efforts entrepris à l'échelle mondiale pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire et sanitaire des populations humaines.

C'est d'ailleurs sur ce terrain de la sécurité alimentaire que je tiens à placer le problème de la santé animale. De toutes les réserves alimentaires, c'est encore le troupeau, l'animal vivant qui reste le plus vulnérable. Sa protection est parfois aléatoire ou exige des moyens sophistiqués et

onéreux, je veux parler des vaccins et des produits biologiques en général, les produits de traitement antimicrobiens et antiparasitaires.

Là encore, ce sont les pays en développement qui sont les moins bien pourvus et, pour certains, notamment en Afrique, les plus démunis parce que leur équipement en laboratoire est insuffisant ou parce qu'ils n'ont pas la maîtrise technologique des produits de vaccination ou de traitement, faute d'encadrement et de financement.

Pourtant, on pouvait croire que l'élevage étant l'une de leurs principales vocations, sinon la principale, les ressources qui en résultaient devraient leur assurer le financement, donc l'équipement, l'encadrement. A de rares exceptions, il n'en a rien été. Excédentaires à la veille de la décolonisation, ce sont les pays développés sortis de la guerre qui résorbaient encore leurs excédents. Une fois indépendants, leur production a fléchi puis s'est essoufflée derrière le galop démographique et les limites du pouvoir d'achat.

Cette évolution était perceptible dès la première décennie du développement. A la deuxième décennie, les déficits se sont aggravés et, pour certains pays, la dépendance saisonnière et périodique de leurs importations.

La nécessité de réduire les déficits apparaît à l'évidence. Pour cela, il importe de résoudre deux préalables: le premier tenant d'abord à la place des pays en développement dans le circuit international du commerce des animaux et produits animaux. Ces pays doivent y avoir accès pour stimuler et régulariser leur production car l'effort qu'ils doivent fournir dépasse, pour être déterminant, la simple autosuffisance qui reste pour le moins dans leur cas, une forme d'économie de cueillette améliorée. Le deuxième préalable tenant à leurs besoins en produits de prévention et de traitement. Un effort international doit porter essentiellement: sur les équipements scientifiques et techniques des laboratoires et la recherche biologique qui ouvre des perspectives immenses; sur la mise en commun de moyens financiers et technologiques pour la production de produits biologiques et de vaccins.

Nous avons eu l'occasion de préconiser à cet effet, lors du vingt et unième Congrès mondial vétérinaire tenu à Moscou, en juillet 1979, la mise en service d'un bateau laboratoire pour l'Afrique, formule à la fois pratique et économique dont on soupçonne à peine l'immense intérêt, notamment pour mettre à la portée des chercheurs africains et des pays qui seraient atteints de maladies contagieuses et d'épizooties, la technologie et les vaccins.

L'effort international doit porter enfin sur les produits des traitements qui restent hors de portée des pays africains, notamment à la fois du point de vue du coût et du point de vue technologique. Ces produits sont là aussi justiciables d'une vaste coopération internationale pour la constitution d'une banque régionale de produits thérapeutiques. Certes, la FAO fournit déjà des efforts méritoires en la matière. La preuve en est l'inscription dans son programme de la trypanosomiase en Afrique, affection on ne peut plus grave où toutes les tentatives de lutte ont été jusqu'ici décevantes.

Il reste beaucoup d'autres maladies, et je voudrais lancer un appel solennel à la FAO et au FIDA réunis pour qu'ils apportent leur aide et leur soutien à l'OIE dans l'offensive qu'il mène de par le monde contre toutes les maladies-je dis bien: toutes à la fois-qui attendent encore au bien-être quand ce n'est pas à la simple survie des populations humaines.

On ne doit plus accepter que des maladies soient tolérées comme endémiques dans une région pauvre et non éradiquées parce qu'elles ne constituent pas une menace directe pour une région plus riche. C'est sans doute le seul domaine où il ne saurait y avoir jamais de paix: celle des consciences.

N. SUMYA (Mongolia) (interpretation from Mongolian): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, it is my privilege on behalf of the delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic to address the FAO Conference and congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the current Session.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the two new Member States which have joined our FAO family.

As I am addressing this Session at the latest moment of its general debate could I permit myself to fully share the opinion that agriculture is one of the important branches of the development of any country.

For us such an assessment is not merely theoretical one, but is confirmed by our achievements and the practical experience which we have accumulated in our socialist construction over more than 50 years.

Notwithstanding every kind of report on the world agricultural situation it is true that the difficulties, not only in agriculture but in other sectors of the economy of many developing countries, are the direct consequences of the archaic and monocultural socio-economic structure, as well as the current new-colonial practices carried out mainly by the transnational corporations. In view of this it is not possible to find any substantial solution to the problems of a comprehensive agricultural development without introducing profound progressive internal socio-economic changes beneficial to all strata of the population, first of all, through carrying out democratic agrarian reforms and creating and strengthening the public sector in economy and a nation-wide socio-economic development planning system. In this connection, the Mongolian delegation would like to draw the attention of the Conference to the important decisions taken by the United Nations General Assembly sessions in recent years and by ESCAP and the other organs of the Un system on the problem of promoting the public sector and the cooperative movement in the economic development of developing countries.

In the meantime our general discussions here during this Session clearly show that at the present time the food problem is one which involves a greater number of countries and cannot be resolved by pragmatic and uncontrolled measures. This problem could be overcome by common efforts.

Mr, Chairman, as far as our country is concerned, after the revolution of 1921 the first constitution adopted by the people's Government banned feudalities and clergies' deep-rooted exclusive rights to land and all other ownership and declared the land and its resources as the property of the people as a whole. That provided the people's Government with the possibility of carrying out a wide range organizational, social and economic policy. Prior to 1921 there was only small, extensive and backward live-stock breeding. Since the early 1930s and up to the end of the 1950s almost all herdsmen joined cooperative agricultural associations, as a result of which more than 200 000 small individual households have been replaced by 258 cooperative agricultural associations and 48 state farms. Cooperative agricultural associations engage basically in livestock breeding and to a lesser extent in crop growing while state farms are largely producers of crops including fruits and vegetables, and raise pedigree cattle for meat, milk and wool production. The state farms are financed by the Government and represent the main producers of the essential agricultural products. Besides sharing the income from the sale of their produce, members of cooperatives are entitled to pursue private husbandry up to 50-75 head of stock.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic is giving a priority to high mechanization of agricultural cooperative associations and state farms as well as to raising their productivity. Actually the main types of agricultural works are fully mechanized: On the average every state farm has 240 tractors (15 hp), 45 grain harvesters and 36 trucks, while every cooperative has 28 tractors, 13 trucks and other equipment.

Mr. Chairman, this year in our country we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the cooperative movement and that of virgin land cultivation.

The victory of the cooperative movement in its socio-economic context is compared in my country to the victory of the people's revolution in 1921. The main results of virgin land cultivation and the cooperative movement are the full achievement of self-sufficiency in flour, other food items, and the creation of animal feed production potential. It should be noted that the cooperative movement was not purely an economic measure but was directed also towards up-dating the society's productive forces in keeping with the new requirements of the development, promoting socialist culture and gradually improving the living and cultural standards of the population. The most important task is also to create through these and other comprehensive measures an industrial-agrarian structure of the economy, and thus to turn Mongolia in the near future into an industrial-agrarian state .

At present a number of industrial projects are being built, including the giant copper molybdenum mining and concentrating complex, which is among 10 of the biggest enterprises of its kind in the world. As a result of this, of the total net output of agriculture and industry, the latter will account for a prevailing part and the total export will be doubled. . This indicates the country's advance along the road of industrial development and shows the important changes which have taken place in the structure of all economic sectors.

In this connection, Mr. Chairman, I have pleasure in noting that the international assistance of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries plays a decisive role in the attainment of the goals of ever faster socio-economic development of our country.

A serious discussion has been taking place for some years in the United Nations system on the concept of establishing a new international economic order. In this connexion my delegation would like to draw the attention of the Conference to the existing reality that for the first time in history between the socialist countries, within the framework of CMEA there has been established a truly just new international economic order based on equality, on the respect of sovereignty and fraternal mutual assistance and equal benefit.

I fully share the opinion expressed during our deliberations here by many delegations that disarmament is the most important task of our time and represents an essential pre-condition for global economic progress, especially for the more rapid progress of developing countries. In this context FAO should take into consideration the importance of implementing a number of initiatives to speed up disarmament, in particular the proposal by the USSR in the UN General Assembly to reduce the military budgets of permanent members of UN Security Council by 10 percent and to utilize part of the resources thus released to aid developing countries. The continuous efforts of the socialist countries in this field can be seen once again from the recent initiatives by the Government of the Soviet Union unilaterally to reduce its troops and armaments in Central Europe as a concrete measure to break the impasse of many years talks to achieve military detente in Europe.

The arms race, which is continuing and becoming a still more dangerous phenomenon generates profound concern in the international community. So it is natural that since the last FAO conference session we have been witness to greater events such as the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament and the Agreement concluded between the USSR and the United States of America on the limitation of strategic armaments (SALT-II). My delegation also supports among other events the initiatives taken in this field by the non-aligned Nations in their Declaration made during the recent Havana Sixth Summit Conference and the Declaration launched by the Forum of World Veterans for Disarmament held here in Rome from 18 to 20 October 1979.

Despite the growing concern of the international community to preserve world-wide peace and security, hot-beds of war and tension in some parts of the world are still regrettably being maintained by reactionary forces and their accomplices. In this regard the delegation of Mongolia shares the just concern expressed here by the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam over the complicated situation on the northern border of that country, caused by the expansionist and hegemonist policy pursued by the ruling circles of a neighbouring country.

In concluding my statement I am pleased to express satisfaction with the cooperation between Mongolia and FAO, which we hope will become more fruitful as one of the many forms of international cooperation and I reiterate the readiness of the Mongolian Government to support continuously FAO's multifaceted activities.

I take this opportunity to express the support of my delegation for the proposal made by the Hungarian delegation to declare FAO's Birthday as the Day of World Food Production and Agriculture.

It is the hope of my delegation that the present session, which is taking place at the juncture of the two decades, will adopt concrete decisions towards promoting fruitful international cooperation during the next decade to achieve the noble endeavours established by FAO.

A. L. TANIS (Haïti): Monsieur le Directeur General, Messieurs les Membres du Bureau, Messieurs les Ministres, Honorables délégués et Observateurs, Monsieur le Président de la Conférence, les délégués participant à la 20ème Session de la Conférence biennale de la FAO vous ont choisi. A le faire, ils ont dû certainement déceler en vous toutes les grandes vertus qui caractérisent les meneurs d'hommes-aussi, la délégation d'Haïti qui n'a pu participer à votre élection, par suite de circonstances indépendantes de sa volonté, appuie le choix judicieusement fait et vous présente ses plus chaleureuses félicitations.

Que le maillet symbolique que vous tenez, Excellence, indique sérénité et compétence, durant le temps de votre mission parmi nous.

Ma délégation veut aussi rendre témoignage à l'actuelle Direction de la FAO pour son réel souci de conserver les nobles traditions de courage et d'indépendance de l'Institution, dans ses relations avec les Etats Membres.

La délégation d'Haïti profite de l'opportunité offerte pour présenter ses meilleurs compliments au Conseil indépendant de la FAO ainsi qu'au Secrétariat technique pour la qualité des documents soumis à la Conférence.

Ma délégation saisit cette occasion pour adresser une cordiale bienvenue aux nouveaux Etat Membres, le Samoa occidental et la Dominique, et elle leur transmet le salut fraternel et pacifique du peuple haïtien.

Vous m'excuserez, Messieurs et Dames de cette docte Assemblée, de vous délivrer un message que je qualifie "d'improvisation écrite" en lieu et place de la Déclaration que devait vous lire Mr. Edouard Berrouet, ex-Secrétaire d'Etat de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural. Comme vous le savez, un changement ministériel survenu en Haïti, à la fin de la semaine dernière, a fait d'un des adjoints de la délégation d'Haïti à cette Conférence le nouveau Secrétaire d'Etat de l'Agriculture; je parle de son Excellence, Mr. Paul St. Clair. Il a dû regagner précipitamment Port-au-Prince.

J'espère que le présent exposé aura, malgré tout, le mérite de situer la position d'Haïti vis-à-vis de la FAO et dans le contexte de la lutte contre la faim. Il vous informera, également, des lignes directrices de la politique agricole du Gouvernement de la République d'Haïti,

Monsieur le Président, Honorables délégués et Observateurs, en cet univers troublé, dominé par l'angoisse, il est vraiment réconfortant de retrouver ici une telle conjonction de courants de pensée, tant de conceptions diverses qui viennent se reprofiler chaque fois au creuset de ces Assises de la FAO où en même temps nos délégués peuvent s'interroger sur une méthodologie d'action à rechercher pour la sauvegarde de notre civilisation confrontée à l'épineux problème de la faim. Une fois déjà, avec l'écroulement de la Société des Nations, s'effondrait, du même coup, l'espoir de millions d'hommes dont les espérances légitimes se sont renouvelées au sein du système des Nations Unies, Tous les responsables du bien-être des peuples pour le présent et pour l'avenir se doivent de relever un défi affligeant: la détérioration physique des 3/4 de la population du globe en proie à la malnutrition et à la sous-alimentation. De tous les droits de l'homme, le droit à la nourriture, en effet, demeure essentiellement un droit fondamental.

Aujourd'hui le monde connaît une situation alimentaire critique due à des conditions climatiques adverses et surtout à l'accroissement de la population. Depuis que les progrès de la science médicale et la diffusion des services de santé ont fait reculer les frontières de la mort, la population mondiale s'accroît de plus en plus vite selon les lois naturelles qui gouvernent la fécondité des hommes. De moins de 1 pour cent par an au cours des derniers siècles, son accroissement est passé à 2 pour cent actuellement, et avec la population, évolue encore plus vite la demande alimentaire mondiale également tributaire de l'augmentation du pouvoir d'achat qui est de 0,5 pour cent l'an.

Jusqu'à ce point de la présente décennie, les réserves céréalières mondiales se sont épuisées à un rythme qui alarme sérieusement les Gouvernements et les Institutions internationales spécialisées. Les prix des produits alimentaires atteignent des niveaux records partout dans le monde. On se trouve en présence d'un nouveau problème qui va acquérir dans les années à venir une importance grandissante. Ce n'est pas seulement la population qui augmente mais aussi une certaine demande en provenance de l'accroissement des pouvoirs d'achat individuels. Comme les pouvoirs d'achat individuels continueront vraisemblablement à augmenter à un rythme de plus en plus rapide dans les classes majoritaires des pays développés, il faut s'attendre à ce que les pays riches accaparent des quantités de nourriture de plus en plus abondantes au détriment des pauvres. Il en résultera du côté des pays en développement une plus grande privation, à moins que ces derniers mettent rapidement au point des programmes qui leur permettent de subvenir à leurs besoins alimentaires tant actuels que futurs. Mais, dans les conditions concrètes de leur actuel sous-développement, y arriveront-ils? Nous savons, Monsieur le Président, que certains pays en voie de développement ont fait de remarquables progrès, mais ceux-ci sont vite contrecarrés par des conditions défavorables-d'ailleurs très complexes-telles que: le problème agraire, le manque d'eau d'irrigation et des principaux entrants, l'insuffisance de l'épargne et des investissements, les techniques agricoles archaïques, les problèmes de la commercialisation des produits, tous ces facteurs forment un cercle vicieux qu'il est difficile de rompre. Nous savons que pour le briser, il faut s'attaquer simultanément à tous les problèmes en s'efforçant d'accroître le rendement des productions végétales et animales et partant le pouvoir d'achat des agriculteurs, d'organiser ou d'améliorer l'enseignement agricole et la recherche, de vulgariser les données techniques, de renforcer les structures coopératives et le crédit agricole, de mettre en place les infrastructures d'irrigation et routières voulues, de lutter contre l'érosion et enfin d'éliminer toutes les restrictions au commerce national et international.

En face de ces problèmes graves et préoccupants, la communauté internationale, les yeux tournés vers la FAO, étant donné que cette Institution à vocation universelle est la seule qui soit en possession d'information et de compétence aussi vastes que variées, la seule qui puisse être considérée comme une grande banque de connaissances et de compétences au service des agriculteurs du monde, comme la bourse où s'opère le transfert des valeurs technologiques entre les pays nantis et les pays en développement dans les domaines ayant trait à l'agriculture. Lourde responsabilité que celle d'aider chaque Etat Membre à lutter contre la pauvreté rurale, cause et conséquence de manque de productivité.

En ce qui la concerne, Haïti fait confiance à la sagesse de tous les hommes de bonne volonté; car elle a compris que pour sauver la Planète du désastre, il faut "moraliser" les relations internationales, étant donné que l'existence et la persistance de zones sous-développées est, à la fois, un non-sens et une lourde responsabilité qui pèsent sur l'humanité tout entière, dans un monde où plus de deux milliards d'hommes sont en proie à la faim et à la tentation de la violence. Une fois de plus, Haïti réaffirme sa confiance dans les objectifs de l'Institution et appuie le Programme de travail et le Budget présenté par sa Direction. Qu'il me soit permis de vous féliciter, M. le Directeur général de la FAO, ainsi que vos collaborateurs, de la persévérance apportée à la promotion technique, sociale et économique des Etats Membres, comme au renforcement des moyens d'études, de conseils et d'intervention. Le Gouvernement de la République d'Haïti suit avec intérêt l'évolution de l'Organisation, ses nouvelles orientations. Il a également retenu l'évolution du Programme de coopération technique qui est entièrement financé par un budget spécial de l'Organisation. Il apprécie en outre, comme une action efficace et positive, la libération de fonds consacrés en priorité aux pays les moins favorisés pour la mise en oeuvre de projets de production vivrière et toutes autres interventions susceptibles d'améliorer le revenu et le niveau nutritionnel des petits agriculteurs. C'est dans cette perspective que le Gouvernement d'Haïti a basé sa stratégie pour augmenter la productivité des grands facteurs de développement à partir du tryptique: l'homme, la terre et l'eau.

Cette nouvelle stratégie basée sur une augmentation de la productivité, avec la participation volontaire des populations rurales réunies en groupements, pré-coopératives ou en coopératives est axée sur les volets fondamentaux de la promotion économique d'un Etat moderne, à savoir:

- 1) Une production suffisante et équilibrée de biens pour l'alimentation de la population, dans le cadre d'une politique nationale d'autosuffisance.
- 2) Une production importante de surplus pour approvisionner les entreprises agro-industrielles aux fins de rechercher une incidence bienfaisante sur les termes de l'échange.
- 3) Un nouvel excédent de production en vue de rendre favorable notre balance commerciale, par l'exportation.

Avec la détermination d'améliorer notre capacité d'absorption de l'assistance internationale et d'atteindre les objectifs du Plan National, il convenait de créer des structures d'accueil au sein du Département de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural. C'est ainsi qu'il a été constitué:

- un Service National de Semences Améliorées (SENASA);
- un Service National de Commercialisation Agricole (SENACA);
- un Comité Sectoriel de Politique Agricole (COSEPA), la plus haute instance de planification intégrée du secteur;
- un Conseil de Coordination de Projets, faisant office de cabinet du Secrétaire d'Etat et composé uniquement d'experts nationaux;
- Un Projet d'Appui à la Direction Générale (PADG) appelé à restructurer le nouveau réseau sur le terrain au niveau de nos traditionnels Districts Agricoles en vue de transiter la mise en route du nouveau concept de régionalisation tel que défini dans le Plan.

Tous ces nouveaux Organes sont déjà opérationnels, ainsi que divers projets de développement intégré conçus et exécutés par le Gouvernement d'Haïti en coopération avec les institutions multilatérales, bilatérales et financières. Je ne me lancerais non plus dans une énumération exhaustive des projets agricoles développés conjointement par Haïti avec le Groupe d'Organismes des Nations Unies. La promotion de l'agriculture demeure le principal volet de notre stratégie de développement et s'inscrit en toute priorité dans notre Plan quinquennal. Le secteur primaire constitue, en effet, le grand pourvoyeur du reste de l'économie en biens de consommation, en matières premières et en main-d'oeuvre. La participation de la FAO et du PNUD à notre effort de développement a toujours été intense et leurs différents domaines de compétence seront de plus en plus mis à contribution.

A la lumière de ces considérations, le renforcement de l'assistance technique et financière des organismes des Nations Unies et en particulier de la FAO, du FIDA et du PNUD est vivement sollicité dans les domaines suivants :

Commercialisation des céréales dans le cadre du Programme de la Sécurité Alimentaire Nationale (projet déjà étudié): ce programme vise à limiter la dépendance alimentaire du pays en encourageant la production des céréales locales, en améliorant la commercialisation et partant, le revenu de vie des paysans.

Ce programme, pour être efficace, devra être basé sur la conduite de deux autres projets:

- un projet d'Alerte Rapide à la Production Agricole (système de prévisions des récoltes);
- un projet de Prévention des Pertes Alimentaires avant et après récoltes.

Renforcement du Système National de la Vulgarisation Agricole (ce projet ayant déjà démarré: la nécessité d'un renforcement de l'encadrement technique de nos petits exploitants s'avère de plus en plus contraignante. Il s'agit, à long terme, de transformer nos communautés respectives par une action continue sur les forces productrices et les rapports sociaux: telle a été d'ailleurs exprimée, dans le cadre du développement global, la transcendance du nouvel humanisme technique en vue d'une prise en charge de leur avenir par les populations elles-mêmes, selon un libre choix de la voie qui leur convient.

Contrôle et éradication de la Peste Porcine Africaine: compte tenu de la place qu'occupe le porc dans la diète quotidienne des masses paysannes et dans l'économie rurale du pays, le Gouvernement nourrit l'espoir que les Projets Inter-Pays et Régional pourront démarrer dans les meilleurs délais possibles.

D'ailleurs à la dernière Conférence Régionale de la FAO tenue à Montevideo, il était convenu qu'aucun pays en développement ne pourrait par ses propres moyens financiers lutter contre la PPA. La FAO était désignée comme l'organisme chargé de freiner l'expansion de la maladie et son Directeur général avait reçu les pleins pouvoirs en vue de trouver les fonds nécessaires au financement des campagnes de contrôle et d'éradication de ce fléau de l'élevage porcin.

Les négociations semblent traîner alors que la maladie multiplie ses foyers dans les pays infestés.

Programme d'Élevage et de la Santé Animales: ces projets visent à augmenter la consommation de protéine animale dans l'alimentation de la population d'Haïti tout en réduisant l'évasion de nos devises vers l'étranger.

De plus, l'intégration agri-élevage s'avère un impératif si nous voulons augmenter les rendements des productions végétales et animales et conduire d'autres projets (agriculture de montagne).

Amélioration des terres de montagne: l'aménagement et une mise en valeur plus rationnelle de nos bassins versants sont l'objet de pressantes démarches pour la protection des infrastructures d'aval et la promotion d'une agriculture de montagne combinant ainsi harmonieusement les activités agro-sylvo-pasto-rales de la vallée et des hauteurs. En fait, une grande partie de notre production vivrière provient des zones montagneuses. Cette exploitation intensive des terres déclives a engendré un déboisement continu et une érosion accélérée des sols mettant en péril notre programme d'infrastructure routière, notre réseau d'irrigation, de même que la vie et les biens des communautés.

Le Gouvernement élabore présentement un programme d'agriculture conservationniste en montagne et apprécierait d'obtenir, en l'occurrence, l'assistance voulue.

Au terme de cet exposé, la Délégation d'Haïti lance à nouveau le cri d'alarme dénonçant la situation alimentaire défavorable et dangereuse du monde sous-développé, en réaffirmant la confiance d'Haïti en la sagesse de tous les hommes de bonne volonté, dans l'Organisation et dans les efforts qu'elle déploie pour maximiser l'efficacité de la coopération internationale d'Haïti, en vue de réaliser le bien-être à l'échelle de la Planète.

Membre à part entière de la Communauté, la Délégation d'Haïti pense que le bien-être généralisé contemplé pour chaque peuple et pour toutes les nations ne peut se concrétiser que dans la mesure où s'effacent les disparités criantes pour faire face à la fraternité humaine authentique. A cette croisée de chemins où les perspectives de l'avenir s'estompent de nuages sombres, quand les mythes séculaires vacillent sous l'action d'idées forces, génératrices de mutations, il n'y a pas de temps à perdre: l'urgence appelle l'intervention décisive. Si l'on ne procède pas, sans délai, à un véritable reconditionnement de l'environnement des pays en retard, le processus deviendra irréversible et le désespoir de certains peuples ne sera rien moins que la rançon de l'irresponsabilité des détenteurs de la richesse. La solution dépend objectivement de la prise de conscience et du vouloir des pays développés, parallèlement à une promotion de l'esprit de rationalisation et de concertation des pays démunis: là, résident les germes ultimes de l'espoir.

Excellences, honorables délégués et observateurs, je vous exprime ma reconnaissance personnelle pour la bienveillante attention que vous avez accordée à cette communication. La Délégation d'Haïti vous félicite de votre participation active à cette 20ème Session de la Conférence de la FAO.

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias a la delegación de Haiti por su intervención y quisiera en nombre de la Conferencia felicitar vivamente al señor St. Clair, que como nos ha sido comunicado, formaba parte de la delegación de Haiti y ha sido nombrado Secretario de Estado para Agricultura de su país.

K. BINGANA (Botswana): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: I am indeed happy to be provided with the opportunity to address this Twentieth Session of the FAO on behalf of my Minister, who was not able to attend due to circumstances beyond his control. However, before beginning with the Botswana country statement I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to this high post at this Conference. My heartfelt congratulations also go to the Commonwealth of Dominica and the Republic of Western Samoa for their admission into this Organization.

I am concerned to see that the main themes of this Conference are again concerned with the production of food and world food security. We are now approaching the second last decade of this century and have not really made significant progress in closing the food gap on a global basis. Let us strive to make more progress on this front during the next decade than we did during the 1970's in spite of the conferences held by FAO on the food problem.

Botswana is presently preparing its fifth National Plan and in this document is giving major emphasis to increase food production, greater food security, more rural employment through increased rural development and food self-sufficiency. Botswana is a rural country with approximately 80 percent of its people living in the rural areas, many of which are remote and often inaccessible. The large proportion of people engaged in agriculture does not necessarily indicate that this sector contributes the same proportion to the Gross Domestic Product. Agriculture's proportion of contribution to Gross Domestic Product has dropped from 35 percent in 1973 to about 20 percent in 1979. This proportion will continue to decrease as copper, coal and diamonds contribute more. However, if agriculture which is our only renewable resource is encouraged and developed it will remain very significant.

The semi-arid conditions of Botswana have the effect of making its agriculture highly risky for arable production, but its vast grazing areas are the most abundant resource which provides grazing for cattle and smallstock. During the period 1974-78 the national cattle herd has increased to record size. However, during 1979 Botswana was ravaged by serious drought. The crop was reduced to about 10 percent of normal and cattle producers responded by selling their stock in record numbers in order to reduce their possible losses of cattle from poor grazing.

Botswana has a highly developed livestock industry which is one of the few amongst African countries which sells fresh beef into the European and other foreign markets as well as to some African markets. The higher price received for this beef has positively affected the incomes of the rural producers. However not all people in the country sell cattle or make their livelihood from cattle sales. We have been unfortunate in having an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in 1977 in the northern part of the country and in that part of the country producers have not been able to sell cattle since then. We had planned to move the cattle out of the foot and mouth area which had been declared clear to the abattoir in September this year. Cattle owners had faced two natural disasters and became the victims of the first foot and mouth outbreak followed by drought in 1979. On August 1st 1979 another foot and mouth outbreak was confirmed; thus cattle owners have not been able to sell for two years. The Government has devised several emergency schemes to relieve hardship of limited cash flow in the affected area in order to alleviate the dual effects of foot and mouth and drought. We are appreciative of the quick action of the Director-General in providing some TCP funds in the first instance of foot and mouth disease outbreak.

This disease seems to be related to the contact between wild buffaloes and cattle. Recurrences of the disease can be avoided through a regime of biannual vaccination of cattle in that part of the country where cattle are at risk. This is, however, costly in terms of manpower, vehicles and vaccine, but is necessary to save the fresh beef export market for the remainder of Botswana's beef. During the past two years a vaccine factory has been set up on an experimental basis and is now producing an effective vaccine, and foot and mouth is under control. The permanent vaccine factory will be built starting calendar year 1980 and upon completion will produce enough vaccine for Botswana's needs with surplus for export.

The elimination of trypanosomiasis by the eradication of its vector, the Tsetse Fly, is one of Botswana's early objectives for this Plan Period. During the 1970's our scientists have been experimenting with aerial spraying to eliminate tsetse flies and have full confidence that the system they use of spraying with fly-specific chemicals can eradicate the fly and control its re-entry into the presently infested area. We are aware of FAO's interest in the elimination and eventual eradication of tsetse flies in Africa and hope that Botswana's experience will be useful to other countries.

Related to the eradication of the fly, plans have been devised to build a fence which will separate the buffaloes and the cattle. The elimination of this contact will greatly reduce high risk of foot and mouth infection which now exists in the area. The ecology of the areas now uninhabited by cattle

and people because it is infected with tsetse fly could be destroyed by over-grazing due to competition between cattle and wild game. The end result could be great destruction to the existing game and to the ecology of the area. In order to stop this occurrence, a comprehensive land use plan will be drawn up to minimise the loss of game and the ecological disruption in the newly tsetse fly-cleared area. This action will protect the tourist industry and the game which is used for local consumption and will save the land from ecological destruction.

Even though a large part of the agricultural income in Botswana comes from livestock production, arable production touches a larger proportion of the population than cattle production because many of the cattle holders are also crop producers. However, subsistence production still predominates in many households and large numbers of the poorest rural people engage in crop production. Because of limited resources and traditional methods of production, yields are low and returns to labour are not highly remunerative. The result of this is that many of the young people drift to other types of employment and to the towns and villages seeking alternative sources of income. This has not only caused a loss of many young men and women to agricultural labour forces but has caused an increase in the social problems which have been experienced by many developing countries where cities have grown very rapidly. It is the objective of the Government to devise an Arable Lands Development Programme which will provide the means for smallholders to earn from arable production an income equal to what they could earn in the towns. This will involve action by other parts of government in addition to the Ministry of Agriculture, but the goal is to reach a large proportion of small farmers during the next five years.

The Arable Lands Development Programme will include the provision of incentives for people to adopt more modern methods of farming, marketing and storage of crops. This will require incentives to use credit in order to increase the resources available to the farmer. Price incentives will be a necessary part of the package, and in a country which is grain deficit, this approach to pricing can be used but will not greatly burdening recurrent costs to Government because crops which are purchased above world prices will not be sold into world markets. Botswana plans to be self-sufficient in food grains by the middle of the 1980's and in most essential food products before the end of the next decade.

Steps have been taken to improve the marketing of food products. The export abattoir is one of the largest in Africa, and a high proportion of Botswana's beef is sold in export markets. On the crop side, the Grain Marketing Board is expanding its operations to cover the entire production area of the country. The Botswana Government wants to thank FAO for its help in the early years of this Board. A small strategic grain reserve is being set up to provide the food requirements of the country for short periods during times of severe shortage and allow time for supplies to be brought in.

The Arable Lands Development Programme is in its detailed planning stage but in spite of this early stage, IFAD has expressed interest in providing aid for its implementation. We look forward to this cooperation with IFAD. Another international organisation which has been helpful during the drought situation which hit Botswana is the World Food Programme which has provided increased amounts of food aid to help feed those who suffer from hunger because of drought. We also want to take this opportunity to thank the United Nations High Commission for Refugees for all the help Botswana has received during this period of increasing numbers of refugees which come as a result of the unfortunate political situation in Southern Africa. Caring for large numbers of refugees has put increasing strains on the resources of the country and without help from the international community could have more adversely affected our development plans.

Mr. Chairman, I have earlier mentioned the drought situation which has deteriorated in recent months. While at the time of the declaration of drought by the President on 1st June 1979, there were still pockets of areas unaffected, the drought has now become pervasive. Both people and livestock are equally beginning to feel the strain.

On the crop side, surveys undertaken in the districts indicate that low yields with most districts suggesting that yields are only about 10% normal, consequently harvests are poor. Some of the major crop producing area reported the lowest rainfall in 40 years. Many districts report little food in home storage. Several districts therefore, indicate there will be need for food relief as soon as possible. Now that it has rained in the eastern part of the country, there is a great need for seed.

On the livestock front, grazing conditions have deteriorated in recent months with some districts reporting cattle deaths. Although the water supplies have slightly improved with recent rains, it will take time for the range to recover. In the Northwest the problem is compounded by the build-up of the cattle population because of foot and mouth disease.

To cope with problems created by drought, an Interministerial Drought Committee has been formed to advise government on measures to be taken to alleviate drought as well as to coordinate drought.

Sub-committees have also been formed both within Ministries and in districts. The District Drought Committees monitor the drought situation in the districts and report to Central Government through the Interministerial Drought Committee.

In order to provide the Government with better information to cope with unforeseeable situations and to enable improved plannings of the use of its resources, plans are under way to carry out a population census in 1981 to be followed by a Census for Agriculture in early 1982. Mr. Chairman, FAO will be a partner in the Agricultural Census, and these data will be added into the worldwide pool of agricultural census data.

Presently the Government of Botswana is undertaking a large-scale study of migration which is one of the most significant phenomenon affecting the availability of human resources. The movement of people, especially those in the employable age group, can affect rural development. Many of the young men go to work in the mines as an alternative to working on the land because it provides a source of cash income for either pleasure, investment in cattle and in some cases arable agriculture or other forms of enterprise. However, while this source of manpower is away from the rural areas, productivity is bound to suffer with the result that many households are female headed. This too often leaves the household with very limited physical and managerial resources for productive resource use. However, we are unsure of what the economic consequences of migration are, but feel that the effect on employment, productivity and social welfare of people is adversely affected.

Mr. Chairman, one of the problems facing Botswana is the small pool of trained manpower to fill the large and increasing number of technical jobs in our rapidly expanding economy. Government is taking steps to reduce this gap, but the start-up time is slow. During the next year the Certificate level training in agriculture will be doubled and the following year the diploma level training will be introduced in Botswana in order to supplement the small output presently received from the Swaziland programme. There will eventually be an increase in degree training but presently a large number of first-degree and all post-graduate trainees are sent overseas.

Mr. Chairman, we look forward to brighter and more productive agricultural decade in 1980. Botswana also hopes to have greater cooperation with FAO and other donor organizations, both mult-lateral and bilateral during the coming decade.

J. LOURENCO (Portugal) (interpretation from Portuguese): Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as representative of Portugal, I would like you to accept my warmest greetings and congratulations on your election as Chairman of this Conference. I would also like to congratulate the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma, for the excellent work and for the quality of the documents which the Secretariat has presented to us. It is with great pleasure that I remember the recent visit of Dr. Saouma and of Minister Lamo de Espinosa at the time of the European Regional Conference which was held in Lisdon last year.

I would like to avail myself of the opportunity of welcoming the new members of the Organization, Dominica and Samoa, and to wish them full success in their cooperation with this international Organization.

As I start to speak to this meeting, the third which has been held since the revolution of the 25th of April, as Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of Portugal I must recognize the support given by FAO to the development of the agricultural sector and rural society in our country. This support, through a number of projects, has proved to be of the greatest usefulness in solving some of our problems, the solution of which has been greatly facilitated thanks to the cooperation of the experience of the specialists of FAO.

Portugal continues to tackle problems connected with agrarian reform which started after the 25th of April and which for a number of reasons has not yet gone beyond the stage of purely land tenure operations. My predecessors have had the opportunity in the course of the earlier session of the Conference to describe the situation which was then existing in Portugal as far as agrarian structures are concerned. Unfortunately, there is not much that can be added to it. Integrated agrarian reform, which tends towards the creation of productive systems characterized by an intensification and diversification of cropping, has not yet been implemented because of a number of difficulties in carrying out land tenure improvements. In particular, it has not yet been possible to create a balanced and stable pattern of collective and private ownership in the action area nor to guarantee the existence of a whole range of farm types as they are provided for in the Constitution for beneficiaries of agrarian reform going from small peasant farms to cooperatives with integrated production and independent collective farms. On the other hand, and this is no less important, no start has as yet been made with different types of farming enterprises. Nor do we yet have a

definition of the ground rent which has to be provided by those farms to the State, the State who is the land owner. In the north and the centre of the country where we have the vast majority of our farm population and where most of our agricultural produce comes from, it is important to amplify the physical and economic dimensions of the small farms in order to make it possible for the rural families to have an equitable income, the farm families which so far have been among the poorest sectors of the Portuguese society.

In the framework of agrarian reform, which although it will be geographically circumscribed has not yet been able to programme thoroughly the action to be taken, there is still stagnation in agricultural production. In this respect, the point which most gives rise to concern lies in the inefficiency of the measures which have been implemented in order to try to improve the situation, which, instead of taking a positive turn, has been maintained at the same level and has brought about an increasing dependence of our country on food and production input imports.

A large part of the agricultural area in our country is located in the Mediterranean zones, that is to say, the soil and the climate are unfavourable and the utilization of those areas depends on the sources of measures to surmount adverse conditions. It is therefore necessary to have intensive and consistent policies of irrigation and land tenure improvement, but this policy in turn makes it necessary to have higher levels of investment and better-oriented investments than has been the case recently.

The inadequacy of measures adopted so far is clearly shown by the very low value of gross capital formation. As far as the use of capital resources is concerned, it is also necessary to safeguard the environmental conditions, starting with our forest stands and with the possibility, between the conservational functions of the environment, of drawing economic profit from it. We must affirm that for us it is absolutely essential to avoid any depredation of the Mediterranean forests and our vast stands of *pinus maritima* which for the last years have been victims or devastation and fires. Measures must be taken urgently in order to avoid destruction of this wealth.

In our country it is necessary to have international cooperation and to have well-planned support taking into account the importance of the problem. My country has already had opportunity of offering facilities for the Seminar on Controlled Forest Fires in 1981.

Still with regard to the use of natural resources, we would like to point out we have vast areas of community ownership for which it is necessary to decide the types of utilization and improvement which need to be institutionalized, and this certainly involves the necessity to coordinate essential plans between forest and grassland. Here again, the FAO-because of its vast experience-could give us extremely useful assistance.

Portugal is still a country where the agricultural population represents a very high proportion of the total population-about 30 percent. That is why the main problem of the agricultural sector is the point of view of implementation, and hence we have the need to give priority to productive activities which are characterised by the intensity of the work input. We therefore have to have a policy for the setting up of certain industries in the rural areas.

For more than 800 thousand farmlands the degree of ageing gives rise to extreme concern, ageing which is particularly noticeable in back-country regions. On the other hand schooling for a very large part of our agricultural population is extremely limited, hence there is the need to define social and structural policies, the results of which will certainly be most promising. Among the measures to be adopted and carried out in this field there is first of all the reception and settlement of young farmers, group farming, in order to increase the physical dimensions of small farms, the farm management centres. These measures, which are part of the present programme of the government, are to be seen in the general context of the regionalization and decentralization of the agricultural services according to the laws which were published in 1977. This is an experience which we think was fruitful but which will still need further correction.

However, the measures concerning social structures cannot be applied effectively if it is not possible to have prior rural extension work, and here again we count on the aid of international organizations. Taking into account the present productivity of land and labour, both of which are very poor in our country even compared with that of countries with similar ecological conditions and population pressures, it was, of course, to be expected there would be agricultural and food deficiencies.

Food policies must improve, also the dietary habits of the population, especially in the rural areas where the daily per capita intakes of animal proteins, meat, fish, eggs, and milk, would still be below the minimum of 30 grammes per day for nearly half of the population concerned.

As far as food production is concerned, the problem of fisheries is of extreme importance for us, and necessary measures have to be taken in this respect. Portugal has always been considered as a fishing nation, although we do not yet actually know what the fishery potentials of our Exclusive Economic Zone are. This universal reputation certainly comes from the practice of deep sea fisheries which has been carried out by Portuguese throughout the centuries, and also because of the presence in the international markets of Portuguese fishing products such as tinned sardines.

This international image certainly contributes to the fact that Portugal is one of the countries where fishery consumption per capita is very high. About 40 percent of the animal proteins were, at the end of the 1950's, provided by fish; earlier this proportion was something like percent. The per capita consumption, however, is going to drop progressively because of the new Law of the Sea, which is going to change radically the framework of all international fishing because of the over-exploitation of the continental shelf due to traditional fishing methods, if we do not develop rapidly the use of our EEZ.

The Portuguese Government has drawn up with the cooperation of the international organizations a working programme which will make it possible for us to design a long term fishing programme. This programme will have a first stage, in the course of which we plan to draw up an inventory of marine resources in order to be able to define the priorities for the preparation of a fisheries development programme. At the second stage, there will be the development of a systematic project for the evaluation of fishing resources, and thus the protection of these resources.

At the same time, we are going to re-structure our fishery administration, especially with regard to fishing in the EEZ, and in this respect we are trying to set up here a Fishery Operation and Inspection Centre which will have to coordinate fishing activities in the EEZ. Also both for foreign and Portuguese vessels this will record their identification and their characteristics, movements and catches, and provide data on fisheries to research and statistical bodies, to provide liaison between the competent departments on the one hand and the Marine Aeronautics on the other for proper control of fisheries.

Thanks to those measures, which are essential in order to ensure the proper management of our EEZ, there is a spirit of cooperation between coastal countries which continues, and countries will now allow our high-sea fishing fleets access to their coasts, and we believe it will be possible to maintain at least the present level of fishing production per capita.

We have taken note of the Programme of the Director-General for the development of fisheries in the EEZ which was discussed recently by the Committee on Fisheries, COFI, with which we are in full agreement.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw attention to the fact that my country has benefited from a number of projects which have been carried out with the help of the United Nations agencies in the following fields: improvement of olive oil production; soil conservation and drainage; rural extension work; forestry development; development of fisheries in the EEZ; grain storage; harvest production; in-service training of foresters; fattening of beef cattle on pasture land; school feeding in primary schools; and assistance to pregnant women and nursing mothers.

Cooperation has been a reality. We hope to be able to extend and improve it further, since the rural population of Portugal certainly needs it to raise its living standards and quality of life; to enable it to intensify and diversify production and thus to make its due contribution to greater world food security.

V. GARAZO (Namibia): Señor Presidente: Es un privilegio muy especial dirigirme a la Vigésima Sesión de la Conferencia de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación en mi capacidad de representante del Consejo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia. Este privilegio debió corresponder al Presidente del Consejo, Embajador Paul Lusaka, de Zambia, quien debido a compromisos inaplazables no pudo incorporarse a la Delegación de Namibia a esta Conferencia. También he de decirles que es un hijo de Venezuela, país miembro del Consejo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia, quien se dirige a esta honorable audiencia, en representación de los legítimos intereses de Namibia.

La contribución sustancial de la FAO al entendimiento de los problemas agrícolas mundiales adquiere especial relevancia en una época en la cual la preocupación de los gobiernos se vuelca hacia asuntos cruciales del desarrollo nacional y hacia la necesidad de incrementar los suministros mundiales de alimentos para aliviar los dramáticos problemas de desnutrición y hambre que azotan a innumerables regiones del mundo actual.

Los participantes en esta Conferencia comparten un profundo conocimiento sobre los problemas alimentarios mundiales y sobre los aspectos técnicos y financieros relacionados con tales problemas. Esa participación constituirá indudablemente un valioso aporte de sus Gobiernos en la formulación de políticas conjuntas de cooperación internacional para hacer frente de manera adecuada a los problemas relacionados con la nutrición de la humanidad.

El mensaje que traigo, sin embargo, ofrece otra dimensión. Debo traer a la atención de los miembros de esta Conferencia que el Consejo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia representa a un pueblo que todavía se esfuerza sin desfallecer en una intensa lucha para lograr la autodeterminación, la libertad y la independencia nacional de su propio país bajo el liderazgo de su movimiento de liberación, la South West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, contra el racismo y el colonialismo impuesto allí ilegalmente por Sudafrica.

El Consejo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia fue establecido por decisión de la Asamblea General en 1967. Sus atribuciones son las de administrar el Territorio hasta su independencia y promulgar las leyes, decretos o reglamentos necesarios para la administración del Territorio hasta el establecimiento de una Asamblea Legislativa sobre la base del sufragio universal adulto. Al finalizar 1967, el Consejo hubo de reportar que el Gobierno de Sudafrica, ignorando la decisión de la Asamblea General, impedía que el Consejo desempeñara las funciones para las cuales fue creado. Desde entonces, Sudafrica ha rehusado acatar la decisión de las Naciones Unidas de retirar su administración ilegal del Territorio, impidiendo así que el pueblo namibiano pueda realizar sus aspiraciones de lograr una genuina independencia nacional.

Desde su establecimiento, el Consejo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia se ha esforzado para movilizar la opinión pública internacional y en obtener apoyo para presionar a Sudafrica a retirarse del Territorio. Además, el Consejo ha actuado en estrecha cooperación con la SWAPO en la formulación de políticas de asistencia a los namibianos que han logrado escapar de las opresivas prácticas racistas de la administración ilegal sudafricana en el Territorio. A este respecto, el Consejo propuso la creación del Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia, así como el Instituto para Namibia en Lusaka, Zambia. Ambas iniciativas, apoyadas por la Asamblea General, han incrementado significativamente el apoyo de las Naciones Unidas a la causa del pueblo namibiano.

En una etapa más reciente, en 1976, la Asamblea General estableció el Programa de la Nación Namibiana, el cual ha recibido amplio apoyo de las agencias especializadas y otros órganos dentro del sistema de las Naciones Unidas. El Programa, dirigido a proporcionar asistencia, dentro del sistema de las Naciones Unidas, y previsto para abarcar tanto el actual período de lucha por la independencia, como los primeros años de vida independiente de Namibia, incluye:

- 1° El examen y planificación de medidas de los organismos especializados y otras organizaciones y órganos del sistema de las Naciones Unidas para la asistencia de los namibianos;
- 2° La consolidación de un plan de acción amplio y sostenido;
- 3° La ejecución del plan de acción.

La Asamblea delego en el Consejo que represento la elaboración, en consulta con la South West Africa People's Organization, las directrices y políticas del Programa y dirigir y coordinar su ejecución. En una reunión efectuada en Lusaka, Zambia, el Consejo adopto, el 22 de marzo de 1978, esas directrices, las políticas y el plan de acción para la ejecución del Programa.

El 16 de febrero del corriente año, el Consejo aprobó un informe sobre la ejecución del Programa de la Nación Namibiana, consistente en 45 proyectos prioritarios que contemplan algunas de las necesidades de Namibia previas a la independencia. Los fondos para la puesta en marcha de los proyectos provienen de promesas de contribuciones voluntarias, así como de fondos del Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo.

La Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación, en particular, ha jugado un papel decisivo en el desarrollo de los proyectos de asistencia al pueblo namibiano dentro del marco del Programa de la Nación Namibiana. Deseo hacer un aparte en esta etapa de mi declaración para agradecer a la FAO y a su distinguido Director General, señor Edouard Saouma, el interés y la deferencia demostrados en torno al caso de Namibia.

Entre los planes contemplados por el Programa y relacionados con la rama agrícola y alimenticia en general, elaborados por la FAO, previendo los problemas que enfrentará Namibia al alcanzar su independencia, figuran las siguientes actividades:

- pesquerías;
- agricultura y preparación de la reforma agraria y programas de reasentamiento;
- ganadería, silvicultura y fauna silvestre;
- planificación del desarrollo de aguas con fines agrícolas;
- evaluación de tierras utilizables;
- programa de becas en materia de economía alimenticia;
- entrenamiento para el manejo del suministro de alimentos.

Asimismo, hay en curso programas operados por la FAO y que cubren el período pre-independencia, así como programas de emergencia de ayuda alimentaria para refugiados namibianos en Angola.

La puesta en marcha de estos programas es indispensable para que la economía agropecuaria de Namibia pueda desarrollarse de modo que alcance niveles satisfactorios. Estudios confiables realizados sobre el Territorio muestran que la productividad agrícola en Namibia está lejos de atender las necesidades de la población. Ello, por supuesto, no es más que una de las tantas evidencias de la negligencia con que Sudafrica administra el Territorio. Se trata de una administración de agotamiento tanto de los recursos naturales renovables como de los no renovables, que está conduciendo aceleradamente a Namibia hacia su depauperación.

Informes dignos de crédito revelan asimismo que la producción pesquera en Namibia está declinando de manera alarmante, y que algunas áreas presentan indicios de agotamiento, proceso no pocas veces asociado a fenómenos de contaminación marina. Es por ello que el Consejo de las Naciones Unidas para Namibia ha recurrido a la experticia de la FAO en la búsqueda de soluciones para estas calamidades, cuya magnitud ha determinado el ingreso de Namibia en el Comité sobre Pesquerías, para el actual bienio con el objeto de seguir de cerca los trabajos de ese importante órgano en su preparación para acometer adecuadamente la solución a las dificultades que, en materia pesquera, enfrentará inevitablemente al convertirse en un Estado independiente.

Sea propicio este momento para agregar el nombre de Namibia a la extensa lista de países que han endosado el Plan de Cinco Puntos propuesto por el Director General y luego aprobado por el Consejo de la Organización. En la acción inmediata a seguir, es ingrediente esencial la solidaridad, pues, como lo dijo el Presidente de esta Conferencia, es en la consecución de una nueva solidaridad entre las Naciones en donde está la clave del futuro del hombre, y en la tarea de vencer dificultades inmensas es necesario seguir profundizando en la conciencia internacional.

Nos llena de satisfacción recordar ahora la admisión de Namibia como miembro de pleno derecho de la FAO. Tal realización, ocurrida durante el décimo noveno período de sesiones de la Conferencia, en noviembre de 1977, es un importante avance y un logro diplomático que está contribuyendo a la efectividad del reconocimiento del Consejo para Namibia como Autoridad Administradora legal del Territorio, protege los derechos e intereses del pueblo namibiano, y ayuda a éste y a la comunidad internacional en la lucha para erradicar la administración ilegal sudafricana en Namibia. Como ya lo reconoció la Delegación del Consejo que atendió el décimo noveno período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO, la condición de Namibia como miembro de pleno derecho en la FAO, hará más difícil que Sudafrica logre el reconocimiento de cualquier régimen espurio que pueda intentar establecer en Windhoek. La condición de Namibia como miembro pleno de la FAO, además, abre nuevas vías de comunicación y posibilidades de cooperación con otros organismos especializados.

Señor Presidente: El pueblo de Namibia y su movimiento de liberación, la SWAPO, necesitan el apoyo efectivo no sólo de los Estados miembros de las Naciones Unidas, sino también de aquellas organizaciones dentro del sistema que, como la FAO, se empeñan en proporcionarnos un mundo mejor. El proceso de abolición del hambre en el mundo durante el presente siglo está íntimamente ligado a los cambios sociales, económicos y políticos que tienen lugar en diferentes regiones del planeta. Namibia independiente no será ajena a este proceso de interacción dentro del cual cada uno de nosotros tiene una responsabilidad que cumplir. Deseamos ver emerger una Namibia libre, próspera, cuyo pueblo pueda olvidar la pesadilla vivida de opresión, despojo, hambre y humillaciones a que ha sido arbitrariamente sometido por un régimen ajeno a la existencia de los más elementales derechos humanos de la población nativa. Es también placentero para mí notar que la SWAPO ha sido invitada a asistir a esta Conferencia y está aquí presente con nosotros.

Se me ha pedido en nombre de SWAPO expresar al Director General el agradecimiento del movimiento auténtico de liberación de Namibia, por su invitación y por el apoyo constructivo de la FAO al programa de la Nación Namibiana, así como por la asistencia alimentaria de emergencia suministrada a namibianos exiliados en Angola. Sudafrica todavía prosigue su determinación de establecer un régimen títere en Namibia. Continúa su escalada de actos de violencia. La corriente de arrestos masivos, de detenciones y otras formas de intimidación contra miembros de SWAPO, prosiguen.

Pero el heroico pueblo de Namibia está decidido a llevar adelante su lucha armada hasta su conclusion logica una vez más gracias a los miembros de la FAO por su pleno apoyo a la nación namibiana.

Quiero finalizar mi declaración expresando a usted, señor Presidente, el beneplácito de la delegación de Namibia por el hecho de que sea un ilustre hijo de España quien presida nuestra Conferencia. También deseo, en nombre de mi delegación, dar la bienvenida a Dominica y Samoa Occidental, con cuyo ingreso nuestra Organización se ve fortalecida.

A. S. SUIVAI (Samoa): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

May I begin by saying how privileged and delighted I am for being afforded the opportunity to lead Samoa's delegation on the occasion of its formal acceptance as a member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The Government and people of Samoa have long been associated with FAO and its work in Samoa. I would like to say however that even though FAO's achievements are conspicuous, Samoa nevertheless gave long and careful consideration before applying for membership. Ours is not a rich country. Our resources, material and manpower are small. The decision therefore to join could not be taken lightly. Samoa's decision has as much to do with its belief in FAO's aims as in its ability to achieve these aims.

It is my country's hope that our membership in this Organization will bring before this forum the perspective of the small South Pacific countries. It is also my country's hope that FAO's awareness of the South Pacific perspective, its problems and aspirations, will induce a more emphatic presence in the region. Samoa therefore views with great importance the contribution of the South-West Pacific region to the universal struggle waged by this Organization against poverty and malnutrition.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Director-General, Mr. Saouma, and the Secretariat for the assistance extended to our delegation. His dynamic leadership has been an example of hope for us and as we take our place in this forum we look forward to closer working relationships with him and his staff.

This debate takes place at a very crucial point in our work. We are approaching the end of this decade, a decade in which we have already experienced the manifold traumas of poverty and natural disaster. His Holiness Pope John-Paul the second reminded us of, among other things, the injustice inherited from the past. The benefit of hindsight enables us to ponder over our failures and to establish a fresh approach that should seek to rectify them. But this is not enough. We are embarking on a mission which will test our resources to the maximum. Our goals as exemplified in our programme of work should radiate hope. Our hope must relate to well-informed vision and determined concerted action.

Samoa's very existence derives from the fruits of its soil and the surrounding sea. Our culture and tradition embody these elements. These facts, of themselves, make us sensitive of the need to husband and conserve our resources. But the last few years have demonstrated that Samoa is, by its very nature, acutely conscious of the problems faced by the world. As President Kenneth Kaunda paraphrased the metaphysical poet John Donne: no man is an island and the sufferings of another man diminish him. As we face the pressing demands exerted by population growth and its concomitant developments we realise that we are challenged by problems of a universal nature. The power of mass communication and the migration of peoples and goods have brought to our shores a new situation. More than two-thirds of our total active population work in the agricultural sector, which provides some 90 percent of our exports. This augurs a precarious situation, especially in view of possible natural disasters and pressures of a monetary economy. We regard the stimulation of the productive capacity of our agricultural base as a development that could lead to creation of new employment possibilities as well as a contribution to raising of our people's income in the rural areas. We have also been attempting to improve our exports of primary products and agro-based industrial products. It is important that we take a bold programme of action in keeping with the realistic circumstances we have pledged to translate into action. The starting point could be the question of meeting our basic needs. While we would recognise the large differences that exist among ourselves, we must realise that we are clients in a world of natural events. The rule should not be the survival of the fittest but the labour of the fittest for the betterment of every man, woman and child in the world today.

Assistance by way of field support in order to accelerate and improve the production and distribution of food, should be vigorously promoted. We face today a precarious situation in world food security and this should force us to redefine in a concerted effort solid measures to safeguard security of food at large.

The advent of industrial development has caused in our respective countries certain shifts in our thinking and action. The developing countries continue to adjust themselves to new pressures. Their system of land-tenure requires novel definitions in order to meet the standards of modern finance. Furthermore, this has proved difficult for those countries which set as a priority high productivity in commercial crop production.

We view in this respect the application of appropriate technology to be one of the answers to these problems. And it is essential in this regard that technical and capital assistance must be made available to small countries that are involved in this form of development.

The world conference on agrarian reform and rural development demonstrated to us the importance of the participation of rural dwellers in the developmental process. They should be agents that preside over structural changes, and should be involved in deciding the level of technical assistance. They have proved that the institutions that have managed on their own have withstood the test of time. It is by strengthening rural institutions that we could hope to halt the movement of people to the urban areas. Often the root of poverty lies in this movement and is being made worse by uncontrolled investments. A strong rural development programme which directs capital assistance to meet rural priorities should be promoted.

Samoa is quite clear about its responsibilities in the development of its rural areas. It directs a cohesive rural development programme that sets as its priorities communal enterprises. This has allowed the small farmers to join in communal developments which they, on an individual basis, would not have been able to do. Significantly it has demonstrated to us, that national development can be transformed into action by adherence to our traditions and cultures.

While we are a developing country, we have a number of natural resources, which, properly exploited, can assist us in improving the lot of our people. Our tropical forest cover has, for instance, been a valuable resource. We are now pioneering an electrification scheme from woodfuel and have regarded this resource as an important source of energy of us. We recognise that forests can contribute greatly to our national economy and also constitute an integral part of our fauna and flora.

The development of forestry industry has several benefits. The exports of timber and timber impregnation create employment and serve as revenue earners. But there should be a scheme of reforestation that must be based at rural areas. This will be labour intensive and the net effect should be to lift the standard of living in the rural area. A set of international standards on plant protection by which member countries would be guided is a matter of priority. This should be done to prevent the introduction and spread of destructive plantpests and diseases. By implementing elaborate plant protection measures and strengthening of plant protection and quarantine services we must at the same time ensure that they do not unnecessarily become barriers to trade.

The development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones is of utmost importance to us. Our fisheries resources supply us with protein for a fast growing population. We realise that the principal fisheries resources of our proposed EEZ are migratory species and it is therefore necessary to cooperate with other coastal states in order to ensure maximum utilisation and conservation. It is essential to us that a climate conducive to joint ventures be promoted in order for those concerned to reap the economic benefits derived from fisheries resources.

We would therefore wish to see that comprehensive and up-to-date surveys and determination of living resources that are available in two hundred exclusive economic zones be carried out. In this connexion there are related activities in which technical assistance ought to be pursued simultaneously. These include: the effective management conservation, utilisation and harvesting of such living resources; the determination of the most beneficial and effective manner of utilisation of the resources whether by access agreement with foreign fishers, joint venture agreement or other financial agreement or arrangement; the question of fishing licences of permits to be granted to foreign fishers.

We realise that through the exercise of naked power by the larger fishing states, modern technical improvements in fishing, leading to unrestricted exploitation, might deplete the living resources of the high seas. Mr. Chairman, the answer to our problems does not lie in lamenting our fate and yearning to reinstate the conditions of the past. Rather it lies in accepting the fact that we are now part of a wider world and wish to play our own unique part in it. Our hope is to develop a modern economy based on improved methods of agriculture, forestry and fishing, to improve transport both within the country and externally, and to establish industries that will add value to our raw materials and decrease the dependence on imports. We hope at the same time to preserve throughout this development process the widespread and equitable distribution of wealth that has always been a feature of our society.

E. RAVELOJAONA (Madagascar): C'est un honneur pour moi de prendre la parole aujourd'hui devant cette noble Assemblée.

En premier lieu, il est de mon devoir de présenter les excuses de S. E. M. Simon Pierre, Ministre du développement rural et de la réforme agraire.

Depuis deux mois environ, S. E. M, le Ministre avait manifesté déjà le désir de participer à cette Conférence, mais comme dit un de nos proverbes "Fotoam-bitra tsy mahaleo ny sampona"- "Un imprévu est plus fort qu'un rendez-vous fixe". M, le Ministre n'a pu se rendre à Rome étant retenu par des obligations internes de son ministère. En effet, le Ministère du développement rural et de la réforme agraire procède actuellement à de vastes restructurations nécessitées par les lignes de conduite de la révolution.

Voilà, Monsieur le Président, les raisons majeures qui ont retenu M, le Ministre, et je suis persuadé que vous acceptez par votre compréhension les excuses qu'il vous présente.

En second lieu, je profite de cette occasion qui m'est offerte pour vous adresser, Monsieur le Président, les félicitations chaleureuses de ma délégation pour votre élection à la tête de cette importante réunion qu'est la 20ème session de la Conférence de la FAO.

Votre dynamisme, votre compétence ont conduit les nombreux délégués à porter leur choix sur votre personne, et nous avons tous suivi avec attention la manière pleine de délicatesse avec laquelle vous avez dirigé les séances.

Certains d'entre vous ne connaissent peut-être pas Madagascar ou connaissent mal cette grande terre plongée dans l'océan Indien. Une superficie vaste avec ses 589 000 km² aussi grande que la France et le Benelux réunis. Ses côtes couvrent plus de 5 000 km. Sa population n'est pourtant que de 8 500 000 habitants.

Mon pays est à vocation agricole et 85 pour cent de ses habitants sont des paysans attachés à la terre. L'agriculture est donc l'activité principale du peuple malgache.

Nous nous attachons donc à tout ce qui, de près ou de loin, s'efforce de mettre en valeur la terre. La FAO joue un rôle primordial dans ce domaine de mise en valeur des terres pour avoir des productions susceptibles de nourrir plusieurs millions d'âmes.

L'insuffisance de l'alimentation dans le monde, en particulier dans les pays en développement, est l'ennemi No 1 que tous les pays de bonne volonté doivent combattre.

Certes, la tâche est difficile, le chemin est long à parcourir, mais avec la compréhension des uns et des autres et avec les efforts déployés par la FAO, tôt ou tard, la malnutrition dans les pays en développement sera, nous en sommes persuadés, anéantie.

Un de nos proverbes dit "Taon-trano tsy efan'ny irery"- "Construire une maison ne peut être l'oeuvre d'une personne". Nous avons donc à combattre ensemble, la main dans la main, un ennemi commun qui est la faim.

Pays riches, pays pauvres, nous sommes embarqués dans une même barque dans cet océan mondial. Nous ne pouvons pas nous esquiver du devoir que nous impose la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

En ce qui concerne mon pays, et dans le cadre du développement de l'agriculture, de l'élevage, le pouvoir révolutionnaire, sous la haute direction de S. E. M. le Président Didier Ratsiraka, a pris de nombreuses dispositions afin de donner au peuple, détenteur du pouvoir, l'espoir de se nourrir décemment.

D'ailleurs, le Livre rouge, dans son chapitre III point 4, dit "L'agriculture et l'élevage sont les bases essentielles de notre développement et de notre révolution".

L'objectif visé par le pouvoir révolutionnaire est de pouvoir nourrir et vêtir les 8 millions d'âmes qui peuplent Madagascar.

De nombreux efforts ont été effectués depuis la révolution pour augmenter les surfaces cultivées. Diverses actions ont été aussi prises pour accroître la culture du riz, nourriture de base des Malgaches: entretien des réseaux hydro-agricoles, travaux d'aménagement de périmètres nouveaux, y compris l'extension des périmètres existants, organisation des équipements agricoles, encadrement en général.

Chacune des six Faritany ou provinces de Madagascar est tenue dans les années à venir à aménager 15 000 ha en rizières, qui donneront donc un total de 100 000 ha environ. En outre, il est prévu de réaliser à court terme l'aménagement de 200 000 ha en soja et 50 000 ha en blé.

Dans le cadre de notre révolution, des journées patriotiques ont été organisées. C'est ainsi qu'il y a des périodes pendant lesquelles, grands et petits fonctionnaires et paysans, consacrent des journées soit pour la préparation des rizières, soit pour le repiquage du riz, ce qui rencontre pleinement la volonté du pouvoir révolutionnaire de guider la population dans le développement de la riziculture.

Nos dirigeants encouragent les paysans à produire davantage en leur octroyant des primes. Ceci stimule chaque paysan à cultiver plus, pour satisfaire ses besoins familiaux et dégager un surplus commercialisable. Cet encouragement touche également les autres produits, car Madagascar cultive en effet de nombreux produits agricoles dont l'exportation constitue notre principale source de devises: par exemple la vanille, le café, la girofle, le poivre, etc.

Le manque de voies de communication à l'intérieur du pays pose les plus grands problèmes à notre époque.

La construction de nouvelles routes, et l'amélioration et l'entretien des réseaux de communications existants sont parmi les tâches prioritaires auxquelles le pouvoir révolutionnaire s'attelle avec énergie.

En effet, pendant la saison pluvieuse, les communications sont très difficiles entre les principales zones de production, et ne permettent donc pas l'évacuation des produits ni d'en assurer la distribution dans les zones déficitaires.

Actuellement, le Ministre du développement rural et de la réforme agraire est en pleine restructuration pour mieux répondre aux exigences dictées par la ligne de conduite de notre révolution.

Les structures en partant du "Fokonolona", cellule de base, sont déjà mises en place depuis plus de deux ans, et le pouvoir révolutionnaire a donné à chaque groupement une grande latitude et une pleine responsabilité pour le développement de son économie.

Cette initiative révolutionnaire porte ses fruits et on assiste chaque année à des rendements encourageants dans la production.

D'après tout ce qui précède, Madagascar s'efforce donc d'augmenter sa production agricole. Il ne néglige pas non plus de prendre soin de son cheptel. Madagascar compte d'abord sur ses propres efforts pour réduire au minimum la malnutrition et compter ensuite sur l'aide de pays amis.

Mon pays est ouvert à toutes formes de coopération quelles qu'elles soient, à condition que ces coopérations ne présentent aucun caractère de domination ni d'exploitation.

On assiste parfois à des coopérations assorties de certaines conditions inacceptables. Mon pays rejette catégoriquement ces formes de coopération.

Par contre, ma délégation a noté avec satisfaction les déclarations de nombreux pays qui offrent leur collaboration dans le domaine de l'assistance en général. Qu'ils en soient remerciés.

Avant de conclure, il nous tient à coeur de souligner combien nous apprécions les nombreux efforts entrepris par la FAO dans la lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition dans les pays en développement.

A cet égard, nous appuyons donc fermement les divers programmes spécifiques lancés par notre Organisation, et que nous considérons comme les instruments les mieux appropriés pour mener cette lutte.

Nous ne sommes que trop conscients de la gravité de la faim et de la malnutrition qui sévissent dans le monde. C'est un devoir sacré pour chacun et pour tous d'unir leurs meilleurs efforts dans le combat auquel se joue notre Organisation sous le leadership de son Directeur général.

Nous sommes tous persuadés que nous réussirons à combattre ensemble la faim si nous nous accordons la confiance mutuelle. Ainsi la barque ne chavirera pas et le monde sera sauvé.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados, en el orden del día que les ha sido distribuido en la mañana de hoy, al llegar a este punto, es decir, al término de la intervención de la delegación de Madagascar, estaba previsto que examináramos el Tercer Informe del Comité General, que les ha sido facilitado a lo largo de la tarde; pero nos quedan en este momento todavía dos intervenciones de organizaciones: concretamente las correspondientes al Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente y a la Comisión Económica para Asia Occidental, ya que respecto a los otros dos oradores inscritos parece que con ellos ha habido una alteración.

Si les parece a ustedes, por mantener el orden, podríamos continuar con todas las intervenciones y al término de las mismas examinaríamos el Tercer Informe del Comité General.

Se muestran conformes los señores delegados? Pues entonces continuamos con las intervenciones correspondientes a las organizaciones. Antes, el Sr. Secretario General desea hacer alguna manifestación. Tiene, pues, la palabra el Sr. Sylla.

SECRETARY GENERAL: This is not an announcement but a note which I have just received from Dr. Williams, who is the Executive Director of the World Food Council who was on the list of speakers for this afternoon. The note is as follows:

"The Executive Director of the World Food Council had the honour of addressing this Conference, on behalf of the United Nations and Secretary-General Waldheim, on Tuesday 13 November.

"Inasmuch as the views of the World Food Council are well reflected in that brief statement, and in view of the time constraint under which this Conference is working, it is not the intention of the Executive Director to take your time with another statement.

"The World Food Council is grateful for the many references by Ministers to its catalytic and supportive role and for the whole-hearted co-operation it continues to receive from FAO.

"It remains for the World Food Council to wish this Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference every success. "

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias, Sr. Secretario General. Y en este caso pasamos a las intervenciones de organizaciones. En primer lugar tiene la palabra el Sr. Peter Thacher, del Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente.

P. THACHER (United Nations Environment Programme): Mr, President, Mr. Chairman, I have come on behalf of the Executive Director of the UNEP, Dr. Mustafa Tolba, to present his Statement to your Conference. He is unavoidably detained in Santiago, Chile, and could not be here before the conclusion of this Meeting.

Mr. President, Mr. Director-General, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

May I begin, Mr. President, by joining others who have spoken in congratulating you and your colleagues on your election to your high office and expressing my confidence that under your guidance the Conference will successfully address the complex issues on its agenda.

FAO's longstanding concern with environmental problems has led to a close and fruitful partnership with UNEP, and it is, therefore, a particular privilege for me to speak to you today of our shared perception of the overall problems and of the nature of our partnership.

In August of this year, your distinguished Director-General Mr. Edouard Saouma, attended a Symposium on the interrelationships between Resources, Environment, Population and Development, at which I also had the pleasure of participating. Mr. Saouma delivered a remarkable statement in which he articulated the principles for a third agricultural revolution. The principles call for the rational use of the natural resources of our earth: an environmental equilibrium that includes human development, sustainable, productive ecosystems, and appropriate agricultural production systems adapted to the existing ecological conditions.

These principles find expression in the long-term strategy towards the year 2000 which is now before you for your consideration. I sincerely hope that this Conference will forcefully endorse the principles and the innovative modalities for action that the Director-General is proposing.

As you are aware, Sir, the United Nations General Assembly is to meet in special session next year and is expected to adopt a new international development strategy for the 1980's. In addressing the Preparatory Committee for that strategy in May this year I stressed my view that the strategy should be framed in a long-term perspective. In such a perspective, there is no conflict between environmental goals and those of sustainable development, and I recalled that the Governing Council of United Nations Environment Programme has considered that the possibility of successfully establishing a New International Economic Order may largely depend on the environmental and ecological soundness of the actions taken, and on the rational management of resources. In my statement, I stressed that the objective of a substantial increase in food and agricultural production is vital, but the means devised for its advancement should take into account the total impact on land-based agricultural ecosystems.

It is therefore essential, in my view, that the efforts and contributions of the Food and Agriculture Organization should be taken fully into account by the United Nations General Assembly in framing the strategy and in its implementation. The relevant goals for the Strategy in the end can only be achieved by efforts on the ground, and they should only be framed bearing the actual situation in mind.

FAO has made tremendous efforts towards devising a system for world food security, which I think should provide the essential safety net complementary to the implementation of the Strategy.

Let me now refer to the specific nature of FAO/UNEP co-operation, which I believe is based on firm ground and augurs well for our joint efforts in meeting the challenges of the 1980's and beyond. As you know, UNEP is not an operational organization. Its mandate is to catalyze and co-ordinate, and the resources of the Fund of UN Environment Programme are used for this purpose through partial and selective support of new activities. Such support for specific activities carried out by co-operating organizations like the Food and Agriculture Organization is expected to gradually phase out, and the activities which hopefully have by then proved their value are carried on and developed by the organizations themselves. The Food and Agriculture Organization has recognized these principles from the start, and I wish to express my deep appreciation for the way in which increased resources are being proposed for allocation by FAO to the areas of its collaboration with UNEP. Let me assure you that this will release and make available some UN Environment Programme support for use in new co-operative activities with FAO.

The memorandum of understanding jointly signed by the Food and Agriculture Organization's Director-General and myself is an important step in strengthening our working relations and spells out the ways and means for our mutual co-operation. My friend and colleague, Mr. Saouma, takes a keen interest in the inter-actions between our two organizations, and I wish through you to thank him for sparing no effort in helping me improve our co-operation further, as well as that of the UN system as a whole in focusing on and dealing effectively with environmental concerns. I also wish to place on record our appreciation of the efforts of the internal co-ordinating machinery within the FAO secretariat, which is the Inter-Departmental Working Group on Natural Resources of the Human Environment, chaired by Mr. Huguet.

Let me now refer to some of the specific areas of co-operation between FAO and UNEP:

- Soils are a prime target for UNEP/FAO co-operation

In co-operation with FAO and other organizations we are preparing to identify and define the most important legal, scientific, technical, cultural and institutional elements of an integrated soils policy.

- We are co-operating with FAO and other concerned organizations to develop an integrated programme of activities for the conservation and wise utilization of tropical forests. An important meeting of experts at Libreville in Gabon from 25 February to 1 March 1980, being generously hosted by the Government of Gabon, is expected to produce a useful instrument for the concerned countries and for the international community as a whole to tackle the crucial problems of the tropical forests of our planet.

- Linked with the subjects of soil degradation and forest depletion is the very important problem area of desertification. Combating desertification is not new to FAO and has been conducted under other names ever since the creation of the organization, especially within the context of FAO's EMASAR programme. UNEP was entrusted with co-ordinating the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification which emanated from the UN Conference on Desertification held in Nairobi in 1977. I am particularly appreciative of our co-operation with FAO directly and within the Inter-Agency Working Group on Desertification as well as within the Consultative Group for Desertification Control of which FAO is one of the co-sponsors. I should also like to express my great satisfaction with the support given by FAO to the United Nations Sudane-Sahelian Office which acts, on behalf of UNEP, as a coordinator for implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification Processes. These methodologies will become very important tools for the fight against desertification-perhaps the single most important environmental threat to humanity today.

- UNEP's concern for the global commons is manifest in its programmes on the protection of the living resources within the marine environment. Following the Stockholm Conference in 1972, UNEP identified its responsibilities in regard to marine living resources as the promotion and catalysis of activities which will serve to ensure that the renewable living resources of the oceans do not suffer from human exploitation, beyond threshold recovery levels. Man needs to control and regulate his varied activities in the marine environment, to prevent over-exploitation and deterioration of the quality of the living resources therein. Nations have a particularly heavy responsibility to manage the living resources of their exclusive economic zones. During recent years, we have held joint activities with FAO on marine mammals conservation, marine pollution, effects of river inputs to ocean systems and on the international information system for the science and technology of marine and fresh water environments. FAO and UNEP are co-operating to produce a global plan of action for the prudent management and the avoidance of pollution of marine resources.

- UNEP and FAO have also placed high priority on conservation of plant and animal genetic resources, particularly those of species that constitute the essential guarantee for continued agricultural productivity. Intensive selection for high performance and uniformity has dangerously narrowed the genetic base of many food species. Our two organizations are working closely towards the conservation of crop, plant and animal genetic resources and in environmental application of microbial resources, especially in the area of biological nitrogen fixation in the tropics.

- The awesome proportions of edible agriculture produce lost because of contamination demands coordinated and sustained effort in many directions: improvement of sanitation in rural areas, control of insecticides and chemicals used during food processing; more efficient transport and distribution co-operation in international trade; and the establishment of research and training centres. FAO and UNEP are working together to deal with this problem, of food contamination.

- The Global Environmental/Monitoring System, which we refer to as GEMS, co-ordinated by UNEP's Programme Activity Centre, has had a long history of co-operation with FAO. A few examples:

(a) The global assessment of soil degradation, led to the development of methods for the determination of the existing state of soil degradation and the measurement of the rate at which it is chemically, physically and biologically degrading.

(b) The Tropical Forest Cover Monitoring Project has developed and tested useful, simple methods for determining the extent of tropical forest cover using various combinations of information gathering systems.

(c) An advanced approach to arid land monitoring is embodied in the new UNEP/FAO pilot activity on the inventory and monitoring of Sahelian pastoral ecosystems, presently about to start operations. This will hopefully provide the Senegalese Government with information necessary to ensure sound management and control of desertification.

I hope these few examples of common effort will enable you to share my feelings of hope and encouragement for the prospects of common effort by UNEP and FAO. The decisions adopted by this policy-making Conference will give us a further impetus. We in UNEP are fully aware of the challenge of the future: from all over the world a multiplying human population attempts to meet their needs, needs for more and better food and nutrition, through more and better development, through more equitable international economic relations embodied in a New International Economic Order. Working together, FAO and UNEP can assist the international community to meet these needs without destroying the essential ecological equilibria of the biosphere. At times in the past, UNEP had to face the reluctance of those who feared that environment and development were conflicting ideas but this is now behind us. But we are still concerned about the impact of not-well-thought-out development activities on the limits of tolerance of the biosphere. The FAO principles for a third agricultural revolution constitute a huge step in the right direction. And we certainly welcome the forward-looking initiatives taken by FAO to design new and appropriate agricultural strategies, and we therefore wish you every success in your deliberations.

M. AHMED (Economic Commission for Western Asia): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, and observers, due to unavoidable circumstances, Dr. Mohammed Said Al-Attar, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Western Asia, was unable to attend this Conference in person. On his behalf, I wish to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and to congratulate your colleagues for being chosen to preside over this important Conference. As can be judged from the ongoing discussions, we are confident that the Conference will achieve its planned objectives under your able guidance.

We also would like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our appreciation to Mr. Edouard Saouma, the Director-General of FAO, and the Conference Secretariat for making this Conference possible. The documents prepared by FAO for this Conference are, indeed of high quality and have provided major guidelines and a very useful framework for the ongoing discussions.

Agriculture and rural development is one of the major concerns of the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia. Though the importance of agriculture has slightly declined during the recent years it continues to play an important role in the overall socio-economic development of the region. Agriculture, besides being a major source of income, after petroleum, to the majority of the population, provides the non-agricultural sectors with food and labour.

Though the rate of growth in food and agriculture production has been impressive in some of the countries in the region, the gap between the domestic production and consumption has become larger. Consequently, the self-sufficiency ratio for the major food commodities has sharply declined during the recent years. The agricultural sector requires greater attention for achieving a more stable economic growth.

For the above reasons, the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia, through the Joint/FAO Agriculture Division, has made concerted efforts to tackle agricultural problems in the region on three major fronts: namely, agricultural planning and adjustment, agricultural and rural institutions, and regional cooperation. In the area of planning, emphasis is being placed on sector and subsector studies with a view to assessing the present and potential role of agriculture in the overall socioeconomic development of the ECWA region. In collaboration with FAO and other relevant international and regional organizations, efforts are being made to strengthen, through in-service training, the planning capacity of the member countries.

During the 1978-79 biennium, two agricultural sector studies, one for the Yemen Arab Republic, and another for Democratic Yemen, were carried out. A livestock subsector study was completed, covering the northern part of the ECWA region. ECWA has also cooperated with FAO in undertaking a livestock subsector study covering the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula. Two volumes of an annual bulletin "Agriculture and Development" were issued during 1978-79. This publication reviews and appraises the past and present developments and performance of the agricultural sector and provides guidelines for the rationalization of agricultural planning and decision-making in the region.

As for the activities under the agricultural and rural institutions subprogramme, the main focus is on social economic, and institutional problems which have bearing on productivity and farm income, with emphasis on the traditional agricultural subsector. Action programmes and alternative policy measures are proposed for tackling some of the outstanding rural development problems in the region. This activity also involves the monitoring and assessing of the ongoing agrarian reform and rural development programmes in the region.

During the 1978-79 biennium, studies were carried out on planning farm enterprises and organizations, pastoral systems and problems in the ECWA region, land tenure and fragmentation problems, and a study on cropsharing as related to productivity and farm income in the Yemen Arab Republic. Under the same subprogramme, greater emphasis will be put on agricultural marketing, credit and farming systems and their impact on productivity and income.

Under regional agricultural cooperation, issues pertaining to food security and agricultural resource conservation practices and policies are handled. Though some major progress has been made in the past, increased effort will be required for achieving more effective and comprehensive technical and economic cooperation in the region. ECWA's activities are aimed at increasing awareness among member countries of the importance of this activity and at strengthening their planning capacity. Several studies have been undertaken regarding plan harmonization and integration, intra-and interregional trade in agricultural commodities and inputs and food security issues and policies in the ECWA region. A book on "Food Security Issues in the Arab Near East" was published and another on "Irrigation and Agriculture Development in the ECWA Region" is in the process of being published.

Increasing attention is being paid to arranging workshops, seminars and intergovernmental consultations with a view to exploring possibilities for joint intercountry and regional projects which will lead to an improved food security position in the region and to a more rational utilization of the available agricultural resources.

B. JODA (Libya): Mr. Chairman, I would like to congratulate you on your election to chair this meeting of FAO. I am fully convinced that your sound guidance will enable this Conference to achieve the expected results. Also it is a great pleasure for me to see one of the citizens of a country that we respect and with which we have close historical associations here presiding over our destinies.

I would like to welcome the newly joined members. I am convinced that this enlarged family of FAO will increase its strength and abilities.

I have arrived late but, you may know that working in agriculture, especially under rainfed conditions, requires all our efforts and takes up all our time. This is what caused me to be so late in addressing this distinguished meeting.

We in the Jamahiriya have high hopes of this Conference, as this session is being held at a time when we have many declarations about the New International Economic Order. Despite the fact that this order is still in the realm of ambition it is still one of the major targets and legitimate claims of developing countries. It is only natural that agriculture is one of the main axis, of the New International Economic Order.

This Conference is being held at a time when all indications point out that agricultural growth in developing countries has not achieved any noteworthy progress. On the contrary, it is falling in a number of countries of the world. Hunger and malnutrition are still the main concerns of the World and their victims are increasing daily. Food security for the majority of humanity is far from being achieved. Prosperity and stability for rural inhabitants of most of the Third World countries are still words echoing in international fora. They may have heard of them but they have not so far witnessed any results from the application of this. Because of all these considerations the gap between the poor and the rich is increasing.

We in the Jamahiriya are fully convinced that freedom for nations will come only if they can achieve self-sufficiency in the area of food.

This Conference was preceded by the World Food Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and the whole of this building echoes still with what was said there. The programme of action which was agreed to at that meeting stresses the importance of agriculture and the role of rural dwellers in achieving self-determination and independence in the field of agriculture.

I do not wish to speak at length, especially as the General Discussion has just ended. However, on behalf of my nation I would like to submit certain demands and requests.

We in the Jamahiriya fully endorse the Organization and support it. We hope that all the ideas being exchanged in this Organization will be translated into genuine actions aimed at providing food for all the hungry of this world. My appreciation of this international Organization does not prevent me from pointing out that the transfer of the regional office of the Near East is a request being submitted by the people of the Jamahiriya. All the countries of the region have requested the transfer in its own interest. The present location of the headquarters has not enabled it to undertake any of the activities required by it. Consequently we hope that all delegations attending this Conference will respect the desires of the countries of the region and agree to the transfer of the headquarters to another country.

As many of those who have heard our statements may be well aware, we do not consider our agricultural development something to be undertaken individually. We consider that the development of all arable lands and the feeding and nourishment of citizens in all the corners of the earth is a target to be achieved by us all. It is a means for us to achieve prosperity for humanity.

I thank you for your kind attention. My delegation will examine all the issues raised at this Conference. I would like to reaffirm to you once again that we fully support this Organization and its Director-General without any restrictions. We wish FAO to be the main instrument to overcome hunger in the four corners of the earth.

Third Report of the General Committee

Troisième Rapport du Bureau

Tercer Informe del Comité General

EL PRESIDENTE: Creo que con esta intervención hemos terminado las intervenciones correspondientes a la lista de oradores de hoy, y, en definitiva, de todo el debate general, y deberíamos pasar entonces al examen del tercer informe del Comité General.

Como saben los señores delegados, el Comité General se ha reunido en la mañana de hoy. Ha emitido el informe que ha sido distribuido a todos ustedes y yo rogaría al señor Sylla que nos fuera leyendo cada una de las secciones del informe para, a continuación, pasarse a la aprobación, salvo que hubiera observaciones por parte de los señores delegados.

SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Demande d'admission du Gouvernement de Ste-Lucie à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation.

1. Le Bureau note qu'une demande d'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation signée par le Ministre de l'agriculture, des terres, des pêches, du travail et des coopératives de Ste-Lucie a été reçue par le Directeur général le 10 novembre 1979 (voir Annexe A). Il note également qu'un instrument officiel d'acceptation des obligations découlant de l'Acte constitutif de la FAO, signé par le Ministre des affaires étrangères de Ste-Lucie, a été reçu par le Directeur général le 16 novembre 1979 (voir Annexe B).

2. Le Bureau note que la demande est conforme aux prescriptions formelles stipulées à l'Article II. 2 de l'Acte constitutif.

3. Pour ce qui est de la date à laquelle la demande d'admission a été présentée, le Bureau rappelle qu'en diverses occasions la Conférence a examiné des demandes d'admission reçues après expiration des délais (Article XIX, paragraphes 1 et 2), après avoir suspendu les dispositions pertinentes en vertu de l'Article XLII. 1 du RGO. Ces suspensions supposent que notification a été faite aux délégués de l'intention de proposer une suspension au moins 24 heures avant le vote; la décision de suspendre l'application d'un article requiert une majorité des deux tiers des suffrages exprimés en séance plénière au moyen d'un scrutin par appel nominal. Une telle suspension a déjà été recommandée par le Bureau à cette fin dans le passé.

4. Ayant examiné la question, le Bureau recommande à la Conférence (de suspendre) l'application de l'Article XIX, paragraphes 1 et 2 du Règlement général de l'Organisation. Le paragraphe 1 stipule que l'instrument officiel d'acceptation des obligations découlant de l'Acte constitutif doit parvenir au Directeur général au plus tard à la date d'ouverture de la session de la Conférence au cours de laquelle la demande d'admission doit être examinée, et le paragraphe 2 précise que la demande devrait être reçue au moins 30 jours avant l'ouverture de la session de la Conférence.

5. Le vote sur l'admission à la qualité de membre appelle, lui aussi, en vertu de l'Article II. 2 de l'Acte constitutif, une majorité des deux tiers des suffrages exprimés, sous réserve que la majorité des Etats Membres de l'Organisation soit présente, et le vote en vertu de l'Article XII. 9(a) du RGO, a lieu au scrutin secret.

6. Si le présent rapport est approuvé par la Conférence lors de la séance plénière du 20 novembre, un vote sur la suspension de l'application dudit article pourrait avoir lieu le lundi 26 novembre, éventuellement au début de la séance du matin. Si la majorité requise des deux tiers est obtenue, le deuxième scrutin sur l'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation pourrait avoir lieu ce même matin. Si la Conférence l'approuve, un calendrier révisé pourrait être publié sous la cote C 79/12-Rev. 2-Corr. 1.

7. Le Comité note enfin que, conformément aux procédures et pratiques établies, la contribution exigible par Ste-Lucie pour le dernier trimestre de 1979 serait de 2 600 dollars. L'avance due au fonds de roulement serait de 650 dollars, sur la base du niveau actuel du fonds.

Approved

Approuvé

Aprobado

SECRETARE GENERAL: Droits de vote

8. Conformément à la décision prise par le Bureau à sa première séance, des représentants du Directeur général ont à nouveau pris contact avec les délégations des Etats Membres à qui leurs arriérés de contributions risquent de faire perdre leur droit de vote à la vingtième session de la Conférence et l'on peut, d'ores et déjà, signaler les faits nouveaux concernant un Etat Membre, la Bolivie.

Le Directeur général a reçu deux communications de la Bolivie confirmant qu'un versement de

9. 27 207 dollars serait effectué dans les prochains jours, et que le solde de 11 311 dollars serait réglé au cours du prochain exercice budgétaire. Le versement de 27 207 dollars suffirait à assurer le droit de vote du Gouvernement. Les communications faisaient remarquer que le retard du versement dépendait de causes indépendantes de la volonté de l'Etat Membre et demandaient que son droit de vote à la vingtième session de la Conférence soit rétabli.

10. En conséquence, le Bureau recommande que la Conférence autorise la Bolivie à exercer ses droits de vote pendant l'entière durée de la vingtième session de la Conférence.

Prochaine séance du Bureau

11. Le Bureau décide de se réunir à 9 heures le mercredi 21 novembre 1979 pour examiner les propositions de candidature reçues pour la nomination des membres du Conseil pour chaque région et chaque mandat avant de les communiquer à la Conférence, conformément à l'Article XXII-IO(d), (e) et (f) du RGO.

Comme le débat général vient de prendre fin, les délégués seront certainement heureux d'apprendre que 117 Etats Membres, un Mouvement de Libération national, trois organisations des Nations Unies, trois organisations intergouvernementales et deux organisations non gouvernementales ont participé à ce débat général.

Sur ce nombre, le service des conférences m'apprend que 94 ministres et vice-ministres ont participé aux débats. Je crois savoir également qu'il s'agit d'une participation record et pense donc qu'il y a lieu de s'en réjouir. Vous savez aussi qu'à la cérémonie d'ouverture nous avons eu le plaisir d'avoir la participation de Sa Sainteté Jean-Paul II qui, sur l'invitation du Directeur Général, est venu adresser à notre Conférence ainsi que le Président Kaounda qui a fait la Conférence McDougall. Vous-même, Monsieur le Président, avez participé au débat général ainsi que le Directeur général, le Président indépendant du Conseil et le représentant du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies.

Avant d'en terminer, je voudrais faire une petite rectification. Ce matin, en se référant au Samoa occidental, un délégué a donné un nouveau nom à notre Directeur général en l'appelant: "Monsieur Saouma occidental...". J'apporte une rectification non pas au Samoa qui demeure occidental mais pour mon Directeur qui, lui, est international. . .

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias señor Secretario General. ¿Hay alguna observación en relación con este punto?. Damos entonces por aprobado el punto, lo que implica que en la mañana del día 26 de noviembre se procederá a votar sobre la aprobación del artículo y posteriormente sobre la admisión como miembro de la Organización al Gobierno de Santa Lucía, y la Secretaría preparará y distribuirá la agenda. Pasamos entonces al punto siguiente.

Approved

Approuvé

Aprobado

EL PRESIDENTE: Para finalizar las sesiones relativas al debate general, nada más que dos precisiones.

La primera de ellas, que la Comisión III mañana iniciará sus trabajos a las 9 y media de la mañana en esta Sala. El Secretario de la misma será el Sr. A. Peters que estará ayudado por el Sr. D. Alhériitière.

En segundo lugar, decirles a ustedes que cuando procedamos a levantar la sesión no volveremos a reunir-nos en sesión plenaria hasta el proximo lunes, a las 9 y media.

Y nada más, señores delegados, que agradecer a todas las delegaciones, absolutamente a todas las delegaciones, la magnífica colaboración y el orden que han prestado para el buen desarrollo de los debates, lo cual nos ha permitido eliminar la tan temida sesión nocturna, que parecía planear sobre la Sala el primer día.

Por consiguiente, se levanta la sesión hasta el proximo lunes. Muchas gracias a todos.

The meeting rose at 17. 30 hours

La seance est levée à 17 h 30

Se levanta la sesión a las 17. 30 horas

conference

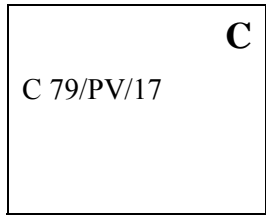
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20° período de sesiones

SEVENTEENTH PLENARYMEETING
DIX-SEPTIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
17ª SESION PLENARIA
(26 November 1979)

The Seventeenth meeting was opened at 9.45 hours A. Ghissassi, Vice-Chairman of the Conference, presiding
La dix-septième séance plénière est ouverte à 9 h 45, sous la présidence de A. Ghissassi, Vice-Président de la
Conférence

Se abre la 17a sesión plenaria a las 9. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de A. Ghissassi, Vicepresidentede la
Conferencia

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

DEBAT GENERAL (suite)

DEBATE GENERAL(continuación)

- STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (continued)
- DECLARATIONS DES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS (suite)
- MANIFESTACIONES POR LOS JEFES DE LAS DELEGACIONES (continuación)

B. KOUESSEN (Cameroun): Monsieur le Président, Monsieur le Directeur général, Honorables délégués. La délégation de la République Ūnie du Cameroun tient à se joindre à l' ensemble des autres délégations pour vous présenter, ainsi qu'à tous les membres de votre Bureau, ses vives félicitations pour votre brillante élection aux postes les plus élevés de cette Conférence.

En vous confiant cette lourde responsabilité pour conduire vos débats, les pays représentés ici ont voulu rendre un hommage mérité à votre pays, à vos éminentes qualités personnelles et à votre vaste expérience.

Forts de ces atouts, Monsieur le Président, nous ne doutons pas un seul instant que vous conduirez nos travaux au plein succès.

Notre délégation est aussi heureuse d'adresser ses compliments et ses meilleurs souhaits de bienvenue aux nouveaux Etats de Samoa et de Dominique qui viennent d'être admis dans notre Organisation et qui viennent ainsi grossir nos rangs.

Monsieur le Président, nous vous félicitons de l'excellente présentation qui a été faite par le Directeur général de la documentation élaborée par le secrétariat à notre intention; ceci nous permettra, j'en suis sûr, de faire avancer efficacement nos travaux dans la recherche des voies et moyens susceptibles d'améliorer la situation alimentaire mondiale.

Cette vingtième session de notre Conférence se réunit à un moment où la plupart des secteurs du système économique international sont soumis à de fortes tensions et où la situation de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation des pays en développement devient l'une des préoccupations essentielles de la communauté internationale.

Nous considérons, Monsieur le Président, que notre Conférence a choisi à dessein de porter spécialement son attention sur les problèmes liés au renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire, au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones exclusives, la faim, la misère, la sous-alimentation et la malnutrition sévissant toujours avec plus d'intensité dans la plupart des pays en développement.

Dans l'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000", qui constitue l'un des principaux documents de travail de cette Conférence, on relève que "le monde peut se libérer de la faim grâce à une progression de la production alimentaire dans les pays en développement, mais que c'est là chose impossible dans les cinq ou dix années à venir. Ce qui s'impose, c'est un effort soutenu jusqu'à la fin du siècle; il n'existe ni grande nouvelle technologie à laquelle on puisse s'en remettre, ni raccourci aisé. La production agricole étant à la traîne, l'autosuffisance est toujours plus compromise. "

Monsieur le Président, cette analyse qui s'appuie sur des données et des expériences du passé établit en clair que les problèmes alimentaires des pays en développement continueront à se poser pour longtemps encore. Ceci est d'autant plus probable que, malheureusement, les tendances dans la production des denrées alimentaires sont actuellement à la baisse.

C'est donc dire, Monsieur le Président, que dans ce domaine tous nos gouvernements, ainsi que les organisations internationales compétentes, doivent accorder au renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire des pays en développement toute la préoccupation que la situation mérite.

Nous savons que c'est pour répondre à cette situation que le Directeur général de la FAO a élaboré un plan d'action en cinq points pour résoudre le problème de la faim dans le monde.

Compte tenu du caractère transitoire et souvent aléatoire que revêt l'assistance alimentaire extérieure et face au récent échec des négociations devant conduire à un nouvel arrangement sur les céréales, le Gouvernement camerounais n'a jamais cessé d'estimer que toute politique de sécurité alimentaire effective, collective et durable, ne peut être assise que sur une stratégie globale de développement agricole axé sur l'accroissement de la production.

Cette démarche implique, comme on s'en doute, la mobilisation d'importantes ressources, tant financières et matérielles qu'humaines, qu'un pays comme le mien ne peut réaliser tout seul, sans l'aide des organisations internationales et des pays amis.

C'est dire, Monsieur le Président, que l'assistance technique et financière extérieure continuera à occuper une place toujours privilégiée dans le flux de ressources nécessaires au financement de la production agricole du Cameroun.

Le Gouvernement du Cameroun est de ceux qui ont toujours considéré que toute politique de développement d'un pays doit avant tout viser l'amélioration des conditions d'existence des masses rurales, celles-ci constituant encore, pour le cas spécial de mon pays, plus de 80 pour cent de nos populations.

Jusqu'au lancement de notre programme de la "Révolution verte" en 1973, l'agriculture camerounaise était caractérisée par un dualisme entre les cultures d'exportation et le secteur de la production vivrière.

Les cultures industrielles, stimulées depuis longtemps à cause des recettes qu'elles rapportent au pays, avaient généralement bénéficié de plus de moyens techniques et financiers que le secteur des productions alimentaires. C'est le cas du café, du cacao, du coton, des oléagineux, de l'hévéa, des produits forestiers, etc.

Cette situation, qui s'est souvent traduite par des périodes de soudure difficile dans certaines régions et des flambées des prix des produits alimentaires dans les centres urbains, a amené mon gouvernement à décider une intensification des programmes et projets de productions vivrières dans le but de satisfaire une couverture efficace des besoins alimentaires nationaux. Cette politique a permis de limiter l'importation de la plupart des denrées alimentaires susceptibles d'être produites sur place.

Parallèlement, des mesures ont été prises dans le domaine de l'élevage pour le renforcement des productions animales. Ces mesures portent notamment sur la modernisation des unités d'élevage (ranches), l'amélioration du système d'abattage du bétail, le maintien d'une couverture sanitaire plus efficace et l'intensification du processus d'éradication des glossines dans les zones infestées.

Dans le secteur des pêches, on peut notamment citer le démarrage d'une mission de développement de la pêche maritime qui va s'occuper de l'encadrement technique et matériel des paysans pêcheurs afin d'accroître leur production et permettre ainsi une exploitation intensive de notre zone économique exclusive.

Monsieur le Président, ce bref aperçu de nos réalisations montre combien mon pays essaie de faire de son mieux pour accroître ses productions agricoles et atteindre le niveau de son autosuffisance alimentaire. Car ce n'est qu'en s'attaquant de façon décisive et avec une détermination soutenue à l'ensemble de contraintes qui bloquent le processus de la promotion du secteur agricole que les pays en développement pourront permettre à leur population d'accéder collectivement et individuellement à une relative sécurité alimentaire car, est-il besoin de le rappeler, toute politique de sécurité alimentaire pour un pays en développement passe avant tout par un accroissement de la production.

Monsieur le Président, je voudrais terminer en disant que mon pays a toujours hautement apprécié le précieux concours que la FAO lui apporte dans sa politique de développement agricole et souhaite que des me/ens encore plus accrus soient mis à la disposition de cette Organisation pour qu'elle continue à jouer, plus efficacement encore, le rôle qui lui est dévolu dans l'assistance aux pays en voie de développement.

La délégation de la République Unie du Cameroun soutient sans réserve l'ensemble des documents soumis par le Directeur général à l'appréciation de notre Conférence, qu'il s'agisse du programme d'action en cinq points visant à réaliser la sécurité alimentaire mondiale ou du projet de programme et budget dont le niveau est considéré par notre délégation comme un minimum.

Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président. 1/

1/Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

Fourth Report of the General Committee

Quatrième rapport du Bureau

Cuarto informe del Comité General

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Le premier point sur notre ordre du jour est l'examen du quatrième rapport du Bureau (document C 79/LIM/39) qui a été communiqué à la Conférence le mercredi 21 novembre au matin. Je demanderai au Secrétaire général de le lire paragraphe par paragraphe.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: La Conférence avait décidé que les propositions de candidature aux sièges du Conseil devraient être soumises au plus tard le mardi 20 novembre 1979 à 18 heures.

Le Bureau a examiné les propositions de candidatures reçues dans ces délais et il confirme leur validité.

Les candidatures reçues sont les suivantes:

Le Bureau attire officiellement l'attention de la Conférence sur les paragraphes suivants de l'Article XXII du Règlement général de l'Organisation:

"Article XX-3 En choisissant les membres du Conseil, la Conférence s'efforce de tenir compte de l'intérêt qui s'attache:

- a) à assurer au sein de cet organisme une représentation géographique équilibrée des nations intéressées à la production, à la distribution et à la consommation des produits alimentaires et agricoles;
- b) à assurer la participation aux travaux du Conseil des Etats Membres qui contribuent dans une large mesure à la réalisation des objectifs de l'Organisation;
- c) à donner au plus grand nombre possible d'Etats Membres l'occasion, par roulement des sièges, de faire partie du Conseil. "

"Article XX-4 Les membres du Conseil sont rééligibles. "

Pour quatre des régions-Afrique, Asie et Extrême-Orient, Proche-Orient et Amérique du Nord-le nombre de candidats pour chaque période est égal au nombre de sièges vacants. Un unique scrutin pour chaque période et pour chacune de ces régions pourrait donc être suffisant pour que les candidats obtiennent la majorité requise conformément à l'Article XII-3(b) du Règlement général de l'Organisation. Une situation semblable se présente dans la région Europe pour la période 1er janvier 1981-novembre 1983. A cet égard, l'attention est appelée sur l'Article XII-9(a) qui stipule que l'élection des membres du Conseil a lieu au scrutin secret, même dans les cas où il n'y a pas plus de candidats que de sièges à pourvoir.

Pour les régions restantes, il y a plus de candidats que de sièges vacants, comme suit:

- Europe

- a) pour la période novembre 1979-31 décembre 1982, il y a 6 candidats pour 3 sièges;

- Amérique latine

- a) pour la période novembre 1979-31 décembre 1982, il y a 4 candidats pour 3 sièges;
- b) pour la période 1er janvier 1981-novembre 1983, il y a 6 candidats pour 5 sièges.

En conséquence, pour ces régions, plusieurs tours de scrutin pourraient être nécessaires pour pourvoir les sièges vacants correspondant à chacune de ces périodes.

Conformément à l'Article XXII-10(g) du Règlement général de l'Organisation: "Les candidats qui sont battus lors de l'élection destinée à pourvoir le ou les sièges devenant vacants au cours de la première année civile figurent parmi les candidats au siège ou aux sièges devenant vacants à la fin de la deuxième année civile, à moins qu'ils ne se désistent".

Le Bureau recommande de commencer par procéder, pour toutes les régions intéressées, à un scrutin portant sur la première période, c'est-à-dire de novembre 1979 au 31 décembre 1982, puis de procéder aux autres tours de scrutin qui pourraient être nécessaires pour la même période et enfin de procéder, pour toutes les régions intéressées, à l'élection pour la deuxième période, c'est-à-dire du 1er janvier 1981 à novembre 1983.

Fifth Report of the General Committee

Cinquième rapport du Bureau

Quinto informe del Comité general

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): La deuxième partie de ce point concerne l'examen du cinquième rapport du Bureau (document C 79/LIM/40), et je vais également demander au Secrétaire général de le lire.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Droit de vote

Conformément à la décision de la première réunion du Bureau, les représentants du Directeur général ont pris contact avec la délégation du Kampuchea démocratique qui, étant donné ses arriérés de contributions, risquait de perdre ses droits de vote à la présente session de la Conférence.

Le Directeur général a reçu des communications du gouvernement de ce pays indiquant qu'il avait l'intention d'honorer ses obligations financières envers l'Organisation et en particulier de payer environ 17 000 dollars avant la fin de l'année.

Ayant dûment tenu compte de la dernière phrase de l'article III. 4 de l'Acte constitutif, ainsi libellée:

"...La Conférence peut néanmoins autoriser ce membre à voter si elle constate que le défaut de paiement est du à des circonstances indépendantes de sa volonté",

le Comité recommande que les droits de vote du Kampuchea démocratique lui soient restitués pour la durée de la présente session, étant entendu que le gouvernement de ce pays versera environ 17 000 dollars avant la fin de 1979, et que le Directeur général soit autorisé à négocier avec le gouvernement de ce pays le règlement dans les meilleurs délais de toutes ses obligations financières envers l'Organisation.

Third Report of the Credentials Committee

Troisième rapport du Comité de vérification des pouvoirs

Tercer informe del Comité de Credenciales

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Le deuxième point à l'ordre du jour est l'adoption du troisième rapport du Comité de vérification des pouvoirs (document C 79/LIM/38) et je vais demander au Président de ce Comité, M. Camara, de bien vouloir venir à la tribune et le lire.

J. S. CAMARA (Président du Comité de vérification des pouvoirs): La Commission de vérification des pouvoirs a examiné les pouvoirs présentés par les délégations des six Etats Membres suivants: Bahamas, Comores, Lesotho, Qatar, Tchad, Tunisie.

Le total des Etats Membres ayant présenté des pouvoirs en bonne et due forme devient donc 141.

Quatre Etats Membres ne s'étaient pas fait inscrire à la date du 26 novembre 1979: Djibouti, Paraguay, Sao Tomé-et-Principe et les Seychelles, plus l'Islande qui a notifié sa non-participation.

En outre, la Commission a vérifié les pouvoirs des organisations internationales suivantes:

- a) Institutions spécialisées des Nations Unies:
 - Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture (Unesco)
- b) Organisations non gouvernementales
 - Alliance internationale des femmes
 - Conférence internationale des charités catholiques-Caritas internationalis
 - Union mondiale des organisations féminines catholiques
 - Société européenne de sociologie rurale

PART IV-APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS (Continued)

QUATRIEME PARTIE-NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS (suite)

PARTE IV-NOMBRAMIENTOS Y ELECCIONES (continuación)

27. Elections of Council Members-first period (November 1979-1982), first ballot
27. Election des membres du Conseil-première période (novembre 1979-31 décembre 1982), premier scrutin
27. Elección de miembros del Consejo-primer período (noviembre 1979-31 diciembre 1982), primera votación

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Nous allons maintenant prendre le point 27 de l'ordre du jour: élection des membres du Conseil. Je vous renvoie de nouveau au document C 79/LIM/39 que l'on vous a lu tout à l'heure.

Je donnerai de nouveau la parole au Secrétaire général, qui vous expliquera la procédure à suivre pour ces élections.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Le journal de la Conférence d'aujourd'hui contient en première page un modèle de bulletin de vote pour l'élection des membres du Conseil avec des noms fictifs de pays, indiquant la façon correcte de remplir ces bulletins qui vont vous être distribués.

Comme vous venez de le décider, nous allons procéder en deux étapes: tout d'abord à un scrutin portant sur toutes les régions intéressées sur la première période, c'est-à-dire de novembre 1979 au 31 décembre 1982. Nous procéderons à autant de tours de scrutin qui seront nécessaires pour cette période.

Une fois les élections pour cette première période achevées, nous passerons alors à la seconde période, c'est-à-dire du 1er janvier 1981 à novembre 1983, et procéderons également à des tours de scrutin pour toutes les régions intéressées.

Ces élections doivent être faites au scrutin secret, conformément au paragraphe 9(a) de l'article XII du Règlement général. Ceci s'applique même lorsqu'il y a autant de candidats que de postes à pourvoir. Chaque bulletin doit être rempli conformément aux instructions y figurant. La majorité requise est spécifiée au paragraphe 3(b) de l'article XII du Règlement général.

J'attire votre attention sur le fait que le nombre de postes à pourvoir varie d'une région à l'autre. Lorsqu'il y a plus de candidats que de postes à pourvoir, une croix doit être marquée dans la case correspondant à chacun des pays que l'on désire voir élire (comme indiqué sur le bulletin même).

Conformément au paragraphe 11(a) de l'article XII du Règlement général, chaque électeur, à moins qu'il ne s'abstienne, doit voter pour chaque poste à pourvoir. Chaque vote doit être émis pour un candidat différent. Tout bulletin qui ne se conformerait pas à ces indications sera déclaré nul. Le paragraphe 4(c) de l'article XII du Règlement général prévoit que tout bulletin blanc sera considéré comme une abstention. Le paragraphe 4(d) du même article précise qu'aucune notation ou signe autre que ceux indiquant le vote ne doit figurer sur les bulletins.

Un bulletin indiquant plus de pays qu'il n'y a de postes à pourvoir sera considéré nul. De même, un bulletin indiquant moins de pays qu'il n'y a de vacances à pourvoir sera également considéré nul. Ceci veut dire que, pour être valable, un bulletin doit porter autant de croix "X" qu'il y a de postes à pourvoir.

Ce premier scrutin sera suivi par autant d'autres que nécessaire pour conclure les élections pour la première période. Ensuite, nous procéderons de même pour la seconde période.

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Je voudrais attirer l'attention des délégués sur le paragraphe 14 de l'article XII du Règlement général qui spécifie que lorsqu'un scrutin est ouvert aucun délégué ou représentant ne peut l'interrompre, sauf pour présenter une motion d'ordre touchant au vote.

Je voudrais aussi suggérer que nous nommions quatre scrutateurs au lieu de deux afin d'accélérer le décompte des bulletins de vote. On me dit qu'il y a actuellement dans la salle 97 délégations présentes. Je vous rappelle que l'article XII du Règlement général spécifie que le quorum pour ces élections est la majorité des Etats Membres de l'Organisation. Je voudrais demander aux délégations de Nouvelle-Zélande, d'Uruguay, de Maurice et de Suède de bien vouloir servir comme scrutateurs. S'ils veulent bien se présenter aux isoires.

S'il n'y a pas de commentaires, je demanderai donc au Secrétariat de bien vouloir appeler les pays au vote.

Vote

Vote

Votación

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia

RS/4



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION AFRICA
 AFRIQUE

PERIOD Nov. 1979 - 31 Dec. 1982
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	124	4 Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	117
1 Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	4	5 Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	3
3 Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	3	6 Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	351

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{351 + 1}{3 + 1} = \frac{351}{4} + 1 = 88$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	CAMEROON IVORY COAST ZAMBIA	117 117 117
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría		
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

CI II 1071 654321 - C 1969 - C

Signature Teller Elections Officer
 J. Stahl (Sweden) T. Narain (Mauritius) B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia

RS/5



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.79
 Fecha

REGION ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
 ASIE ET PACIFIQUE
 ASIA Y PACIFICO

PERIOD Nov. 1979 - 31 Dec. 1982
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 124 | 4 | Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 107 |
| 2 | Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 16 | 5 | Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir | 6 |
| 3 | Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 1 | 6 | Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 642 |

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{642}{6 + 1} + 1 = \frac{642}{7} + 1 = 92$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	BANGLADESH CHINA INDONESIA	107 107 107
	JAPAN MALAYSIA THAILAND	107 107 107
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

CI II 1071 654321 - C 1969 - c

Signature Teller J. Stahl (Sweden) Teller T. Narain (Nauritius) Elections Officer B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia

RS/6



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date ...26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION EUROPE PERIOD Nov. 1979 - 31 Dec. 1982
 EUROPA PERIODE

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 124 | 4 | Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 117 |
| 2 | Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 7 | 5 | Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir | 3 |
| 3 | Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 0 | 6 | Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 351 |

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{351}{3 + 1} + 1 = \frac{351}{4} + 1 = 88$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos		
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	GERMANY (Fed. Rep. of) PORTUGAL POLAND YUGOSLAVIA SWITZERLAND	80 70 67 65 46
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado	IRELAND	23

CE 11 10/71 654.02X - C 1969

Signature A. Pearce (New Zealand) Teller J. Stahl (Sweden) Elections Officer B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION LATIN AMERICA
 AMERIQUE LATINE
 LATINOAMERICANA

PERIOD Nov. 1979 - 31 Dec. 1982
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF 1
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1	Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	124	4	Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	120
2	Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	2	5	Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	3
3	Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	2	6	Votes cast Sufrages exprimés Votos emitidos	360

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{sufrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{360}{3+1} + 1 = \frac{360}{4} + 1 = 91$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	VENEZUELA ARGENTINA PANAMA	106 95 92
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	PERU	67
Eliminated Eliminé Eliminado		

C 11 10/71 654121 - C 1969 - c

Signature Teller Elections Officer
 J. Stahl (Sweden) T. Narain (Mauritius) B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia

RS/8



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.79
 Fecha

REGION NEAR EAST
 PROCHE-ORIENT
 CERCANO ORIENTE

PERIOD Nov. 1979 - 31 Dec. 1982
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF
 RESULTAT DU 1
 RESULTADO DE LA
 BALLOT
 TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 VOTACION

- | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1 Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 124 | 4 Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 120 |
| 2 Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 0 | 5 Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir. | 1 |
| 3 Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 4 | 6 Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 120 |

Majority = $\frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$ $\frac{120}{1 + 1} + 1 = \frac{120 + 1}{2} = 61$

Majorité = $\frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$ =

Mayoría = $\frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	SYRIA	120
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría		
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

CI 1/ 1071 654321 - C 1969 - c

Signature
 Teller J. Stahl (Sweden)
 Teller T. Narain (Mauritius)
 Elections Officer B. Linley

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Il faudra donc un deuxième tour de scrutin pour l'Europe pour la première période novembre 1979-31 décembre 1982.

- Vote on Suspension of Rule XIX paras 1 and 2 (GRO)
- te sur la suspension de l'application des paragraphes 1 et 2 de l'Article XIX (GRO)
- Voto sobre la suspensión de los párrafos 1 y 2 del Artículo XIX (GRO)

LE PRESIDENT: Vous vous souviendrez que lors de notre seizième séance plénière, mardi après-midi 20 novembre, nous avons adopté le troisième rapport du Bureau (document C 79/LIM/36), qui concerne la demande d'admission à la qualité de membre de Sainte--Lucie.

Dans son rapport, le Bureau avait recommandé, et la Conférence a approuvé, qu'afin de pouvoir procéder au vote sur cette demande d'admission, la Conférence décide au préalable de suspendre les paragraphes 1 et 2 de l'Article XIX du Règlement général. Cette suspension présuppose que notification en a été faite à la Conférence au moins 24 heures avant, ce qui a été le cas, et la décision requiert une majorité des deux tiers des suffrages exprimés en séance plénière, au moyen d'un scrutin par appel nominal.

Je vous rappelle que les dispositions à suspendre concernent le délai de 30 jours au moins avant l'ouverture de la Conférence pour la réception de la demande d'admission, et la réception de l'instrument formel d'acceptation des obligations découlant de l'acte constitutif qui doit parvenir au Directeur général au plus tard le jour même de l'ouverture de la Conférence.

Je vais demander au Secrétariat d'appeler les délégations qui devront répondre de leur siège "oui", "non" ou "abstention". On me dit qu'il y a actuellement 97 délégations présentes dans la salle. L'appel commencera par le pays que je tire au sort.

La question qui vous est soumise est de savoir si vous donnez votre accord à la suspension des paragraphes 1 et 2 de l'Article XIX du Règlement général.



20 Session of the Conference
Session de la Conférence
Período de sesiones de la Conferencia

ROLL CALL VOTING AND ISSUE OF BALLOT PAPER REPORT
APPEL NOMINAL ET DISTRIBUTION DE BULLETTIN
VOTACION NOMINAL Y DISTRIBUCION DE PAPELETAS

No.

Ist Vote on
Vote sur
Votación para Suspension of Rule XIX-I and -2 GRO

COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR
Afghanistan	X				Ghana	X				Nigeria	X			
Albania				X	Greece	X				Norway				X
Algeria	X				Grenada	X				Oman				X
Angola	X				Guatemala				X	Pakistan	X			
Argentina	X				Guinea	X				Panama	X			
Australia	X				Guinea-Bissau				X	Papua New Guinea	X			
Austria	X				Guyana					Peru	X			
Bahamas				X	Haiti	X				Philippines	X			
Bahrain	X				Honduras				X	Poland	X			
Bangladesh				X	Hungary	X				Portugal	X			
Barbados	X				Iceland				X	Qatar	X			
Belgium	X				India	X				Romania	X			
Benin	X				Indonesia	X				Rwanda	X			
Bolivia	X				Iran	X				Samoa				X
Botswana	X				Iraq	X				Sao Tome and Principe				X
Brazil	X				Ireland	X				Saudi Arabia	X			
Bulgaria	X				Israel	X				Senegal	X			
Burma	X				Italy				X	Seychelles				X
Burundi	X				Ivory Coast	X				Sierra Leone	X			
Cameroon	X				Jamaica				X	Somalia				X
Canada	X				Japan	X				Spain	X			
Cape Verde	X				Jordan				X	Sri Lanka	X			
Cent. African Rep.	X				Kenya	X				Sudan	X			
Chad	X				Korea (Republic of)	X				Suriname	X			
Chile	X				Kuwait	X				Swaziland	X			
China	X				Laos	X				Sweden				X
Colombia	X				Lebanon	X				Switzerland	X			
Comoros				X	Lesotho	X				Syria	X			
Congo	X				Liberia	X				Tanzania	X			
Costa Rica	X				Libya	X				Thailand	X			
Cuba	X				Luxembourg	X				Togo	X			
Cyprus	X				Madagascar				X	Trinidad and Tobago	X			
Czechoslovakia	X				Malawi	X				Tunisia				X
Democratic Kampuchea	X				Malaysia	X				Turkey	X			
D.P. Rep. of Korea	X				Maldives	X				Uganda	X			
Denmark	X				Mali				X	United Arab Emirates	X			
Djibouti				X	Malta	X				United Kingdom	X			
Dominica				X	Mauritania	X				U.S.A.	X			
Dominican Rep.	X				Mauritius	X				Upper Volta	X			
Ecuador	X				Mexico	X				Uruguay	X			
Egypt	X				Mongolia	X				Venezuela	X			
El Salvador	X				Morocco	X				Viet Nam	X			
Ethiopia	X				Mozambique				X	Yemen Arab Republic	X			
Fiji	X				Namibia				X	Yemen (P.D. Rep. of)	X			
Finland	X				Nepal				X	Yugoslavia	X			
France	X				Netherlands	X				Zaire	X			
Gabon	X				New Zealand	X				Zambia				X
Gambia	X				Nicaragua	X								
Germany (Fed. Rep. of)	X				Niger				X					
	43			6		36			13		38			9

20 Session of the Conference
Session de la Conférence
Periodo de sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET / RESULTATS / RESULTADOS

SHOW OF HANDS VOTING
 VOTE A MAIN LEVEE
VOTACION A MANO ALZADA

ROLL CALL VOTING
 APPEL NOMINAL
VOTACION NOMINAL

Vote on
Vote sur
1st Votación para Suspension of Rule XIX-1 and -2 GRO

1 Number of votes cast
Nombre de suffrages exprimés 117
Número de votos emitidos

4 Votes against
Voix contre 0
Votos en contra

2 Majority required
Majorité requise 78
Mayoría requerida

5 Abstentions
Abstentions 0
Abstenciones

3 Votes for
Voix pour 117
Votos favorables

6 No reply
Aucune réponse 28
Ninguna respuesta

Adopted
Adoptée
Aceptada

Rejected
Repoussée
Rechazada

..... 26-11-79 B. Linley
Date Elections Officer
Fecha Fonctionnaire électoral
El oficial de elecciones

RULE XII - 13(a) GRO

CF 13 1179 654321 - G9465-c

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, a second vote shall be taken at a subsequent meeting to be held not less than one hour after the conclusion of the meeting at which the equally divided vote occurred. If the second vote is also equally divided the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

En cas de partage égal des voix lors d'un vote ne portant pas sur une élection, on procède à un deuxième vote au cours d'une séance ultérieure, qui ne peut avoir lieu moins d'une heure après la fin de celle à laquelle s'est produit le partage égal des voix. Si les voix restent également partagées lors de ce second vote, la proposition est considérée comme repoussée.

Si hubiera empate en un asunto que no sea una elección, se repetirá la votación en una sesión subsiguiente la cual no deberá celebrarse hasta que haya transcurrido una hora, por lo menos, desde la conclusión de aquella en que se produjo el empate. Si en la segunda votación hubiera también empate se considerará rechazada la propuesta.

26. Application for Membership in the Organization (continued)-Saint Lucia

26. Demande d'admission à la qualité de Membre de l'Organisation (suite)-Sainte-Lucie

26. Solicitudes de ingreso en la Organización (continuación)-Santa Lucía

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe):*Nous* allons maintenant prendre le point 26 de notre ordre du jour: demande d'admission à la qualité de membre de l'Organisation par Sainte-Lucie, et vote sur cette demande d'admission.

Avant de commencer, je voudrais attirer votre attention sur le paragraphe 2 de l'Article II de l'Acte constitutif, qui se lit:

"2. La Conférence peut, à la majorité des deux tiers des suffrages exprimés et sous réserve que la majorité des Etats Membres de l'Organisation soient présents, décider d'admettre à la qualité de Membre de l'Organisation tout Etat qui a déposé une demande d'admission accompagnée d'un instrument officiel par lequel il accepte les obligations découlant de l'Acte constitutif en vigueur au moment de l'admission. "

Le paragraphe 9 a) de l'Article XII du Règlement général précise en outre que l'admission de nouveaux Etats Membres a lieu au scrutin secret. Je voudrais donc demander aux délégués de Maurice et de l'Uruguay de bien vouloir servir comme scrutateurs pour cette élection et de se rendre aux isolements.

Vote

Vote

Votacion

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Au nom de la Conférence, j'ai l'honneur et le privilège de déclarer l'admission de Sainte-Lucie en tant que Membre de notre Organisation, et je prie la délégation de Sainte-Lucie de se rendre dans la salle.

Mesdames, Messieurs, nous avons entrepris une tâche extrêmement importante, à savoir l'admission d'un nouveau Membre parmi les Membres de notre Organisation. Cette tâche, cela ne vous échappera pas, consiste dans la réalisation des objectifs visés par l'Organisation de la FAO, qui attire de plus en plus l'attention de tous les pays du globe.

Nous nous adressons tous à ce nouveau Membre pour le féliciter de cette admission au sein de la famille de la FAO, tout en lui exprimant notre profonde conviction qu'il fera preuve de solidarité avec nous pour travailler en vue d'augmenter le niveau de vie de nos pays ainsi que leur prospérité.

A cette occasion, je donne la parole à M. le Directeur général de la FAO.

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Monsieur le Président, je voudrais féliciter également Sainte-Lucie pour son admission comme Etat Membre de l'Organisation. Le nombre des pays membres de l'Organisation est maintenant de 147. Je voudrais vous rappeler que tous les pays, grands ou petits, riches ou pauvres, sont égaux au sein de l'Organisation. Je voudrais enfin assurer Sainte-Lucie de notre disponibilité pour lui fournir tous les services et toute l'aide qu'elle souhaitera recevoir de la part du Secrétariat. Encore une fois, mes félicitations à Sainte-Lucie.

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Je remercie le Directeur général et j'invite le représentant de Sainte-Lucie à s'adresser à la Conférence.

C. CADET (Saint Lucia): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director--General, representatives of member countries, first of all, Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for your very kind welcome and yours, Mr. Director-General, and I will convey them to the Government of Saint Lucia immediately upon my return.

Saint Lucia is privileged and honoured to join Dominica and the Republic of Western Samoa in being received into membership of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and becoming its 147th Member at this Session of the Council of Ministers' Conference, and I have been requested by the Government of Saint Lucia to voice its deep appreciation to you, Sir, Director-General, and the Secretariat staff for expediting the processing of Saint Lucia's application for membership so that it could be considered at this Session, this Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference, and to the member countries for considering the application and approving of Saint Lucia's accession to the Organization.

If I might be permitted the indulgence of a small personal note, I myself have been privileged to participate in several activities sponsored by the FAO since I first attended a planning seminar here several years ago -- and I am not prepared to say how many years ago--so I am at first hand familiar with the work of the Organization. I am, however, particularly pleased that the turn of events has dictated that I return to Rome as independent Saint Lucia's representative charged with the duty of presenting Saint Lucia's instruments of accession to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.

Saint Lucia, Mr. Chairman, is a small country not perhaps gifted with a vast abundance of natural resources but with strength and hope for the future which lies in the potential of its land and its people and the determination of the Government to marshal available resources in the pursuit of development that is meaningful, Sir, in the sense of ensuring the widest possible distribution of its economic and social benefits among the people of the State.

My Government considers that agricultural development offers opportunities for feeding the population, earning direct export income, complementing our economic sectors like tourism, providing for forward-industry linkages, and in general creating employment for our growing and youthful population. The question provides the most appropriate foundation on which to build plans and projects geared towards fulfilling the goals of our development strategy.

Government is convinced that the achievement of its goal for the total involvement of the people in its development process lies in the pursuit of a rational programme for overall rural development, with land reform and land settlement, and which encourages cooperative activity aimed at achieving operational economies.

This approach is seen as the best means of spreading the benefits of development throughout the population whilst steadying the tendencies towards urban drift with its well-documented ills. Membership of the FAO provides an opportunity for directly benefiting from the wide experience of this Organization in the very sectors which we see as promising our best hopes for the future.

We will therefore wish to draw on all possible assistance which the Organization can offer in the development of these areas. There are already, in fact, at this stage a number of applications for assistance which have been forwarded to you, and my Government would appreciate your urgent consideration of them.

Our intention in joining the Organization is not, however, merely to accept, but in keeping with the tenets of the Organization, also to give. In this context we look forward to fully participating in the deliberations of this Conference, adding our own experience to assist in decision-making and generally working along with Member States towards the fulfilment of the objectives and goals of this Organization.

It is perhaps gratifying to note that the very year which earmarks our admission to the Organization has also seen the award of a Nobel Prize for economics to one of Saint Lucia's most distinguished sons, Sir Arthur Lewis, for his contribution to world thinking in the field of economics. He has always stressed the role of agricultural development in Third World countries, a theme which FAO itself has so often reiterated. The importance of direct trade to the foreign exchange earnings of countries such as ours makes us particularly interested in the progress which is being made towards the establishment of the UNCTAD Common Fund. We view the establishment of commodity agreements as a necessary adjunct to the satisfactory operation of the Fund, and in this context wish to take note of the forum provided by the FAO which has made it possible for the framework of such agreements to be explored.

Saint Lucia has, in the role of observer, already participated in such discussions, including the investigations into the possibility of an international banana agreement, a subject which intimately concerns us as approximately 80 percent of our income from agriculture stems from this source. We now look forward to contributing in this area, although now at a different level.

Mr. Chairman, in again thanking the member countries which have voted for our accession to the Organization, I also on behalf of the State of Saint Lucia take this opportunity of pledging the loyalty of the Government and the people to the ideals and objectives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and to emphasize our unreserved and total commitment to them.

Finally, please allow me to extend the best wishes of my Government to you, Sir, and to the Director-General and the staff of this Organization, whose dedication and work make all this possible.

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Je vais donner la parole aux représentants de différents groupes régionaux pour souhaiter la bienvenue au nouveau membre.

RAMADHAR (India): On behalf of Group of 77 I would like to congratulate Saint Lucia which has been admitted as a member of this Organization. We are aware that Saint Lucia became independent in February this year and became a member of the United Nations in September, 1979. Saint Lucia's admission to this Organization is further evidence of the need, utility, and relevance of this Organization for member countries.

It is an occasion of especial interest for the Group of 77 to welcome a new developing country to this Organization, as well as to its own Group. The developing countries all the world over share the same hopes and aspirations, and are prompted by the same motive of amelioration of the lot of their people.

So that Saint Lucia will contribute significantly to the development of this Organization by active and fruitful participation, I once more facilitate Saint Lucia on this occasion.

P. A. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): En nombre de los países del Grupo Latinoamericano, que tengo el honor de presidir, en nombre de mi gobierno y en el mío propio, permítame expresar la más calurosa y sincera felicitación al gobierno y al pueblo de Santa Lucía por su ingreso en nuestra Organización.

El Grupo Latinoamericano se complace doblemente ya que recibimos a otro miembro perteneciente a nuestra región y estamos seguros de que su ingreso en la FAO será una valiosa contribución a la lucha que todos hemos emprendido en contra del hambre y la desnutrición.

Finalmente, le decimos al hermano país de Santa Lucía que todos los países de nuestra región estamos dispuestos a brindarle nuestra colaboración y experiencia en las labores que nos espera realizar juntos en esta Organización.

A. J. PECKHAM (United Kingdom): I should like to express my congratulations, both to Saint Lucia and to FAO. In cricketing terms, Mr. Chairman, terms which I understand are well understood in the Caribbean, the membership of FAO has now reached 147 "not out". I believe it is not a bad record for membership of our Organization.

More seriously, it gives the greatest possible pleasure to welcome Saint Lucia here. Saint Lucia is a very beautiful island in the Caribbean which is, however, like so many other such islands, heavily dependent on its agriculture, as we have heard from its representative. It is therefore wholly appropriate that Saint Lucia should join this Organization, and I am happy to have this privilege of welcoming her here among us.

I would like to add that I did not know that Arthur Lewis was born in Saint Lucia, but now that I do know that fact—and I had a little to do in my past with the setting up of the University College of the West Indies under Sir Arthur Lewis's chairmanship—I am even happier to welcome Saint Lucia.

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Avant de lever la séance, je rappellerai aux membres de la Conférence que le drapeau de Sainte-Lucie sera hissé à 15 heures.

Nous nous retrouverons ici à 15 h 30 pour procéder au deuxième tour de scrutin, s'agissant de l'Europe et pour poursuivre nos travaux.

The meeting rose at 13. 15 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 13. 15 horas

conference

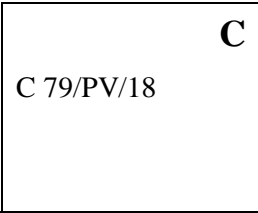
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

EIGHTEENTH PLENARY MEETING
DIX-HUITIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
18ª SESION PLENARIA
(26 November 1979)

The Eighteenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 15. 35 hours A. Ghissassi, Vice-Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La dix-huitième séance plénière est ouverte à 15 h 35, sous la présidence de A. Ghissassi, Vice-Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 18ª sesión plenaria a las 15. 35 horas, bajo la presidencia de A. Ghissassi, Vicepresidente de la Conferencia

PART IV-APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS (continued)

QUATRIEME PARTIE-NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS (suite)

PARTE IV-NOMBRAMIENTOS Y ELECCIONES (continuación)

27. Election of Council Members-Balloting for first period (November 1979-31 December 1982) and for second period (1 January 1981 -- November 1983) (continued)
27. Election des membres du Conseil-Suite du scrutin pour la première période (novembre 1979-31 décembre 1982) et pour la deuxième période (1er janvier 1981-novembre 1983) (suite)
27. Elección de miembros del Consejo-Votaciones para el primer período (noviembre 1979-31 diciembre 1982) y para el segundo período (1 enero 1981-noviembre 1983) (continuación)

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Nous reprenons les travaux que nous avons entrepris ce matin lors de cette dix-huitième séance de l'Assemblée plénière.

A notre ordre du jour, nous avons le point 27: élection des membres du Conseil.

A la lumière du scrutin de ce matin, nous devons maintenant passer à un deuxième scrutin pour élire les membres de la région européenne pour la période du 1er novembre 1979 au 31 décembre 1982. Cette région européenne devra pourvoir trois sièges, et les candidats sont: la République fédérale d'Allemagne, la Pologne, le Portugal, la Suisse et la Yougoslavie.

Je demanderai à la Nouvelle-Zélande, l'Uruguay, l'île Maurice et la Suède de jouer comme ce matin le rôle de scrutateurs.

L'Article XII du Règlement prévoit que le quorum est constitué par les deux tiers des Etats Membres du Conseil, et la majorité requise par plus de la moitié des votes exprimés. On m'informe que 95 délégations sont présentes dans la salle. L'alinéa 4 d) de l'Article XII prévoit que dès que le scrutin commence il ne peut plus être interrompu à moins qu'il ne surgisse une motion d'ordre liée à la procédure de vote.

Pour gagner du temps, je vais demander de commencer le deuxième scrutin qui est relatif à la deuxième période qui va du 1er janvier 1981 à novembre 1983, à l'exception du scrutin portant sur les membres de la région Europe.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Selon la suggestion du Président, que vous venez d'approuver, il faut regrouper pour ce scrutin le vote de la première période du groupe européen, en même temps que le vote de la deuxième période des groupes suivants:

Afrique: Angola, Congo, Kenya, Maroc, Nigeria.

Le groupe européen: République fédérale d'Allemagne, Pologne, Portugal, Suisse, Yougoslavie.

Et la deuxième période du groupe latino-américain qui comprendra les pays suivants: la Barbade, le Brésil, la Colombie, Cuba, le Mexique et le Pérou.

Pour la deuxième période du Proche-Orient, il s'agira de l'Afghanistan et du Liban. Et pour l'Amérique du Nord: le Canada, les Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

Les membres du Secrétariat qui se trouvent à l'endroit où s'effectuera le vote vous donneront toutes les indications nécessaires et le nombre de feuilles nécessaires, ce qui nous permettra de gagner du temps, car ce matin la procédure s'est prolongée au-delà de nos prévisions. J'espère que cette procédure ne vous posera pas de problèmes. En tout cas, des indications précises vous seront données au moment du vote.

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Je remercie le Secrétaire général. Nous allons maintenant passer au vote, suivant les règles que nous avons déjà suivies ce matin.

Vote

Vote

Votación

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): La séance est reprise.

Je vais demander au représentant du Secrétariat de nous donner lecture des résultats du premier tour de scrutin pour la deuxième période allant du 1er janvier 1981 à novembre 1983, ainsi que des résultats du deuxième tour de scrutin, s'agissant de l'Europe, pour la première période allant de novembre 1979 au 31 décembre 1982.

Session of the Conference
Session de la Conférence
Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
Fecha

REGION EUROPE PERIOD Nov. 1979 - Dec. 1982
EUROPA PERIODE
PERIODO

REPORT OF II BALLOT
RESULTAT DU II TOUR DE SCRUTIN
RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1	Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	127	4	Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	122
2	Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	5	5	Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	3
3	Abstentions Abstenciones Abstenciones	0	6	Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	366

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{366}{3+1} + 1 = \frac{366}{4} + 1 = 91 + 1 = 92$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	GERMANY (FED. REP. OF)	92
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	PORTUGAL POLAND YUGOSLAVIA SWITZERLAND	86 74 74 40
Eliminated Eliminé Eliminado		

CI 11 1071 654321 . C.1965 . c

Signature Teller R. Amato (Uruguay) Teller M. Lear (New Zealand) Elections Officer B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION AFRICA
 AFRIQUE

PERIOD 1 Jan. 1981 - Nov. 1983
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1	Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	127	4	Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	110
2	Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	12	5	Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	5
3	Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	5	6	Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	550

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{550}{5+1} + 1 = \frac{550}{6} + 1 = 91 + 1 = 92$$

CF 11 10/71 654321 - C 1969 - c

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	ANGOLA CONGO KENYA	110 110 110
	MOROCCO NIGERIA	110 110
Eliminated Éliminés Eliminado		

Signature
 T. Narain (Mauritius) J. Stahl (Sweden) B. Linley
 Teller Teller Elections Officer

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION LATIN AMERICA PERIOD 1 Jan. 1981 - Nov. 1983
 AMERIQUE LATINE PERIODE
 LATINOAMERICANA PERIODO

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

- | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1 Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 127 | 4 Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 119 |
| 2 Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 8 | 5 Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir | 5 |
| 3 Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 0 | 6 Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 595 |

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{595}{5+1} + 1 = \frac{595}{6} + 1 = 99 + 1 = 100$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	BRAZIL MEXICO COLOMBIA	114 113 104
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	BARBADOS CUBA PERU	94 89 81
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

C/11 1071 654321 - C.1969 - C.

Signature T. Narain (Mauritius) Teller J. Stahl (Sweden) Elections Officer B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION NEAR EAST PERIOD 1 Jan. 1981 - Nov. 1983
 PROCHE-ORIENT PERIODE
 CERCANO ORIENTE PERIODO

REPORT OF I
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1	Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	127	4	Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	113
2	Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	7	5	Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	2
3	Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	7	6	Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	226

Majority = $\frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$

Majorité = $\frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$

Mayoría = $\frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$

$= \frac{226}{2+1} + 1 = \frac{226}{3} + 1 = 75 + 1 = 76$

CI 11 10/71 654/21 - C 1969 - 1

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	AFGHANISTAN LEBANON	113 113
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría		
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

Signature Teller Elections Officer
 T. Narain (Mauritius) J. Stahl (Sweden) B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION NORTH AMERICA PERIOD 1 Jan. 1981 - Nov. 1983
 AMERIQUE DU NORD PERIODE
 AMERICA DEL NORTE PERIODO

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

- | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1 Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 127 | 4 Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 113 |
| 2 Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 7 | 5 Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir | 2 |
| 3 Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 7 | 6 Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 226 |

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{226}{2+1} + 1 = 75 + 1 = 76$$

	Nation - Nación	* Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	CANADA USA	113 113
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría		
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

CF 11 1071 654021 - C 1969 - c

Signature Teller Teller Elections Officer
 M. Lear (New Zealand) R. Amato (Uruguay) B. Linley

C 79/PV/18

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): A la lumière des résultats obtenus, nous passons au vote suivant:

En ce qui concerne l'Europe, nous procédons à un troisième tour de scrutin pour la première période. Il y a deux sièges à pourvoir et quatre candidats: la Pologne, le Portugal, la Suisse et la Yougoslavie.

Il en va de même pour l'Amérique latine. Nous procédons à un deuxième tour de scrutin pour pourvoir deux sièges, les candidats étant au nombre de trois: Barbade, Cuba et Pérou.

Vote

Vote

Votación

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION EUROPE
 EUROPA

PERIOD Nov. 1979 - Dec. 1982
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF RESULTAT DU III
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1 Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	118	4 Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	114
2 Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	4	5 Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	2
3 Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	0	6 Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	228

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{228}{2+1} + 1 = \frac{228}{3} + 1 = 76 + 1 = 77$$

CE 11 1071 654321 - C 1969 - c.c

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos		
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	PORTUGAL YUGOSLAVIA POLAND	71 66 55
Eliminated Eliminé Eliminado	SWITZERLAND	36

Signature M. Bear (New Zealand) R. Amato (Uruguay) Elections Officer B. Linley

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 26.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION LATIN AMERICA PERIOD Jan. 1981 - Nov. 1983
AMERIQUE LATINE PERIODE
LATINOAMERICANA PERIODO

REPORT OF II BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1 Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	118	4 Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	112
2 Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	6	5 Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	2
3 Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	0	6 Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	224

$$\text{Majority} = \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Majorité} = \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$$

$$\text{Mayoría} = \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$$

$$= \frac{224}{2+1} + 1 = \frac{224}{3} + 1 = 74 + 1 = 75$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	BARBADOS	91
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	CUBA PERU	71 62
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

CI 31 1071 654871 - C 1769 - 4

Signature Teller T. Narain (Mauritius) Teller J. Stahl (Sweden) Election Officer B. Linley

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Je remercie le Secrétariat.

Etant donné l'heure tardive, si vous ne voyez pas d'objections, nous poursuivrons ce vote dans la séance de demain matin à 9 h 30. Nous commencerons par le vote pour l'Europe: deux sièges à pourvoir, trois candidats: la Pologne, le Portugal et la Yougoslavie. Pour l'Amérique latine, il y a un seul siège à pourvoir et deux candidats: Cuba et le Pérou.

The meeting rose at 18. 45 hours

La séance est levée à 18 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 18. 45 horas

conference

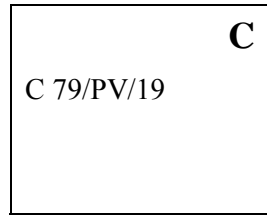
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

NINETEENTH PLENARY MEETING
DIX-NEUVIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
19ª SESION PLENARIA
(27 November 1979)

The Nineteenth Plenary Meeting was opened at 09. 45 A. Ghissassi, Vice-Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La dix-neuvième seance plénière est ouverte à 09 h 45, sous la présidence de A. Ghissassi, Vice-Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 19ª sesión plenaria a las 09. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de A. Ghissassi, Vicepresidente de la Conferencia

PART IV-APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS (continued)

QUATRIEME PARTIE-NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS (suite)

PARTE IV-NOMBRAMIENTOS Y ELECCIONES (continuación)

27. Election of Council Members (continued)

27. Election des membres du Conseil (suite)

27. Elección de Miembros del Consejo (continuación)

- Europe-fourth ballot for first period (November 1979-31 December 1982)
- Europe-quatrième tour de scrutin pour la première période (novembre 1979-31 décembre 1982)
- Europa-cuarta votación para el primer período (noviembre 1979-31 diciembre 1982)
- Latin America-third ballot for second period (1 January 1981-November 1983)
- Amérique latine-troisième tour de scrutin pour la deuxième période (1er janvier 1981-novembre 1983).
- América Latina-tercera votación para el segundo período (1 enero 1981-noviembre 1983)

LE PRESIDENT: (interprétation de l'arabe): Je déclare ouverte la dix-neuvième séance plénière.

Vous vous souviendrez que nous n'avons pas fini hier le point 27, élection des Membres du Conseil, car nous avons encore à élire deux membres pour la région Europe pour la première période (novembre 1979 au 31 décembre 1982,. Il y a trois candidats: Pologne, Portugal et Yougoslavie.

Par ailleurs, nous avons encore à élire un membre pour la région Amérique latine pour la deuxième période, à savoir du 1er janvier 1981 à novembre 1983. Il y a deux candidats: Cuba et Pérou.

Enfin, nous avons à élire trois membres pour la région Europe pour la seconde période (1er janvier 1981 à novembre 1983). Ceci, nous ne pouvons le faire que lorsque nous aurons élu tous les membres pour la région Europe pour la première période.

Je vous propose donc de procéder comme nous l'avons fait hier: tout d'abord prendre ensemble la première période pour l'Europe et la deuxième période pour l'Amérique latine pour les sièges restants. Je vais encore demander à nos amis de l'île Maurice, Nouvelle-Zélande, Suède et Uruguay de bien vouloir accepter d'être de nouveau nos scrutateurs et de se rendre aux isolements pour que le vote commence.

Conformément à l'article XII de notre Règlement général, je vous rappelle que le quorum pour ces élections est la majorité des Etats Membres de l'Organisation. On me dit qu'il y a actuellement 90 délégations présentes dans la salle. Nous pouvons donc commencer. Je vous rappelle que le paragraphe 14 de l'article XII du Règlement général stipule que lorsqu'un scrutin a été ouvert, aucun délégué ou représentant ne peut l'interrompre, sauf pour présenter une motion d'ordre touchant le vote.

Vote

Vote

Votación

20 Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 27.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION Europe PERIOD Nov. 1979 - 31 Dec. 1982
 PERIODE PERIODO

REPORT OF IV BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

- | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1 Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 114 | 4 Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 108 |
| 2 Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 6 | 5 Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir | 2 |
| 3 Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 0 | 6 Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 216 |

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Majority} &= \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1 \\ \text{Majorité} &= \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1 \\ \text{Mayoría} &= \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \text{Majority} \\ \text{Majorité} \\ \text{Mayoría} \end{aligned}} \right\} \frac{216}{2+1} + 1 = \frac{216}{3} + 1 = 72 + 1 = 73$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	Yugoslavia Portugal	74 73
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	Poland	69
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

Cf 11 1071 654321 - C1969-20

Signature R. Amato (Uruguay) T. Narain (Mauritius) B. Linley
 Teller Teller Elections Officer

20 Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 27.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION Latin America PERIOD 1 Jan. 1981 - Nov. 1983
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

REPORT OF III BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

1 Number of ballot-papers issued Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas	114	4 Valid ballot-papers Bulletins de vote valables Papeletas de votación válidas	109
2 Defective ballots Bulletins nuls Papeletas defectuosas	2	5 Seats to be filled Sièges à pourvoir Asientos a cubrir	1
3 Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	3	6 Votes cast Suffrages exprimés Votos emitidos	109

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Majority} &= \frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1 \\ \text{Majorité} &= \frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1 \\ \text{Mayoría} &= \frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1 \end{aligned} = 55$$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	Cuba	68
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría	Peru	41
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

CI 11 10/71 654/321 - C 1969 - e

Signature M. Lear (New Zealand) J. Stahl (Sweden) B. Linley
 Teller Teller Elections Officer

28. Appointments

28. Nominations

28. Nombramientos

28.2 Member Governments' Representatives to the Staff Pension Committee

28.2 Représentants des Etats Membres au Comité de la Caisse des pensions

28.2 Representantes de los Estados Miembros en el Comité de Pensiones del Personal

LE PRESIDENT (interpretation de l'arabe): Comme il avait été convenu, nous continuons donc avec notre ordre du jour, en considérant le point 28. 2: Nominations des Etats Membres au Comité de la Caisse des pensions. Le document de référence est le C 79/16-Rev. 1.

Comme vous le savez, la FAO participe à la Caisse Commune des pensions du personnel des Nations Unies, qui assure au personnel des organisations membres du système les pensions et autres versements de retraite, décès ou incapacité. La Caisse est administrée par le Comité mixte de la Caisse commune des pensions du personnel des Nations Unies, qui se compose des organes directeurs des organisations membres, de leurs Directeurs généraux, et enfin des participants à la Caisse. Chaque organisation membre a un comité des pensions du personnel ayant la même composition tripartite, et qui gère la plupart des questions concernant les pensions de son personnel.

La Conférence doit maintenant nommer trois membres et trois suppléants en poste à Rome. Cela leur permet d'assister aux réunions au siège de l'Organisation, sans dépenses de voyage additionnelles pour l'Organisation.

⌋ On m'informe que les membres suivants des délégations présentes à cette Conférence, résidant à Rome, ont fait part de leur intérêt à servir dans ce comité pour un mandat de deux ans. Je vais demander au Secrétaire général de nous lire cette liste.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Les personnes suivantes, membres de délégations à la présente Conférence, ont accepté de participer au Comité de la Caisse des pensions pour la période du 1er janvier 1980 au 31 décembre 1981, à savoir:

COMME MEMBRES:

1. Son Excellence Madame Mayra IVANKOVICH DE AROSEMENA
Ambassadrice de Panama
Représentante permanente de Panama auprès de la FAO
Représentation permanente de la République de
Panama, Rome
2. Monsieur Horatio MENDS
Ministre Conseiller (Agriculture)
Représentant permanent du Ghana auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de la République du Ghana, Rome
3. ShriRAMADHR
Conseiller
Représentant permanent adjoint de l'Inde auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de la République de l'Inde, Rome

COMME SUPPLEANTS:

1. Son Excellence Monsieur Sayed Amir Abdalla KHALIL
Ministre Plénipotentiaire
Représentant permanent du Soudan auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de la République démocratique du Soudan, Rome

2. Monsieur Rui DE MEIRA FERREIRA
Conseiller
Représentant permanent du Portugal auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de la République portugaise, Rome
3. Monsieur Chyppee PALMER
Attaché agricole
Représentant permanent adjoint du Sierra Leone auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de la République de Sierra Leone, Rome

LE PRESIDENT: Si je ne vois pas de commentaires ou d'objections je déclare ces propositions adoptées.
Nous allons maintenant, si vous le voulez bien, continuer avec notre ordre du jour.

ADOPTION OF REPORT

ADOPTION DU RAPPORT

APROBACIÓN DEL INFORME

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART I

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA PLENTERE-PARTIE I

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE I

Je ne vois pas de commentaires à ce sujet. Je peux donc considérer ce point comme clos et vous propose, d'adopter le projet de rapport de la plénière qui vous a déjà été distribué, à savoir le document C 79/REP/1.

Comme vous le verrez, ce document ne doit pas présenter de difficultés puisqu'il s'agit d'un simple compte rendu des cérémonies et de la procédure de la session. Je vais donc prendre ce rapport section par section.

Y a-t-il des commentaires?

Paragraph 1 approved

Le paragraphe 1 est approuvé

El párrafo 1 es aprobado

Paragraphs 2 and 3 approved

Les paragraphes 2 et 3 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 2 y 3 son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 4

ARAGRAPHE 4

PARRAFO 4

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: A la page 2 du texte français, au paragraphe 4, il y a une erreur matérielle dans le titre. Il est dit: "Remise du prix A. H. Boerma pour 1979". Il faudrait lire: "Remise du prix A. H. Boerma pour 1978-1979", car il s'agit d'un prix sur deux ans.

Paragraph 4 approved

Le paragraphe 4 est approuvé

El párrafo 4 es aprobado

Paragraph 5 approved

Le paragraphe 5 est approuvé

El párrafo 5 es aprobado

Paragraphs 6 and 7 approved

Les paragraphes 6 et 7 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 6 y 7 son aprobados

Paragraph 8 approved

Le paragraphe 8 est approuvé

El párrafo 8 es aprobado

Paragraph 9 approved

Le paragraphe 9 est approuvé

El párrafo 9 es aprobado

Paragraphs 10 to 24 approved

Les paragraphes 10 à 24 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 10 a 24 son aprobados

Paragraphs 25 to 28 approved

Les paragraphes 25 à 28 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 25 a 28 son aprobados

Paragraphs 29 to 32 approved

Les paragraphes 29 à 32 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 29 a 32 son aprobados

Draft Report of Plenary-Part I, was adopted

Projet de rapport de la plénière-Partie I, est adoptée

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte I, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 6 (from COMMISSION I)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA PLENIERE-PARTIE 6 (de la COMMISSION I)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE 6 (de la COMISION I)

Nous pouvons donc maintenant passer rapidement à l'adoption du premier projet de rapport de la Commission I (Document C 79/REP/6) qui vous a également été distribué.

Avant de commencer l'adoption des rapports des commissions proprement dits, je voudrais vous rappeler que nous ne sommes pas ici pour rouvrir un débat sur le fond. Nous n'avons pas beaucoup de temps devant nous et tous ces rapports des trois commissions ont déjà été discutés et adoptés dans les commissions. Le fond et la forme y ont été amplement débattus, et il ne nous appartient pas ici de rouvrir la discussion.

Je vais donc, ici aussi, procéder section par section pour l'adoption formelle de ces documents et vous demanderais instamment de ne pas rouvrir la discussion sur des questions de fond.

S'il y a désaccord sur quelques points, nous devons tout simplement recourir à un vote à main levée. Les délégations qui objecteraient à l'une ou l'autre des parties de nos rapports peuvent consigner leurs réserves dans les comptes rendus, et s'ils insistent vraiment dans le rapport lui-même. Tous les amendements ou corrections de style doivent être remis directement au Secrétaire général, et je les examinerai avec lui, étant entendu que, seulement des changements de pure forme peuvent être retenus. Je suis certain qu'après les longs débats que vous avez eus au sein des commissions, nous n'aurons pas à voter inutilement. Toutefois, si cela s'avérait inévitable, nous voterons tout d'abord sur le texte soumis par la commission, et je demanderai aux délégations appuyant le texte de lever leur plaque; ensuite celles votant contre; et enfin les abstentions.

Nous procéderons à un vote par appel nominal seulement à la demande spécifique ou lorsqu'une majorité des deux tiers est requise, tel que l'énonce le paragraphe 7 (a) de l'Article XII du Règlement général. Les délégations désirant expliquer leur vote sont priées de faire insérer leur déclaration dans les comptes rendus pour gagner du temps. Je répète que nous avons peu de temps devant nous jusqu'à la fin de cette session, si nous voulons terminer à temps.

J'aurai sans doute d'ailleurs l'occasion de répéter ces recommandations.

Nous prenons donc le document C 79/REP/6 section par section.

Paragraphs 1 to 8 approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 8 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 8 son aprobados

Paragraphs 9 to 15 approved

Los párrafos 9 a 15 son aprobados

Les paragraphes 9 à 15 sont approuvés

PARAGRAPHS 16 to 50

PARAGRAPHE 16 à 50

PARRAFOS 16 a 50

Paragraph 16 approved

Le paragraphe 16 est approuvé

El párrafo 16 es aprobado

PARAGRAPH 17

PARAGRAPHE 17

PARRAFO 17

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Dans le texte précédent le paragraphe 17, je voudrais rappeler qu'hier soir, à la Commission I, nous avons ajouté après les mots "Nouvel ordre économique international" les mots "tels qu'adoptés par les résolutions etc. "

M. S. ZEHNI (Président de la Commission I) (interprétation de l'arabe): Effectivement, lorsque nous avons discuté de cette partie du rapport, une référence a été faite à ces résolutions et on a ajouté l'expression qui a été citée. Comme il y avait des difficultés pour le texte français, nous avons demandé au Secrétariat d'en tenir compte.

Paragraph 17, as amended, approved

Le paragraphe 17, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El párrafo 17, así enmendado, es aprobado

Paragraphs 18 to 28 approved

Les paragraphes 18 à 28 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 18 a 28 son aprobados

Paragraphs 29 and 50 approved

Les paragraphes 29 et 50 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 29 y 50 son aprobados

Paragraphs 16 to 50, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 16 à 50, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 16 a 50, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraphs 51 to 62 approved

Les paragraphes 51 à 62 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 51 a 62 son aprobados

Paragraph 63, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 63, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 63, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 64 to 71 approved

Les paragraphes 64 à 71 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 64 a 71 son aprobados

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 6, as amended, was adopted

Projet de rapport de la plénière, partie 6, ainsi amendé, est adoptée

El Proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 6, así enmendado, es aprobado

PART IV-APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS (continued)

QUATRIEME PARTIE-NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS (suite)

PARTE IV-NOMBRAMIENTOS Y ELECCIONES (continuación)

27. Election of Council Members (continued)

27. Election des membres du Conseil (suite)

27. Elección de Miembros del Consejo (continuación)

- Europe-first ballot for second period (1 January 1981-November 1983)

- Europe-premier tour de scrutin pour la deuxième période (1 Janvier 1981-Novembre 1983)

- Europa-primera votación para el segundo período (1 Enero 1981-Noviembre 1983)

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'Arabe): Il ne nous reste plus que la deuxième période pour la région Europe. La Suisse s'est désistée de sa candidature; il nous reste trois Sièges et trois candidats: l'Irlande, la Pologne et la Roumanie.

Nous allons attendre que les bulletins de vote nous soient apportés.

Nous allons maintenant passer au scrutin pour les membres du Conseil de la région Europe.

Je demande aux représentants de l'Ile Maurice, de la Suède, de l'Uruguay et de la Nouvelle-Zélande de se diriger vers les isolements.

LE SECRETAIRE GÉNÉRAL: On trouvera tous les renseignements concernant les scrutins dans le document C 79/INF/2.

Aux fins du scrutin, chaque délégation reçoit un bulletin de vote sur lequel figurent trois cases. Il faut mettre un "x" dans la case correspondant au choix de l'électeur, c'est-à-dire soit dans le "oui" soit dans le "non", soit dans "abstention". Aux termes de l'article XII-4(c) du règlement général de l'organisation, les bulletins blancs seront comptés comme abstentions. Aux termes de l'alinéa 4(d) du même article XII, les bulletins de vote ne doivent porter aucune indication ni aucun signe que celui par lequel s'exprime le suffrage.

LE PRESIDENT: Je pense que la procédure de vote est maintenant bien claire. Le paragraphe 9(a) de l'article XII du règlement général précise que "la nomination du Président du Conseil, et celle du Directeur général, l'admission de nouveaux états membres et de membres associés et l'élection des membres du conseil ont lieu au scrutin secret. "

Conformément aux décisions du même article XII, le quorum requis pour cette election est la majorité des états membres de l'Organisation. On me dit qu'il y a en ce moment 112 délégations présentes dans cette salle. Nous pouvons donc passer au scrutin.

Je vous rappelle une fois de plus que, conformément au paragraphe 14 de l'article XII, lorsqu'un scrutin a été ouvert aucun délégué ou représentant ne peut l'interrompre, sauf pour présenter une motion d'ordre touchant le vote.

Il me faut maintenant nommer deux scrutateurs, conformément au paragraphe 9(c) du même article, et je vais donc demander aux délégués de Nouvelle Zélande et de l'Uruguay de bien vouloir servir en cette capacité pour cette occasion, et les prier de se rendre devant les isolements.

Vote

Vote

Votación

Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de Sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET - ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
 RESULTATS - ELECTION DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL
 RESULTADOS - ELECCION DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Date 27.11.1979
 Fecha

REGION EUROPE PERIOD 1 Jan, 1981 - Nov, 1983
 PERIODE
 PERIODO

EUROPA

REPORT OF I BALLOT
 RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN
 RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION

- | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1 Number of ballot-papers issued
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas | 110 | 4 Valid ballot-papers
Bulletins de vote valables
Papeletas de votación válidas | 94 |
| 2 Defective ballots
Bulletins nuls
Papeletas defectuosas | 16 | 5 Seats to be filled
Sièges à pourvoir
Asientos a cubrir | 3 |
| 3 Abstentions
Abstentions
Abstenciones | 0 | 6 Votes cast
Suffrages exprimés
Votos emitidos | 282 |

Majority = $\frac{\text{votes cast}}{\text{seats} + 1} + 1$

Majorité = $\frac{\text{suffrages exprimés}}{\text{sièges} + 1} + 1$

Mayoría = $\frac{\text{votos emitidos}}{\text{asientos} + 1} + 1$

$\frac{282}{3 + 1} + 1 = \frac{282}{4} + 1 = 70 + 1 = 71$

	Nation - Nación	Votes - Votos
Elected Elus Elegidos	IRLANDE POLOGNE ROUMANIE	94 94 94
Majority not obtained N'ont pas obtenu la majorité No han obtenido la mayoría		
Eliminated Éliminé Eliminado		

1071 654321 - C 1969 - c

Signature: M. Lear (New Zealand) R. Amato (Uruguay) B. Linley
 Teller:
 Elections Office

LE PRESIDENT(interpretation de l'arabe):Nous avons ainsi terminé avec le point 27.

Il m'est agréable, maintenant que nous en avons terminé avec l'élection des membres du Conseil, de vous remercier de la façon dont ces élections se sont déroulées dans l'ordre, ce qui nous a permis d'arriver au but très rapidement.

Il m'est également agréable de féliciter en mon nom personnel et également en votre nom, tous les nouveaux membres qui viennent d'être élus au Conseil. Je suis certain que les Etats Membres qui viennent d'être élus au Conseil feront tous leurs efforts pour parvenir à la consolidation de toutes les activités de la FAO en vue du bien-être de l'humanité.

- 28. Appointments:(continued)
- 28. Nominations:(suite)
- 28. Nombramientos:(continuación)

- 28.1 Independent Chairman of the Council
- 28.1 Président indépendant du Conseil
- 28.1 Presidente Independiente del Consejo

LE PRESIDENT (interpretation de l'arabe): Nous allons maintenant procéder au tour de scrutin pour la nomination de Président Indépendant du conseil.

Vote
Vote
Votación

REPORT OF BALLOT ON ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
RESULTAT DU TOUR DE SCRUTIN SUR LA NOMINATION DU PRESIDENT INDEPENDANT DU CONSEIL
RESULTADO DE LA VOTACION PARA EL NOMBRAMIENTO DEL PRESIDENTE INDEPENDIENTE DEL CONSEJO

BUKAR SHAIB
.....

1. Number of ballot papers issued			117
Nombre de bulletins de vote distribués			.....
Número de papeletas de votación distribuidas			
2. Defective ballots		5. Majority required	
Bulletins nuls	.....0.....	Majorité requise	.....57.....
Papeletas defectuosas		Mayoría requerida	
3. Abstentions		6. Votes for	
Abstentions	.....5.....	Voix pour	.....111.....
Abstenciones		Votos favorables	
4. Number of votes cast		7. Votes against	
Nombre de suffrages exprimés	.....112.....	Voix contre	.....1.....
Número de votos emitidos		Votos en contra	

BUKAR SHAIB
.....

IS ACCORDINGLY ELECTED INDEPENDENT CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

EST ELU PRESIDENT INDEPENDANT DU CONSEIL

HA SIDO ELEGIDO PRESIDENTE INDEPENDIENTE DEL CONSEJO

Signatures .....	.....	.....
Teller	Teller	Elections Officer
R. Amato (Uruguay)	M. Lear (New Zealand)	B. Linley

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Ainsi, la Conférence a élu le Dr. Bukar Shaib, Président indépendant de notre Conseil.

(Applause)

(Applaudissements)

(Aplausos)

Je demande à Son Excellence de bien vouloir se joindre à nous à la tribune.

Il m'est agréable d'exprimer à cette occasion à Votre Excellence, au mon nom propre et au nom de la Conférence, tous nos remerciements.

Je saisis également cette occasion de le féliciter de son élection et de lui souhaiter plein succès dans sa tâche o

Monsieur le Président du Conseil, vous avez jusqu'à présent, dirigé les travaux du Conseil et nous savons comment vous allez continuer à présider ce Conseil de la façon la plus adéquate et la plus sage.

Je voudrais également vous réitérer que nous vous apporterons tout notre appui et toute notre coopération dans le cadre des tâches qui vous incombent. L'élection du Dr. Bukar Shaib à l'unanimité est une preuve de la confiance que nous avons tous en sa personne, conscients que nous sommes des efforts qu'il a déployés au cours des dernières années et conscients que nous sommes également des activités qu'il n'a cessé de déployer au sein de notre Organisation.

Je donne maintenant la parole au Directeur général.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I would like to be the first to congratulate Dr. Bukar Shaib on his uncontested reappointment to the important position of Independent Chairman of our Council. If I may, the Council is also to be congratulated for having "been given as its Chairmen, for another term. a person of the distinction and capabilities personified in Dr. Bukar Shaib.

On Tuesday two weeks ago Dr. Bukar Shaib addressed the Conference. In the modest way of his which we have come to know and respect, he outlined what he had set out to do as Independent Chairman of the Council, and what he accomplished.

Actions speak louder than words, as the old saying goes; and there is nothing that we can say by way of praise to enhance the proof of Dr. Bukar Shaib's performance. The Independent Chairman of the Council personifies on a continuing basis the wisdom and authority of the Council in the periods between sessions. It is therefore of considerable importance for there to be a close rapport between the Independent Chairman and the Director-General.

As is we all known, I am fortunate in enjoying the best of relationships with Dr. Bukar Shaib. My colleagues and I, Mr. chairman look forward, to continuing it in the best interests and tradition of the Organization.

RAMADHAR (India): On my behalf as well as on behalf of the Group of 77, I consider it a great privilege to congratulate Dr. Bukar Shaib on his unanimous re-election as Independent Chairman of the Council. The combination of multi-faceted experience in the Government of Nigeria and vast and varied international experience in the span of the last two decades is a unique feature of his personality. It would be difficult to think of another person so aptly suited to chair the Council deliberations.

Mr. Chairman, those of us who have seen him guiding the deliberations of the Council, particularly at critical and crucial moments, have noticed his qualities of leadership, sagacity, impartiality and intellectual integrity. We are sure that the Council under his guidance and leadership will achieve new heights during the next two years.

Once more, I felicitate him and wish him all success in his work.

A. OSENI (Nigeria): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Government and people of Nigeria my delegation wishes to express its deep appreciation and profound gratitude to all of you for the unanimous support which you have given this morning in the re-election of His Excellency, Dr. Bukar Shaib, Nigerian Ambassador to Italy, for a second

terra as the Independent Chairman of the Council of this great Organization. The fact that at the close of nomination he was the only candidate, the support which he received in the form of note verbales, long before the election, and the overwhelming yes vote which you gave him this morning, all go to reaffirm your implicit confidence in Ambassador Bukar Shaib.

The Nigerian delegation would like once again to express sincere thanks to the distinguished delegates for giving Dr. Bukar Shaib another opportunity to serve as the Independent Chairman of the Council. We wish him and the Council every success.

P. A. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): Muchas gracias, Sr. Presidente, por concederme la palabra.

En nombre del grupo latinoamericano, en el de mi Gobierno y en el mío propio, tengo el honor de felicitar muy calurosamente al Dr. Bukar Shaib por su reelección para el cargo de Presidente Independiente del Consejo de la FAO, felicitación que hacemos extensiva a su Gobierno y a su pueblo.

El Dr. Bukar Shaib ha dado muestras de gran capacidad e inteligencia conduciendo las labores del Consejo de la FAO. Con su trabajo, con su capacidad y con su dedicación el Dr. Bukar Shaib se ha sabido ganar el respeto y el reconocimiento de todos nosotros, prueba de lo cual es el resultado de esta elección.

Para el nuevo período que ahora comienza deseamos al Dr. Bukar Shaib muchos éxitos y le aseguramos que podrá contar con la colaboración de los Países Miembros de nuestra región. Y no ocultamos nuestra satisfacción por que un eminente hijo del pueblo africano presida los debates de nuestro Consejo, al cual tantas tareas importantes le aguardan para el futuro.

H. BAEYENS (Belgique): Au nom des pays membres de la région européenne, je tiens à féliciter vivement S. E. l'Ambassadeur Bukar Shaib pour sa réélection comme Président du Conseil de la FAO.

Nous avons beaucoup apprécié, au cours du biennium qui s'achève, la courtoisie et l'impartialité avec lesquelles le Dr. Bukar Shaib a dirigé les débats du Conseil, et nous sommes convaincus que pour le prochain biennium le Conseil sera dans de bonnes mains. L'expérience qu'il a acquise au cours des deux années, alliée à ses qualités personnelles, font de lui le meilleur candidat que la FAO aurait pu souhaiter pour remplir cette importante fonction de Président indépendant du Conseil.

Nous lui renouvelons nos vives félicitations.

A. Y. BUKHARI (Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of) (interpretation from Arabic): On behalf of the Near East group of countries and on my own behalf I wish to offer our most sincere congratulations to the Conference and the Members of the General Committee of the Conference on this occasion of the re-appointment of Dr. Shaib as independent Chairman of the Council.

You all realize that the Council is considered to be a vital body for our Organization. So on behalf of the group to which I belong and on my own behalf we offer our most sincere congratulations to Dr. Shaib on his re-appointment because we are sure that the peoples of all the countries represented here have expressed their trust in him, trust which you, Sir, most undoubtedly deserve, thanks to your skills and your capacity to bear this burden of work.

I wish to offer our warmest congratulations and look forward to seeing you at the next Council meeting.

P. BUNE (Fiji): It is a great honour for my delegation, on behalf of the Member states of the South Hestern Pacific, to extend to Dr. Shaib our very warm congratulations on his re-election as independent Chairman of the Council.

The unanimous support which is given to him by this Assembly is reflective of the overwhelming confidence that we in this Organization have in his ability to guide the work of the Council.

Our region, the Pacific, is proud to have been associated with Dr. Shaib in his past efforts *and* I would like once again on behalf of the region to reassure him of our continued support and to pledge our full cooperation in his second term of office.

A. K. HLOPHE (Swaziland): Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates, I take great pleasure in congratulating Dr. Bukar Shaib on behalf of the African group for having been re-elected to the office of independent Chairman of the Governing Body of the Food and Agriculture Organization,

I am sure that to a great extent this reflects, not only the importance of his country but the high esteem he himself enjoys from the delegates of all the regions. I am confident that as a consequence he will be able to contribute even more to the development of the FAO in accordance with the real need prevailing in the field of rural development and agriculture, as well as fisheries and forestry,

Q. WEST (United States of America): On behalf of the North American region I wish to add our congratulations to those of the other delegates on the re-election of Dr. Bukar Shaib as independent Chairman of the Council, Dr. Shaib is well recognised as an outstanding international servant. He has spent a good part of his career in working with and serving the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations. It is fitting that he was chosen two years ago to serve as the independent Chairman of the Council and because of his outstanding service in that capacity that he has unanimously been re-elected to serve in that role for another two years. So again we pledge our support to this leadership in the Council and offer our warmest congratulations on his re-election,

R. WALSH (Ireland): On behalf of the delegations of the European Economic Community, on behalf of Ireland and on my own behalf I would like to add our congratulations to Dr. Bukar Shaib on his re-election as independent Chairman of the Council, During the past biennium Dr. Bukar Shaib has excelled as a Chairman. He personified all that was best in a chairman and we look forward to his continued skills and wit and we will be delighted to support him in every way during his period as Chairman for the coming biennium.

BUKAR SHAIB (independent Chairman of the Council): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, your Excellencies, honourable delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to thank you all for the trust you put on me by re-electing me to the important post of Independent Chairman of the Council,

I feel this to be a great honour not only to myself, but also to my country, Nigeria and to the whole of Africa.

I reiterate my pledge to serve this great Organization of ours to the best of my ability.

I have already reported to you, at the beginning of the Conference, how successful the work of the Council had been during the last two years. This success was due to three main factors, which are:

First-The cooperation given to me by all Council Members and the readiness with which rulings from the Chair were accepted, even though the rulings might not always have been pleasant to some members.

Secondly-The understanding and consideration for each other's point of view shown by Council members, so that the debates were conducted without bitterness, and in a spirit of give and take.

Thirdly-The close cooperation with the Director-General and the confidence shown by Council members in his policies and proposals.

Mr, Chairman, we need to build on these achievements if we are to face up to the challenges of the future.

At the global level, there are the enormous problems outlined in the document entitled: "Agriculture: Toward 2000," and the FAO's involvement in the development of the New International Development Strategy and progress towards the New International Economic Order

Then there are the difficulties posed by the restructuring of the UN System, which are interpreted in some quarters to mean excessive centralization and undue interference.

You have also approved, in the course of this Conference, a number of priority programmes designed to meet the urgent needs of the developing countries.

These include the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security, and his proposals for the Management and Development of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Programme for the Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis, as well as follow-up action on the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

For the implementation of these programmes and many others, the Director-General needs funds at the required levels. The Council will work closely with the Director-General in exploring all possible sources of funds, and it is my sincere hope that all Member Nations which are in a position to do so will cooperate and contribute generously.

As I pointed out in my report to the Conference, the FAO is your Organization, managed by the Director-General and the Council elected by you, with experts provided by you. It is the Specialized Agency in the UN System responsible for food, agriculture and rural development. It is therefore necessary that you give this Organization not only moral but also financial support in its fight against hunger and malnutrition.

Finally, I would like to refer to one of the most important responsibilities of the Council, which is the arrangements for the Biennial Conference.

When I was first elected as the Independent Chairman of the Council two years ago, I referred to the same subject and suggested that the Council should look at it with a view to ensuring the best use of the Ministers' time when they come here to attend the Conference.

No delegation raised the issue in the Council during the last biennium and therefore nothing was done.

However, the delegates of Saudi Arabia and Australia brought the matter up in their statements to this Conference. A few other delegates have also informed me privately that they want the Council to examine the matter. I therefore intend to put the matter before the Council.

Large bureaucracies, be they national or international, have a reputation of resisting change. But since Dr. Edouard Saouma became the Director-General of this Organization four years ago he has introduced so many changes in the bureaucracy, with the approval of the Council, that the FAO can no longer be accused of resisting change.

I do not see anything basically wrong with the arrangements for the Conference except that it is very difficult for Ministers to be away from home for three weeks, during which the only important thing they do is to make a twenty minute statement to the Conference in the first week and adopt the reports of the Commissions in the last three days of the Conference. The result is that most Ministers go back home at the end of the first week.

This situation can easily be corrected by allowing the three Commissions to meet for the first two weeks and for the Ministers to meet in the last week to discuss the reports of the Commissions in depth before adopting them. There should be no formal statements to the Conference by Ministers, but all such statements can be included in the records of the Conference without being read out.

This proposal will not change anything so far as the Secretariat is concerned because the same documents will have to be discussed by the Commissions, etc. , but the saving of time and money for the Ministers and their delegations can be considerable as most of the national experts who attend the Commission meetings can then return home at the end of two weeks, leaving only a few advisers to assist the Ministers during the last week.

Perhaps what is more important, the Ministers can feel a sense of deeper involvement in the work of the Conference.

There may be other ways of improving the arrangements for the Conference which may come up when the matter is discussed by the Council. But whatever we do, we must take the boredom out of it.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

ADOPTION OF REPORT (continued)

ADOPTION DU RAPPORT (suite)

APROBACION DEL INFORME (continuación)

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 3 (from COMMISSION III)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA PLENTERE-PARTIE 3 (DE LA COMMISSION III)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE 3 (de la COMISION III)

LE PRESIDENT (interprétation de l'arabe): Je vous remercie, Excellence, et je voudrais que l'on passe maintenant à l'adoption des autres parties du rapport.

Nous commençons par la première partie du rapport de la Commission III (C 79/REP/3). Je voudrais vous rappeler que les paragraphes 2, 6 et 15 seront adoptés à part.

PARAGRAPHS 2, 6 and 15

PARAGRAPHERS 2, 6 et 15

PARRAFOS 2, 6 y 15

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Dans ce document, figurent trois projets de résolution aux paragraphes 2, 6 et 15. Ils doivent faire l'objet d'un vote par appel nominal et recueillir la majorité prévue.

La majorité requise pour l'amendement à l'Acte Constitutif est différente de celle qui est nécessaire pour l'amendement au Règlement général de l'Organization. Du point de vue juridique, on peut constater qu'il y a deux scrutins distincts qui pourraient être nécessaires. Mais si la Conférence n'y voyait pas d'objection, on pourrait regrouper le vote sur ces trois projets de résolution dans un vote par appel.

LE PRESIDENT (Interprétation de l'arabe): Y a-t-il des observations sur cette proposition concernant la procédure?

S'il n'y en a pas, je considère que la Conférence est d'accord pour qu'il ait un vote sur les trois paragraphes en même temps.

Nous allons donc procéder au vote par appel nominal.

Vote

Vote

Votación



20 Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de sesiones de la Conferencia

ROLL CALL VOTING AND ISSUE OF BALLOT PAPER REPORT
 APPEL NOMINAL ET DISTRIBUTION DE BULLETIN
 VOTACION NOMINAL Y DISTRIBUCION DE PAPELETAS

No

1st Vote on
 Vote sur
 Votación para paras 2, 6, 15 of C 79/REP/3

COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR
Afghanistan				X	Ghana	X				Nigeria	X			
Albania				X	Greece	X				Norway	X			
Algeria	X				Grenada				X	Oman	X			
Angola	X				Guatemala	X				Pakistan	X			
Argentina	X				Guinea	X				Panama	X			
Australia	X				Guinea Bissau				X	Papua New Guinea	X			
Austria	X				Guyana				X	Paraguay				
Bahamas				X	Haiti	X				Peru	X			
Bahrain	X				Honduras				X	Philippines				X
Bangladesh				X	Hungary	X				Poland				X
Barbados				X	Iceland				X	Portugal	X			
Belgium	X				India				X	Qatar	X			
Benin				X	Indonesia	X				Romania	X			
Bolivia				X	Iran				X	Rwanda	X			
Botswana	X				Iraq	X				Saint Lucia				X
Brazil	X				Ireland	X				Samoa				X
Bulgaria				X	Israel				X	Sao Tome and Principe				X
Burma	X				Italy				X	Saudi Arabia				X
Burundi				X	Ivory Coast	X				Senegal	X			
Cameroon	X				Jamaica				X	Seychelles				X
Canada	X				Japan	X				Sierra Leone	X			
Cape Verde	X				Jordan				X	Somalia	X			
Cent. African Rep.	X				Kenya	X				Spain	X			
Chad	X				Korea (Republic of)	X				Sri Lanka				X
Chile	X				Kuwait	X				Sudan	X			
China	X				Lao	X				Suriname				X
Colombia				X	Lebanon				X	Swaziland	X			
Comoros				X	Lesotho	X				Sweden	X			
Congo				X	Liberia	X				Switzerland	X			
Costa Rica				X	Libya	X				Syria	X			
Cuba	X				Luxembourg				X	Tanzania	X			
Cyprus	X				Madagascar				X	Thailand	X			
Czechoslovakia				X	Malawi	X				Togo				X
Democratic Kampuchea				X	Malaysia	X				Trinidad and Tobago	X			
D.P. Rep. of Korea				X	Maldives				X	Tunisia	X			
Denmark	X				Mali				X	Turkey	X			
Djibouti				X	Malta	X				Uganda	X			
Dominica				X	Mauritania				X	United Arab Emirates	X			
Dominican Rep.	X				Mauritius				X	United Kingdom	X			
Ecuador				X	Mexico	X				U.S.A.	X			
Egypt	X				Mongolia	X				Upper Volta				X
El Salvador				X	Morocco	X				Uruguay				X
Ethiopia	X				Mozambique				X	Venezuela	X			
Fiji	X				Namibia				X	Viet Nam	X			
Finland	X				Nepal	X				Yemen Arab Republic				X
France	X				Netherlands	X				Yemen (P.D. Rep. of)				X
Gabon	X				New Zealand	X				Yugoslavia	X			
Gambia					Nicaragua				X	Zaire	X			
Germany (Fed. Rep. of)	X				Niger				X	Zambia	X			
	28					27					34			

20 Session of the Conference
Session de la Conférence
Periodo de sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET / RESULTATS / RESULTADOS

SHOW OF HANDS VOTING
VOTE A MAIN LEVEE
VOTACION A MANO ALZADA

ROLL CALL VOTING
APPEL NOMINAL
VOTACION NOMINAL

Vote on
Vote sur
1st Votación para paras. 2, 6, 15 of C. 79/REP/3.....

1 Number of votes cast
Nombre de suffrages exprimés 89
Número de votos emitidos

4 Votes against
Voix contre 0
Votos en contra

2 Majority required
Majorité requise 60
Mayoría requerida

5 Abstentions
Abstentions 0
Abstenciones

3 Votes for
Voix pour 89
Votos favorables

6 No reply
Aucune réponse 57
Ninguna respuesta

Adopted
Adoptée
Aceptada

Rejected
Repoussée
Rechazada

..... 27 / 11 / 79
Date
Fecha

Elections Officer
Fonctionnaire électoral
El oficial de elecciones
B. Linley

RULE XII - 13(a) GRO

CF 13 1179 654321 - G9465 c

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, a second vote shall be taken at a subsequent meeting to be held not less than one hour after the conclusion of the meeting at which the equally divided vote occurred. If the second vote is also equally divided the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

En cas de partage égal des voix lors d'un vote ne portant pas sur une élection, on procède à un deuxième vote au cours d'une séance ultérieure, qui ne peut avoir lieu moins d'une heure après la fin de celle à laquelle s'est produit le partage égal des voix. Si les voix restent également partagées lors de ce second vote, la proposition est considérée comme repoussée.

Si hubiera empate en un asunto que no sea una elección, se repetirá la votación en una sesión subsiguiente la cual no deberá celebrarse hasta que haya transcurrido una hora, por lo menos, desde la conclusión de aquella en que se produjo el empate. Si en la segunda votación hubiera también empate se considerará rechazada la propuesta.

Paragraph 2, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 2, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 2, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraph 6, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 6, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 6, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraph 15, including Resolution, adopted

La paragraphe 15, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 15, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

PARAGRAPH 1

PARAGRAPHES 1

PARRAFO 1

Paragraph 1 approved

Le paragraphe 1 est approuvé

El párrafo 1 es aprobado

Paragraphs 3 to 5 approved

Les paragraphes 3 à 5 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 3 a 5 son aprobados

Paragraphs 7 to 10 approved

Les paragraphes 7 à 10 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 7 a 10 son aprobados

Paragraph 11, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 11, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 11, incluida la Resolución es aprobado

Paragraphs 12 to 14 approved

Les paragraphes 12 à 14 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 12 a 14 son aprobados

Paragraph 16 approved

Le paragraphe 16 est approuvé

El párrafo 16 es aprobado

Paragraph 17 approved

Le paragraphe 17 est approuvé

El párrafo 17 es aprobado

Paragraph 18 approved

Le paragraphe 18 est approuvé

El párrafo 18 es aprobado

Paragraph 19, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 19, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 19, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 20 and 21 approved

Les paragraphes 20 et 21 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 20 y 21 son aprobados

Paragraph 22, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 22, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 22, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 23 to 25 approved

Les paragraphes 23 à 25 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 23 a 25 son aprobados

Paragraph 26, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 26, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 26, incluida la Resoluciones aprobado

Paragraph 27 approved

Le paragraphe 27 est approuvé

El párrafo 27 es aprobado

Paragraphs 28 and 29 approved

Les paragraphes 28 et 29 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 28 y 29 son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 30

PARAGRAPH 30

PARRAFO 30

L. LAPEBY (Gabon): Je voudrais apporter un petit éclaircissement au paragraphe 30. Dans la dernière phrase, on parle des bâtiments envisagés pour la FAO où trouveraient place le PAM, le CMA et le FIDA. Je voudrais que l'on dise "Met éventuellement le FIDA", car le siège permanent du FIDA n'est pas encore attribué à l'Italie.

H. MAURIA (Chairman, Commission III): On this point I can only say that the wording in paragraph 30 reflects the explanation which was given by the representative of the Secretariat in Commission III and the discussion which was adopted.

LE PRESIDENT (Interpretation de l'arabe): D'après ce que j'ai compris, la remarque du représentant du Gabon tend à préciser que le Siège du FIDA n'a pas été choisi définitivement. C'est pourquoi il a proposé qu'on fasse mention de cela au cas où il serait décidé d'installer le Siège du FIDA à Rome.

S'il n'y a pas d'autres observations nous adoptons les paragraphes 28 à 31 en tenant compte de l'observation du représentant du Gabon.

Paragraphs, 30 and 31 approved

Les paragraphes 30 et 31 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 30 y 31 son aprobados

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 3, was adopted

Projet de rapport de la plénière, 3 partie, est adoptée

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 3, es aprobado

The meeting rose at 12.50 hours

La séance est levée à 12 h 50

Se levanta le sesión a las 12. 50 horas

conference

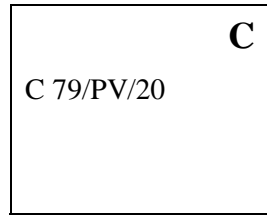
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

TWENTIETH PLENARY MEETING
VINGTIEME SEANCE PLENIERE
20ª SESION PLENARIA
(28 November 1979)

The Twentieth Plenary Meeting was opened at 10. 00 hours, J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La vingtième séance plénière est ouverte à 10. 00 heures sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Président de la Conférence

Se abre la 20ª sesión plenaria a las 10. 00 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

ADOPTION OF REPORT (continued)

ADOPTION DU RAPPORT (suite)

APROBACION DEL INFORME (continuación)

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 4 (from Commission III)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA PLENIERE-PARTIE 4 (de la Commission III)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA, PARTE 4 (de la Comisión III)

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados, buenos días a todos. Se abre la vigésima sesión plenaria en la cual vamos a proceder a la aprobación de los Informes emitidos por las distintas Comisiones.

Quisiera, antes de entrar en el tema, agradecer al Ministro de Agricultura de Marruecos su dirección de las tareas de la Conferencia durante los últimos dos días y felicitarle en nombre de toda la Conferencia por dicha Presidencia.

Antes de proceder a la aprobación de los Informes que tenemos sobre la Mesa, me permito recordar a todos que no se trata ya de un debate de fondo; todos los Informes de las tres Comisiones han sido discutidos y aprobados y les recuerdo que de acuerdo con nuestro reglamento son órganos plenarios. Por consiguiente, vamos a proceder a examinar, y votar en su caso sección por sección, la aprobación oficial de estos documentos.

Yo rogaría a todas las delegaciones que eviten nuevamente entrar en la cuestión de fondo que lógicamente, han sido debatidas en cada una de las Comisiones. Si hay discrepancia sobre algunos puntos, procederemos simplemente a una votación a mano alzada. Las delegaciones que no estén de acuerdo con cualquiera de las partes de los Informes, pueden hacer constar sus reservas en las actas o, si insisten, en el propio Informe. Todas las modificaciones o correcciones de estilo deben presentarse directamente al Secretario General, que las examinará conmigo, en el entendimiento de que no podrán aceptarse más que cambios de pura forma.

Si no obstante, pese al buen trabajo realizado en las Comisiones, fuera inevitable llevar a cabo alguna votación, empezariamos votando el texto presentado por la Comisión, para lo cual yo pediría a las delegaciones favorables a dicho texto que levanten su placa. A continuación, los que voten en contra y, por último, las que se abstengan, deberán hacer lo mismo.

Se procederá a votaciones nominales, tan sólo cuando lo pida expresamente una delegación o cuando la mayoría requerida sea de los dos tercios, de conformidad con el párrafo 7/a) del Artículo XII del Reglamento. De hecho, tendrán que hacer en la mañana de hoy uso de este párrafo y de este Artículo para uno de los temas que tenemos en el orden del día.

Ruego, finalmente, a las delegaciones que deseen explicar su voto, que para mayor brevedad, incluyan sus respectivas declaraciones en las actas.

Vamos a proceder a la aprobación sección por sección, del documento 79/REP/4, que se corresponde a la última parte de los trabajos desarrollados por la Comisión III. Ruego al Presidente de la Comisión III que tenga a bien incorporarse a la Mesa.

Con el Presidente ya en la Mesa vamos a proceder a examinar cada una de las secciones comenzando en el mencionado documento, en el punto: "Escala de cuotas para 1980-81". Como pueden ver este tema de la Escala de Cuotas se divide en dos partes, por un lado la Resolución y, por otro, los párrafos 1 a 4. Si ustedes lo desean podemos proceder a leerlos, pero si no hubiera ninguna petición en tal sentido, puesto que todas las delegaciones conocen el texto, procederíamos a entrar en el tema de su aprobación.

¿Alguna delegación desea que se lea el texto completo? Si nadie desea intervenir paso a preguntar a la Conferencia si hay alguna observación con respecto a los párrafos 1 a 4.

Paragraphs 1 to 4 approved

Les paragraphes 1 "a 4 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 4 son aprobados

EL PRESIDENTE: ¿Hay alguna observación con respecto a la Resolución del párrafo 5?

PARAGRAPH 5 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION

PARAGRAPHE 5 Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION

PARRAFO 5 INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUCION

G. DE BARROS CARVALHO DE MELLO MOURAO (Brasil). Mi delegación manifestó su oposición a la adopción de esta Resolución, no sé si debo hablar aquí o sólo en la aprobación del párrafo 6. Como no creo necesario hablar más que una vez, me reservo el derecho de hacerlo en el párrafo 6.

Paragraph 5 including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 5,y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 5 incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

PARAGRAPH 6

PARAGRAPHE 6

PARRAFO 6

EL PRESIDENTE: Si no entiendo mal, el miembro a que se alude en el texto es precisamente la representación de Brasil; por tanto bastaría con que nos diera una nota para incluirla en el proceso verbal e incorporarla al texto.

G. DE BARROS CARVALHO DE MELLO MOURAO (Brasil): Si bien entiendo, el párrafo 6 ha sido también aprobado. Yo quisiera hacer una enmienda aclaratoria al párrafo 6 y se dijera: la delegación de Brasil manifestó su oposición a la adopción de esta Resolución. Y en la versión en español cuando se dice: "cuota" se dijera "contribución".

Tengo las enmiendas escritas y se las puedo pasar a usted, señor Presidente.

EL PRESIDENTE: Quisiera aclarar al representante de Brasil que el punto 6 no forma parte de la Resolución. El punto 6 es sencillamente la aclaración que hace una representación, en este caso la delegación de Brasil, al conjunto de la Resolución aprobada. Por tanto está dentro de su derecho el hacer las precisiones que estime necesarias; pero quiero señalarle que ya en la primera línea se dice: "un miembro-la delegación de Brasil-se declaró contrario al proyecto de Resolución". Entiendo que en la forma que está expresado da satisfacción a la delegación; pero si hubiera que hacer alguna alteración creo, que puesto que se refiere a una apreciación de una delegación concreta, es un juicio de una delegación sobre un tema, no habría inconveniente en modificarlo.

G. DE BARROS CARVALHO DE MELLO MOURAO (Brasil): Entiendo que esto forma parte del Informe de la Conferencia. ¿No?

EL PRESIDENTE: Forma parte evidentemente.

Paragraph 6, as amended, approved

Le paragraphe 6, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El párrafo 6, así enmendado, es aprobado

La delegación de Brasil manifestó su oposición a la adopción de esta Resolución explicando que, a juicio de su país, que era un país en desarrollo, la Escala de Cuotas propuesta, que se basaba directamente en la Escala de Cuotas de las Naciones Unidas, con la consiguiente redistribución entre los Estados Miembros de la FAO, no reflejaba plenamente la capacidad de pago de los Estados Miembros. Este Miembro señaló con preocupación que la nueva Escala suponía un aumento de la contribución de su país de más del 50 por ciento con respecto a su anterior contribución. --

El PRESIDENTE: Pasamos al punto 22. 1: "Revisión de la Convención Internacional de Protección Fitosanitaria". Los párrafos 7, 8, 9, 10 y 11.

¿Hay alguna observación referente a los mismos?

Paragraphs 7 to 11 approved

Les paragraphes 7 à 11 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 7 a 11 son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 12 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION

PARAGRAPHE 12 Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION

PARRAFO 12 INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUCION

El PRESIDENTE: A continuación debe ser examinada la Resolución. Continuamos con el párrafo 12, bajo el título: "Enmiendas a la Convención Internacional de Protección Fitosanitaria".

Quiero recordar a la Conferencia que por tratarse de una enmienda a una Convención Internacional, de conformidad con el Artículo XII, párrafo 3, c), de nuestro Reglamento, debe ser sometido a votación nominal. Por tanto procederíamos, si están de acuerdo, con el resto del tema de este documento, y al término de este estudio, haremos la votación nominal. Digo esto para no romper el buen orden de nuestros trabajos.

Dejamos de momento apartada esta votación y al término del examen de este documento procederíamos a votar la Resolución.

¿No hay observaciones con respecto a este procedimiento?

El Secretario General tiene la palabra, ya que ha habido un pequeño error en una palabra dentro del texto y quiere hacer una aclaración.

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Dans la troisième partie du texte français, deuxième paragraphe, au lieu de lire "Invite les, parties intéressées" il faut lire "Recommande aux parties intéressées, en cas de différend relevant du paragraphe 1 de l'Article IX, de rechercher..." au lieu de "à rechercher".

Vote

Vote

Votación

1/ Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.



Session of the Conference
 Session de la Conférence
 Período de sesiones de la Conferencia

ROLL CALL VOTING AND ISSUE OF BALLOT PAPER REPORT
 APPEL NOMINAL ET DISTRIBUTION DE BULLETIN
 VOTACION NOMINAL Y DISTRIBUCION DE PAPELETAS

No.

Vote on
 Vote sur
 Votación para Plant Protection Resolution para. 12 REP/4

COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR
Afghanistan	X				Ghana	X				Nigeria	X			
Albania					Greece	X				Norway	X			
Algeria	X				Grenada					Oman	X			
Angola	X				Guatemala					Pakistan	X			
Argentina	X				Guinea	X				Panama	X			
Australia	X				Guinea-Bissau					Papua New Guinea	X			
Austria	X				Guyana					Peru				
Bahamas					Haiti	X				Philippines	X			
Bahrain	X				Honduras	X				Poland	X			
Bangladesh	X				Hungary	X				Portugal	X			
Barbados										Qatar	X			
Belgium	X				India					Romania	X			
Benin					Indonesia	X				Rwanda				
Bolivia					Iran					Saint Lucia				
Botswana	X				Iraq	X				Samoa				
Brazil	X				Ireland	X				Sao Tome and Principe				
Bulgaria	X				Israel	X				Saudi Arabia				
Burma	X				Italy	X				Senegal	X			
Burundi					Ivory Coast	X				Seychelles				
Cameroon	X				Jamaica					Sierra Leone	X			
Canada	X				Japan	X				Somalia	X			
Cape Verde	X				Jordan	X				Spain	X			
Cent. African Rep.					Kenya	X				Sri Lanka				
Chad	X				Korea (Republic of)					Sudan				
Chile	X				Kuwait	X				Suriname				
China	X				Lao	X				Swaziland	X			
Colombia	X				Lebanon	X				Sweden	X			
Comoros					Lesotho	X				Switzerland	X			
Congo					Liberia	X				Syria	X			
Costa Rica	X				Libya	X				Tanzania	X			
Cuba	X				Luxembourg	X				Thailand	X			
Cyprus	X				Madagascar	X				Togo				
Czechoslovakia					Malawi	X				Trinidad and Tobago	X			
Democratic Kampuchea	X				Malaysia	X				Tunisia	X			
D.P. Rep. of Korea	X				Maldives					Turkey	X			
Denmark	X				Mali					Uganda	X			
Djibouti					Malta	X				United Arab Emirates	X			
Dominica					Mauritania	X				United Kingdom	X			
Dominican Rep.					Mauritius	X				U.S.A.	X			
Ecuador					Mexico	X				Upper Volta				
Egypt	X				Mongolia	X				Uruguay	X			
El Salvador	X				Morocco	X				Venezuela	X			
Ethiopia	X				Mozambique					Viet Nam	X			
Fiji	X				Namibia					Yemen Arab Republic	X			
Finland	X				Nepal	X				Yemen (P.D. Rep. of)				
France	X				Netherlands					Yugoslavia	X			
Gabon					New Zealand	X				Zaire	X			
Gambia					Nicaragua					Zambia	X			
Germany (Fed. Rep. of)	X				Niger									
	33					33					35			

Session of the Conference
Session de la Conférence
Período de sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET / RESULTATS / RESULTADOS

SHOW OF HANDS VOTING
 VOTE A MAIN LEVEE
VOTACION A MANO ALZADA

ROLL CALL VOTING
 APPEL NOMINAL
VOTACION NOMINAL

Vote on
Vote sur
Votación para
1st. Amendment to International Plant Protection Convention

1 Number of votes cast Nombre de suffrages exprimés Número de votos emitidos	101	4 Votes against Voix contre Votos en contra	0
2 Majority required Majorité requise Mayoría requerida	68	5 Abstentions Abstentions Abstenciones	0
3 Votes for Voix pour Votos favorables	100	6 No reply Aucune réponse Ninguna respuesta	45

Adopted
Adoptée
Aceptada

Rejected
Repoussée
Rechazada

28/11/79
Date
Fecha

B. Linley
Elections Officer
Fonctionnaire électoral
El oficial de elecciones

RULE XII - 13(a) GRO

CF 13 1179 654321 - G9465-c

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, a second vote shall be taken at a subsequent meeting to be held not less than one hour after the conclusion of the meeting at which the equally divided vote occurred. If the second vote is also equally divided the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

En cas de partage égal des voix lors d'un vote ne portant pas sur une élection, on procède à un deuxième vote au cours d'une séance ultérieure, qui ne peut avoir lieu moins d'une heure après la fin de celle à laquelle s'est produit le partage égal des voix. Si les voix restent également partagées lors de ce second vote, la proposition est considérée comme repoussée.

Si hubiera empate en un asunto que no sea una elección, se repetirá la votación en una sesión subsiguiente la cual no deberá celebrarse hasta que haya transcurrido una hora, por lo menos, desde la conclusión de aquella en que se produjo el empate. Si en la segunda votación hubiera también empate se considerará rechazada la propuesta.

Paragraph 12, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 12, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 12, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraph 13 approved

Le paragraphe 13 approuvé

El párrafo 13 es aprobado

EL PRESIDENTE: Pasamos al punto 22. 2: "Cambio de nombre de la Oficina Regional de la FAO para Asia y el Lejano Oriente y de la Conferencia Regional para Asia y el Lejano Oriente".

Paragraphs 14 to 18 approved

Les paragraphes 14 à 18 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 14 a 18 son aprobados

EL PRESIDENTE: Pásanos al tema 25. 6. Se refiere a "Otras cuestiones financieras y administrativas" concretamente, a la Oficina Regional para el Cercano Oriente. ¿Hay alguna observación?

Paragraph 19, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 19, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 19, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraph 20 approved

Le paragraphe 20 est approuvé

El párrafo 20 es aprobado

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 4, as amended, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, partie 4, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 4, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 2

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA CONFERENCE-PARTIE 2

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE 2

EL PRESIDENTE: Pasamos, entonces, al punto segundo que es la aprobación del informe correspondiente a la última parte de la Plenaria, que es el documento C 79/REP/2.

Si ustedes examinan este documento, podrán comprobar que su contenido no es sino la incorporación, el resumen de las elecciones celebradas el pasado lunes. Es decir, contiene la relación de los miembros elegidos para el Consejo, el nombramiento del Presidente Independiente del Consejo con una Resolución aneja. El nombramiento de los representantes de los Estados Miembros en el Comité de Pensiones el Personal, la fecha y lugar del 21° período de sesiones de la Conferencia, cuya propuesta es la celebración, aquí en Roma, del 7 al 26 de noviembre de 1981.

Pregunto entonces a la Conferencia, ¿hay alguna observación en relación con este documento, con el conjunto del documento?

Si no hay ninguna observación, en tal caso damos por aprobado el documento globalmente, y en su consecuencia, la próxima Conferencia, el 21° período de sesiones tendrá lugar en Roma del 7 al 26 de noviembre de 1981.

Paragraph 1 approved

Le paragraphe 1 est approuvé

El párrafo 1 es aprobado

Paragraph 2, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 2, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 2, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraph 3 approved

Le paragraphe 3 est approuvé

El párrafo 3 es aprobado

Paragraph 4 approved

Le paragraphe 4 est approuvé

El párrafo 4 es aprobado

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 2, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, partie 2, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 2, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 7 (from COMMISSION I)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA PLENTERE-PARTIE 7 (de la COMMISSION I)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE 7 (de la COMISION I)

EL PRESIDENTE: Pasamos entonces a la aprobación del Informe correspondiente a la última parte de la Comisión I, documento C 79/REP/7. Ruego al Presidente de la Comisión I señor Zehni de Libia, que tenga a bien incorporarse a la Mesa durante el debate de este documento.

El documento que les ha sido distribuido, que vamos a proceder a examinar, contiene dos partes del programa. Los puntos 6. 1 y el punto 7 del programa. El punto 6. 1 se refiere al Estado Mundial de la Agricultura y la Alimentación, incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y de comercio. Tiene por una parte los párrafos 1 a 12. Luego está contenida una Resolución en el párrafo 13, y finalmente, hay un conjunto de aclaraciones en los párrafos 14 a 18; y una nueva Resolución a la que le siguen los párrafos 20 a 28.

Para sistematizar el debate, examinemos primero la parte expositiva de los párrafos 1 a 12. ¿Hay alguna observación en relación con los párrafos 1 a 12 de este documento?

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 12

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 12

PARRAFOS 1 a 12

M. HAMDOON (Iraq) (interpretation from Arabic): The President of the Iraqi Republic, His Excellency Sadim Hassan, has already declared in the non-aligned conference in Havana, and I am here referring to paragraph 12, he has already declared our proposal of establishing an international fund to assist developing countries in order to enable them to face the increase in oil prices and the import of commodities from developed countries, on condition that developed countries and oil producing countries would have equal shares in this fund. The call for the establishment of this fund has been renewed by our Minister of Agriculture in the Conference. However, I do not find any mention to this proposal, which I consider of utmost importance; this proposal which can provide developing countries, regardless of their political orientation, will provide such countries with appropriate support in order to face inflation and to enable them to import commodities and to face increase in oil prices.

In order not to waste the time of the Conference would you like me to submit a written proposal to be added to paragraph 12 or shall we submit such written proposal directly to the Secretariat, in view of the importance of this proposal?

EL PRESIDENTE: Gracias a la representación de Iraq. Yo sí le pediría, a la vista de sus palabras, que me hiciera llegar la propuesta que sugiere. Podríamos examinarla en la Mesa y a la vista de la misma, tomar una decisión sobre el eventual sometimiento de la misma a la Conferencia. Por tanto yo le agradecería que nos hiciera llegar la propuesta, y tan pronto como la hayamos examinado, podríamos tomar una decisión al respecto. ¿Está de acuerdo?

M. HAMDOON (Iraq): Some delegates welcomed the Iraqi proposal for the establishment of an International fund to be financed by all the industrial developed countries (irrespective of their political and economic systems). Contributions to this fund should be equivalent to the increase in the prices of their products exported to the developing countries. The OPEC countries have also to contribute to this fund amounts equivalent to any annual increase in oil prices. Some delegates felt that this proposal would alleviate the burdens of the developing countries suffering from inflation and price instability. 1/

EL PRESIDENTE: Entonces, continuamos en el punto en que habíamos dejado esta cuestión. Damos por aprobados los párrafos 1 a 12; naturalmente, con la posibilidad de que, como consecuencia de la Resolución que pueda proponer Irak deba incorporarse alguna cuestión más. Pero quedan en principio aprobados los párrafos 1 a 12.

Paragraphs 1 to 12, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 12, ainsi amendes, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 12, así enmendados, son aprobados

EL PRESIDENTE: El párrafo 13 contiene una Resolución por la que se crea el Día Mundial de la Alimentación. ¿Hay alguna observación con relación al párrafo 13 y a la Resolución que contiene?

Paragraph 13, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 13, y compris la resolution, est adopté

El párrafo 13, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

EL PRESIDENTE: Pasamos entonces al epígrafe relativo a los problemas de los productos básicos y el comercio. ¿Hay alguna observación a los párrafos, 14, 15, 16, 17 y 18 relativos a este tema?

Paragraphs 14 to 18 approved

Les paragraphes 14 à 18 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 14 a 18 son aprobados

EL PRESIDENTE: El párrafo 19, como pueden ustedes comprobar, se refiere a una Resolución relativa al comercio de productos básicos, proteccionismo y reajuste agrícola. ¿Hay alguna observación con respecto a esta Resolución contenida en el párrafo 19?

Paragraph 19, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 19, y compris la resolution, est adopté

El párrafo 19, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

EL PRESIDENTE: Los párrafos 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 y 28 son párrafos aclaratorios de distintas delegaciones, con respecto a la Resolución que venimos de aprobar. ¿Hay alguna observación con relación a estos párrafos?

PARAGRAPHS 20 TO 28

PARAGRAPHES 20 A 28

PARRAFOS 20 A 28

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia desea referirse al párrafo 21, a la primera frase del párrafo 21. No vamos a proponer ninguna modificación a esta primera frase. Sólo queremos, exigimos, una explicación; ayer solicitamos esto mismo en la Comisión I, sin respuesta.

1/ Statement inserted in the Verbatim records on request.

De manera muy cordial, pedimos a los miembros de esta Conferencia que lean con cuidado esta primera frase del párrafo 21, que a nosotros nos parece inexplicable. Se dice allí que los nueve Estados Miembros de la CEE consideran que a ellos no pueden dirigirse esas solicitudes porque esa materia es de competencia exclusiva de la CEE, que ellos integran.

Quisiéramos hacer dos preguntas: ¿Cuál es la intención?, y ¿qué quiere decir esa primera frase del párrafo 21? Y segundo, ¿consideran los representantes de esos países que esa frase es coherente y corresponde a una actitud seria?

EL PRESIDENTE: Bien; la delegación de Colombia acaba de exponer su posición en relación con un párrafo que afecta a nueve Estados Miembros, los Estados Miembros de la Comunidad Económica Europea, que hicieron, al igual que otras delegaciones, una declaración interpretativa.

Entiendo que a la vista de nuestro Reglamento, los Estados Miembros de la Comunidad Económica Europea pueden o no contestar a esta petición. Y en su consecuencia, pregunto si alguien desea hacer uso de la palabra en este instante.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): While the delegate of Colombia was speaking the interpreter stated that his microphone had gone off. He had prefaced his statement by saying he had three questions to raise, I only heard two. I wonder could we hear the third question, please?

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Nuestras preguntas son las siguientes: ¿Qué quiere decir la primera frase del párrafo 21? ¿Cuál es la intención de esos nueve países? Y tercero, ¿consideran ellos que esa frase es coherente y corresponde a una actitud seria?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): The delegate of Colombia has referred to the first sentence of paragraph 21, which is simply a reference to the fact that the member states of the EEC may be following interpretative statements. Now I presume that he is actually referring to the second sentence, in the English text anyway. I think that the meaning of the second sentence is perfectly clear to anybody who understands the structure of the European Economic Community. If the delegate of Colombia does not understand this I would very happy to explain to him privately.

With regard to the second question, what is the situation, I am not quite sure what that means, but with regard to the question as to whether it is coherent, yes, it is. In fact I should say that in speaking briefly to the delegate of Colombia I explained what this meant yesterday evening and if there are other delegations who do not understand what this means, I will be pleased to spell that out, but otherwise as far as the Community is concerned this is clear, it is a record of the statement made by the Community and if there are delegations who wish to have this spelt out I will be happy to do so, but I feel that in general it is clear, and unless there are further delegations who wish to have the meaning of it explained I feel it should stand as it is and without any explanation.

S. MADEMBA-SY (Sénégal): Je ne veux pas du tout entrer dans le fond du débat, je crois que la question a été suffisamment débattue en Commission I, mais je ne comprends pas les questions que vient de poser le délégué de la Colombie en ce qui concerne le paragraphe 21.

Il s'agit d'une déclaration interprétative faite par les neuf membres de la Communauté économique européenne. C'est une intervention qui existe depuis 1957, qui s'est élargie, qui va s'élargir encore. Je crois que, dans le cadre de sa compétence, la Communauté économique européenne a parfaitement le droit de faire une déclaration interprétative sur le projet de résolution présenté. Comme l'a dit le délégué de l'Irlande, il conviendrait peut-être d'expliquer au représentant de la Colombie, en particulier, ce qu'est exactement la Communauté économique européenne, car il semble totalement l'ignorer.

EL PRESIDENTE: Yo creo que no procede el continuar con este debate sobre este punto concreto. En definitiva, lo que estamos aquí examinando en estos párrafos, son las condiciones de las aclaraciones que, o una delegación o varias delegaciones, Estados Miembros de la FAO, formulan en relación con la Resolución que acabamos de aprobar.

Es evidente, como muy bien dice la representación de Senegal, que cada uno de los países puede hacer ese tipo de aclaraciones. También es cierto que la delegación de Colombia está en su derecho en cuanto a solicitar alguna aclaración sobre algún punto, Pero puesto que la representación de Irlanda, en nombre de la Comunidad Económica Europea ha ofrecido dar todo el conjunto de aclaraciones que sean solicitadas por la delegación de Colombia, entiendo que el tema está zanjado y por consiguiente, podemos continuar con nuestro Orden del Día.

Paragraphs 20 to 28, approved

Les paragraphes 20 à 28, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 20 a 28 son aprobados

EL PRESIDENTE: Pasamos entonces al tema 7 correspondiente al Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial. Este tema contiene, de una parte, una serie de párrafos que preceden a una Resolución. Son concretamente los párrafos 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 y 40. ¿Hay alguna observación a los párrafos, números 29 a 40 inclusive?

Paragraphs 29 to 40 approved

Les paragraphes 29 à 40 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 29 a 40 son aprobados

EL PRESIDENTE: Le sigue a continuación un párrafo, el 41, del que forma parte una Resolución referente a la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial, y junto con ello un párrafo 42, en el que una delegación formula una declaración interpretativa, que quedó recogida en las Actas de la Conferencia. ¿Hay alguna observación a estos puntos, y fundamentalmente al texto de la Resolución?

Paragraph 41, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 41, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 41, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraph 42 approved

Le paragraphe 42 est approuvé

El párrafo 42 es aprobado

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 7, was adopted

Projet de rapport de la plénière, partie 7, est adopté

El Proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 7, es aprobado

The meeting rose at 11. 00 hours

La séance est levée à 11. 00 heures

Se levanta la sesión a las 11. 00 horas

conference

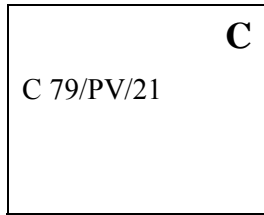
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

conférence

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

conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



Twentieth Session

Vingtième session

20º período de sesiones

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING
VINGT ET UNIEME SÉANCE
21ª SESION
(28 November 1979)

The Twenty-first Meeting was opened at 14. 45 hours J. Lamo de Espinosa, Chairman of the Conference, presiding

La vingt et unième seance est ouverte à 14 h 45 sous la présidence de J. Lamo de Espinosa, President de la Conférence

Se abre la 21ª sesión a las 14. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de J. Lamo de Espinosa, Presidente de la Conferencia

ADOPTION OF REPORT (continued)

ADOPTION DU RAPPORT (suite)

APROBACION DEL INFORME (continuación)

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 5 (FROM COMMISSION II)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA CONFERENCE-CINQUIEME PARTIE (SOUMIS PAR LA COMMISSION II)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE 5 (DE LA COMISION II)

EL PRESIDENTE: Vamos a continuar con el documento C 79/REP/5. Está ya con nosotros, en la Mesa, el Presidente de la Comisión II, y también se les ha distribuido dos suplementos; el Sub. 1, que es un Apéndice con la relación de las cuotas correspondientes del año 80-81, y un segundo Sup. 2, que es el que esta mañana nos faltaba y que se corresponde con la Resolución de las consignaciones presupuestarias para el período 80-81.

Paragraphs 1 to 6 approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 6 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 6 son aprobados

Paragraphs 7 to 8 approved

Les paragraphes 7 à 8 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 7 a 8 son aprobados

Paragraphs 9 to 10 approved

Les paragraphes 9 à 10 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 9 a 10 son aprobados

Paragraph 11 approved

Le paragraphe 11 est approuvé

El párrafo 11 es aprobado

Paragraphs 12 to 16 approved

Les paragraphes 12 à 16 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 12 a 16 son aprobados

Paragraphs 17 to 19 approved

Les paragraphes 17 a 19 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 17 a 19 son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 20 INCLUDING RESOLUTION (C 79/REP/5-Sup. 2)

PARAGRAPHE 20 Y COMPRIS LA RESOLUTION (C 79/REP/5-Sup. 2)

PARRAFO 20 INCLUIDO LA RESOLUCION (C 79/REP/5-Sup. 2)

EL PRESIDENTE: Debemos proceder a la votación nominal correspondiente a la Resolución del párrafo 20 que les ha sido distribuida y cuyo número es el mismo que el del documento, pero con la adición del suplemento 2.

E. KANAAN (Personnel de la FAO): Je vais procéder à l'appel nominal et chaque délégation répondra par oui ou par non.

A. ECHEVERRIA ZUNO (México): Como es muy conocido de esta Conferencia por los casos que ha habido en el pasado, México se sabe que por virtud de la Legislación Mexicana, es solamente el Congreso de nuestra Federación el único autorizado para aprobar estos compromisos. Sólo y exclusivamente por esta razón, en este caso porque nuestro Congreso sesionará en fechas futuras y no ha considerado esto, México se abstiene.

EL PRESIDENTE: Agradezco a la representación de Mexico su explicación, pero quisiera llamar la atención de los señores delegados en el sentido de que vamos a proceder ahora a la votación, y sin perjuicio de ello, no hay inconveniente alguno para que se expongan más tarde las explicaciones de voto.

Vote

Vote

Votación

I. MOSKOVITS (Malta): I think I was not called. Anyway I would like to vote with yes.



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ROLL CALL VOTING AND ISSUE OF BALLOT PAPER REPORT
 APPEL NOMINAL ET DISTRIBUTION DE BULLETIN
 VOTACION NOMINAL Y DISTRIBUCION DE PAPELETAS

No.

Vote on
 Vote sur
 Votación para Budgetary Appropriations

COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR	COUNTRY	Yes	No	Abs	NR
Afghanistan	X				Ghana	X				Nigeria	X			
Albania				X	Greece	X				Norway				X
Algeria	X				Grenada				X	Oman	X			
Angola				X	Guatemala				X	Pakistan	X			
Argentina	X				Guinea	X				Panama	X			
Australia	X				Guinea-Bissau				X	Papua New Guinea	X			
Austria	X				Guyana				X	Peru				X
Bahamas				X	Haiti	X				Philippines	X			
Bahrain	X				Honduras	X				Poland	X			
Bangladesh	X				Hungary	X				Portugal	X			
Barbados				X	Iceland				X	Qatar	X			
Belgium	X				India	X				Romania	X			
Benin	X				Indonesia	X				Rwanda	X			
Bolivia				X	Iran				X	Saint Lucia				X
Botswana	X				Iraq	X				Samoa				X
Brazil	X				Ireland	X				Sao Tome and Principe				X
Bulgaria	X				Israel	X				Saudi Arabia				X
Burma	X				Italy	X				Senegal	X			
Burundi	X				Ivory Coast	X				Seychelles				X
Cameroon	X				Jamaica				X	Sierra Leone				X
Canada			X		Japan				X	Somalia				
Cape Verde	X				Jordan	X				Spain	X			
Cent. African Rep.	X				Kenya				X	Sri Lanka	X			
Chad	X				Korea (Republic of)				X	Sudan	X			
Chile	X				Kuwait	X				Suriname				X
China	X				Lao				X	Swaziland	X			
Colombia	X				Lebanon	X				Sweden	X			
Comoros				X	Lesotho	X				Switzerland	X			
Congo				X	Liberia	X				Syria	X			
Coste Rica	X				Libya	X				Tanzania	X			
Cuba	X				Luxembourg	X				Thailand	X			
Cyprus	X				Madagascar	X				Togo				X
Czechoslovakia				X	Malawi	X				Trinidad and Tobago	X			
Democratic Kampuchea	X				Malaysia	X				Tunisia	X			
D.P. Rep. of Korea				X	Maldives				X	Turkey	X			
Denmark	X				Mali				X	Uganda	X			
Djibouti				X	Malta	X				United Arab Emirates	X			
Dominica				X	Mauritania	X				United Kingdom				X
Dominican Rep.				X	Mauritius				X	U.S.A.				X
Ecuador				X	Mexico				X	Upper Volta				X
Egypt	X				Mongolia	X				Uruguay	X			
El Salvador	X				Morocco	X				Venezuela	X			
Ethiopia	X				Mozambique				X	Viet Nam	X			
Fiji	X				Namibia				X	Yemen Arab Republic	X			
Finland	X				Nepal	X				Yemen (P.D. Rep. of)				X
France	X				Netherlands	X				Yugoslavia	X			
Gabon				X	New Zealand	X				Zaire	X			
Gambia	X				Nicaragua				X	Zambia				X
Germany (Fed. Rep. of)				X	Niger				X					
	33		2	14		30		2	17		33		2	13

Session of the Conference
Session de la Conférence
Período de sesiones de la Conferencia



RESULT SHEET / RESULTATS / RESULTADOS

SHOW OF HANDS VOTING
 VOTE A MAIN LEVEE
VOTACION A MANO ALZADA

ROLL CALL VOTING
 APPEL NOMINAL
VOTACION NOMINAL

Vote on
Vote sur
Votación para

Budgetary Appropriations Resolution (C 79/REP/5 - Sup.2)

1 Number of votes cast 96
Nombre de suffrages exprimés
Número de votos emitidos

4 Votes against 0
Voix contre
Votos en contra

2 Majority required 64
Majorité requise
Mayoría requerida

5 Abstentions 6
Abstentions
Abstenciones

3 Votes for 96
Voix pour
Votos favorables

6 No reply 44
Aucune réponse
Ninguna respuesta

Adopted
Adopté
Aceptada

Rejected
Repoussé
Rechazada

28-11-79

Date
Fecha

Elections Officer
Fonctionnaire électoral
El oficial de elecciones

RULE XII - 13(a) GRO

CF 13 1179 654321 - G9465-c

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, a second vote shall be taken at a subsequent meeting to be held not less than one hour after the conclusion of the meeting at which the equally divided vote occurred. If the second vote is also equally divided the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

En cas de partage égal des voix lors d'un vote ne portant pas sur une élection, on procède à un deuxième vote au cours d'une séance ultérieure, qui ne peut avoir lieu moins d'une heure après la fin de celle à laquelle s'est produit le partage égal des voix. Si les voix restent également partagées lors de ce second vote, la proposition est considérée comme repoussée.

Si hubiera empate en un asunto que no sea una elección, se repetirá la votación en una sesión subsiguiente la cual no deberá celebrarse hasta que haya transcurrido una hora, por lo menos, desde la conclusión de aquella en que se produjo el empate. Si en la segunda votación hubiera también empate se considerará rechazada la propuesta.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores delegados: Como saben esta Resolución debe ser aprobada por dos tercios, lo cual significa que debiéramos tener más de 64 votos afirmativos. El resultado de la votación es de 96 votos a favor y 6 abstenciones. Queda pues superada la mayoría que se precisa.

Por 96 votos a favor y 6 abstenciones queda aprobada esta Resolución con su Apéndice correspondiente.

Paragraph 20 including Resolution (C 79/REP/5-Sup. 2), adopted

Le paragraphe 20 y compris la résolution (C 79/REP/5-Sup. 2), est adopté

El párrafo 20 incluida la Resolución (C 79/REP/5-Sup. 2), es aprobado

Paragraphs 21 to 23 approved

Les paragraphes 21 à 23 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 21 a 23 son aprobados

Paragraphs 24 to 95 approved

Les paragraphes 24 à 95 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 24 a 95 son aprobados

Paragraphs 96 to 116 approved

Les paragraphes 96 à 116 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 96 a 116 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 117 to 120

PARAGRAPHES 117 à 120

PARRAFOS 117 a 120

C. O. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Veo en el párrafo 117 que la Conferencia reconoció la utilidad y la eficacia del Programa de Cooperación Técnica. Creo que la Conferencia ratificó la utilidad y la eficacia del Programa de Cooperación Técnica.

EL PRESIDENTE: Tengo entonces que preguntar al Presidente de la Comisión II si ha habido aquí algún error en la transcripción, y si la palabra es reconoció, o ratificó, que sugiere el delegado de Argentina.

M. S. SWAMINATHAN (Chairman, Commission II): Thank you, but we only adopted the wording here; "agreed" should be changed to "ratified", and it was up to the delegates to decide. Commission II approved the draft as given here.

EL PRESIDENTE: Señor delegado de Argentina; parece que el texto inicial en la forma en que nos viene de la Comisión II, está bien expresado con el término "reconoció". ¿Le plantea alguna preocupación? Ninguna. Muchas gracias a la delegación de Argentina por su comprensión. Si no hay entonces ninguna otra observación, damos pues por aprobado el Capítulo 4, en sus párrafos 117 a 120.

Paragraphs 117 to 120 approved

Les paragraphes 117 à 120 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 117 a 120 son aprobados

Paragraphs 121 to 126 approved

Les paragraphes 121 à 126 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 121 a 126 son aprobados

Paragraphs 127 to 128 approved

Les paragraphes 127 à 128 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 127 a 128 son aprobados

Paragraph 129 approved

Le paragraphe 129 est approuvé

El párrafo 129 es aprobado

C 79/REP/5-Sup. 1 (Statement showing the Computation of Contributions for 1980 and 1981) approved

C 79/REP/5-Sup. 1 (Calcul des contributions dues pour 1980 et 1981) est approuvé

C 79/REP/5-Sup. 1 (Relación de las cuotas correspondientes a 1980 y 1981) es aprobado

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 5, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière, partie 5, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 5, es aprobado

F. J. SPECKS (Germany, Fed. Republic of) (Interpretation from German): My delegation wishes to give the following declaration on voting; our abstention is based on the world-wide slow down of economic development. This means that the actual increase of budgets of international organizations should be kept within the same limits as those of national budgets. In taking this position the Federal Republic of Germany is in line with other major contributors to FAO. The Organization has been aware of this fact for a long time. However, this is something I wish to stress, we support the FAO Programme of Work and have full confidence in the Director-General.

R. W. WOOTTON (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom is on record at this Conference as having a high regard for FAO's work but we have also had to explain our difficulties regarding our public expenditure programmes at the present time, which has meant that my Government is having to forego growth in its programmes. This is why we have had to abstain on the budget today.

R. SORENSON (United States of America): The reasons for the United States' abstention were explained in detail in earlier meetings of the Programme Committee and Commission II and there is no need to repeat them here. I would only say that we are not unmindful of the not inconsiderable efforts of the Director-General in fact to strike a balance between conflicting pressures that were upon him. The United States and FAO share a fundamental interest in goals. We will look upon FAO to play an international role in the agricultural sector in the years ahead.

T. GLASER (Suisse): En votant pour le budget, la délégation suisse entend témoigner son appréciation au/Directeur général qui a su réaliser un compromis acceptable compte tenu, d'une part, des circonstances économiques actuelles et, d'autre part, des immenses tâches incombant à la FAO. Elle estime cependant que le taux de croissance retenu pour le biennium 1980-81 doit rester une exception et fait confiance au Directeur général pour qu'il poursuive ses efforts en vue de stabiliser le budget ordinaire de la FAO.

Cela dit, je dois encore déclarer à la Conférence que l'intervention du Directeur général à propos de la Suisse, hier soir, en Commission II, est inacceptable pour ma délégation. Il n'appartient pas au Directeur général de donner des qualifications désobligeantes aux représentants d'un Etat Membre.

I. TAKI (Japan): I would like to make a short comment on the vote on the Programme of Work and Budget taken by the Japanese delegation. It can be said we are in broad agreement with the Programme of Work and Budget. However, since the world economic situation is becoming more and more gloomy and due to the fact that Japan actually faces serious financial difficulties we cannot help but express deep concern over the general trend of increase in the level of the FAO budget. It is therefore the sincere wish of the Japanese Government that the Organization will make further effort to strengthen its tight control on the budget for the years to come. However, I would like to inform you that the Japanese Government, having full confidence in the excellent leadership of Dr. Saouma, will continue its efforts to cooperate with the FAO in order to accomplish its important objectives.

A. RENAUD (Canada): Le Canada s'est abstenu de voter sur le budget pour les raisons qui ont été expliquées par notre Ministre fédéral de l'agriculture lors de sa présentation, et ce n'est pas à moi d'en faire les commentaires. Je voudrais quand même endosser les remarques qui ont été faites par mon collègue de l'Allemagne et d'autres encore, au sujet de l'approbation que nous donnons au Programme de travail de la FAO, et comment le Canada, pays agricole entre autres, est certainement d'accord sur les buts de la FAO. Nous apprécions également les efforts que le Directeur général a faits pour maintenir la croissance du budget le plus possible autour du zéro, et apprécions également ses efforts pour donner une impulsion vraiment dynamique au Programme.

J. S. CAMARA (Guinée): Nous voulons tout d'abord confirmer ce que nous venons d'entendre, à savoir que les intervenants apprécient les efforts du Directeur général, et comme l'a dit l'orateur qui m'a précédé, l'impulsion dynamique qu'il a donnée à cette Organisation.

Nous lui renouvelons entièrement notre confiance, mais, Monsieur le Président, si ma délégation a demandé à intervenir pour expliquer son vote sur le budget c'est que nous avons été surpris de constater autant d'abstentions sur un budget bien que beaucoup de délégations aient salué les efforts faits par le Directeur général pour maintenir ce budget dans les limites tenant compte de la situation économique mondiale actuelle. Ma délégation doit exprimer sa surprise et son inquiétude face à ces abstentions.

Nous approuvons son programme, nous approuvons le travail de la FAO; nous ne reculons pas devant les efforts que nous devons faire pour permettre au Directeur général et à l'Organisation d'accomplir les tâches que nous lui confions. Ces sacrifices ne sont pas unilatéraux car nous aussi nous contribuons aux activités de l'Organisation. Les difficultés qu'éprouvent ceux qui sont mieux nantis que nous sont minimales par rapport aux nôtres, car nous appartenons au monde qui, pendant des siècles, a été exploité. Ce n'est pas une raison de s'abstenir, parce que la croissance du budget doit rester à zéro, ou parce qu'ils éprouvent des difficultés. Je pense que le budget que nous a présenté le Directeur général aurait pu recueillir l'unanimité. J'ai tenu, au nom de ma délégation et de mon gouvernement, à exprimer mon inquiétude et ma surprise, tout en renouvelant, de toute façon, la confiance de mon pays au Directeur général et en saluant ses efforts en vue d'obtenir l'unanimité sur son budget. Cela n'a pas été et je tiens à manifester ici la préoccupation de mon gouvernement face à ces abstentions, car si cela devait continuer nous nous demanderions vers quelle tendance nous allons. Comme ces pays ont manifesté qu'ils coopéraient avec le Directeur général, nous pensons que malgré leur abstention ils apporteront leur concours au Directeur général et au Secrétariat qui s'efforcent de venir en aide aux pays qui en ont le plus besoin aujourd'hui.

EL PRESIDENTE: Algunos otros países me han hecho la indicación de que deseaban intervenir. Tengo, en este momento cerrada la lista y ruego por la buena marcha de los debates que no se amplíe la lista de oradores cada minuto porque si no esto nos podría llevar a consumir toda la tarde de hoy en explicaciones de voto.

Las peticiones de palabra que quedan en este momento corresponden a tres Estados Miembros, a los cuales les iré dando la palabra sucesivamente.

Tiene la palabra la representación de México.

A. ECHEVERRIA ZUNO (México): Nuestra intervención es en atención a la observación que Ud., Señor Presidente, nos hizo mientras corría la votación y pedimos una disculpa por haberle interrumpido.

Insistentemente nuestra delegación ha venido expresando sus fincados temores de que la FAO se vea dentro de dos años con una capacidad real y operativa menor que la que tiene en la actualidad y que sus potencialidades para atender las demandas de asistencia se reduzcan relativamente.

También hemos dicho que el presupuesto que se nos ha presentado lo hemos considerado como el mínimo vital y que nosotros quedamos profundamente sorprendidos por el incremento tan pequeño como el que se nos sugirió.

México se abstuvo porque tenemos un reglamento legislativo en el que queda claramente establecido que es el Congreso de la Federación la única entidad capaz de emprender un compromiso como el que nos correspondería. El Congreso de mi país está en sesiones y este punto de la Agenda se considerará en unas

cuantas semanas. El Ejecutivo de mi país no observa ningún problema, absolutamente ningún problema, pero es disciplinado con sus propias normas y legislación, por lo que puedo asegurarle, señor Presidente, que cumpliremos puntualmente, como siempre, con nuestros compromisos.

México es bien solidario con la FAO, con su Director General actual y sabrá cumplir con su papel a través de la FAO para el establecimiento del Nuevo Orden Economico Internacional. Sólo y exclusivamente por esas razones México se ha abstenido.

RAMADHAR (Chairman, Group of 77): I am speaking on behalf of the developing countries, the Group of 77.

As you see, Mr. Chairman, there was a remarkable and complete consensus on the strategies, priorities and programmes outlined in the budget for the next biennium. There was also complete and unequivocal support for the orientation which the Director-General has given by making the programmes more action-oriented and more relevant to the needs and requirements of the developing nations. With this kind of unanimity and consensus it should have been logical that the budget should have been unanimously approved by this Organization.

It was surprising to us that six countries decided to abstain. We do not question the rights of any Member Nation to adopt a certain course of action on any issue. However, we believe that even these countries which have abstained have the same concern for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition as any other country. The problems of inflation affect the developing countries more than the developed countries. The abstention of these countries, therefore, despite such a unanimous consensus on the strategies and priorities, is not understandable.

C. BATAULT (France): Le vote positif de la France sur le niveau du budget de la FAO ne constitue en aucune maniere un précédent pour l'avenir, ni pour l'ensemble du système des Nations Unies. Il doit être considéré comme un symbole de l'importance que nous attachons à la lutte contre la faim dans le monde, comme l'a tout récemment souligné notre Ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. Jean-François Poncet, devant la tribune des Nations Unies. Ce vote constitue également un hommage rendu à l'oeuvre qu'accomplissent le Directeur général et ses collaborateurs pour rendre l'Organisation aussi efficace et opérationnelle que possible. Comme l'a souligné, dans son discours, le chef de notre délégation.

Toutefois, Monsieur le Président, la France souhaiterait que l'Organisation tienne, pour l'avenir, non seulement compte des observations que nous avons faites en Commission, tendant en particulier à un accent mis davantage sur la production vivrière, mais aussi souhaiterions-nous voir la FAO s'orienter, à l'avenir, vers l'utilisation dans l'agriculture des énergies et des technologies agricoles nouvelles. Comme en avait parlé, dans son discours de Stockholm, le Directeur général, cette utilisation des énergies et des techniques agricoles nouvelles, qui vient heureusement compléter et non pas se substituer à ce qui existe à l'heure actuelle dans ce domaine. La France est prête à contribuer à cet effort, à faire profiter la FAO, en particulier du résultat de ses recherches, par exemple des travaux qui sont actuellement réalisés avec succès par les quelque 6000 chercheurs de l'Institut national de recherche agricole, et également des travaux qu'elle a accomplis ces dernières années, également avec succès, dans le domaine de nouvelles ressources énergétiques dans l'agriculture.

Enfin, dans un tout autre ordre d'idées, nous souhaiterions que l'on accorde peut-être un peu plus d'attention aux suggestions et aux propositions, aux idées mises en avant par certains Etats Membres, même s'il ne s'agit pas toujours de propositions orthodoxes.

Dans la situation économique actuelle de la France, ce vote représente pour elle un grand effort. Nous faisons confiance au Directeur Général et à ses collaborateurs pour que cet effort constitue une contribution positive à la lutte contre la faim dans le monde, dans l'avenir.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, I should like to say a few words now that you have declared the results of the vote on the Programme of Work and Budget. Although it is my responsibility to propose a programme of work and budget, it is your prerogative to decide whether or not to accept it. The vote on the budget is, in fact, one of the most crucial acts that the Conference has to take. Let me say, therefore, that I am very happy indeed that my proposals have received overwhelming support.

I Would Also Like To Thank The Delegations Who, Although Abstaining, Have Taken This Opportunity To Express Their Support To The Organization And To Its Director-General. There Has Been No Vote Against The Budget, But A Few Countries Have Abstained. I Am Grateful, Nevertheless, For The Explanations They Have Given On Their Stand.

I Am Glad That Switzerland Has Not Abstained Since, The Swiss Franc Having Strengthened By 32 Percent Over The Dollar During The Last Biennium, The Real Increase In Our Budget Is Much Less For That Country Than For Most Others. As A Matter Of Fact, The Programme Increase For Such A Country Is Likely To Be Less Than The Cost Of The Review-In-Depth Which Was Suggested In Connection With Agrarian Reform And Rural Development.

This evening, some delegations have requested me to decrease the budget for the next biennium. however, the same countries who have abstained today had done the same in 1977 and, at that time, their message was also that the budget should go down. in order to take their wishes into account. i reduced the net programme increase from 7. 5 percent in 1978/79 to 5. 6 percent in 1980/81 · but, now, how far should we go in that direction? this will be the hardest question i will have to answer when preparing the programme of work and budget for the next biennium.

Mr. chairman, even though a few countries have abstained, they have made it clear that they share in the unanimous endorsement of the organization's strategies, policies and programmes. their reservations are financial in character, but the countries involved are not among the poorest. the right of every sovereign member nation to play its part in determining the policies, programmes and budgets of the organization must be respected.

I sympathise officially and personally with any member nation which has economic and financial problems. Mr. chairman, the smallest and poorest countries are in fact suffering more than the richer countries from the phenomena of inflation and currency instability. they are harder hit by inflation, and they are not wasting energy on the same scale as the rich countries. their terms of trade with developed countries have deteriorated, since the prices of their imports from developed countries have risen more sharply than the prices of their exports to developed countries. their debt repayment burden is growing.

In this connexion, Mr. chairman, it must be remembered that in accordance with a formula essentially determined by the general assembly, every country, however small, contributes an equivalent amount; that is, the comparative economic and financial sacrifice involved in each contribution is the same as that of any.

I do not want to labour the point, Mr. chairman, since i respect the right of every sovereign member nation to express its views and its wishes, just as i hope that every other member country will also respect my right to express my views. i am happy that all but a few have supported the programme of work and budget, including the budget level. i simply think, Mr. chairman, that it would be happier and healthier for the organization if every member nation could vote in favour of the programme of work and budget. and i would again express the hope that my appeals for increased investments in food and agriculture, through all ohannels, and for voluntary contributions to FAO's action programmes, including trypanosomiasis and exclusive economic zones, and the follow-up of the world conference on agrarian reform and development, will be met with increased voluntary contributions in the next biennium i hope that, in fact, these will come not only from the same small but generous group of existing donors as in the past, but also from others.

In conclusion, Mr. chairman, let me again stress my profound satisfaction that there is such a unique consensus on the rightness and effectiveness of the programmes, policies and priorities which i have proposed in my programme of work and budget for 1980/81 and for the overwhelming support which you have expressed today by your votes. if i may risk sounding immodest, i would say this is an almost unique occurrence in the un system or even within FAO.

In any case, i am proud, on behalf of this organization and on behalf of my staff, that there is such widespread and deep support for all that we are attempting to do to alleviate the crippling hunger, malnutrition and suffering of the urban and rural masses in the Third world, as well as building up the economic and social base for the great increase in food production and rural development which is going to be required in the next twenty years.

Thank you very much.

EL PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias al señor Director General por sus palabras que compartimos todos los miembros de la Conferencia. Y aprobado este punto, creo que debemos pasar al único documento que nos queda en este momento por someter a la aprobación de la Plenaria, que es el documento que lleva el número C 79/REP/8.

DRAFT REPORT OF PLENARY-PART 8 (FROM COMMISSION II)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA CONFERENCE-PARTIE 8 (SOUMIS 'PAR LA COMMISSION II)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA PLENARIA-PARTE 8 (DE LA COMISION II)

LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL: Je voudrais signaler qu'au document C 79/REP/8 trois corrigenda ont été distribués, qui sont maintenant à la disposition des délégations. Le corrigendum 1 est seulement en anglais, le corrigendum 2 est en français et le corrigendum 3 en espagnol.

EL PRESIDENTE: Hecha esta declaración por el Secretario General, vamos a pasar al análisis de cada una de las secciones de este documento.

Paragraphs 1 to 29 approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 29 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 29 son aprobados

Paragraphs 30 to 54 approved

Les paragraphes 30 a 54 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 30 a 54 son aprobados

Paragraph 55, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 55, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 55, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 56 to 84 approved

Les paragraphes 56 à 84 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 56 a 84 son aprobados

Paragraphs 85 to 92 approved

Les paragraphes 85 à 92 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 85 a 92 son aprobados

Paragraphs 93 to 99 approved

Les paragraphes 93 à 99 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 93 a 99 son aprobados

Paragraphs 100 to 112 approved

Les paragraphes 100 à 112 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 100 a 112 son aprobados

Paragraph 113, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 113, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 113, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 114 to 122 approved

Les paragraphes 114 à 122 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 114 a 122 son aprobados

Paragraph 123, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 123, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 123, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 124 to 133 approved

Les paragraphes 124 à 133 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 124 a 133 son aprobados

Paragraph 134, including Resolution, adopted

Le paragraphe 134, y compris la résolution, est adopté

El párrafo 134, incluida la Resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 135 to 145 approved

Les paragraphes 135 à 145 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 135 a 145 son aprobados

Paragraphs 146 to 154 approved

Les paragraphes 146 à 154 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 146 a 154 son aprobados

Paragraphs 155 to 157 approved

Les paragraphes 155 à 157 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 155 a 157 son aprobados

Paragraphs 158 to 160 approved

Les paragraphes 158 à 160 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 158 a 160 son aprobados

En tal caso, hemos aprobado el documento C 79/REP/8 en todos sus párrafos, y por consiguiente con las correspondientes Resoluciones que están incluidas en cada uno de los párrafos que hemos ido mencionando, al formular la petición de observaciones si es que había observaciones.

CO. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Simplemente para confirmar una aclaración interpretativa. En el documento Corrigendum 3 que se acaba de repartir se sustituyen algunos párrafos del texto en español. Como usted no lo menciono, quiero ratificar que los textos que hemos aprobado son tal como figuran en el Corrigendum 3.

EL PRESIDENTE: Si; entiendo que al haberles sido distribuido a todos los señores delegados el Corrigendum 3, los textos que acabamos de aprobar son los originales pero sustituyendo en ellos los párrafos afectados por las correcciones que figuran en el Corrigendum 3, exactamente.

Evidentemente tanto en el texto español como en el inglés o el francés que les ha sido distribuido, naturalmente.

Draft Report of Plenary-Part 8, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la plénière-partie 8, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Plenaria-Parte 8, es aprobado

Payment of Contributions-Nicaragua

Paiement des contributions-Nicaragua

Pago de las cuotas-Nicaragua

EL PRESIDENTE: Quiero hacer una observación. Cuando esta mañana hemos adoptado la segunda parte del Informe de la Plenaria, el documento C 79/REP/2, este documento no incluía la Resolución sobre el pago de cuotas de Nicaragua. Como ustedes recordarán adoptamos una Resolución en tal sentido el día 15 de noviembre, cuando adoptamos el Segundo Informe del Comité General, que era el documento C 79/LIM/15. Quiero decir, por tanto, que en el Informe Final, esta Resolución figurará en el sitio apropiado, e insisto que ha sido un error, por la no inclusión de esta Resolución en el documento distribuido esta mañana.

Señoras y señores delegados. No me queda antes de proceder a la clausura de la Conferencia más que informarles, en primer lugar, de algunos Movimientos de Liberación que están ahora representados en la 20a sesión de la Conferencia de la FAO, y que no habían sido mencionados con anterioridad. Congreso Nacional Africano, Congreso Panafricano, Organización de Pueblos de Africa de Sudoeste, Frente Patrio-tico de Zimbabwe y Union Nacional Africana.

Señoras y señores delegados. Con esto hemos dado fin a las tareas de la 20a Conferencia y antes de clausurar formalmente la Conferencia, voy a conceder la palabra al señor Director General.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, I should like to say a few words as we come to the end of this Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference.

It is with mixed feelings that I speak of the conclusion of this Session.

On the one hand, after nearly one year of preparation and three weeks of hard work, there is the prospect for all of us of a little repose, time for reflection and renewal of our energies for work in the biennium ahead.

On the other hand, the Conference is the summit of the Organization, the source from which our inspiration, our work and our support flows.

It is also the occasion on which it is my privilege to meet scores of Ministers and Heads of Delegations, to discuss world issues and also development problems in their countries in the field of food and agriculture.

I value these contacts as contributing directly to the very life-blood of this Organization.

They are extremely important to the successful implementation of our policies for concrete action at the country level, for responding to the real needs of member countries as perceived by those who bear the heavy responsibility for their political and economic guidance.

I have therefore, as usual, devoted much time to meetings with Ministers and delegates.

This has inevitably meant that I could spend less time than I would have liked in the debates on various items in the Commissions.

Nevertheless, I have closely followed the proceedings in the Commissions.

I have also had discussions with groups as well as individuals about some of the important matters under discussion.

In doing so, I have not only followed my policy from the beginning of seeking consensus wherever possible.

I have also been inspired by the words which we were greatly privileged to hear from His Holiness Pope John Paul II when he addressed this Conference.

He said that "FAO can pride itself on fulfilling an irreplaceable specialised function within the United Nations family".

He also spoke of undertaking "Joint action which derives from a real convergence between the countries of the world, whatever their economic systems and political structures".

It is of special note that a person no less than His Holiness should say, in the clear and ringing tones for which he has in such a short time achieved worldwide respect, that "The face of hunger becomes even more clearly defined, and concrete action must be taken by the Member Nations and the Organization as a whole... it is the praiseworthy resolve of your Organization to persist in seeking out the best ways and the methods adapted to the concrete conditions in each country, and to make provision for their prudent application".

Albeit with some not unexpected difficulties, with some irritations here and there, but on the whole with cooperation and goodwill, we have made progress in this direction at this Conference.

I do not wish at this hour to detail all the work that you have done, but I think I should mention some major points.

I am, for example, particularly glad that the Conference has further confirmed the wisdom of the acceptance by the Committee on Food Security and the Council of my Five-point Plan for World Food Security.

The Resolution which was adopted on Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development provides a platform upon which attempts can be made in the coming biennium to achieve the necessary resource base for advance in food and agricultural development in your countries.

Your discussions on the main lines of our programme for the next biennium have shown us the way forward.

Thus, we know how to go forward on FAO's contribution to the formulation of the New International Development Strategy, on our Study on Agriculture: Toward 2000, and on the Special Programmes I have proposed for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones, for the Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis, and above all on Follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

In the implementation of our Programmes we shall, of course, be guided by your Reviews of our Medium Term Objectives and of the Regular and Field Programmes, as well as your comments on the Programme of Work and Budget.

In reviewing the work of the Conference, I cannot fail again to stress my satisfaction that although we have dealt with some controversial issues, indeed one or two very controversial issues, we have preserved the tradition and reputation of this Organization for a high level of reasoned and objective debate on substantive issues.

In this connection, I shall not for reasons which will be understood, refer to what was the most controversial issue of all, except to say that I will endeavour as always to the best of my to serve faithfully and objectively the interests of all Member Nations.

There is one decision which you have taken which is highly significant.

Its implementation does not lie primarily with the Bureaucracy.

It does not cost a lot of money.

It calls for the minimum of coordination, if any.

It does not call for painful or harsh choices of development options.

It should disturb none and rejoice all.

I refer to your decision to establish a World Food Day.

It may have been thought of before, but it is surprising that it has taken until now for the proposal to be made and adopted.

Better late than never!

It comes particularly well after the McDougall Memorial Lecture by His Excellency President Kaunda of Zambia.

There have been many outstanding McDougall Memorial Lectures.

I think you would agree, however, that this one by President Kaunda was truly inspirational.

Amid many important and quotable statements he said: "Man, goaded and persecuted by hunger, can never really be free".

And later he said: "The battle ground is not the country of starvation. It is the whole earth, because the result of the defeat of one people has far-reaching consequences for humanity. In this matter of hunger, let humanity see itself as one people ranged against hunger".

It seems to me that the establishment of World Food Day is a fitting form in which this Conference has symbolized its agreement with the appeals made by His Holiness Pope John Paul II and His Excellency President Kaunda.

The Conference could not have achieved these results had it not been for the skills, efficiency and leadership of the Conference officers whom you elected from among yourselves.

We should be and are most grateful to the Chairmen and members of all the Committees-the General, the Credentials, the Resolutions, and the Drafting Committees-who have worked so hard but so well to enable us to complete our work.

Your elected Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the three Commissions and your Rapporteur have not failed the confidence you have placed in them and have carried out their appointed tasks with finesse as well as with distinction.

You, Sir, our Chairman, stand not only in the hierarchy but also in distinction at the pinnacle of the structure of this Conference,

As a Minister of the Government of your country, you have many high responsibilities and concerns.

Yet you graciously accepted the task of being our Chairman and have stayed throughout the Conference in order to rule and guide our debates and to ensure that we complete our tasks successfully.

Kay I say that you have carried out these duties with outstanding aplomb and efficiency.

We have been impressed by your knowledge and wisdom, your good humour and tact, and your gift for impromptu but lucid and elegant speeches, not only in your own beautiful and dignified language but also in other languages.

Mr. Chairman, the 147 Nations which now make up the membership of this Organization have shown by their words and their actions at this Conference how truly great this Organization is and how much human potential exists among all Member Nations to attack the appalling crime against morality and justice that is constituted by widespread hunger in the world today.

The continuing problem is how to mobilise this human potential for improvement.

One of the promising ways that lies ahead is the development of the approach to which you and other speakers, including myself, mentioned at the beginning of the Conference.

I refer to the need to avoid total and blind reliance on high energy-greedy and environment-damaging technology, and to exploit various biological methods which might create the new agricultural revolution of the twenty-first century.

Such an approach would be especially relevant to the fructification of the human potential which exists among the rural masses of the Third World.

We must not, however, delude ourselves by our own rhetoric that the road is short or easy.

It is stony and it is hard.

It will of necessity have detours and crossroads.

There may be cul-de-sacs, involving retracing of our steps.

Together, however, we will find our way forward.

We will be meeting again, firstly in the Regional Conferences to be held in the next few months.

In those Regional Conferences, Ministers will review contacts and will review not only FAO's policies and programmes but also opportunities for cooperation between their countries in regional or bilateral contexts.

I am looking forward greatly to the Conferences, which constitute an important part of our mechanisms for policy making and practical action in the field.

Towards the end of 1980, we will resume our work in the Council.

In this connection, my sympathy as well as my thanks go to those countries which will not be reappearing at the Council on future occasions, and I express my felicitations to the new members who have been elected. I also express my felicitations to Dr. Bukar Shaib, the Independent Chairman of the Council, for his brilliant re-election.

Looking further ahead over the next two years, we will have much to do, and much to report and to discuss at the Twenty-first Conference at the end of 1981.

By then, I hope, the Plenary Hall and the Red Room will have been completely refurnished and redecorated with the primary objective of providing more space and comfort for our increased membership.

You will, I hope, be physically comfortable.

It is, however, already obvious that we will be faced with many problems in these next two years.

With however the support that you have given to the Organization and to me at this Conference, I face the on-coming problems with courage and with confidence that we shall find correct and workable solutions.

The idealist thinks in terms of absolutes, right or wrong. The political leader cannot afford this luxury.

He must proceed in inevitably imperfect stages, since man is an imperfect being.

Nevertheless, political action which is not informed by idealism will not only be imperfect: it will be bereft of standards and thus bereft of lasting benefit.

Idealism must inform our ideas and our action.

Idealism must give us the courage to attempt what may now seem impossible of achievement, since by daring to attempt it, by daring to challenge privilege and conventional wisdom, by daring to step into the unknown, we may yet achieve it.

Let us therefore go forward together in this spirit.

Let us continue to press on with the daily and manifold tasks of development in concrete and practical forms on the ground, in the field.

Let us, however, at the same time never lose the spirit of idealism and faith in international cooperation which characterizes this sovereign Conference of our Member Nations and this great Organization constituted by you.

Mr. Chairman, once again, my thanks.

I wish you all a safe and happy return to your countries and to your families, and a Happy New Year.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE. Gracias señor Director General por sus palabras. Antes de intervenir personalmente para clausurar la Conferencia, quiero preguntar si algún Estado Miembro desea hacer uso de la palabra en este momento, y tras las palabras del Director General.

RAMADHAR (Chairman, Group of 77): Now that the Conference is coming to a close, I would like to compliment you on behalf of the Group of 77 for the able manner in which you guided the proceedings of this Conference. This has fully vindicated the trust and confidence which we reposed in you by electing you to this high office. I would also like to compliment the Vice-Chairmen for the excellent work that they have done.

This Conference marks another milestone in the history of this Organization: the Conference was graced by the presence of His Holiness Pope John Paul II and His Excellency President Kaunda of Zambia. As pointed out by the Director-General just now, the Resolution on World Food Day was a natural culmination of the presence of these two distinguished guests. This Conference has reiterated its full and unequivocal support to the new direction and orientation given to this Organization by making it more action-oriented and responsive to the needs and aspirations of Member Countries. Decentralization at country

level, technical cooperation programmes, TCDC, the Five-Point Plan of Action, the Special Action Programme for EEZ, are some of the important and vital components of this reorientation. The support of the Conference to the follow-up measures suggested by the Director-General for the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development will be a significant boost to the efforts of this Organization to meet the challenges of hunger and malnutrition.

This Conference has shown that the entire international community is committed to realize the objectives of this Organization. What is required is resolute and firm action to put the solemn professions into action. The Conference has also displayed that this Organization in its onward march wants to keep sensitive and volatile issues outside and would not like its course to be deflected by side issues.

I would like to pay a special compliment to the Director-General for the sincere efforts which he made in leading us to an amicable and happy conclusion regarding the Regional Office for the Near East. The perseverance and determination which the Director-General showed exemplifies the unity and integrity of this Organization and it also shows that this is closest to his heart, and that he placed this above everything. The fact that his efforts were crowned with success and were approved by acclamation was a reiteration of the Conference's excellent leadership which he provided.

As we depart to our respective destinations at the conclusion of this Conference, let this Conference give a new urge and drive to us to re-dedicate ourselves to our task in our respective areas of responsibility. The reiteration of confidence in the leadership of the Director-General will no doubt give him encouragement to take the Organization to new heights. In this I am sure all of us are with him.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): To the country holding the current Chairmanship of the nine Member States of the 'European Economic Community, some aspects of this responsibility are considerably more agreeable and less onerous than others, and I am happy to say that I am about to discharge one of these functions at the moment. On behalf of the States of the Community I would like to express our very sincere appreciation of the excellent quality of your Chairmanship. At the beginning of this Session you received, I believe, as many congratulations as there were speakers. Now that we have come to the end of the Session, I think it is our turn to congratulate ourselves on our good fortune in having had such an impartial, patient and courteous Chairman. I should like to thank you very sincerely on behalf of Ireland and of other eight Member States for having so effectively guided the Conference to what I sincerely trust time will show to have been a highly successful one.

At this stage, it is my principal objective in speaking now, to express our sincere appreciation of your chairmanship. I would indeed associate myself first of all with the remarks made by the Director-General in regard to the officers of the Conference and the staff of FAO. I think that the Conference has been very well served. This has been my experience. I associate myself with the remarks of India in regard to the Vice-chairmen in particular, and also with his congratulations to the Director-General on his personal achievements, his very special personal achievements during this Conference. I trust that the problems of the next Conference will be lighter and that the general, global aspect will have improved immensely, and that this progress will continue for all future conferences. In the meantime, thank you, Mr. Chairman, once again for being an excellent Chairman.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

DATUK ARSHAD BIN AYUB (Malaysia): I am afraid all good things must come to an end and so this afternoon we find ourselves at the end of the Twentieth FAO Conference, perhaps somewhat exhausted but eager to dash off to the airport, but I do sincerely pray that all of us are satisfied that we have done full justice to the agenda items dealing with the critical issues of food and agriculture that were placed before us.

On behalf of the Asian group and on behalf of the Malaysian delegation I would like to express, first of all, our most sincere appreciation to you, our Chairman, the distinguished Minister of Agriculture of Spain, and we would also like to thank your Vice-Chair men, Chairmen of the various Commissions, and the Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteurs.

Day after day you have listened with careful attention, exquisite courtesy and saintly patience to the bumper harvest of words that we have had here and we are not short or starved of those and from all these conflicting views and even more confusing accents like mine, you have displayed great diplomatic skills in guiding us to a consensus. All of us can now say with the benefit of hindsight how wise we were to elect you unanimously to this high office.

Asia, as all of you know, has the largest concentration of population of the world. One country alone, the People's Republic of China, has over 970 million people, as we heard from the statement of the Chinese delegate. Our land to man ratio is low and the problems of food and agriculture that beset us demand response, demand vision and the capacity to master political will and help forge commonly agreed upon instruments of development needed to enable our people to break out of dehumanizing rural poverty.

The Director-General has, we are pleased to say, given us the dedication, vision and the leadership that these problems call for. For us in Asia the Director-General's initiative in calling for the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development came as a crucial sign. Increasingly we were detecting signs of wavering support for the agrarian reform and rural development. This faltering came at a time when well over 600 million rural dwellers the world over are landless and given current population growth rate the number of these dispossessed people could exceed a billion in over two decades.

WCARRD has, thanks to the Director-General's foresight, reversed this erosion and the endorsement we have given at this Conference should enable us in the months ahead to redeem our pledges to the rural poor.

The other Agenda item, "Agriculture: Towards the Year 2000" the new Comprehensive Programmes for the Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones, under the new régime of the seas; the State of Food and Agriculture and the Plan of Action for Strengthening World Food Security and other related topics have helped us, sometimes under the forced-march pace of evening sessions, to plan together our common strategies in alleviating poverty and easing the hurt, desolation, hopelessness, harshness and pain imposed by hunger.

The Director-General's invincible persuasiveness and invisible firm hand, so necessary in an Organization of 147 countries with 147 perceptions, have been of immense help in this task.

In Asia poverty results in truncated lives and sometimes in our deliberations in this Conference our rich friends. countries could not quite understand our seeming impatience and restlessness with their careful well-reserved positions. Let me take a little more time. I would like to say a few more words about the rich countries regarding the FAO budget abstentions. We have heard and we are totally disappointed. that the rich countries do not share our deep concern for the poor and the hungry.

They themselves do not experience the difficulties we, the developing countries, are facing back home, problems of finding enough food to feed the hungry. Are we to ask the hungry to wait for a reduced inflationary period or are we to wait for another period of high economic rate of growth before they are entitled to their food?

No, we cannot wait for that to happen before we go forward to alleviate these problems.

I would like also to remind my colleagues in some rich countries that whatever happens in the developing countries in the form of economic and political unrest or disorders will reverberate in their own countries in terms of shortage of raw material. Their contribution to the development of the developing countries is only an insurance on their own well-being in the future.

In making this observation please do not misunderstand us that we are ungrateful or that we are thankful for the aid, but with a little bit more support and effort we can progress further and we can be less dependent on the aid from the developed countries.

The Director-General, with his deep sympathy for our impoverished people his understanding of the pressure that this poverty builds, his diplomatic skills in keeping the dialogue going, has helped tremendously in bridging this gap in perceptions and enabled us to avoid confrontation and reach consensus.

One item does not appear on our Agenda, but I am positive that it has not ceased to haunt all of us here. I refer to the thousands of refugees in Asia that have been displaced by hostilities and on this occasion we in Asia would like to place on record our most sincere appreciation to the Director-General of the Organization for providing food for the hungry people and assistance to rehabilitate devastated agricultural land, without regard for ideology, but on the basis of simple concern for the welfare of fellow human beings.

I would also like to put on record our appreciation for the service that the FAO Regional and Country Offices extend to us. They are the cutting edge in the development programme that we mandate and which the Director-General executes with a firmness that we all applaud and with a sense of compassion that we cherish.

May I thank the Government of Italy for its hospitality and last but not least I would like to thank the members of the Secretariat for the help they have given us in the course of this Conference. May God bless all of us.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

H. MENDS (Ghana): Under your competent leadership and guidance many far reaching conclusions have been arrived at during this session of the Conference, conclusions which when they are pursued will definitely improve the food production capacity of the developing countries and therefore increase food availability and improve nutrition in general in global terms.

Through the resolutions passed this afternoon a lot of responsibility has also been placed on our Director-General for the implementation for most of the programmes, in collaboration with other international agencies. It is the hope, therefore, of the African Group that the Director-General will receive the much needed support of all Member Countries for the attainment of the goal we have set ourselves for the next biennium and with the cooperation of the world to overcome the challenges in the implementation of the programme to alleviate malnutrition and hunger.

There was a rather disturbing issue before one of our Commissions, and here I refer to the item concerning the present location of the FAO Regional Office for the Near-East and my colleague from India has already touched upon this.

No doubt it was a delicate political issue which calls for a high degree of maturity and tactful approach if the peaceful and fraternal manner in which the business of our Conference is normally conducted was to be maintained. Thanks to the excellent negotiating skills and abilities of the Director-General and again thanks to the human understanding of the two factions involved in the issue, the ominous smoke screen was deftly cleared.

We in Africa are certainly bankrupt in gratitude for the eminent role the Director-General played in resolving the issue and we are very much obliged to our brothers for their wonderful spirit of accommodation and goodwill. For this, after all, is the spirit that abides in this Organization.

We also wish to thank you and your Vice-Chairmen profusely for the expert manner in which you have handled

the work of this Conference. Many thanks are also due to the General Committee, the three Chairmen and their Vice-Chairmen of the Commission and the various Drafting Committees for the very able manner in which they discharged their responsibilities. We are extremely happy with the professional and technical assistance of the Secretariat and wish them more success in the future.

Finally, we have certainly appreciated the presence of the Honourable Ministers and heads of delegations for the past three weeks who took time out of their heavy and multifarious schedules in their capitals to be with us. We wish them all God's speed on their journey home. Au revoir.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

H. BAEYENS (Belgique): Je voudrais simplement dire quelques brèves paroles au nom des Pays Membres de la Région européenne.

Je voudrais d'abord féliciter la Conférence pour son travail, pour la tâche importante qu'elle vient d'accomplir. Je voudrais également remercier les délégations pour avoir maintenu, tout au long des débats, l'attitude courtoise et constructive qui convient dans une enceinte mondiale où des décisions sont discutées qui se rapportent à la vie même des populations du globe.

Monsieur le Président, de la part des pays de la Région européenne, votre région, je dois vous remercier vivement d'avoir accepté cette tâche, et vous féliciter pour la manière excellente, brillante, dont vous l'avez accomplie. Dans ces remerciements, je voudrais également englober les Vice-Présidents de la Conférence qui vous ont si bien secondé, également les Présidents de commissions et Vice-Présidents des commissions grâce auxquels tous ces débats se sont déroulés de manière efficace et compétente.

Enfin, je voudrais simplement souhaiter bonne route à la FAO et à son Directeur Général pour les vingt-quatre mois qui viennent.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

P. A. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): Esta breve intervención la hago en nombre del grupo latinoamericano que tengo el honor de representar y en nombre también de mi delegación.

Concluimos hoy el 20° período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO. Considero que puede afirmarse sin lugar a dudas el éxito de la misma. Con la manera dinámica y positiva que se han desarrollado nuestros debates estamos seguros que los largos trabajos desplegados por todas las delegaciones se revertirán en acciones concretas y eficaces para satisfacer las necesidades reales de los pobres de este mundo.

A usted, señor Presidente, debemos en gran parte este éxito ya que ha puesto su empeño y dedicación en estos días de trabajo, para dirigir de manera clara, acertada y talentosa, nuestras deliberaciones. Usted siempre ha tenido presente la palabra solidaridad a la hora de presidir nuestros debates en esta Conferencia, inculcándonos ese sentimiento a todas las delegaciones que hemos asistido a la misma.

Por consiguiente, estoy seguro de que hemos podido dejar grabada en el tiempo la palabra solidaridad como fruto de nuestros trabajos en este período de sesiones, tal y como fuera un deseo suyoespresado en su discurso inaugural de esta Conferencia.

Sin su colaboración y sin la colaboración de sus colegas, esto no hubiera sido posible. Encuanto a la labor del Director General, consideramos que con su dedicación a la Organización, nos da un ejemplo que debemos reconocer.

Usted, señor Director General, además de ser un técnico de la Agricultura, un Administradorefciente, ha sabido conducir a la FAO de manera tal que la ha convertido en un factor importante paratratar deeliminar el hambre de la faz de la tierra.

Al mismo tiempo ha demostrado una vez más en esta Conferencia, su capacidad para propiciar vías acertadas a problemas de gran relevancia política, para las cuales eran necesarias soluciones adecuadas y no poco fáciles de enfrentar.

Estos aspectos lo colocan a usted, señor Director General, en una posición relevante en la cooperación internacional; de esa cooperación internacional a la cual exhortamos que todos los pueblos y gobiernos tengamos siempre presente como una necesidad emergente e impostergable para dar solución al hambre, a la miseria y al subdesarrollo.

Tenemos la convicción de que el esfuerzo realizado en estos días, tendrá resultados prácticos positivos y que las Resoluciones aprobadas no se convertirán en letra muerta, y tal como usted dijera hace unos instantes, el esfuerzo para lograr estos objetivos no vendrá solamente de los países en desarrollo.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

I. OZORAI (Hungary): The Hungarian delegation, speaking on behalf of some of the Socialist countries, has the honour to convey its gratitude to you, Mr. Chairman, for the wise, patient and skilfull way in which you have chaired our Conference.

Our thanks are also expressed to the wise Chairman of the Conference and to all its officeholders. Let us also express our deep appreciation to the Director-General for his very active role of assistance provided to us by solving delicate problems during this Conference and for all his efforts in strengthening the action-oriented approach of FAO.

The main problem discussed has been the struggle of the human community for the eradication of hunger, malnutrition and poverty. There was a general consensus on the leading role that FAO has to play in this struggle. Attention was drawn to the necessity to stimulate agricultural and food production at national level and at the same time to increase the responsibility of the international community.

We are convinced that no substantial progress in food and agriculture can be made without substantial social economic support. This approach was largely supported during the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development last July.

The resolutions adopted by the Twentieth Session of the Conference can favourably contribute to the efforts being made all over the world.

We are pleased to note that the Conference agrees to the initiative to found a World Food Day to encourage greater attention to agricultural and food production.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate the compliments to you, Mr. Chairman, and to you, Mr. Director-General. We would also like to record our appreciation of the assistance provided by the Secretariat, and by all staff members, including the interpreters and the messengers of our Conference.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

S. TRINGIN (Papua New Guinea): On behalf of my delegation, as well as of the other delegations representing countries in the Southwest Pacific, I would like to express our appreciation to His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture of Spain, H. E. Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, for his brilliant leadership of our Conference.

It is not easy to conduct a meeting where so many countries coming from diverse backgrounds and facing different problems are required to draw up common programmes of action. Yet you, Mr. Chairman, have succeeded brilliantly in this task.

I would like also to express our appreciation to your team of efficient Vice-Chairmen for their contribution and able guidance of our proceedings.

The developing countries of the Southwest Pacific face a set of problems that are in many ways different from those which nations in Latin America, Africa and mainland Asia confront. We have also problems of malnutrition and underdevelopment.

It seems to us that the Director-General, Dr. Edouard Saouma, has taken these widely different conditions by presenting us in this Conference with a set of agenda items that address themselves to our most critical problems of food and agriculture and at the same time search for innovative ways whereby those countries that are rich in resources, on technology and funds could assist those who are not so fortunate.

Thus we are grateful to the Director-General for including in his programmes a sense of practical action, especially in the fields of agrarian reform and exclusive economic zones.

We have at this Conference reached a consensus on what this Organization and we as individual countries can do to achieve our common goals of uplifting the living standards of the rural poor. The Director-General therefore deserves our commendation.

May I express on behalf of the countries in my sub-region our thanks to the Secretariat for their generous cooperation and assistance. I also extend our thanks to the interpreters, who enabled us to break the language barrier during our deliberations. Finally, I thank our fellow delegates for our smooth, cordial discussions during this Conference.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

A. RENAUD (Canada): Monsieur le Président, vous avez réussi, avec vos collègues vice-Présidents, ainsi que les Présidents et Vice-Présidents des Commissions, à devancer l'heure prévue pour la clôture de cette vingtième session de la Conférence.

Je m'en voudrais de prolonger cette séance par un panégyrique en votre honneur ou par un plaidoyer pour la lutte contre la faim. Je veux simplement, très brièvement, associer la région dite de l'Amérique du Nord à tout ce qui a été dit à votre éloge et à celui de vos collègues, les Vice-Présidents des Commissions de rédaction et des Commissions, le Directeur général et le personnel du Secrétariat y compris, comme l'a mentionné l'honorable délégué de la Hongrie, les messagers, mais j'ajouterai également le personnel invisible du service d'impression de la FAO.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

A. A. MALEK (Liban) (interprétation de l'arabe): Monsieur le Président, la délégation du Liban, qui a l'honneur insigne de parler au nom de la région du Proche-Orient, ne peut ici que vous féliciter pour l'excellente conduite de nos travaux et pour l'adresse que vous avez démontrée chaque fois que nous avons touché à des problèmes délicats.

Je veux aussi féliciter ici les Vice-Présidents, les Présidents, et Vice-Présidents des Commissions, pour l'excellent travail fourni. Nous aurions souhaité que le programme de travail ainsi que le budget eussent été approuvés par toutes les délégations. Ce que nous avons entendu de la part de certaines délégations à propos du vote du budget et du programme n'a pas entamé la confiance qu'elles donnent au Directeur général. Nous avons ainsi obtenu une unanimité sur ce programme de travail et sur le budget présentés.

Quant au Directeur général, un proverbe arabe dit qu'il ne faut pas se jeter des fleurs à soi-même. Mais étant donné l'unanimité que nous avons sentie autour de sa personnalité et tenant compte des propositions qu'il a formulées pour les deux années à venir, nous pouvons dire que le Liban, dont l'histoire est si glorieuse et qui se trouve maintenant blessé par les événements qu'il a vécus durant ces dernières années, le Liban ne peut qu'être fier du fait qu'il appartient à ce pays, pour la compétence qu'il n'a jamais cessé de démontrer dans la conduite des travaux de la FAO.

Je voudrais aussi féliciter la FAO pour le rôle vital qu'elle joue sur la scène internationale et pour l'aide qu'elle apporte, en particulier aux pays en voie de développement.

Nous ne pouvons pas non plus manquer de remercier tout le personnel de la FAO et tous les membres du Secrétariat qui ont oeuvré pour la bonne marche et la réussite de cette Conférence.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

EL PRESIDENTE: Creo que no adie más que tenga solicitada la palabra. En tal caso, señoras y señores delegados, me corresponde a mí ahora dirigirles la palabra, antes de declarar clausurada esta 20a Conferencia,

Permítanme que separe mis palabras en dos partes. Una lógicamente de agradecimiento y de felicitación, y otra, también naturalmente unas palabras de reflexión en este momento, si bien todas ellas serán muy breves.

Agradecimiento en primer lugar, lógicamente, al Gobierno italiano. Estamos en la Sede de FAO en Roma y creo que hacia el Gobierno italiano debe ir nuestro primer agradecimiento.

Agradecimiento y felicitación también a los Vicepresidentes de la Conferencia, a los representantes de los Ministros de Agricultura de Colombia, Marruecos y Pakistán. Lamentamos que un hecho luctuoso nos haya privado de la presencia del Ministro de Agricultura de Colombia más días, como hubiera sido el deseo de todos. Pero todos comprendimos su situación, y le trasmitimos nuestro pesar. Vaya pues a los Vicepresidentes mi agradecimiento sincero por la colaboración que nos han prestado.

A los Presidentes y Vicepresidentes de Comisión que han tenido una tarea difícil, que han llevado con extraordinaria habilidad y talento, gracias a lo cual los debates aquí en la Sesión Plenaria, han sido para todos nosotros extraordinariamente fáciles.

A los Estados Miembros admitidos, Commonwealth de Dominica, Samoa Occidental, (-no Saouma-) y Santa Lucía. A todos ellos nuestra bienvenida; nuestra bienvenida calurosa con todo el afecto de los países amigos. Felicitación también a los Estados Miembros que han sido elegidos como Miembros del Consejo y también como Miembros de los distintos Comités. Sería muy largo el nombrarlos en este momento a todos, pero creo interpretar el sentimiento de toda la Conferencia si en este momento, les dedicamos una felicitación muy sincera a todos. Y también al Presidente Independiente del Consejo, señor Bukar Shaib, amigo personal hoy, después de estos días en que hemos convivido aquí en la FAO, y persona cuyo prestigio e inteligencia han llevado a todos a producir su reelección.

Felicitación también a todos ustedes, a todos los Estados Miembros, a todas las delegaciones por su trabajo, por sus intervenciones, por sus esfuerzos a lo largo de todos estos días.

Creo que, en nombre de toda la Conferencia, debo también expresar unas palabras de agradecimiento y felicitación a los miembros del Comité General. Los Miembros del Comité General que han venido preparando y aprobando las proposiciones que después han llegado a esta Conferencia. Yo que he sido testigo del trabajo del Comité General, puedo decirles a ustedes, cuan importante ha sido la tarea desarrollada en el Comité General, y cuanto ha facilitado la buena marcha de nuestros debates.

Felicitación también, lógicamente, a los Miembros de la Mesa; felicitación al Secretario General, y me permitirán ustedes que dedique unas palabras muy especiales a nuestro Director General.

Todos, querido Director General, hemos comprendido la importancia y la necesidad de su ausencia durante alguna parte de los debates. Lógicamente, era una ocasión extraordinariamente propicia para que los Ministros de Agricultura de las Delegaciones de numerosos países, mantuvieran unas entrevistas; entrevistas importantes con su Director General, con nuestro Director General.

Yo sé bien lo apretada que ha sido la Agenda de trabajo del Director General, y por eso sé aún mejor, los esfuerzos importantes que ha llevado a cabo, porque tiene que simultanear esas entrevistas con conversaciones, con negociaciones, que nos han permitido llevar adelante la Conferencia, que se presentaba con algunos problemas, como todos ustedes conocen, llevarla adelante sin ninguna dificultad, puesto que sé la capacidad de trabajo, la capacidad de sacrificio personal, y el enorme esfuerzo que ha desarrollado durante todo el período, entre las Conferencias, pero muy particularmente en esta Conferencia. Esfuerzo que ha realizado para proponernos algunas de las Resoluciones que han sido unánimemente aceptadas.

Yo quiero, en nombre de toda la Conferencia, felicitarle muy efusivamente. Hay un dato que demuestra muy claramente su buen trabajo. No ha habido un solo voto emitido en contra durante todas las diferentes votaciones que se han celebrado. Ha habido abstenciones, pero no ha habido un solo voto en contra. Creo, sinceramente, señor Director General, que esto se debe en una gran medida a su trabajo. Yo lo sé. Yo quiero acreditarlo aquí, y yo quiero dar aquí testimonio personal de ello, expresando en nombre de toda la Conferencia, nuestro muy sincero agradecimiento.

Tengo la impresión de que podemos correr el riesgo de mantener un diálogo entre unos y otros, de aplaudirnos mutuamente; pero de olvidarnos de alguna persona, de muchas personas gracias a las cuales la Conferencia se hace posible cada dos años. Me refiero concretamente a los servicios de interpretación, que con tanto esfuerzo, tanta diligencia y tanto trabajo, nos han facilitado nuestra tarea a todos; me refiero también al servicio de traducción y documentación; a las señoritas que en la Sala tan amablemente nos han ido atendiendo, a las que hemos ido dando trabajo, enviando mensajes a otros a través de ellas; a los servicios de seguridad, y también, y en general, a todo el personal que ha atendido a esta Conferencia. Vaya para todos ellos, absolutamente para todos, la felicitación sincera de toda la Conferencia, la felicitación de todos los Estados Miembros de la Conferencia por su magnífico trabajo.

Quiero en este momento expresarles mi agradecimiento sincero por sus palabras para mi persona. Ustedes el primer día tuvieron la audacia de elegirme como Presidente de la Conferencia, yo interpreté que era un síntoma, un signo de reconocimiento hacia mi país, hacia el Reino de España. Ha sido un honor para España, y es un honor para mí presidir esta Conferencia. Yo les podría expresar en este momento cuáles son mis sentimientos personales de todo tipo, pero lo haría muy largo, porque hay sentimientos personales de gratitud, sentimientos personales de alegría y sentimientos personales de emoción, porque este vigésimo período de sesiones está a punto de terminar.

No tenían por qué agradecer la forma en que se ha llevado la presidencia. Han sido todos ustedes con su manera de proceder, con su manera de actuar, los que han hecho fácil la presidencia de la Conferencia. Soy yo en este momento el que quiero expresarles a todos y cada uno de los miembros de cada una de las delegaciones de los Estados Miembros, quiero expresarles, repito, mi sincero agradecimiento personal por la forma y manera en que han facilitado la tarea de todos nosotros y particularmente la mía como Presidente.

Naturalmente, pido también disculpas a aquellas personas o a aquellas delegaciones con las cuales una palabra, un gesto, algo que haya podido hacer, haya podido molestarles; pero tengo la impresión y tengo la satisfacción de decir que abandono la Conferencia dejando, creo, más amigos que el día que llegué. Cuando llegué, yo miraba la Sala, les miraba a todos ustedes y algunas caras eran conocidas, eran amigas de otras ocasiones, de otras Conferencias. Hoy creo que puedo marchar con la sensación de contar con muchos más amigos y ustedes, evidentemente, con la de contar en mí con un amigo personal.

Una ligera reflexión como final. Hemos oído palabras muy importantes en esta Conferencia. Yo quisiera recordar aquí las palabras de Su Santidad el Papa cuando nos decía que ante cualquier problema siempre lo que hay detrás es una alternativa ética, y cuando nos decía que las políticas económicas de los Gobiernos debían dirigirse más a cubrir las necesidades fundamentales, entre las cuales está la alimentación, que las necesidades accesorias.

Hemos oído muchas palabras, palabras importantes todas ellas; pero algunos Ministros de Agricultura, algunos miembros en esta tribuna, en ese podium, expresaron en alguna ocasión su temor de que no hiciéramos más que palabras, palabras y palabras.

Dejo como motivo de reflexión una anécdota, una pequeña historia que se narra en una obra clásica de la literatura española. Es la obra que cuenta la historia de un chico, un niño, un joven que ayuda a un ciego a caminar por la vida. Es una obra de la picaresca española. Pues bien, hay una escena en la cual el ciego y el niño se encuentran juntos comiendo un racimo de uvas y de pronto, cuando están comiendo ese racimo de uvas, el ciego le da un cachete, le da un golpe al niño y le dice: estás comiendo de tres en tres, me estás engañando. El niño se queda sorprendido de cómo el ciego ha podido saberlo; mira al ciego y le dice: ¿y tú cómo los sabes? Y dice el ciego: porque yo estoy comiendo de dos en dos y no me dices nada.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

Pues bien, yo dejo como motivo de reflexión el pensar quién estaba actuando mejor, quién era más ciego, cómo estaba organizado el sistema de reparto de los alimentos en este caso concreto.

Creo que hay en esa pequeña anécdota de la literatura española algunos motivos de reflexión importantes y hay ahí, evidentemente, de fondo un motivo de reflexión y es la solidaridad.

Hablé en mi primera intervención de la solidaridad internacional y creo sinceramente que la única manera de que la Conferencia no quede en palabras, palabras y palabras es la solidaridad internacional; y es que estas palabras las traslademos a unos hechos, a nuestros hechos diarios, a nuestras acciones de gobierno. Yo creo que si hacemos esto estaremos dando un gran avance y estaremos preparando una magnífica plataforma para la década del 80 y para la próxima Conferencia del año 1981.

A todos ustedes, señoras y señores delegados, a todos los Estados Miembros, a todos los que han participado en la Conferencia mi felicitación y mi sincero agradecimiento. Muchas gracias a todos.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

Muchas gracias a todos. Declaro clausurado el 20° período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

The meeting rose at 17. 15 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h. 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 17. 15 horas