

conference

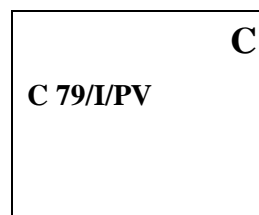
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

Rome, 10-28 November 1979

VERBUTIM RECORDS OF MEETINGS OF COMMISSION I OF THE CONFERENCE
PROCÈS-VERBAUX DES SÉANCES DE LA COMMISSION I DE LA CONFÉRENCE
ACTAS TAQUIGRÁFICAS DE LAS SESIONES DE LA COMISIÓN I DE LA CONFERENCIA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE DES MATIERES
FIRST MEETING
PREMIERE SEANCE
PRIMERA SESION
(15 November 1979)

INDICE

	<u>Page/página</u>
I. <u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u>	
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u>	2
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u>	
6. <u>World Food and Agriculture Situation</u> (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (French only), C 79/LIM/29)	
6. <u>Situation mondiale, de Valimentation et de l'agriculture</u> (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (français seulement), C 79/LIM/29)	2
6. <u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo</u> (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (solo francés), C 79/LIM/29)	
6. 1 <u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems</u>	
6. 1 <u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce</u>	2
6. 1 <u>El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio</u>	

SECOND MEETING
DEUXIEME SEANCE
SEGUNDA SESIÓN
(15 November 1979)

I. <u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	27
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
6. <u>World Food and Agriculture Situation</u> (continued) (C 79/2, C 79/2/-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (French only), C 79/LIM 29)	
6. <u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture</u> (suite) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (français seulement), C 79/LIM/29)	27
6. <u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo</u> (continuación) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (solo francés), C 79/LIM/29)	

	<u>Page/página</u>	
6. 1	<u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)</u>	
6. 1	<u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)</u>	27
6. 1	<u>El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)</u>	

THIRD MEETING
TROISIEME SEANC
TERCERA SESION
(16 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)</u>	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)</u>	52
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)</u>	
6.	<u>World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (French only), C 79/LIM/29)</u>	
6.	<u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite) C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (français seulement), C 79/LIM/29)</u>	52
6.	<u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación) C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (sólo francés), C 79/LIM/29)</u>	
6. 1	<u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)</u>	
6. 1	<u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)</u>	52
6. 1	<u>El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)</u>	
6. 2	<u>Fertilizers - Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers</u>	
6. 2	<u>Engrais - Mesures découlant de la cinquième session de la Commission des engrais</u>	57
6. 2	<u>Fertilizantes - Medidas dimanantes de la quinta reunión de la Comisión de Fertilizantes</u>	

FOURTH MEETING
QUATRIEME SEANE
CUARTA SESION
(16 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)</u>	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)</u>	72
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)</u>	

	<u>Page/página</u>
6. <u>World Food and Agriculture Situation</u> (continued) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19 C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (French only), C 79/LIM/29)	
6. <u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture</u> (suite) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1, (français seulement), C 79/LIM/29)	72
6. <u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo</u> (continuación) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C. 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (solo francés), C 79/LIM/29)	
6. 2 <u>Fertilizers - Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers</u> (continued)	
6. 2. <u>Engrais - Mesures découlant de la cinquième session de la Commission des engrais</u> (suite)	72
6. 2. <u>Fertilizantes - Medidas dimanantes de la quinta reunion de la Comisión de Fertilizantes</u> (continuación)	
6. 3. <u>Forestry - the "Jakarta Declaration"(8th World Forestry Congress, October 1978)</u>	
6. 3. <u>Foresterie - la "Déclaration de Djakarta" (Huitième Congrès forestier mondial, octobre 1978)</u>	75
6. 3 <u>Montes - la "Declaración de Yakarta" (Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial, octubre 1978)</u>	

FIFTH MEETING
CINQUIEME SEANE
QUINTA SESION
(19 November 1979)

I. <u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE DALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	96
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
6. <u>World Food and Agriculture Situation</u> (continued) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup, 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (French only), C 79/LIM/29)	
6. <u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture</u> (suite) (C 79/2, C 79/2-Sup. 1, C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/19-Rev. 1 (français seulement), C 79/LIM/29)	96
6. <u>Situación alimentaria v agrícola en el mundo</u> (continuación) (C 79/2. C 79/2-Sup. IT C 79/19, C 79/22, C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/1 9-Rev. 1 (sólo francés), C 79/LIM/29)	
6. 3 <u>Forestry - the "Jakarta Declaration" (8th World Forestry Congress, October 1978)</u> (continued)	
6. 3 <u>Foresterie - la "Déclaration de Djakarta"(huitième Congrès forestier mondial, octobre 1978)</u> (suite)	96
6. 3 <u>Montes - La "Declaración de Yakarta" (Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial, octubre 1978)</u> (continuación)	

-vi-
SIXTH MEETING
SIXIEME SEANCE
SEXTA SESION
(19 November 1979)

	<u>Page/página</u>
I. <u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	118
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
7. <u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security</u> (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 Arabic, English only), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	
7. <u>Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale</u> (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (arabe et anglais seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	118
7. <u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial</u> (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (árabe e inglés solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	

SEVENTH MEETING
SEPTIEME SEANCE
SEPTIMA SESION
(20 November 1979)

I. <u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	144
I. <u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
7. <u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security</u> (continued) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (Arabic, English only), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	
7. <u>Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale</u> (suite) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (arabe et anglais seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	144
7. <u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial</u> (continuación) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (árabe e inglés solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	

-vii-
EIGHTH MEETING
HUITIEME SEANCE
OCTAVA SESION
(20 November 1979)

		<u>Page/página</u>
I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	170
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
7.	<u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security</u> (continued) (c 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (Arabic, English only), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/23-SUP. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	
7.	<u>Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale</u> (suite) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (arabe et anglais seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 19/LIM/1A)	170
7.	<u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial</u> (continuación) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (árabe e inglés solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	

NINTH MEETING
NEUVIEME SEANCE
NOVENA SESION
(21 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	196
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
7.	<u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security</u> (continued) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1(Arabic, English only), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	
7.	<u>Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale</u> (suite) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (arabe et anglais seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	197
7.	<u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial</u> (continuación) (C 79/23, C 79/23-Corr. 1 (árabe e inglés solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/23-Sup. 2, C 79/LIM/34)	
8.	<u>Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy</u> (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/33)	
8.	<u>Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement</u> (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (arabe seulement), c 79/33)	199
8.	<u>Preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo</u> (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/33)	

8. 1	<u>Assessment of Progress Towards the New International Economic Order, including Progress in International Agricultural Adjustment</u>	
8. 1	<u>Evaluation des progrès accomplis en ce qui concerne le Nouvel ordre économique international et notamment l'Ajustement agricole</u>	199
8. 1	<u>Evaluación del progreso alcanzado respecto al Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, "incluidos los progresos realizados en el reajuste agrícola internacional</u>	
TENTH MEETING DIXIEME SEANCE DECIMA SESION (21 November 1979)		
I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	222
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
8.	<u>Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy</u> (continued) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/33)	
8.	<u>Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement</u> (suite) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/33)	222
8.	<u>Preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo</u> (continuación) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/33)	
8. 1	<u>Assessment of Progress Towards the New International Economic Order, including Progress in International Agricultural Adjustment</u> (continued)	
8. 1	<u>Evaluation des progrès accomplis en ce qui concerne le Nouvel ordre économique international et notamment l'Ajustement agricole</u> (suite)	222
8. 1	<u>Evaluación del progreso alcanzado respecto al Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, incluidos los progresos realizados en el reajuste agrícola internacional</u> (continuación)	
8. 2	<u>"Agriculture: Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture up to the end of the century)</u>	
8. 2	<u>"Agriculture: Horizon 2000" (Etude FAO des perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle)</u>	228
8. 2	<u>t:La agricultura hacia el año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines del siglo)</u>	

-ix-
 ELEVENTH MEETING
 ONZIEME SEANCE
 11ª SESION
 (22 November 1979)

		<u>Page/página</u>
I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (Suite)	246
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
8.	<u>Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy</u> (continued) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/33)	
8.	<u>Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement</u> (suite) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/33)	246
8.	<u>Preparativos para el periodo extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo</u> (continuación) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/33)	
8.2	<u>"Agriculture: Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture up to the end of the century)</u> (continued)	
8.2	<u>"Agriculture: Horizon 2000" (Etude FAO des perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle)</u> (suite)	246
8.2	<u>"La agricultura hacia el año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines del siglo)</u> (continuación)	

TWELFTH MEETING
 DOUZIEME SEANCE
 12ª SESION
 (22 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	272
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
8.	<u>Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy</u> (continued) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (Arabic only), C 79/33)	
8.	<u>Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement</u> (suite) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (arabe seulement), C 79/33)	272
8.	<u>Preparativos para el periodo extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo</u> (continuación) (C 79/20, C 79/20-Sup. 1, C 79/24, C 79/24-Corr. 1 (árabe solamente), C 79/33)	

8. 2	<u>"Agriculture: Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture up to the end of the century) (continued)</u>	
8. 2	<u>"Agriculture - Horizon 2000" (Etude FAO des perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle) (suite)</u>	272
8. 2	<u>"La Agricultura hacia el año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines del siglo) (continuación)</u>	
9.	<u>Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	
9.	<u>Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	293
9.	<u>Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	

THIRTEENTH MEETING

TREIZIEME SEANCE

13ª SESION

(23 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	302
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
9.	<u>Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (continued) (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	
9.	<u>Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (suite) (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	302
9.	<u>Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas (continuación) (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	

FOURTEENTH MEETING

QUATORZIEME SEANCE

14ª SESION

(23 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</u> (continued)	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE</u> (suite)	344
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION</u> (continuación)	
9.	<u>Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (continued) (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	
9.	<u>Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (suite) (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41)</u>	344
9.	<u>Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas (continuación) (C 79/21, C 79/LIM/41).</u>	

10.	<u>Food Standards Matters and the Work of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (C 79/LIM/1)</u>	
10.	<u>Problèmes concernant les normes alimentaires et travaux de la Commission mixte FAO/OMS du Codex Alimentarius (C 79/LIM/1)</u>	354
10.	<u>Asuntos relacionados con las Normas Alimentarias y el trabajo de la Comisión FAO/OMS del Codex Alimentarius (C 79/LIM/1)</u>	
6.	<u>World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)</u>	
6.	<u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)</u>	362
6.	<u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)</u>	
6. 1	<u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)</u>	
6. 1	<u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)</u>	362
6. 1	<u>El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)</u>	
-	<u>Draft Resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment (C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/29, C 79/LIM/42)</u>	
-	<u>Projet de résolution sur le commerce des produits, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agricole- (C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/29, C 79/LIM/42)</u>	362
-	<u>Proyecto de resolución sobre comercio de productos básicos, Proteccionismo y reajuste agrícola (C 79/LIM/19, C 79/LIM/29, C 79/LIM/42)</u>	

FIFTEENTH MEETING

QUINZIEME SEANCE

15ª SESION

(26 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)</u>	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)</u>	380
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)</u>	
6.	<u>World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)</u>	
6.	<u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)</u>	380
6.	<u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)</u>	
6. 1	<u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)</u>	
6. 1	<u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)</u>	380
6. 1	<u>El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)</u>	
-	<u>Draft Resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural adjustment (continued) (C 79/LIM/42)</u>	
-	<u>Projet de résolution sur le commerce des produits, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agricole (suite) (C 79/LIM/42)</u>	380
-	<u>Proyecto de resolución sobre comercio de productos básicos, proteccionismo y reajuste agrícola (continuación) (C 79/LIM/42)</u>	

	Page/página	
7.	<u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security (continued)</u>	
7.	<u>Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (suite)</u>	381
7.	<u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (continuación)</u>	
-	<u>Draft Resolution on World Food Security (C 79/LIM/16)</u>	
-	<u>Projet de résolution sur la Sécurité alimentaire mondiale (C 79/LIM/16)</u>	381
-	<u>Proyecto de resolución sobre seguridad alimentaria mundial (C 79/LIM/16)</u>	
6.	<u>World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)</u>	
6.	<u>Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)</u>	391
6.	<u>Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)</u>	
6. 1	<u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)</u>	
6. 1	<u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)</u>	391
6. 1	<u>El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)</u>	
-	<u>Draft Resolution on a World Food Day (C 79/LIM/37)</u>	
-	<u>Projet de résolution pour une journée mondiale de l'alimentation (C 79/LIM/37)</u>	391
-	<u>Proyecto de resolución sobre el Día Mundial de la Alimentación (C 79/LIM/37)</u>	

SIXTEENTH MEETING

SEIZIEME SEANCE

16ª SESION

(26 November 1979)

I.	<u>MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)</u>	
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)</u>	396
I.	<u>PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)</u>	
9.	<u>Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (continued)</u>	
9.	<u>Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (suite)</u>	396
9.	<u>Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas (continuación)</u>	
-	<u>Draft Resolution on Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (C: 79/LIM/45)</u>	
-	<u>Projet de résolution sur un programme d'assistance au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (C 79/LIM/45)</u>	396
-	<u>Proyecto de resolución sobre el programa de asistencia para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas (C 79/LIM/45)</u>	

	<u>Page/página</u>
<u>ADOPTION OF REPORT</u>	
<u>ADOPTION DU RAPPORT</u>	397
<u>APROBACION DEL INFORME</u>	
<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 1 (C 79/I/REP/1, C 79/I/REP/1-Corr. 1, C 79/I/REP/1-Sup. 1)</u>	
<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 1 "(C 79/I/REP/1, C 79/I/REP/1-Corr. 1, C 79/I/REP/1-Sup. 1)</u>	397
<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTIE 1 (C 79/I/REP/1, C 79/I/REP/1-Corr. 1, C 79/I/REP/1-Sup. 1)</u>	
6. 1 <u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (paras. 1-28)</u>	
6. 1 <u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et, notamment, problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (par. 1-28)</u>	397, 400
6. 1 <u>El Estado Mundial de la Agricultura y la Alimentación, incluidos los problemas de los productos básicos y el comercio (párrs. 1-28)</u>	
<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 2 (C 79/I/REP/2)</u>	
<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 2 (C 79/I/REP/2)</u>	
<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 2 (C 79/I/REP/2)</u>	403
6. 2 <u>Fertilizers - Action Arising Out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers (paras. 1-8)</u>	
6. 2 <u>Engrais - mesures découlant de la cinquième session de la Commission des engrais (par. 1-8)</u>	403
6. 2 <u>Fertilizantes - Medidas dimanantes de la Quinta Reunion de la Comisión de Fertilizantes (párrs. 1-8)</u>	
6. 3 <u>Forestry - the "Jakarta Declaration" (Eight World Forestry Congress, October 1978) (paras. 9-15)</u>	
6. 3 <u>Foresterie - la "Déclaration de Djakarta" (huitième Congrès forestier mondial, octobre 1978) (par. 9-15)</u>	404
6. 3 <u>Montes - La Declaración de Yakarta (Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial, octubre de 1978) (párrs. 9-15)</u>	
<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 3 (C 79/I/REP/3)</u>	
<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 3 (C 79/I/RKP/3)</u>	404
<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 3 (C 79/I/REP/3)</u>	
7. <u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security (paras. 1-13)</u>	
7. <u>Plan d'action pour le renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (par. 1-13)</u>	404
7. <u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (párrs. 1-13)</u>	
<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 4 (C 79/I/REP/4)</u>	
<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 4 (C 79/i/REp/4)</u>	406
<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 4 (C 79/I/REP/4)</u>	
8. <u>Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy (paras. 1-13)</u>	
8. <u>Préparation de la session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement (par. 1-13)</u>	406
8. <u>Preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo (párrs. 1-13)</u>	

	<u>Page/página</u>	
8. 1	<u>Assessment of Progress towards the New International Economic Order including Progress in International Agricultural Adjustment</u> (paras. 2 - 13)	
8. 1	<u>Evaluation des progrès accomplis en ce qui concerne le Nouvel ordre économique international et notamment l'Ajustement agricole international</u> (par. 2 - 13)	406
8. 1	<u>Evaluación del progreso alcanzado respecto al Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, incluidos los progresos realizados en el Reajuste Agrícola Internacional</u> (párrs. 2 - 13)	
	<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 5 (C 79/I/REP/5)</u>	
	<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE. 5 (C 79/I/REP/5)</u>	408
	<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 5 (C 79/I/REP/5)</u>	
8.	<u>Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy</u> (continued)	
8.	<u>Préparation de la session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement</u> (suite)	408
8.	<u>Preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo</u> (continuación)	
8. 2	<u>"Agriculture: Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture to the end of the century)</u> (paras. 1 - 22)	
8. 2	<u>"Agriculture: Horizon 2000" (Etude de la FAO sur les perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle)</u> (par. 1 - 22)	408
8. 2	<u>"La" Agricultura hacia el Año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines de siglo)</u> (párrs. 1-22)	
	<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 6 (C 79/I/REP/6)</u>	
	<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 6 (C 79/I/REP/6)</u>	410
	<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 6 (C 79/I/REP/6)</u>	
9.	<u>Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economie Zones</u> (paras. 1 - 13)	
9.	<u>Programme global d'assistance au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives</u> (par. 1 - 13)	410
9.	<u>Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en Zonas Económicas Exclusivas</u> (párrs. 1 - 13)	
10.	<u>Food Standard Matters and the Work of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission</u> (paras. 14 - 21)	
10.	<u>Questions concernant les normes alimentaires et travaux de la Commission mixte FAO/OMS du Codex Alimentarius</u> (par. 14 - 21)	412
10.	<u>Asuntos relacionados con las Normas Alimentarias y el trabajo de la Comisión FAO/OMS del Codex Alimentarius</u> (párrs. 14 - 21)	

-xv-
 SEVENTEENTH MEETING
 DIX-SEPTIEME SEANCE
 17ª SESION
 (27 November 1979)

	<u>Page/página</u>
<u>ADOPTION OF REPORT</u> (continued)	
<u>ADOPTION DU RAPPORT</u> (suite)	414
<u>APROBACION DEL INFORME</u> (continuación)	
<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 1</u> (continued) (C 79/I/REP/1-Sud. 1)	
<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 1</u> (suite) (C 79/I/REP/1-Sup. 1)	414
<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 1</u> (continuación)(C 79/t/REP/1-Sup. 1)	
6. 1 <u>State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems</u> (continued) (paras. 20-28)	
6. 1 <u>Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et. 'notamment, problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce</u> (suite) (par. 20 - 28)	414
6. 1 <u>El Estado Mundial de la Agricultura y la Alimentación, incluidos los problemas de los productos básicos y el comercio</u> (continuación) (párrs. 20-23)	
<u>DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I - PART 3</u> (continued) (C 79/I/REP/V-Suo. 1)	
<u>PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I - PARTIE 3</u> (suite) (C 79/I/REP/VSup. 1)	433
<u>PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I - PARTE 3</u> (continuación) (C 79/I/REP/VSup. I)	
7. <u>Plan of Action to Strengthen World Security</u> (continued) (paras. 13 and 14)	
7. <u>Plan d'action pour le renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale</u> (suite) (oar. 13 et 14)	433
7. <u>Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial</u> (continuation) (parrs 13 y 14)	

conference

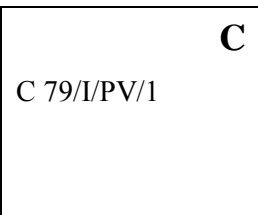
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

FIRST MEETING
PREMIERE SEANCE
PRIMERA SESION

(15 November 1979)

The First Meeting was opened at 9.45 hours
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La première seance est ouverte à 9 h 45, sous
la présidence de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I

Se abre la primera sesión a las 9.45 horas, bajo la presidencia
de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): In the name of God, the merciful, I welcome you Ladies and Gentlemen this morning and declare open the first meeting. First of all allow me to welcome you all here and at the same time to express my deep gratitude for having elected me to the Chair of this Commission. At a time when I feel that it is an honour that you confer upon myself and my country, it is at the same time a heavy responsibility and a very delicate task which I hope to be able to fulfill thanks to your cooperation and my own capacities.

A first glance at today's Order of the Day emphasises the special importance of this Session and the very special importance of all the items before us. I feel moreover that Commission I should not only concentrate on the assessment of the conditions prevailing in food and agriculture today but also look forward into the future and we shall therefore consider the target date of the year 2000.

There are many items and points arising in connexion with farming in all its many forms and the services given to man by agriculture. We have also to look at new ways of exploring maritime resources. I would particularly wish to highlight those aspects and the importance of these issues today. We shall not only scrutinize the issues but also attempt to express an opinion on the problems and strive to seek together solutions in order really to be up to the responsibilities we have been given. I think that that is the crux of this whole important role of FAO throughout its history its experience has been gleaned in this area which makes it particularly expert and capable of tackling the problems of today and facing the future in a responsible manner.

As Chairman of this Commission I have often had to take an in-depth look at the problems of today. There have been fifteen meetings with the various responsible people who have drawn up the documents. This preliminary spade work has made it possible for me to appreciate the efforts required in order to prepare today's meeting. As we know, we are to work together for a mere fourteen hours, five of which will be devoted to the scrutiny and adoption of our report. This boils down to thirty-five hours of actual work, in order to wind up the discussion on the five items on the agenda before us and adopt resolutions in connection with these issues. It is therefore important that delegates should cooperate fully with me in order that we may finish our work in good conditions. This can only be done if we speak in a concise manner and abide by the timetable we have been given. There is an alternative to have night sessions. I think that is not a popular alternative with everybody and I hope we shall not reach that point.

Before proceeding to the items on the agenda, permit me to speak first of all of a special issue, namely, the setting up of a Drafting Committee which will prepare the report of our Commission, which we are scheduled to adopt at the very latest on 26 November. If delegates agree, I should like the Drafting Committee to meet as from tomorrow, after preliminary consultations which I shall have had with the various groups concerned. The Drafting Committee should start its work from the beginning of next week in order to be able to finalize the report in due time and so that we may adhere to our schedule.

We shall now proceed to our first item, item 6 on our Order of the Day.

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION
- 6. World Food and Agriculture Situation
- 6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture
- 6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo
- 6. 1 State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems
- 6. 1 Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernât les produits et le commerce
- 6. 1 El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio

Item 6 concerns the state of world food and agriculture. As delegates well know, this issue has been split up into three sub-items: 6. 1 State of Food and Agriculture including commodity and Trade Problems; 6. 2 Fertilizers-Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers; and 6. 3 Forestry-The "Jakarta Declaration" (8th World Forestry Congress, October 1978). In view of the importance of these sub-items, and aiming to share out the work for members of delegations, I suggest that we deal with the sub-items separately. If it is agreeable I suggest we start discussing sub-item 6. 1. The basic working document for this issue is C 79/2 and there is a further document which completes it, C 79/2-Sup. 1. The two documents should be considered as one since they are totally intertwined. There is a further document to which I would draw the attention of delegates which relates to the same problem, C 79/LIM/19. That covers certain items which arose from the Council which closed last week. The Council, after having considered the problem of commodity and trade, wished to draw the attention of the Conference to these items for your decision and your scrutiny of the problems related to trade and protectionism. We therefore have in C 79/LIM/19 a draft resolution which is related to item 6. 1. There is a further document, C 79/LIM/29, which contains the first report of the Resolutions Committee and which is also related to the draft resolution I have just referred to. I would draw to the attention of French speaking delegates that there is a document C 79/LIM/19 Rev. 1, which concerns the French speaking delegates only.

I shall now call upon Dr. N. Islam, Assistant Director-General, to introduce this first item.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): I need take very little time to introduce this first item on the Commission's agenda. Delegates have before them two comprehensive documents, the main report on the state of food and agriculture 1979 (C 79/2) which was prepared in early July and circulated in advance and also the supplementary report (C 79/2-SuD. 1), up-dating that, which was prepared in late September and tabled at the beginning of this Session. In addition, the Director-General has already referred in his opening statement to some of the principal features of the world food and agricultural situation.

The main report concentrates particularly on longer-term trends and problems. Much of it constitutes -a review and appraisal of the first eight years of the Second United Nations Development Decade. These longer-term trends and problems change little and are generally familiar. Thus in spite of their great importance there is no need for me to re-state them,

I should, however, draw attention to two features of the main report. First, it contains more up-to-date information on food supplies and nutrition than has been possible in the past. The new estimates revise and update those in the Fourth World Food Survey. They bring out the sombre fact that the numbers of undernourished have not yet begun to fall and still hover around the huge total of about four hundred million people in the developing market economies alone. A second feature of the main report consists of some further information on agricultural investments in developing countries, a matter in which the Conference and other bodies have expressed particular interest in recent years. The data for 1974-76 give a more encouraging picture than those for earlier years on which we reported before, and show increases in agricultural investment at constant prices in most of the countries for which there is information. In addition, I can now report briefly on some of the preliminary results of the new FAO statistical questionnaire on public expenditure on agriculture that was sent out at the beginning of this year. This response has been somewhat disappointing, but this is not unexpected in view of the complexity of the subject. Of the 144 questionnaires sent out, only 40 have so far been completed and returned to us, and of these only 32, of which 25 are from developing countries, provide data that is suitable for analysis.

Of these, only thirty-two, of which twenty-five are from developing countries, provide data which is suitable for analysis. They indicate that in the ten developing countries for which there are fairly complete data on total public expenditure, both capital and current expenditure, there is decline only in one country between 1973 and 1974, and a rise of an average of 60 percent in the other nine countries. This information will be analysed in more detail in the final version of the State of Food and Agriculture 1979. While we are trying to improve the questionnaire, much will depend on the support we receive from the member governments in providing the necessary information.

In the rest of these remarks, I shall mostly be concerned with more immediate aspects of the world food and agriculture situation presented in the supplementary document. I shall also draw attention to some new data which have become available in the few weeks since the document was prepared.

FAO's first preliminary estimates of total food and agriculture production in 1979 led to the disquieting conclusion that if there is any increase in world production this year, it will almost certainly be the smallest since 1972, when food production actually decreased. Production is estimated to have

declined in the developed countries in 1979. Although results appear generally to have been better in the developing countries, the increase in production is likely to be less than their population growth. A slight fall in production is estimated in 1979 in the crucial densely populated regions of developing market economies of the Far East, mainly because of the poor monsoon in India and some other countries. World cereal production in 1979 is now estimated at about 1,405 million tons, which is slightly more than estimated in the supplementary document, and about 4 percent below the 1978 record. Wheat production is expected to fall by 7 percent, coarse grain production by 3 percent and rice production by 2 percent. Cereal consumption will exceed production in 1979/80. Import demand has risen substantially, but the rise in prices appears to have been checked in October.

An important new feature of the supplementary report of the State of Food and Agriculture is that the figures of carryover stocks of cereals for the first time include FAO estimates for China and the U. S. S. R., and thus cover the whole world. The latest forecasts indicate that world stocks will fall by 19 million tons, or 7 percent, by the close of the current 1979/80 seasons. They would then be equivalent to only 17 percent of annual consumption, as compared with the much more comfortable figure of 19 percent last year, and down to the bare minimum required for world food security. Most of the decline in stocks will be in the U. S. S. R. and the developed exporting countries. However, the small stocks held in the developing market economies are also expected to be reduced, thus worsening an already unsatisfactory situation.

The heavy concentration of exportable stocks in a few countries could still create serious problems in the rest of 1979/80. If there were transport bottlenecks (for example, because of severe winter weather, fuel shortages or labour unrest), or if import demand were still larger than is expected at present, supplies could become tight and prices rise further. This would add greatly to the difficulties of the poorest developing countries in obtaining their import requirements.

Although most of the rise in cereal import requirements in 1979/80 is expected to be in the U. S. S. R. and other developed countries, those of the developing countries are also estimated to rise still further over their already very burdensome levels. The requirements of the most seriously affected (M. S. A.) countries are expected to increase by 10 percent to 18.6 million tons in 1979/80. It is therefore a serious matter that food aid in cereals will not only once again not reach the World Food Conference's rather modest minimum target, but will also be lower in 1979/80 than was anticipated earlier, since those allocations that are made in financial rather than physical terms will buy less cereals at the higher prices now ruling. The need for higher levels of food aid was emphasized last month by the Eighth Session of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, which concluded that food aid needs are likely to increase substantially in the 1980s, and that the FAO estimate of 17 to 18.5 million tons of cereals provided a useful indicator of the requirements by 1985.

Since it will be necessary to draw heavily on cereal stocks to meet demand in 1979/80, next season will begin in a much less secure position. Although it is impossible to make a meaningful forecast of the 1980 cereal crops at this early stage, some major considerations are already clear. The tightening of the supply situation and higher prices are likely to lead to increased efforts to produce more cereals in many countries. The United States Government has decided not to require any acreage set aside for wheat or maize grains in 1980, and larger crops are likely, barring adverse weather. If market conditions remain favourable in the first half of 1980, larger plantings are also to be expected in the other major exporting countries. IN the U. S. S. R. plantings of winter grains are about 10 percent more than last year. In India, on the other hand, the outlook for the wheat crop is uncertain, because of the effect of the inadequate monsoon on soil moisture, difficulties in fertilizer distribution, and a shortage of good quality seed. A second successive poor monsoon in 1980 could bring India back as a major importer for the first time since 1976/77.

Mr. Chairman, since this agenda item also covers commodity and trade problems I should say a few words on this important topic as well. The supplementary document contains information on agricultural export earnings in 1978, and on the market situation and prospects for the main commodities. The main document covered longer-term trade problems and policies.

The value of world exports of agricultural, fishery and forestry products rose much less in 1978 than the year before and than the average for the 1970s so far. Most of the increase was in the developed countries, so that the share of the developing countries in world export earnings from these products, which had risen in 1977, fell back again to 30 percent in 1978. The Seventy-Sixth Session of the Council has just now expressed its concern at this development. Moreover the improvement in the terms of trade of the agricultural exports of the developing countries that took place in 1976 and 1977 was already reversed in 1978, and for food exports their terms of trade were still lower in the first half of 1979.

Against a background of serious unemployment, inflation, balance of payments difficulties, fluctuating currency exchange rates, and the spread of new protectionist pressures, the prices of most commodities have been unstable. Most prices are higher than a year ago in nominal terms, but those of sugar and dairy products, in spite of some recent recovery, have continued to be affected by structural surpluses. Many commodity prices have fallen sharply in real terms since 1960.

The short-term prospects point to decreased supplies of several major commodities. Import demand remains strong for a number of food products, but the demand outlook for agricultural raw materials is uncertain in view of the unfavourable prospects for economic growth in the industrialized countries. Prices in world markets for agricultural products are likely to continue to show a high degree of instability.

As delegates will be aware, last month the Committee on Commodity Problems discussed commodity and trade problems in some detail. The technical team of this Committee discussed the serious effects of these problems, particularly on developing countries, especially the problem of protectionist pressures. The Council urged all countries, and especially developing countries, to resist protectionist pressures. It agreed that FAO should analyse the effects of multilateral trade negotiations on agricultural trade, and of developments in protectionism affecting individual agricultural commodities. The Committee on Commodity Problems forwarded to the Council a draft resolution on Commodity Trade Protectionism, and Agricultural Adjustment. The Council agreed to recommend the draft resolution to the Conference itself for consideration and decision.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): On behalf of the Commission, I would like to thank Professor Islam for his very clear summary of this item of agenda.

I would now like to open the discussion on this item, but before giving the floor to those who requested it, I would like to record that the speakers should discuss the State of Food and Agriculture in 1979, and the Commodity and Trade Problems.

On the basis of the discussions which took place on trade, both in the Council and in the CCP, I think it would be best if our discussions today were a complement to the discussion which have already taken place, rather than a repetition of what has already been said in these previous meetings which I have just mentioned. It is of course up to you to decide what subjects you wish to discuss. Now I would like to open the floor on this item please.

R. B. RYANGA (Kenya): I would like first of all to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election and also to congratulate the Secretariat for producing document C 79/2 and the addenda on the State of Food and Agriculture for the year 1979. This document and the addenda are full of very interesting data, which will help us to discuss the issue today. The message which comes out very clearly in this document is that while there was an overall increase in food production, this increase was greater in the developed countries which do not need the additional food at all than in those countries which are in fact already short of food.

Among the developing countries the African Region did worse than the other regions, not only in overall increase in food and agriculture production, but also in per caput food production in meeting the needs of the population, and the expansion of the cropping area and the contribution of yields to total production.

The forecast for 1979 is not a happy one and with reduced harvests everywhere and particularly in Africa, food prices are going to rise because of the long distances from the producers, inflated freight rates, competition for a few tonnes of available surpluses and because of bottlenecks in the exporting countries. And it is the poorest countries which are going to suffer most simply because they will come last in the commercial delivery schedules. This subdued level of food and agricultural production in the developing countries and particularly in Africa is not entirely surprising in view of the low levels of fertilizer, pesticide, improved seed and farm machinery use, and until the situation is rectified production will remain low as fatigued and eroded soils continue to be punished. Shortfalls in production are still being attributed to unfavourable growing conditions, but there is a vital statement in paragraph 23 on page 5 of document C 79/2: "In spite of serious and prolonged drought, there was a substantial increase" - (in food and agricultural production)-"in China, particularly reflecting irrigation improvements, larger fertilizer supply and the spread of high-yielding varieties." I suspect that there were other reasons of a similar nature. Anyway, concurrently with and perhaps because of this, there is an imbalance in the holding of cereal stocks in the world today. The bulk of these stocks is held in exactly those countries which not only need them least but are also not in any serious danger of famine. Also, owing to the imbalance in overall trade (including agricultural trade) the countries needing food imports are not in a suitable financial position to do so.

The life history of food-aid between the years 1970-71 and 1978--79 shows that when supplies are tight food aid is not readily available in actual practice in spite of pledges that may have been made earlier and perhaps at happier times of more abundant harvests.

Actually this subdued production has not been confined to crops and livestock alone. Fishery; production has been low but this was to be expected in view of the indiscriminate and quite wasteful and often irresponsible fishing that has been going on in the past. It is hoped that with countries increasingly claiming exclusive economic zones fishing will be more disciplined, stocks will increase and, with careful cropping, the fisheries will become more productive again.

Quite apart from their value as cash earners, forests are also good for the environment and today have become very important as a source of fuel, and in this regard there is need for smallholder free planting schemes to provide both the wood and fuel on a continuing and renewable basis. Concurrent with this is the need to develop more efficient charcoal burners and wood stoves in order to utilize more efficiently a resource which is now becoming a crop.

My delegation has outlined the message which comes out clearly in document C 79/2 and would now like to reiterate and underline what should be done. We reiterate because none of this is new. We underline because the need for increased action is becoming more and more urgent with every passing day. My delegation therefore feels justified, indeed under an obligation, to say these things again, perhaps a little louder this time.

First of all there is an urgent need to help developing countries to produce as much of their own food requirements as possible and in this regard the efforts of the FAO are to be commended. It is vital therefore first, to follow up the Regional Food Plan for Africa (and, or course, any other region) and countries should be assisted to draw up food security programmes. The emphasis on Africa here is not only deliberate but even the reasons should be obvious.

Secondly, we should strengthen and expand the FAO International Fertilizer Supply Scheme.

Thirdly, we should implement the UNIDO/Lima Declaration to increase the overall production of fertilizers in the developing countries.

Fourthly, we should strengthen and expand the FAO Seed Improvement and Development Programme. And we should improve pest control measures and techniques, stop the indiscriminate use of chemicals and strengthen biological control where this is possible.

We should also increase the use of farm machinery for increased production.

There is also urgent need to strengthen and expand the FAO Action Programme for Prevention of Food Losses.

There is also a need to assist developing countries to increase their purchasing power in order to enable them to buy those food commodities they cannot produce themselves. At the moment there is an imbalance in the trade between the developed and developing countries and the figures quoted in document C 79/LIM/19, paragraph 9, are really rather shocking. The thing is that developed countries market finished products or products needing very little further elaboration, or assemble the products in developing countries to save costs to themselves or to escape from stringent pollution measures and then earn maximum returns for their endeavours. The developing countries, on the other hand, export raw products which are further elaborated in the developed countries and this enriches the wrong people at the expense of the producers who therefore remain poor. The market chain both ways is manned largely, and in any case jealously, by people from the developed world who therefore make sure that a sizeable portion of the profits will accrue to them. This tendency, though natural and human enough, is nevertheless detrimental to the developing countries. Of course, transport is in the hands also of the developed countries. The developed countries largely import luxury beverages and exotic food while developing countries import basic foodstuffs that they simply must have.

Document C 79/2 therefore is rather misleading when it begins to talk about a favourable trade situation in respect of developing countries even in reference to coffee, tea and all those commodities which earned so much (and some foreign exchange) particularly in the years 1976 and 1977. The point is that the developing countries deserve to be paid more for their produce and protectionist practices and policies should be eliminated forthwith. This delegation therefore fully and wholeheartedly supports the draft resolution contained in document C 79/LIM/19 which roundly condemns protectionist policies and practices and recommends, among other things, action to monitor and contain these phenomena.

There is also a need to assist developing countries who carry stocks. This means that international commodity agreements must include in them provisions for stockholding and financing which are either funded by the contracting members or the common fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities.

This delegation is disappointed at the failure of the UNCTAD Wheat Negotiating Conference to reach an agreement in February 1979, particularly because among the issues upon which agreement could not be reached, were, other than prices, the size and distribution of the stocks and special assistance to developing countries to enable them to hold these stocks. In the inevitable vacuum created by the failure of the UNCTAD Wheat Conference to produce a covenant, this delegation wholeheartedly and fully supports the Director-General's Five-Point Plan of Action which was proposed in March 1979 and which was subsequently adopted by the FAO Committee on World Food Security and the Seventy-Fifth Session of the FAO Council. This plan should be implemented without further delay. It is also noted that among the guidelines and criteria for food aid adopted by the Seventh Session of the UN/FAO Committee on Food Aid Programmes and Policies is included the use of food aid for building stocks.

Efforts should also be made to reach the minimum target of 10 million tonnes per annum food aid set by the World Food Conference. Efforts should also be made to reach the 500, 000 tonnes target for the International Emergency Food Reserve recommended by the Seventh Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and which is not likely to be met in 1979.

We should also fulfil and increase the pledges to the UN/FAO World Food Programme beyond the 8 per cent so far reached of the target of \$950 million for 1979-80 and also fulfill the target of \$1, 000 million set for 1981-82. This delegation therefore supports the draft resolution contained in document C 79/LIM/4 on the Target for World Food Programme Pledges for the period 1981-82.

Also those countries which are still opposed to the conclusion of a Food Aid Convention separate from the Wheat Convention should in view of the delay in reaching an agreement in respect of wheat trade, and also in view of the fact that more and more countries are withdrawing their objections to the idea, also drop their objections so that a separate Food Aid Convention may be signed. Moreover, donor countries should honour the pledges they made at Geneva.

One quite often hears statements to the effect that targets are meaningless and what matters is what can be achieved practically. This is surprising because the task at hand is to eradicate hunger and that is the only long-term practical target. But for day-to-day purposes we need these targets to prod us and prick our consciences.

Obviously the developing countries cannot expect the developed countries to develop their economies for them, and this, in fact, is not the intention. But while the developing countries themselves must plan and invest in agricultural development and also cooperate among themselves in these endeavours, over and above their efforts, and concurrently with them, a great deal of assistance will have to come from the developed countries which, first, control the markets, secondly have the technology which they are reluctant to share, as we all know, thirdly have the inputs, whose prices are rising every day and, fourthly control transportation; and they also have the money, even if we would like to think they got a lot of it from us in the first place. All this seems rather simple, and in fact it is, but what sometimes is lacking is a little bit of will.

J. R. COOPER Jr. (Liberia): My delegation extends congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and your co-workers on your election. We are confident that under your able leadership the deliberations of this Commission will be successful.

The Liberian delegation is concerned about a series of factors relating to food production which have an effect on the world food security situation, namely the shortfall in world production of wheat and coarse grains in 1979. the likelihood that overstocks 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, and the main restraints to meeting import demands due to transportation and handling bottlenecks in two major exporting 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 the least developed countries can afford. We shall address ourselves to recommendations on this issue in the appropriate forum, which is the discussion on the plan of action to strengthen world food security. Suffice to say that I agree with the delegate of Kenya in his very elaborate and lengthy delineation fo action plans that have to be taken.

One of the causes of rising food import bills in developing countries is that cereals are rapidly replacing traditional staples in the diets of urban consumers in particular, due to their ease of preparation and palatability. This trend is closely associated with the rise in income of consumers in developd countries. Therefore the Liberian delegation recommends that more attention be accorded to improving the traditional staples to enhance their attractiveness and to reduce the strain of increased cereal production which are more difficult to produce than traditional staples.

Rubber is a very important industrial crop to both producer and consumer countries. The Liberian delegation urges that rubber be included in the section on crops production.

On consumer food prices we would like to know to what extent consumer food price rises have elements of subsidy and the extent of the subsidy. This enquiry is made with due regard to the subsidisation made by a number of countries including Liberia to contain food price rises.

A. FERNANDEZ Y GONZALEZ (España): Mi delegación quiere, en esta primera intervención, felicitar a usted, señor Presidente, por su merecida elección, así como a los restantes miembros de la Mesa y les aseguro mi sincero espíritu de colaboración en las tareas de esta primera Comisión.

Celebramos las mejoras introducidas por la Secretaría en la presentación de los documentos que tenemos y hemos examinado, y en particular, el hecho de que se hayan incluido por primera vez estimaciones de la Secretaría de la FAO sobre los datos correspondientes a las reservas de la República Popular China y la Unión Soviética, en cuanto a los productos de cereales se refiere. Las más recientes informaciones del Suplemento número 1 al documento C 79/2, presentan una situación mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación con un tinte ligeramente menos pesimista que la primera versión, puesto que el aumento global previsto para 1979 sería del orden del 2 por ciento. Pero si es cierto que tal aumento es inferior al de la tasa demográfica, y queda lejos desde luego del objetivo del 4 por ciento anual, con la agravante de que se ha registrado un descenso en términos reales de la producción de cereales, incluyendo el arroz.

Mi delegación, señor Presidente, considera que un elemento esencial para conseguir una adecuada seguridad alimentaria mundial, sigue siendo la existencia de reservas suficientes de cereales básicos, cuyo nivel actual, en descenso, parece rozar ya los mínimos del 17 por ciento del consumo. La mejora coyuntural a que hemos asistido en las dos campañas anteriores, no debería inducirnos a un optimismo inconsciente, ni siquiera a corto plazo, porque está muy reciente aún la grave experiencia padecida durante el bienio 73/74 y los niveles de reservas de 1972, conviene recordar, que eran análogos a los que disponemos actualmente. Por otra parte, son muy escasas las razones para pensar que el mundo se encuentra hoy en una posición más ventajosa que hace siete años para hacer frente a las inclemencias atmosféricas.

Es evidente también, y conviene tenerlo en cuenta cuando se habla de reservas, que las cifras que se acostumbran a manejar sobre esta existencia de cereales, fundamentalmente se basa en niveles agregados de existencias nacionales cuando se produce la terminación de las diversas campañas agrícolas, lo cual no coincide en el tiempo a nivel mundial y, por lo tanto, sería erróneo y peligroso interpretarlas como si fuesen niveles reales de existencias en un determinado momento, por ejemplo, en el actual. De ahí, entre otras cosas, la conveniencia de que todos los países de la comunidad mundial brinden sin reservas su apoyo a la FAO en orden a disponer información estadística conveniente y necesaria para poder mejorar los estudios y conocimientos de la oferta, demanda y disponibilidades de productos alimentarios y corregir así los efectos indeseables de las variaciones inevitables del mercado.

Considera también mi delegación, señor Presidente, que puesto que el consumo de alimentos se halla estrechamente ligado a los niveles de renta per cápita cuando hablamos de política alimentaria en nuestros países, es evidente que estamos condicionados por la estrategia que se adoptó para nuestro desarrollo económico, en la cual debe incluirse los elementos pertinentes para una más justa redistribución de las rentas nacionales. Este tema mi delegación considera que tiene enorme importancia, si recordamos que el 22 por ciento de la población de las regiones en desarrollo, es decir, más de 400 millones de personas, no alcanzan esa alimentación, no alcanza la tasa estimada como mínima para el metabolismo basal.

Creemos también, que merece una atención particular todo lo que se refiere a la política de suministros de agua potable, porque aunque no se identifique necesariamente con el tema de la alimentación o, mejor dicho, con objetivos nutricionales, es, evidentemente, de la mayor significación para el desarrollo.

Todo parece indicar, señor Presidente, que la cooperación internacional en el dominio de los intercambios comerciales, estará marcada en el próximo bienio por una serie de dificultades resultantes de la coyuntura económica estancada, precisamente, cuando hemos de proceder al desarrollo del marco normativo para un nuevo orden económico internacional. Ante la posible persistencia, al menos a corto plazo, de tendencias proteccionistas, sería preciso reforzar unas concertaciones para defender un sistema más transparente y abierto en el comercio mundial de productos agrarios y sus derivados, Las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales de la ronda TOKIO han aportado sin duda una contribución positiva, pero es preciso ahora un nuevo esfuerzo para concretar en aspectos tangibles los resultados de esta larga negociación.

Parece claro con todo que en 1930 se abre una nueva fase en las relaciones comerciales entre países industrializados y países en desarrollo, cuyo balance aún, a juicio de mi delegación, es prematuro anticipar. En la esfera del comercio es donde quizá las consecuencias de las medidas adoptadas por un país, o por un grupo de países, se dejan sentir más rápida y directamente sobre las demás; es decir, que puede fácilmente transferirse la inestabilidad interna hacia el mercado internacional y éste puede resultar seriamente alterado si el país, o el grupo de países en cuestión absorbe inesperadamente una parte significativa de los intercambios globales

Su importancia queda resaltada si recordamos que es muy pequeño comparativamente el porcentaje que representan los volúmenes de intercambios agrarios en general con respecto a los volúmenes mundiales de población, de producción y consumo. Así, pues, el desarrollo de un sistema comercial más satisfactorio por más equitativo y estable de los productos agrarios es un aspecto esencial para el reajuste internacional porque está claro que las políticas comerciales tienen una relación directa y recíproca con la política de producción, pudiendo acelerar o retardar ésta en diversos países.

Como bien señala el Director General en su Informe, una característica inquietante de la tendencia a largo plazo del comercio mundial es la creciente dependencia de los países en desarrollo para abastecerse de alimentos.

Está próxima a sobrepasarse la cifra de los 80 millones de toneladas de cereales al año porque aunque es cierto que el grado de autosuficiencia en cereales era ya casi del 96 por ciento en 1978 para los países en desarrollo, su mayor ritmo demográfico explica el acento de su dependencia exterior, así como también el hecho de que la tasa de incremento del volumen agrario exportado por los países en desarrollo venga siendo muy inferior, sobre todo en el actual decenio, a la tasa correspondiente a los países desarrollados, lo que determina una disminución progresiva de la parte absorbida por los primeros en la corriente de exportaciones agrícolas mundiales.

Por otra parte la mayoría de los países en desarrollo siguen estando interesados en exportar una parte de sus producciones agrarias como elemento importante para equilibrar su balanza de pagos, lo que puede traducirse en una cierta dificultad para atender su demanda alimentaria interior, tanto cuantitativa como cualitativa y nutricionalmente. Pero es que, además, pudiera ocurrir en el futuro, y esto lo considera mi delegación importante reflejar aquí, que no se produjese un paralelismo en las variaciones al alza de los precios de exportación de los productos agrícolas no alimentarios con los alimentarios, lo que agravaría la situación de pago de estos países en desarrollo al tener que seguir forzosamente adquiriendo alimentos a precios crecientes.

Como conclusión lógica de lo anterior, es preciso evitar la progresiva consolidación de un sistema agro-alimentario mundial que se base fundamentalmente en importantes transferencias de alimentos desde los países industrializados a los países en desarrollo, porque mi delegación entiende que se estimularía así, o se continuaría estimulando, un tipo de producción de alto costo por unidad obtenida con evidente perjuicio para una buena distribución de recursos a escala internacional.

Este es el espíritu con que mi delegación ha de participar en las tareas de esta I Comisión.

A. BEN-RAMADAN (Libya) (interpretation from Arabic): I wish first of all to congratulate you, together with the other members of the Bureau, for your having been elected to guide this very important Commission which will consider policies and strategies in agriculture and in food. My delegation is very proud to see you and we hope, thanks to your experience and your wisdom you will be able to guide the debate of this Commission towards fruitful results. Now Distinguished Delegates, Dr. Zehni, our Chairman, is known both inside his country and outside his country. He, for instance, participated at the creation of the first Agricultural Study Centre and sits at many regional and international conferences. He therefore has all the skill to fulfil this high and elevated function which you have elected him to.

The document describing the study of food and agriculture in 1979-part of this document calls for some reactions on our part as an all-exporting country. We found that there are references, and many references indeed, to the problem of oil and oil prices as there are also references to oil-producing countries. And although we think that oil is one of the main sources of energy in the world and we also feel that this product has an important impact on the world economy, we do not agree at all with this trend of thought where the blame is put on oil and oil prices for all the economic problems that prevail today. Also we feel that such conclusions in this area are not supported by related figures and statistics.

Also Mr. Chairman, Sir, we feel that any conclusion in this area, if such conclusions are not supported by rival figures and statistics are conclusions which are not conclusions. And also we feel that conclusions of this kind and such trends of thought are an attempt to try to distort the attitude of

a number of developing countries. Those are the countries who have tried to put straight what was an abnormal situation when it was a matter of exploiting their natural resources. This situation made it possible to exploit these natural resources in the very worst way either by over-exploitation of such resources or by very low prices or of dictating price levels.

And now, Mr. Chairman, Sir, if I may we would like to give a few examples of this reference which we find sprinkled through Document C 79/LIM/19. In paragraph 9 of this document it is said that forestry products were affected by the development level of developing countries but in the sentence after that it is also stated that the sharp increase in the price of oil has affected the supplies of wood, etc. In paragraph 62 let me go on to page 15, reference is made to the increase of consumer food prices, a very rapid rise it states here up to the year 1975 - in the seventies and the reasons here are mooted as being the tight food situation and the energy crisis. The speaker didn't say oil crisis he says energy crisis. And we ask if the increase of prices of food stuffs directly follows from the increase in oil prices. In paragraph 106 of the same document I note yet once again that subsequent to the doubling of oil prices since 1970 there is a trend for rural communities to replace with charcoal and coal and this tendency is now being reversed. This, Sir, again is without figures. There are no supporting figures to bear this out and I wish to recall that the Arabic text is not at all the same as the English text.

In paragraph 113 it says at the beginning, for instance, "while rapidly growing food imports do not involve any payments difficulties for the oil exporting countries, the problem of growing dependence on external food supplies is a critical issue for many of the other developing countries, which together account for two-thirds of the food imports of the developing world," up to the end of paragraph 113.

I would not like here to highlight the fundamental error that governs this whole piece of literature. Why always turn an accusing finger at oil exporting countries and compare them to other developing countries. Why say these countries are not having difficulty where other countries are having great difficulties. Let us turn our attention to paragraph 117 Page 31 it says that oil crisis led to an important increase of production factors and we would like to know what the share is of this increase which is due to oil price increases. There are a number of surveys, Mr. Chairman, which clearly state that there is no causal effect linked between oil prices and an increase in the price of certain commodities. Of course some of these commodities have multiplied in price three or four times more than oil.

In paragraph 118 it says, "Most non-oil developing countries were severely hit by the crisis." And we can always read by crisis, perhaps, "this refers to the world crisis". But the fact that you keep on having it that the crisis is due to the increase in oil prices. This makes us protest strongly to this distinction that is made between developing countries on the one hand and non-oil developing countries on the other. I have already said that oil is only one natural resource and should, of course, play an important role in the world economy. But we do not agree at all with giving this much more importance to the role of oil than it is in actual fact, and I oppose such repeated exaggerated reference to the role of oil. And, Sir, we cannot accept this distinction between developing countries and oil producing countries, because oil producing countries are developing countries. And their attitude vis-a-vis of the exploitation of natural resources which I feel is a rational one, is one of the problems and part of the overall stance of developing countries, in the exploitation and utilisation of their natural resources, that is why we pushed for a new international economic order. And also oil producing countries always stretch the open hand to other developing countries, and give aid and assistance to such countries. We can here recall for instance what the Director-General said in his speech when he declared that the measures which were taken by oil producing countries to help Third World countries will help the finding of a solution to the present delicate difficult situation and to confirm this I would like to state here that Libya, which is a developing country and also an oil producing country at the same time gives its help to over 20 countries, African and Asian countries which are developing countries to help these countries to up their food production. And we are sure that these references which I mentioned throughout the report should be somewhat amended. I am sorry for being somewhat lengthy, Sir, and with regard to the final Arabic text I will point out these matters to the Secretariat because in certain paragraphs of the Arabic text it is certainly not in line with the original English text.

Now, Sir, referring to the draft resolution which is before us, and before the Conference the draft resolution concerning Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment. Although this draft resolution does not cover all the hopes and expectations of the developing countries nevertheless we will not find it difficult to accept it in its present wording.

N. HINTIKKA (Finland): First of all I should like to join those delegations who already have expressed congratulations for your election of Chairman for this important Commission I.

Unfortunately it seems now clear that the target set by the United Nations system for an annual growth of 4 percent in the agriculture production of the developing countries during the second development decade will not be reached. It seems that the annual average growth will remain slightly below 3 percent. The per capita food production in oil developing countries increased from 1970 to 1978 only by a very modest amount of 6 percent per year. However, the development of food production in the poorest countries, or in the so-called most seriously affected countries, is especially alarming. The per capita food production of MSA countries declined by 0.2 percent annually in other period 1970-1978. It seems that the gap between USA countries and other developing countries is widening. Grain imports of the poorest countries are increasing year by year.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that this Organization should in its future work pay special attention to the needs and requirements of the poorest developing countries. The MSA countries or least developed countries, I think that these two United Nations classifications are more or less identical. These countries are in almost all cases primarily agricultural countries where FAO can play an extremely important role in economic and social development. In this connection I would also like to refer to the results of the Fifth Session of UNCTAD in Manila this year. Agricultural and rural development was emphatically mentioned, also the contribution which FAO is going to make within the UN System for the preparation of the strategy of the third development decade of the agricultural problems of the least developed countries should have an important place. I thank you Mr. Chairman.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): Mr. Chairman, may I join with other delegations in extending to you the congratulations of my delegation on your election as Chairman of this very important Commission. I am confident that you will be able to guide the proceedings of the Commission to a satisfactory end.

I should like also to thank Dr. Islam for his excellent presentation of the item under discussion.

Coming from a developing country myself, I should first like to touch upon the food production, agricultural production, in the developed countries, which is estimated to increase by about two percent in 1979. This is a slightly better performance than the developing world, but this increase is offset by average increase of population by 2.4 percent.

On the issue of production of commodities, I would limit myself to the production of jute, which is the main product of my country. The production of jute and kenaf and allied fibres increased by 11 percent last year. It is likely to fall by 20 percent to an amount of about 3.8 million tons in 1979. This drop will be caused by drought in the main producing countries in our region.

I should like to say a word about food aid as well. The contribution to the International Emergency Food Reserve for 1979 amounted, as of September, to 311,342 tons, which is short of the 500,000 tons annual target. Of this amount, 130,908 tons have been utilized and the rest remains in the reserve.

I shall not touch upon the issue of commodity trade. We have been following the discussions that have been going on in this Commission on this important issue. I come from a country which is in a position to export primary products mainly and therefore the present trends in international trade are of grave concern to us. The total value of world exports of all agricultural, fishery and forestry products was \$ 214,000 million in the calendar year 1978, which was 20 percent above the previous year's value. However, nine-tenths of the increase in agricultural export earnings for that year had accrued to the developed countries. Such trends are not in line with the efforts to achieve the much desired New International Economic Order far from it.

Protectionist policies pose a major problem for agricultural trade, in addition to having adverse effects on production in exporting countries. Jute is our principal export product. The price of this product remained within the indicative price range for the entire 1978-79 season while there was a substantial increase in the prices of competing synthetics.

The decline in share of developing countries in world agricultural trade in 1978 alone, cost us \$ 4 billion. At UNCTAD V some agreements were reached which could possibly be called satisfactory. However, there could be no agreement on specific actions by the developed countries to remove restrictions on imports from developing countries. We support and encourage strong collaboration between FAO and UNCTAD in the hope of achieving some break-through in the tariff and non-tariff barriers set up by the developed countries to items of export of vital interest to the developing ones.

The multilateral trade negotiations of GATT, concluded after six years of work, also do not paint a very encouraging picture for the developing countries, in that while tariff concessions were made on nearly 60 percent of dutiable industrial imports, in contrast concessions were made on only 30 percent of dutiable agricultural products. Protectionism therefore affects not only the developing countries but also those developed countries which depend heavily on the export of agricultural products. The picture is still very gloomy.

My delegation calls, as it did at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in July of this year, for the implementation of existing commitments to liberalize trade and also for a move towards the progressive reduction and elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to the entry of agricultural products of particular interest to developing countries. In July we talked of agrarian reform and rural development. Implying that this would generate production. How can there be production when there is no access to the market?

Protectionist policies are adverse to the urgent need for developing countries to accelerate their foreign exchange earnings, particularly in order to overcome the rapidly increasing burden of external debts.

The recently concluded meeting of the CCP agreed to a draft resolution on commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustments which was submitted to the Council for its approval and the Council in turn has now placed it before the Conference for its approval. My delegation calls for approval by the Conference of the draft resolution and its early implementation in order to achieve some equity in international trade.

B. TARDIMCI (Turkey): First of all we wish to express our congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and the other officers of the Commission on your election. We believe that our work will reach success through your leadership.

Taking a close look at the socio-economic situation of the countries in the world at this time when we are nearing the end of 1979, is rather difficult to see that there have been developments giving any hope about a peaceful and happy world atmosphere.

In fact, the world production of agricultural crops has decreased while the consumption of the increasing population has gone up. With this new development, food prices in world markets and transportation costs have reached unusually high levels. The population of the world that suffers from malnutrition has grown to over 400 million; thus there have been many new problems confronting all countries, especially the developing countries of the world, in providing for food requirements. On the other hand, the agricultural production of the developing countries has shown a decrease, with a consequent drop of their share in world markets to 30 percent, which inevitably has resulted in a larger gap in their balance of payments.

In line with rising food prices on world markets there has been a parallel increase in food prices of the developing countries while their foreign exchange required for importing inputs and materials for the food industry, and also for purchasing foodstuffs, has been growing quite rapidly.

The increasing number of problems at the domestic and international levels have also increased in variety, which inevitably leads to the heavier dependence of the developing countries on the developed economies of the world.

Due to inadequate rates of export, limited foreign crediting and requirements to import other industrial consumption goods, these countries are in a position neither to establish their own facilities to produce such farm inputs nor to produce them from foreign sources.

It is quite clear that such problems have become more evident by the end of 1979 and will still be increasing towards a peak in the near future. Solutions to them, as well as providing a more radical, happy, peaceful and secure world, can only be possible with an effort towards good coordination to be developed between the nations of the world, with an understanding of sincerity, sacrifice and joint responsibility. There are many national and international responsibilities falling on the shoulders of each nation to solve such food problems, especially those of developing countries, provide better and more balanced nutrition for the over 400 million of the world's population suffering from malnutrition, and assure a happy living for the people of the world as a whole.

International coordination should be improved and the larger share of the responsibility should be assigned to those developed countries in order to solve the food and agriculture problems confronting the world.

Extensive, multi-purpose and a large amount of assistance should be provided to developing countries in order to eliminate the heavy dependence of their agricultural production on weather conditions. Since developed countries quite soon reach a stagnation level in their yields and land use, those countries should move towards serious and multi-purpose efforts to support the improvements of agricultural potential in developing countries to similar levels. Special measures should be

provided to those countries with a larger national percentage among the developing countries towards improving their level of potential and assuring benefits on an international basis. On the other hand, those specific countries should be entrusted with some international responsibilities against such special efforts.

International policies should be developed to create a new world economic system and establish food industries and their required inputs, spreading facilities in the developed countries so that those food industries can fulfill the demands of the consumers created by the changing and developing socio-economic conditions in the world.

Promises long made by various loan funds should be forced to be active in answering the urgent food requirements of those countries with low income levels and extreme shortages of foodstuffs. The dimensions and context of the "action plan for preventing food losses" should also be enlarged.

Miss E. HELSING (Norway): Let me first of all congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the important position of Chairman of this Commission.

My delegation would like to draw attention to a subject that we feel is not sufficiently covered in the document before us (C 79/2) and its supplements. The subject is that of the world production of human milk, its regrettable decline and measures needed for its future protection. This problem was brought up in this very forum as early as 1975. This year, 1979, having been designated by the United Nations as "The International Year of the Child" seems to my delegation to offer a good opportunity for re-examining the issue.

The rise of the production of human milk on a global scale is comparable to that of many of the food items that are conscientiously being monitored and reported on. Its invisibility has, however, so far kept human milk out of the world statistics.

For the sake of the consumer who is dependent on this very special food for the first vulnerable months of life, it is vital that this food resource should not be squandered; hence the need for an infant nutrition policy as a part of the more general food and nutrition policy. Infant nutrition policy is a new concept which has up till now not been very much discussed. Explicit infant nutrition policies are rarely formulated. All countries, however, have implicit infant nutrition policies-implicit in recommendations and guidelines from Health Ministers and Ministries of the Population, implicit in the education of future parents, implicit in the import and export policies of each country, making processed infant food of various kinds available to parents. For reasons which are intimately bound to economic and social changes of society, one consequence of thoughtless infant nutrition policies has been that the global production of human milk is on the decline. This is often to the detriment to the health of the infants and young children in vulnerable socio-economic conditions as has repeatedly been pointed out by concerned health professionals in the international field.

The problem has grown to such alarming proportions that WHO and UNICEF recently convened a meeting in Geneva where all concerned parties were invited to discuss the problems of the feeding of infants and young children. Present at the meeting were the United Nations family, experts in infant nutrition from all over the world, delegates from selected countries and from citizens groups, as well as representatives from the baby food industry whose aggressive marketing of breast milk substitutes have repeatedly been accused of contributing to the recent rapid decline of breast feeding. For three days, the discussions went on in five working groups, all aspects of young children and feeding were discussed, not only those related to the activities of the baby food industry. Constructive approaches were formulated for the encouragement and support of breast feeding and the related need for training and information, especially of health workers. Supplementary feeding of growing babies was discussed. The problems of modern women in a changing society and the need for protective legislation for pregnant and nursing mothers in order to secure women's right to work, were highlighted. Some principles concerning conduct with regard to marketing and distribution of Infant formula and weaning foods were formulated. In short, the outcome of the meeting was a kind of platform to which all parties concerned could agree.

WHO and UNICEF have to be commended for taking it upon them to tackle this rather complex issue, and for preparing the meeting extremely well so that it was indeed possible to carry it through as constructively as was the case. What we now are left with, in the final statement and recommendations from that meeting, is a valuable starting point for infant nutrition policies. These should form part of food and nutrition policies in general. National infant nutrition policies have to be explicitly expressed, in a coherent fashion, rather than being implicit and often contradictory. The Norwegian delegation would suggest that FAO, being the lead agency in the area of food and

nutrition policies, take up this important subject. To this end, FAO should cooperate closely with WHO and UNICEF when it comes to the implementation of the statements and recommendations of their recent Geneva meeting.

FAO should, on its own, include the concept in their policy, to be reflected in the practical work as well as the projects undertaken by the organization. When assisting member nations in the formulation of food and nutrition policies, FAO should give conscious attention to the formulation of coherent infant nutrition policies. Assistance in the elaboration of the concept can certainly be given by many FAO divisions, specifically Food policy and nutrition division and Human Resources division.

The need for a Code of Marketing Ethics for the sales of breast milk substitutes was mentioned several times during the Geneva meeting. FAO/WHO's Codex Alimentarius Commission certainly has a role to play here.

This year being the International Year of the Child, we feel that FAO has a special obligation to take up the very basic problems of young child feeding, and that this be done on a very high level, so that coherent, conscious and sound infant nutrition policies can be formulated, to the benefit of future generations.

S. A. PARYEZ (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation warmly congratulates you Mr. Chairman on your election to this important position, and feels certain that with your ability and experience you will guide out deliberations on this important Commission very successfully. We would also like to compliment the Secretariat: on preparing such good and useful documentation, as well as Professor Nurul Islam for his able introduction to this item.

It is apparent that the world food situation is rapidly becoming a matter of acute concern to all countries particularly the developing countries. The documents under consideration highlight some of problem areas such as the slowing down of world food production. It is now estimated that there will be a small overall increase in world food and agriculture production in 1979. On the other hand, the export prices of wheat and coarse grains have risen sharply. Maritime freight rates have also gone up the great deal. Carryover stocks will have to be drawn down in 1979-80 for the first time in five years, since the 1979 production will be insufficient for current consumption needs. This would create a tight world market for cereals. In the long term again we have reason to feel disturbed. Very little progress has been made towards attaining the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade or of the New International Economic Order. The 4 per cent annual growth rate target accepted by the DD-2 Strategy had not been attained. In fact, there has been some deterioration in certain regions of the world. Commitments of official development assistance remain little more than half of the requirements estimated by the World Food Conference and embodied in the guidelines for International Agricultural Adjustment adopted by the 18th Session. In the field of nutrition again there is little room for satisfaction. The number of malnourished in the world continues to increase and the figure was estimated to be more than 400 million in 1974-76. Some 70 per cent of the undernourished in 1974-76 were in the MSA countries where they constituted 28 per cent of the total population. In the field of food aid and food security we are again faced with disillusionment and disappointment.

Food aid in cereals has not attained the minimum target of 10 million tons a year. In fact, the volume of food aid remained less in the 1970's as compared to the 1960's. The indefinite adjournment of the International Grains Negotiations has left the developing countries at the mercy of a violently fluctuating international market. This is all the more important for developing countries as their import needs continue to rise according to the document under consideration they are estimated to have risen from 52 million in 1971-73 to 78 million in 1978-79. We would take this opportunity of strongly urging that the negotiations be resumed as soon as possible. In the meantime, the Director General's Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security should be implemented without delay. Food stocks remain concentrated in one particular region of the world. Although this point has been stressed time and again, we believe that it still remains valid even more so today when there is information to the effect that the regions in which these stocks are located is facing acute transport problems. According to the US Agriculture Department's Chief Economist the handling system-storage transport and port facilities may be severely taxed at times to meet needs.

Another important aspect to which we would like to draw the Commission's attention is the opportunity that the world has lost in not establishing an internationally coordinated system to national reserve stocks envisaged in the International Undertaking on World Food Security even when cereals were available in abundance. Given the existing projections of food supply it is unlikely that we will again have such a good opportunity to secure the world against hunger and want. The agricultural export earnings of developing countries remain highly unstable. Major problems continue to be the

protectionist measures in developing countries that restrict market access of agricultural exports, especially those of processed products of developing countries. In this connection, I would like to quote from a statement by Mr. McNamara, President of the World Bank. I quote: "Consider the United States. Exports provide one out of every eight jobs in United States manufacturing, and they take the output of one out of every three acres of United States farmland. Indeed, the United States now exports more to the developing countries than it does to Western Europe, Eastern Europe, China, and the Soviet Union combined. Further, the United States now gets increasing quantities of its raw materials from the developing world-more than 50 per cent of its tin, natural rubber and manganese, plus very substantial amounts of tungsten and cobalt, to say nothing of oil.

The same kind of mutual interdependence exists between the other industrialized countries - the Common Market and Japan-and the developing world. But if the developing nations are to import even more goods and services from the developed nations, which they both need and want to do, then they must be allowed in return to export more to those same nations in order to earn the necessary foreign exchange. In the end, excessive trade protectionism is self-defeating for everyone.

It is no good deceiving ourselves. In the 1980s, the developed and developing countries alike must face up to such immense and complicated problems as population growth, food production, creating more jobs, energy urbanization, reducing absolute poverty and expanding international trade and financial flow. The options are closing".

In the field of inputs the recent escalation in the price of fertilizer is a matter which deserves immediate attention. The price of nitrogenous fertilizers has risen by 20 per cent and continues to rise. DAP fertilizer prices have gone up even more dramatically. Under these circumstances, we would urge a reactivation of the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme and the commissioning of the options system. While on the subject of inputs we would like to express our support for the FAO's Seed Improvement and Development Programme. While the threat posed by desert locust has been temporarily averted we cannot afford to let down our guard and must remain vigilant. We take this opportunity of thanking the Director-General of FAO for the assistance he provided to my country in fighting this menace. The World Food Programme continues to maintain its well deserved reputation.

The pledging target for the next biennium has been fixed at one thousand million in US dollars but in view of the recent increase in prices of both cereals and maritime freight we think that this target needs to be revised upwards.

Lastly, prevention of food losses continues to be a matter of paramount interest to my delegation. The need for avoiding losses cannot be over-emphasized.

A word about the situation in Pakistan. Despite last year's adverse circumstances and poor crop we did not slacken our efforts and continued to strive towards the goal of self-sufficiency in wheat. Various incentives were offered to the farmers: water charges on additional areas brought under wheat cultivation were remitted; the procurement price was raised from Rs. 99. 12 per quintal to Rs. 120. 60 per quintal; fertilizer prices were reduced and its availability ensured; water availability was ensured; and varieties susceptible to rust attack which had caused unprecedented damage last year were withdrawn and new varieties introduced. As a result we have harvested a good wheat crop of about 10 million tons-an increase of 24 percent over last year.

At the same time efforts are being made to increase the production of rice, which is not the staple food in my country but which is in great demand in certain parts of the world. By 1982-83 we shall, God willing, be in a position to spare one million tons of rice each year to ease the world food situation.

In conclusion, we would suggest that apart from apprising us of the world food situation which document C 79/2 appreciably does, some solutions and proposal should also be forthcoming. FAO has the expertise and experience of making really practicable recommendations in this regard and we feel that such an exercise would be very useful.

W. WOLDEYER (Ethiopia): Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would like to congratulate you upon your election as Chairman of Commission I of the Twentieth Conference. At the same time my delegation wishes to thank the FAO Secretariat for the successful preparation of the vital document, C 79/2, The State of Food and Agriculture 1979.

My delegation would like to comment generally on the three important topics in this document, the world food and agriculture situation, food aid and world food security and commodity and trade problems.

The Director-General's report on the State of Food and Agriculture, 1979 indicates unfavourable food and agricultural production prospects. FAO's latest forecast, as of early July, is that world production of wheat and coarse grains in 1979 is likely to be about 6 percent below the 1978 record level and 5 percent below the longer term trend (1970-78). Mainly because of a very large cereal harvest, world food and agricultural production increased substantially in 1978. The expansion was greater, however, in the developed than in the developing countries. In the developing countries the long term rate of increase in agricultural production during the eight years of Development Decade 2 that have elapsed so far is still more than one quarter below the target of 4 percent a year. The present prospects are for only a small increase in world food and agricultural production in 1979. Cereal production is expected to be considerably below the record level of 1978.

In the area of International Agricultural Adjustment, some limited progress has been made although agreed targets have still not been achieved. The Eighteenth Session of FAO accepted transfers to developing countries' resources to an estimated equivalent of at least US\$ 8.3 billion annually during the period 1975-80 for investment in agricultural production. While the Ethiopian delegation appreciates the Director-General's continuous efforts to monitor progress towards international agricultural adjustment, attaining the target magnitude of transfer of resources has proved elusive.

Though not always the ideal form of assistance, Food Aid is nevertheless indispensable in bridging the gap between the present and the time when the receiving countries will have raised this production and purchasing power to the level of self-sufficiency. Relatively poor performance also prevailed in the food aid programme, the emergency reserve stock of cereals and in the terms of development assistance. Food aid in cereals recovered further in 1978/79, but 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 stocks 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 has not been formally embodied in a new international grains arrangement. As a result, the Director-General of FAO in March 1979 proposed a Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security. In the document it is pointed out that the expected reduction in cereal production in 1979 reminds us of the bad situation in 1973-74. Therefore the Ethiopian Government calls urgently for the immediate implementation of the Five Point Plan of Action. It fully supports the five points of the plan and Director-General's proposals for any further measures required to achieve the objectives of 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 third world nations and the 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 full agricultural potential, however, 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, financial and technical assistance. It was in fact agreed two years ago, at the Nineteenth Session of FAO, that the maximization of food production would be possible without increased technical and financial assistance from the most developed towards the least developed countries. Nor, would it of course be possible with the rapidly escalating costs in the basic agricultural inputs, viewed against a background of unstable export markets and trade barriers against primary products for the obvious reason that the declining export earnings of developing countries, in relation to their increasing import bills, deprive them from incentives and resources so badly needed in their developmental effort.

It is therefore the view of my delegation that FAO, in accordance with Article 1, paragraphs 2 (e) and 2 (g), should energetically work towards increasing the flow of capital into agriculture and to attain fair and equitable agricultural commodity arrangements.

A. M. S. AL-NAKIB (Kuwait) (interpretation from Arabic): On behalf of the delegation of Kuwait, I would first like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the Chairmanship of this Commission. This election is a recognition of your own extreme competence.

Some of the comments which I wanted to make have already been made by the delegates of Kenya and Libya. To go along with your suggestion that we do not repeat what has already been said by previous speakers, I will therefore, not repeat them. But I would like to express here an opinion which is of concern

to all delegations and that is the decrease in cereal production and the large increase in demand is a point which is of concern to us all. Hunger and malnutrition exist in a larger and larger areas of the world and tens of millions of persons suffer from hunger and malnutrition throughout the world. This certainly is a cause of concern to us all. Those who suffer from hunger and malnutrition can be counted in the hundreds of millions and primarily in the developing world, where there is a lack of resources, a lack of investment and a lack of modern technology. This means that they cannot adjust to those means of cultivation. This is why the developed countries should give them their assistance and participate effectively in their struggle against hunger in the world. We wholeheartedly support the Five-Point Plan of the Director-General on this issue and we hope that this plan of action will receive the full support of all Member Nations.

I. OZORAI (Hungary): My delegation is very pleased indeed to have you in the chair, Mr. Chairman, and we pledge our full support to you. We listened with great interest to the clear and concise introduction of Professor Islam, which we consider is an excellent help to our debate.

Speaking on the world food situation, in his statement the Director-General said: "I had hoped that today I would be able to present some indications of progress. It is, however, my sad duty to underline the fact that on the basis of most criteria, the situation has deteriorated further. "

We can only agree with Mr. Saouma. The increased crops of recent years whilst welcome facts in themselves cannot comfort us because there is no assurance that such levels of production will be sustained in future. My delegation is particularly concerned to know that in most seriously affected countries the rate of increase in food production is not only behind the rate of population growth but is actually falling.

Another source of concern is that the late 1970s have seen chronic food problems further aggravated by unfavourable trends in the world economy. The 1979 crop harvest in Hungary was well below the previous year's level. The high priority my Government has granted to agriculture in the last two decades and the significant investments into large-scale agricultural technology were responsible for mitigating the adverse effects of this year's poor climate and weather conditions.

The report on the State of Food and Agriculture is comprehensive, well-balanced and my delegation approves of it. There are only two points I would like to make on some issues in the document.

The first is on the prevention of food losses. We appreciate the efforts made by the Programme concentrating mainly on the farm and village.

It is our feeling that the expansion of the project under the BFL Programme for the time being should be concentrated on cereals and other staple food crops and the Programme proceed to animal products only at a later stage. The second point I should like to raise is on agricultural investments. Our ideas on the subject seem to concur with those of Prof. Islam who elaborated on this in his presentation and we do appreciate his remarks. My delegation has rather strong views on the importance of investments into agriculture in all imports with special emphasis on those who are planning a major promotion of their agricultural and food production. We have repeatedly voiced our ideas alongside these lines at the last Session of the Conference and at various sessions of the FAO Council as well.

The Hungarian delegation note with satisfaction the encouraging evidence that a number of developing countries have recently increased their agricultural investments. At the same time though, we are worried to learn about the insufficient investments in agriculture in relation to agricultural GDP in some MSA countries with a higher proportion of GDP generated by agriculture. It is hoped that all countries concerned will keep on doing their best to generate the necessary funds into agriculture. We are convinced that increasing the support to their own agriculture through well-conceived projects is a pre-requisite of further development.

I conclude by requesting the Secretariat, as they have in the past, to try even harder to give a wide coverage to agricultural investment in the Conference report.

LIN GAN. (China) (interpretation from Chinese): We note in document C 79/2 that accelerating food production in developing countries and improving terms of trade for their agricultural products remain two priorities that call for speedy action in the international food and agricultural sphere. These questions have been discussed at many international conferences. Now is the time for adopting concrete measures for their solution in accordance with the rational proposals put forward by developing countries.

In his address to the plenary session Mr. Xing Chong-Zhi.

Head of the Chinese delegation, already stated our basic views on food production. Therefore I shall confine myself to offering a few comments on the question of international trade in agricultural products. We are of the opinion that the crux of the question for international trade and agricultural products is not the price fluctuations of one or the other product. Nor is it access to markets at a certain time, the solution of which would require only a partial improvement in the terms of trade. The crux of the matter lies in the existing international economic and trade codes which hamper the development of rural economies in many developing countries. Without a restructuring of such codes the establishment of a new international economic order is out of the question.

The integrated programme for commodities has been initiated and advocated by developing countries out of the conviction that international trade should be conducted on the basis of equality and mutual benefit to all nations. It may be regarded as an attempt at restructuring the old trade patterns. We are pleased to note that as a result of the solidarity, cooperation and persistent struggle on the part of many third world countries, agreement has been reached in principle on the Programme and its funding. It is our hope that efforts will be continued on this basis and negotiations on commodity agreements and the Common Fund will be completed in the shortest possible time, thus contributing to further improved terms of trade of agricultural products. In this connexion we would like to voice our active support to the developing countries' legitimate demand that developed countries abandon their protectionist policies. It is to be hoped that developed countries pursuing such policies will recognize the realities of life and adopt a positive attitude by taking effective measures to ensure that exports of developing countries have equal access to markets and gradually obtain relatively stable export earnings. The current Session of the Conference has drafted relevant resolutions which we consider as necessary.

May I now give a brief account of China's agricultural production this year by way of supplementing and updating the information on China contained in document C 79/2. This year China's agricultural development has been stepped up in accordance with the policy of readjustment, restructuring, consolidation and improvement for the national economy. The further implementation of rural economic policies throughout the country, considerably increased purchasing prices for agricultural and sideline products, reduction or remission of rural taxes, increased investment in agriculture, greater industrial support to agriculture and continued implementation of technical measures aimed at promoting agricultural production - all this has resulted in increased agricultural production as compared to 1973, which was a good year for all major crops. Statistics show that total summer output exceeded 64.9 million tons or 5.5 million tons more than last year. There is conclusive evidence of increased production for early rice and middle season rice. Autumn crops are also expected to register an increase, with the final figures being worked out. It appears that the food production quotas for 1979 can be overfulfilled. Production of oil-bearing crops has shown a marked increase over last year. All agricultural and livestock production procured by the State topped last year's figures by wide margins. Although some progress has been made in China's agricultural production the situation varies from place to place. At present our agricultural development still falls short of the requirements of the development of the national economy and the people's improved livelihood. We will have to make still greater efforts so as to ensure that our agricultural development meets the requirements of our population growth and industrial development.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Firstly I would like to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this important Commission. Secondly I would like to support the ideas and conclusions just presented by the delegate of Norway concerning the infant food policy. Thirdly I would like to compliment the Secretariat for the excellent and comprehensive document C 79/2 and its supplement. The fall in total world carry-over stocks of cereals by 19 million tons or 7 percent indicated in the document is really a disquieting feature in the present agricultural situation. It is a small comfort that stocks will remain at 17 percent of world consumption or the minimum level required for world food security and that production has increased more in developed than in developing countries. The short-fall in cereal production in the USSR and the effects thereof on, inter alia, world market prices once again demonstrates the desirability of timely and accurate forecast concerning the production in that country. In this connexion we are very satisfied with the information which is presented by the delegate of China concerning the production in that country. As will be said today by the Swedish Minister of Agriculture in the Plenary, the world food situation must be considered as precarious owing, inter alia, to serious malnutrition in many developing countries, the fast rise in grain imports, at increasing prices of these countries and the absence of a coordinated reserve system. The growing dependence of developing countries on external food supplies is particularly disquieting.

According to the document in front of us, food imports of developing countries rose by almost 7 percent a year or much faster than the food imports of developed countries. The cereal imports of developing countries increased from an average of 50 million tons at the beginning of this decade to about 78 million tons in 1978/79. Although some of this increase could be attributed to rising demands of oil-exporting developing countries, other categories of developing countries, including least-developed countries, still account for two-thirds of the food imports of the developing world.

A more equal distribution of currently available food supply both within and between countries would undoubtedly bring about a considerable alleviation of hunger, but also as a consequence give rise to another increase of food consumption of developing countries.

The present food situation does demonstrate the urgent need for sustained efforts to increase the production of food crops in the developing countries including the production of traditional non-cereal crops. To achieve this objective both the external assistance to and the importance attributed to the agricultural sector in development plans must be substantially increased.

The present development also shows the need for the continuation and subsequent increase of food aid to developing countries during an indefinite period of time. It emphasizes moreover the need for the early implementation of the guidelines for food aid agreed by the committee on Food Aid Programmes and Policies during its May session, in particular those concerning the forward planning of food aid in physical terms so as to avoid the danger that price rises will lead to a lower volume of shipments, and the expansion of multilateral channeling. It is also urgently necessary to meet the target for the International Emergency Food Reserve and to insure its replenishment on a regular basis.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the present world food situation also shows that we shall have to keep the agricultural production potential, especially for grain production in industrialized countries.

R. IBARGUREN (Argentina): Quiero unirme a la congratulación que han expresado el resto de las delegaciones por su elección, y a su vez la hacemos extensiva a los demás miembros de la Mesa.

En primer término mi delegación desea destacar los méritos del Sr. Director General de la FAO al presentar el informe contenido en el documento C 79/2. En general constituye una interesante contribución y una valiosa evaluación de la situación agroalimentaria mundial. En segundo lugar, quiero informar sobre el progreso logrado en la producción agrícola argentina, precisando que el volumen total de la campaña 1978/1979 totalizó 31 970 000 de toneladas, alcanzándose así un nuevo récord histórico de producción.

Ese volumen de producción agrícola supera en un 9,8 por ciento el correspondiente a la campaña anterior 1977/1978 y en un 1,3 por ciento a lo obtenido durante el período 1976/1977.

De tal manera la producción agrícola promedio del último trienio es de 30 876 000 de toneladas anuales.

Es de interés señalar la importancia de la producción de granos oleaginosos que llega a la cosecha 1978/1979 a 6 230 000 de toneladas superando sustancialmente un 20,5 y 86,6 por ciento, respectivamente, a la cifra de las dos campañas anteriores. Merece una cita especial el progreso logrado por la producción de soja que alcanza en este año a 3 700 000 de toneladas superando en un 48 por ciento la del año anterior, con un rendimiento medio por hectárea de 2 346 kg, cifra superior en un 7,9 por ciento de la campaña previa.

Los aumentos registrados en la producción son un claro resultado del aumento de los rendimientos unitarios, ya que mientras el área sembrada no sufre, prácticamente, una expansión durante el último decenio, la producción agrícola total se ha incrementado en una tasa de más del 3 por ciento anual acumulativo.

La elevación en los niveles de rendimiento refleja la incorporación de nuevas tecnologías agrícolas, derivadas de un exitoso trabajo genético de criadores y semilleros con el logro de variedades e híbridos de mayor productividad, sumado al avance registrado en la eficiencia de la maquinaria agrícola y en la correcta utilización de los agroquímicos.

Ha sido un proceso favorecido por la preocupación de los productores agrícolas, quienes demostraron una actitud receptiva para los cambios propuestos por las actividades de extensión y experimentación de técnicas agrícolas argentinas.

Por otra parte, también cabe señalar que esos rendimientos unitarios crecientes se han obtenido con un uso de fertilizantes y de riego muy inferior al de la mayoría de los países con producciones agrícolas similares a la nuestra.

En virtud de la información expuesta precedentemente, mi delegación solicita la enmienda del párrafo 41 del mencionado documento, por no ajustarse a la realidad en cuanto concierne a la real evaluación de la producción cerealera argentina.

En lo que atañe al comercio internacional de productos agrícolas, nuestro país, tradicional productor y exportador de alimentos a los mercados mundiales, al otorgar mayor capacidad económica al sector agropecuario, podrá mantener dentro del contexto del comercio internacional una corriente fluida de exportación de tales productos.

En cuanto a la exportación de grano pasó de un promedio anual de 8, 5 millones de toneladas en el período comprendido entre las cosechas 1969/1970 y 1975/1976 a 13 millones de toneladas para el período ubicado entre las cosechas 1976/1977 y 1978/1979 lo que implicó un incremento real del 60 por ciento.

Efectivamente los aumentos de producción comentados se han traducido en una mayor presencia argentina en los mercados mundiales. Esa participación en el comercio mundial de cereales que llegó a ser de un 5 por ciento en 1974/1975 se estima para la presente campaña en un 9 por ciento habiéndose elevado en un 6 por ciento promedio de las campañas 1973/1974-1975/1976 a un 9, 4 por ciento, promedio de las campañas 1976/1977-1978/1979.

Desde nuestro punto de vista es necesario que los países en desarrollo participen activa y mancomunadamente, a fin de lograr que los países desarrollados eliminen los obstáculos arancelarios y no arancelarios que afectan a sus exportaciones agrícolas.

En tal sentido es importante que los países en desarrollo hagan uso de sus ventajas comparativas, a los efectos de que cada producto coadyuve al aprovisionamiento agrimundial en términos económicamente rentables. Es necesario que se estimulen los mecanismos productivos de esos países para que se aprovechen plenamente las ventajas aludidas, que contribuyan de este modo a intercambios más dinámicos en los comercios mundiales de productos agrícolas con mayor participación de los países en desarrollo.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): First of all I wish to congratulate you, Sir, on behalf of my delegation on your election. I think you will be an excellent Chairman of this important Commission I.

The secretariat, as always, has done a very good job in preparing our discussion on the state of food and agriculture, and I wish to thank you, for this very much indeed.

The following developments in production and supply seem to me of particular importance. The year 1978 gave good crops. In developing countries there were considerable increases in production in general. A gratifying fact was the increase in food production in Africa of 4. 3 percent. This year the world grain crop will be a little less as compared to 1978, particularly due to substantial production deficits in the Soviet Union. But by and large also 1980 does not seem to give rise to fears for supplies. The grain reserve stocks will decline a bit because of the higher trade volume, but not below the level of 1978 and with at least 18 percent of annual consumption it will still maintain a very reassuring extent. What is remarkable is that particularly grain production in developing countries will also show an increase in 1979. For rice the crop for 1979 is expected to reach the same level as in the previous year. After a bumper crop of soya beans and other important oil seeds in 1978/1979 a further increase of production in 1979/1980 has to be expected so that the supply of protein feed will considerably exceed the demand.

Despite the overall favourable development in food production in developing countries in recent years the target of this decade for an annual increase of 4 percent will presumably not be achieved. Therefore my Government supports the World Food Council's recommendation towards the devising of national strategies in developing countries for food production and for nutrition as a framework for the identification and preparation of projects, and also making available the appropriate investment funds. The promotion of agriculture and the improvement of nutrition should be included in overall planning and dovetailed more with other developments.

What is necessary is greater investment in the food sector. Appropriate efforts of developing countries themselves should be further supplemented by increased external investments. My Government strongly increased its public assistance. In the next few years these funds will be increased twice as much as the overall budget expenditure of the Federal Republic of Germany. In line with the outcome of the UNCTAD V the least developed countries, require very special attention. In paragraph 127 of the document the significance of these UNCTAD V decisions are highlighted. The Federal Government has between 1972 and 1978 more than doubled its aid to these countries and in the future will continue to increase it over proportionally. Since the beginning of 1978, capital aid to these countries has been given on a grant basis; repayments are no longer required. Moreover, to date 15 countries have had their debts cancelled.

Rural development and the increase in food production are areas of concentration in the cooperation between my country and the developing countries. Roughly 50 percent of the grants made available for technical cooperation flow into the agricultural sector. The Federal Government is willing to further increase the share of rural development projects in the total volume of financial cooperation.

With respect to the statements on the development of trade and the outcome of trade negotiations, I should like to express brief views. Important progress has been achieved in the negotiations of the competent international bodies. This is something that we will no doubt discuss to a greater extent when we come to the progress report on international adjustment in agriculture.

In paragraphs 111/114 of the document the disquieting trend is stressed of an increase in food imports of developing countries. In many of those countries this increase, together with the increase in the energy cost, is leading to greater balance-of-payments problems. The increasing importation of vegetable oils, milk products and meat on the other hand also shows that the supply for the population has improved under nutritional aspects. This has certainly contributed to the improvement of the food situation as described in paragraph 58. On the other hand, we see an expansion of trade between developing countries because these products to a very great extent stem from developing countries. Trade between developing countries is also important because of the fact that in many industrialized countries the limit of absorption for certain agricultural products has really been reached.

Quite favourable developments in this decade for developing countries showed the earnings from agricultural exports and trade conditions. Certain fluctuations are unavoidable.

Praiseworthy developments should be stressed in regard to processed products. In 1977 the share of processed products in total agricultural exports of these countries was 40 percent higher than in the period 1969 to 1971. The continuous improvement and expansion of the generalized system of preferences should have contributed markedly to this development and also to the building up of adequate processing capacities in developing countries.

The attitude of the European Community and its Member States with respect to the draft resolution on commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustment will be discussed further by the representative of the EEC

S. PADMANAGARA (Indonesia): Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Indonesian delegation I should like to join other delegations in congratulating you on your election.

My delegation expresses the gravest concern that the increase of agricultural production in the developing countries during the eight years of the Second United Nations Development Decade is still more than one quarter below the target of 4 percent per year. It is reported to be slowest in Africa and in the poorest developing countries in general. The number of undernourished people in the developing market economies has continued to rise, from about 360 million in 1969-71 to 410 million in 1974-76. In the latter period they represented about 22 percent of the total population of these countries.

This calls for a more serious attention to the grave problem of food and agricultural affairs. Concerted action among all of us, the developing as well as the developed countries, will have to be undertaken in agricultural investments. We have observed with concern that bilateral commitments for development assistance for agriculture fell by 10 percent in current prices in 1978. Multilateral commitments, however, increased by a further 27 percent. We welcome the timely contribution of the International Fund for Agricultural Development which, despite its young age, has successfully contributed \$59 million in commitments to develop agriculture in the poorest members of the developing countries.

Under the "narrow" definition of agriculture of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, official commitments of external assistance are estimated to have risen in current prices from \$4, 900 million in 1977 to about \$5, 700 million in 1978. In 1975 prices, this is equivalent to about \$4, 600 million, not much more than half of the requirements of \$8, 300 million estimated by the World Food Council and contained in the Guidelines for International Agricultural Adjustment adopted by the 18th Session of the FAO Conference. We appeal strongly to bilateral and multilateral donors to increase their commitments of external assistance towards reaching the estimated requirements of \$8, 300 million.

Concerning trade problems, I should like to repeat a statement made by our Minister of Agriculture in the Plenary Meeting:

"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. "

Consequently, we support the draft resolution on commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustment and urge all members to do so.

M. P. KANGA (Angola): Ma délégation s'associe aux orateurs précédents pour vous présenter nos vives félicitations et remercie aussi le Directeur adjoint de son exposé concis et concret.

La délégation appuie le distingué délégué de la Libye pour son intervention. En réalité, tel que le problème est posé dans les documents de base, le véritable problème de la crise et de l'augmentation est escamoté car nous savons tous qui sont ceux qui gagnent effectivement avec la montée du prix du pétrole. Dans d'autres organismes internationaux, le problème a été analysé en profondeur et nous aimerions bien que dans le rapport final de la Commission ce point soit pris en considération.

Nous avons lu avec attention le document émanant du Directeur général intitulé "La situation mondiale de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation en 1979" et son document de réajustement.

Notre analyse s'est basée en particulier sur ce dernier document. Nous considérons que les termes de débütte sont très importants pour la vie de notre peuple et que cette assemblée est l'endroit le mieux indiqué pour intervenir d'une façon critique toutes les fois que nous constatons que les documents de base qui nous sont présentés ne coïncident pas avec les points de vue que nous considérons comme corrects.

En principe, nous sommes tous d'accord sur les orientations approuvées lors de la dix-huitième session, et également quant à la méthodologie suivie par le Directeur général pour analyser jusqu'à quel point les objectifs quantifiés prévus ont été atteints.

Sur ce dernier point, permettez-moi d'émettre beaucoup de réserves quant à la validité de certaines données présentées, car les réponses aux questionnaires ont été données par un petit nombre de pays. Mais si l'on fait abstraction de ce détail de caractère méthodologique, nous aimerions évoquer certains aspects concrets. Concernant la première orientation qui a trait à l'objectif de la croissance annuelle de 4 pour cent de la production alimentaire, nous ne sommes pas seulement préoccupés du fait que la totalité des pays en voie de développement ne présente qu'une taxe de 2,9 pour cent pour la période 1970/1978 avec une tendance légèrement récessive au cours des trois dernières années de la période considérée, mais surtout du fait que le continent africain n'a enregistré au cours de la même période qu'une croissance de 1,5 pour cent à peine, ceci aggravé par le fait qu'entre 1976 et 1978 cette croissance a été à peine de 1,5 pour cent.

Ainsi si l'on accepte que le niveau général de la croissance nationale dans le continent se maintienne à environ 2 pour cent l'an, c'est que le Cadre 1 démontre de manière dramatique qu'en Afrique, si l'on n'arrivait pas à améliorer le niveau relatif de l'alimentation, étant donné que ce niveau a baissé en terme moyen de quantité d'aliments disponibles pour chaque habitant, il serait nécessaire de trouver une explication puisqu'il est très facile, mais aussi bien simpliste de l'attribuer à des raisons d'ordre naturel.

Peut-être pouvons-nous trouver une partie de la solution quand dans le texte on affirme que "l'on peut apprécier que dans les années en question les investissements dans l'agriculture ne paraissaient pas avoir une priorité très élevée dans les pays en voie de développement".

En réalité, la simple lecture du Cadre 4, bien qu'il ne fasse référence qu'à 35 pays, ce qui lui retire une grande partie de sa validité, montre qu'en termes d'investissement général, les pays en voie de développement avaient dévié leurs ressources générales de l'investissement dans l'agriculture, puisque seulement le secteur public, et dans ce dernier certains pays seulement avaient donné la priorité à l'agriculture. Ce qui vient démontrer l'importance du rôle de l'Etat dans le développement de l'agriculture et nécessairement le faible niveau de la taxe de remboursement des investissements. Il semble que ce point retienne notre attention.

S'il était possible, sur le travail que nous analysons, de distinguer les investissements par origine, on conclurait facilement que la grande partie de ceux-ci sont d'origine étrangère. On pourrait ainsi en déduire le peu d'intérêt qu'ils apportent dans le secteur de l'agriculture et ipso facto aux autres secteurs, en particulier ceux qui, par le truchement d'une substitution des importations théoriques, sont proportionnée par l'imposition de royalties et le droit d'utilisation des fonds par le transfert des bénéfices et par la surfacturation dans l'approvisionnement des produits semi-finis. Ainsi est géré le plus grand volume des bénéfices qui seront par la suite réinvestis, consolidant de ce fait l'accumulation et augmentant la dépendance. Si, sans investissements, la croissance est minime, comment peuvent-ils les pays sous-développés en général et africains en particulier stimuler le développement agricole dans ce secteur ?

La grande partie de leurs ressources disponibles doit être déviée de la formation du capital fixe pour le paiement des subsides, pour l'acquisition des moyens de production qui ne pouvaient être acquis différemment du fait que leur utilisation au prix du marché dégrade la rémunération du travailleur agricole au lieu de l'augmenter.

Enfin, le rapport présenté analyse d'une manière très peu favorable mais d'une façon tout à fait raisonnable les progrès effectuée dans le domaine du commerce international, principalement aux barrières, boycotts et expédients techniques plus ou moins déguisés, normalement soulevés d'une manière permanente par les pays développés par rapport aux pays sous-développés. Nous devons toujours rappeler que le développement du capitalisme s'est fait, ou s'est accéléré, en raison du coût à bas prix des matières premières résultant de l'exploitation du travail des colonies et disposant obligatoirement de marchés toujours ouverte, provoquant la désarticulation des forces productives internes. Comment est-il possible que, maintenant quand on annonce une aide au sous-développement, plusieurs pays soulèvent des barrières ou créent des systèmes de préférence bien établis dans un paternalisme complètement dépassé ? Mon pays revendique le droit de revenir sur ce sujet. Nous pourrions conclure que si certains problèmes que nous considérons très importants n'étaient pas débattus convenablement, nous vous demanderions, dans ce cas, Monsieur le Président, le droit d'intervenir à nouveau.

Pour terminer, La République populaire de l'Angola donne son accord de principe aux conclusions du Conseil sur le commerce et les produits et appuie le projet de résolution présenté à cette Commission.

M. DIB (Syria): Allow me first of all to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this important Commission. We know your long experience, your wisdom, your many qualities, will help very much, and help us in making the work of the Commission successful.

I would like to say, following the example of previous speakers, that the world situation of food and agriculture for 1979 is one of the most important matters that we have to think about, as has already been pointed out. Also, may I say, subsequent to a study of document C 79/2 and other relevant documents, that the Director-General's Five-Point Plan is a plan of action which has our full support and approval, and I would also like to refer to Resolutions which were passed by the World Food Council in 1974 that coped with the crisis years, and also decisions regarding worldwide systems, and the devising of a food security system and national policies, in connection with buffer stocks to be able to cope with crises as they emerge.

I would like to say that the results obtained to date in consultations on economy and technical cooperation between the developing countries are very positive. These assessments will help enhance world food security and increase investment in the agricultural scheme, and enable an increase of trade between developing countries themselves. We must also recall the conclusions of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, and the very positive outcome of that Conference. The efforts made by this Organization will help all countries, particularly developing countries, to cope with the difficulties which they are facing. I wish to support all Draft Resolutions and conclusions contained

in this document, and we also request that negotiations with respect to the unfinished Wheat Agreement be resumed as soon as possible and that the greater grain and wheat producers make concessions order to enable countries which have shortages of agricultural production to be able to supply themselves on the international world market. At the same time we ask the developed countries to grant greater financial aid in order to step up investments in the agricultural sector. We would also want trade conditions to improve, taking into account the interests of developing and developed countries at the same time. We hope that our Commission will find appropriate resolutions in this area.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): We shall now adjourn for lunch.

The meeting arose at 12. 40 hours

La séance est levée a 12 h. 40

Se levanta la sesión a las 12. 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

C 79/I/PV/2

C

Twentieth Session
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

SECOND MEETING
DEUXIEME SEANCE
SEGUNDA SESION

(15 November 1979)

The Second Meeting was opened at 14. 45 hours

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La deuxième séance est ouverte à 14 h 45, sous la présidence de

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I

Se abre la segunda sesión a las 14. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabio): First of all, I should like to ask you to allow me to ask the Rapporteur of Plenary to Commission I, Mr. Horatio Mends, to speak, in order to submit to us certain ideas or possibly a report on what has happened in Plenary so far. We have not so far been able to ask him to participate in our work because of his own commitments and I will give him the floor now.

H. MENDES (Rapporteur from Plenary to Commission I): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. First of all I would like to take this opportunity to thank all honourable delegates for electing me Rapporteur of this Conference. Although it is a complex and highly responsible assignment, we deem it a great honour to my country and a rewarding personal challenge which I accept with all humility. I shall work assiduously to ensure fulfilment of the objectives of this Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference.

Mr. Chairman, it is my intention to listen attentively to the various statements delivered during the general debates of the Plenary, extraot suggestions and proposals which have particular relevance to the issues before this Commission, and bring them for your consideration as often as practicable. I must, however, apologise that from the discussions so far it has not been possible to follow this formula for this afternoon's presentation in relation to the items before you. I shall therefore give you a brief overview of the ideas expressed in these statements for your consideration.

In addition to His Holiness Pope John Paul II and His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia, who addressed the Conference on Monday, 31 Heads of Delegations have also delivered statements as of yesterday evening. This does not however include the excellent, comprehensive and keynote address delivered by the Director-General.

All these statements seriously underscore a harrowing assessment of rather deteriorating agricultural production capabilities of the developing countries and I have noted with great concern the daily increase in the number of the hungry and malnourished. The thrust of these speeches was towards a global strategy towards the reduction of the twin spectre of hunger and malnutrition. In this connexion the programmes and strategy delineated in the Director-General's Programme of Work for the next biennium and the strategies for the medium term have been wholly acclaimed by all the speakers.

Specifically delegations recommend that developing countries formulate national programmes for increasing food production, commit more resources to provide incentives in rural areas to improve agrarian incomes; intensify efforts to bring about a new international economic order to stall the present condition of global hunger.

There should also be more intensive utilisation of productive resources, particularly land, adequate investment resources for irrigation and increased use of fertilizers and stabilisation of international fertiliser prices. FAO Should initiate an active study of the energy problem and its implications on agricultural production. FAO through its relations with other international organisations should seek means of increasing the flow of financial resources from international organisations such as IFAD and the Morid Bank to agricultural improvement in the developing countries. FAO again in collaboration with other agencies should formulate an international scheme for providing appropriate tools to small farmers for food production.

TCDC and EC DC, that is Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries, in the field of agriculture, should be strengthened at regional and sub-regional levels. It was further suggested that FAO develop a timely action programme as a complement to the Early Warning System and promote corrective measures which will help avoid human tragedy and crop losses. FAO should formulate a Global Man and Water Development Technology for the 1980s.

On Forestry, the delegations welcomed the Programmes proposed by FAO as a step in the right direction but stressed that the programmes should form part of the project package for effective rural development efforts and control of soil degradation. FAO was also requested to initiate active follow-up action on the Djakarta Convention in the area of forestry. Great concern was also expressed about the problems of access to foreign markets of commodities from the developing countries due to trade protectionism. In particular developed countries were called upon to try and improve their trade relations with developing countries by relaxing these trade barriers. To justify even greater attention being paid to the development of agrarian policies and

agricultural production, it has been proposed that a day of every year, possibly a week, beginning on the anniversary of FAO, that is 16 October, be declared World Day of Food and agriculture, and the Director-General has therefore been called upon to prepare a draft resolution on this subject for the consideration of your Commission.

Finally I dare say it has been amply stressed that the developed countries have the resources and means to assist the developing countries to stabilize and accelerate their food production efforts and improve their economic and social structures. This, it was felt, can and must be done as a moral obligation in the unceasing quest to conquer hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty. The developed countries, in the various statements, have also affirmed cooperation with FAO and other international agencies and through bilateral arrangements in sharing experiences, technologies, research and training facilities for increased food production and general agricultural improvements in the developing countries.

I shall be addressing your Commission from time to time as you progress along the lines of your agenda and report on the general issues touched upon in the discussions in the Plenary. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you very much Mr. Rapporteur for this concise and very clear report, and I trust that Mr. Horatio Mends is going to be able to make it possible for us to follow very carefully what happens in Plenary and this is certainly going to enrich our ideas. On behalf of all of you I would again like to thank him and express the hope that we shall be meeting with him again very soon.

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)

I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)

I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)

6. World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)

6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)

6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)

6.1 State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)

6.1 Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment Problèmes concernant les produits de le commerce (suite)

6.1 El estado Médico de la agricultura y la alimentación Incluidos Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment Básicas y el comercio (continuación)

R. RAMPERSAD (Trinidad and Tobago) Thank you Mr. Chairman. Allow me first of all to join with the distinguished delegates who preceded me in congratulating you on your election to such an important office. Our delegation has every confidence that under your inspired leadership our deliberations shall be immensely fruitful.

My delegation also would like to place on record its compliments to the FAO secretariat for the very excellent document it has prepared and presented to us. We have had some minor difficulties for instance with the last paragraph of page 2 of the document C/79/2- Sup. I where it is stated, Mr. Chairman, "Most prices are higher than a year ago, but those of sugar and dairy products have continued to be depressed by structural surpluses." We find this somewhat inconsistent with the statement in the second paragraph of page 16 where in reference to milk and milk products there is the following statement, "There was thus a further increase in international prices, especially for skim milk powder."

There is perhaps a conceptual problem of classification on our part, but we hope that this matter will be clarified in due course. Despite this, Mr. Chairman, we are very impressed with the quality of presentation and commend the FAO secretariat for it.

In view of the elaborate coverage that has already been given to the state of food and agriculture and in order to comply with your request for interventions to be brief I shall confine my remarks to the area of commodity trade problems.

Mr. Chairman, the share of developing countries in world agricultural trade is decreasing when it ought to increase. It has decreased not because of an inherent lack of capacity on the part of developing countries to expand production, and secure for themselves a more equitable share of benefits, but rather because efforts to expand production have been frustrated by deliberate policy of the developed industrialized countries. It is decreasing because of the inability of developing countries to overcome the trade barriers erected by the developed countries, because of their inability to compete successfully against highly subsidized exports, and because of their inability to demolish the rigidities of a trading system characterized by quantitative restrictions, deliberate attempts to depress demand and increased use of synthetics and similar substitutes.

But, Mr. Chairman, the share of the developing countries in world trade in agriculture ought to increase. It ought to increase because these countries need to be afforded an opportunity through access to an expanded market to develop their economies with the use of modern technology, and so be in a position to provide the employment opportunities and the welfare services which the people have been legitimately demanding. It ought to increase, because developing countries need a more reliable and assured source of foreign exchange in order to finance their imports of capital goods, technological inputs and other supplies which they must purchase from the developed countries. It ought to increase because this is justified on grounds of comparative advantage.

It is appropriate, Mr. Chairman, to make reference at this point to the observations made by the Director-General in his address to the Committee of Commodity Problems as reported in Document C 79/Lim/19 where it is stated, "it would be the height of cynicism to encourage developing countries to increase their production for export if, in the end, they would be unable to find remunerative markets. " At almost every international forum at which economic development is an issue, the need is stressed for the introduction of policies and procedures which would facilitate the efforts of developing countries to expand their foreign trade. This has been stressed at almost every FAO Conference held during the current decade and it is a cornerstone of the discussions for a New International Economic order. There seems, however, to be a strong reluctance to translate words into action.

The trade position of developing countries continues to deteriorate and shows no sign of an early reversal. The statistics reproduced in the FAO Document "Agriculture Towards 2000" paints a picture that is not only gloomy but indeed frightening. Cereal imports by developing countries almost doubled between 1963 and 1975 while the exports showed only a marginal increase, averaging about 1 percent per year.

Paragraph 115 of the Document C 79/2 also states "inter alia":

"As a consequence, the share of developing countries in total exports of agricultural, fishery and forestry products dropped from 35% during the early 1960s to 32% at the beginning of the present decade, and to an average of 30% in 1975-77."

The International Food Policy Research Institute has estimated that on the basis of current trends, by 1990 the developing market economies will have a food production shortfall of between 120 and 145 million tons of cereal equivalent. One wonders, Mr. Chairman, whether these countries will ever have the foreign exchange resources to finance such imports, or whether they would have the capacity to cope with the transportation, storage and distribution logistics that would be involved in handling such massive quantities of food.

The trade imbalance is not only alarming but it is getting worse. And one is unable to perceive on the horizon even a glimmer of hope of improvement. Access to the markets of developed countries is becoming increasingly difficult.

One gets the impression that the slow rate of growth of the world economy during the last few years is being advanced by the developed countries as an excuse, if not a justification, for the growing wave of protectionism that is becoming a dominant characteristic of their trade policies. But protectionism will aggravate rather than ameliorate the situation. Unless developing countries are assisted in developing their economies-and access to a wider market for their agricultural commodities is an essential prerequisite for this-they would be unable to earn the foreign exchange with which to buy the very commodities for which the developed countries have a production comparative advantage. Protectionism is a self-defeating process and is at best a vector for the spread of economic malaise.

It is conceded that current world economic conditions require some structural adjustments which call for a degree of sacrifice. We feel that the developed economies have the resources, the flexibility and the resilience to make the adjustment with the least possible cost. Furthermore we feel that the benefits which would accrue from such a sacrifice would more than justify the price.

Mr. Chairman one of the central elements in the package of proposals for bringing about a New International Economic Order was liberalization of trade. Yet the possibility of this becoming a reality is getting increasingly remote. At the dawn of the Third Development Decade the New International Economic order seems to be unable to dethrone the old, which in fact is getting more finally entrenched, much to the chagrin of those who eagerly look forward to the promised change.

P. C. DE CLIVEIRA CAMPOS (Brazil): Mr. Chairman, as this is the first time I have addressed this Commission I would like to join the Brazilian Delegation to those which have congratulated you on your election as Chairman of this Commission. Document C 79/2 presents us with the exact dimension of the world food problem. The Secretariat has prepared a very useful document.

In the last five years the world did not succeed in achieving the target of 4 percent for increase in food production. We did not achieve the objectives established in the World Food Conference. Hunger and insufficient increase of food production remains a serious problem.

The Brazilian delegation believes that the role of the present Session of the Conference is to review ways and means of achieving the targets and objectives of the international community concerning food production.

After reading document C 79/2 and Supplement 1 and after hearing the Director-General in his opening statement it is really useless to add words about the incipient world food situation.

Concerning paragraph 56 of document C 79/2 my delegation would like to say that Brazil has already given data to FAO about the outbreaks of African swine fever in our country. We have made all efforts to avoid a spread of that disease and with the help of some friend countries in FAO we have succeeded. Now African swine fever is under complete control in some quite limited areas of the Brazilian territory and we are taking measures for a definite eradication of that disease.

Finally, I would like to say that Brazil fully supports the draft resolution contained in document C 79/LIM/29 concerning commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustment. This subject is fundamental for a definition of a political will towards a real progress in international trade and in the international food situation. We have seen a growth of protectionist measures which are assuming new forms. Therefore these new forms are not more favourable to developing countries than the former ones. On the contrary, they are more severe and are inhibiting the efforts of developing countries to increase food production. The only issue for the present severe and hungry situation is, as says the Director-General, to double food production in the next 20 years. But this aim cannot be an individual task. All countries should cooperate in that, some working at increasing production and productivity and some assuring that the increase of production will find the appropriate market.

A. I. MENENDEZ (México): Como es la primera ocasión en que nuestra delegación hace uso de la palabra, aprovecho la ocasión para unirnos a las congratulaciones por su elección como Presidente de esta Comisión, deseándole el mejor de los éxitos y brindándole nuestro apoyo.

Nuestra delegación desea intervenir para ratificar la posición que México ha venido sosteniendo en los últimos meses en esta Casa, tanto en el Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos, como en el Consejo de FAO y como ahora lo hace ante la soberanía de esta Conferencia. México, como otros países subdesarrollados del Grupo de los 77, sufre las perniciosas consecuencias que acarrea el proteccionismo que en materia de productos agrícolas y otros rubros del comercio de productos básicos han impuesto sobre sus fronteras las economías de los países industrializados del área de economía de mercado. Debe esta tribuna instar a los países industrializados a suprimir las medidas proteccionistas en materia de comercio internacional, arancelarias o no, y nos hacemos eco de los innumerables llamados, no solo en FAO, sino de otras agencias especializadas del sistema de las Naciones Unidas, incluyendo la UNCTAD 5 celebrada recientemente en Manila, cuyo tema de debate principal fue justamente el del proteccionismo.

Subrayamos que la crisis por la que atraviesan las economías industrializadas en resultado de su propia dinámica de acumulación a escala global en la que las empresas trasnacionales tienen una función determinante en la agudización de la crisis que repercute con mayor violencia en la economía del Tercer Mundo al transferir masivamente sus ganancias a los centros financieros mundiales incluyendo los rubros alimentarios y de productos básicos de cuyo porvenir económico dependen las masas rurales de los países en desarrollo, incluyendo el nuestro, y una buena parte de nuestra economía en su conjunto.

En efecto, en el sector agrícola las corporaciones trasnacionales han contribuido a distorsionar la estructura productiva de muchos países en desarrollo al orientar una buena parte de sus mejores tierras de cultivo con riego infraestructural y subsidios estatales hacia cultivos de exportación, sustituyendo la producción de productos básicos para la alimentación popular.

Por lo anterior, y apoyado en instrumentos normativos, alentados por la enorme mayoría de los países del mundo, como son la Resolución del Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional y la Carta de los Deberes y Derechos Económicos de los Estados, nos permitimos ratificar la propuesta de establecer un mecanismo de estudio y vigilancia dentro de FAO, que nos informe veraz y oportunamente de las variaciones que en materia de proteccionismo realicen los países industrializados y paralelamente a ello realizar una vasta campaña informativa a nivel mundial sobre las consecuencias, a los países desarrollados señalando las graves consecuencias del proteccionismo en las economías de los países subdesarrollados, y en ellos mismos, como lo ha recomendado el Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación en su última sesión de Ottawa.

Nuestra posición, señor Presidente, no es fruto de la suerte, sino de la difícil convivencia y de nuestras experiencias de trato y relaciones con las mayores potencias agrícolas y económicas de nuestro tiempo y de la comunidad de intereses estructurales con otros países en desarrollo.

Por ello nuestra delegación propone a la FAO que apoye y recomiende a los países en desarrollo a sustituir la actual política agrícola basada en las ventajas comparativas y los precios diferenciales, por otra basada en los intereses nacionales que aseguren la protección de básicos alimentarios en un volumen suficiente para el consumo interno.

México no solicita prerrogativas ni privilegios, sino desea ver reducidas las diferencias entre el mundo avanzado y su periferia mediante el trato justo y no discriminatorio en el comercio internacional de productos agrícolas y otros productos estratégicos para el desarrollo. El pueblo de México está convencido, y así lo ha manifestado su Presidente, de que casi todo se ha dicho y muy poco se ha hecho; por lo que proponemos la aprobación en esta Conferencia de la Resolución del Comité de Productos Básicos enriquecida en el último Consejo y que refleja el mínimo aceptable para la enorme mayoría de los países asistentes a esta Conferencia.

Tenemos confianza que este foro contribuirá a reducir la brecha entre los países afluentes y los que luchan por hacer valer el derecho inalienable de los pueblos al desarrollo.

A. B. CAWTHORN (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, I would like to join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your election to the Chair. I would also like to congratulate the Secretariat on its preparation of the detailed and comprehensive document, C 79/2.

I wish to make a few comments on the content of this paper and in so doing I hope to highlight one or two apparent weaknesses of omission, the inclusion of which in our opinion would have made it an even more valuable document.

I refer chiefly to the lack of sufficient reference to the extent to which problems are currently being faced and also the lack of reference to the importance of recognizing the problems associated with population growth.

Document C 79/2 is in our opinion basically factually accurate, but while it identifies problems which must be faced to avoid a major regression, it does not provide a systematic analysis of the extent to which these problems are being faced at the present time. The only encouraging trend to be noted is that an increasingly large proportion of aid to agriculture is being channelled to the poorest countries, but total assistance to agriculture has shown signs of declining. The depressing world picture of food production increasing more slowly in the poorest developing countries, and of a longer-term general decline in the rate of production, must stimulate FAO to make the most effective action possible and to ensure that the funds available are used to the fullest extent. We are confident that they will endeavour to do so. It should not be necessary, and I am sure that it is not necessary to remind this Commission that the main purpose of agricultural production is to feed people, to provide fibres and forest products for industry, clothing, shelter, and so on, and to provide incomes for the majority of the world's population who have to earn a living from agricultural industry. There is unfortunately no overall assessment of agriculture in this context in the documentation provided.

There are three main problems to be faced in the race to continue to ensure that we progress rather than regress in meeting these objectives. First, and we consider it very important, the geometric growth rates in population, combined with a reducing area of new land to open up and increasing ecological damage. Secondly, the increasing costs of oil-based energy making it ever more difficult and expensive for the least developed countries and the most seriously affected countries to meet these objectives and they, and also the developed countries whose growth is essential if markets for LDC produce is to expand, are faced with further cost increases.

Thirdly, static or falling per caput food production in many of the least developed countries along with dangerously high population growth rates in the majority of the LDCs, means that world food security increasingly depends on a handful of food exporting countries whose capacity to provide surpluses at prices that the world's poor can afford to pay is, itself threatened by inflationary pressures, largely attributable to increasing energy costs.

With the continuing need to intensify production as population increases and cultivation is pushed to the margin, the marginal energy cost of producing additional food and distributing the surplus is alarmingly high. A gradual increase in the relative cost of oil over the next 20 years is arguably necessary and even beneficial, but ad hoc unpredictable increases of an arbitrary nature are highly damaging to agriculture.

The report touches at various places upon the particularly low growth rates for agriculture in Africa, but it does not attempt to analyze the reasons or to prescribe any remedies. It does not even amplify the need for greater effort in the LDCs themselves. It may well be that the Secretariat recognizes that it has not been able to do a great deal for the most seriously affected countries in the current climate of restricted funding and it sees this document as no more than a statement of the present situation. If so we congratulate the Secretariat for highlighting in the paper disturbing trends such as the comparison of production between 1978 and 1979, which shows food production increasing more slowly in the poorest countries, and the longer-term trends showing an overall decline.

I would now like to make a few brief references to the detailed content of the paper. Looking at paragraphs 17 to 23, Production in 1978, the biggest production increases were in the developed countries in 1978 and this appears to be the same in 1979.

On the other hand the best results in the Near East were obtained in 1978 as indicated (paragraph 19) and are also being achieved there in the long term (paragraph 30). No real explanation for the latter feature is provided and the Conference might wish to know whether any lessons are to be learned from these trends and, if so, how are they being utilised for the future.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, no comparative data is available or comment made on the increasing use of grain as livestock food, the types of livestock involved and whether or not the grain produced could have been used more beneficially for human consumption, especially when it is noted in paragraph 60 that by 1977 the most seriously affected countries had 8 percent less than their food supply and nutrition requirements, while other countries, presumably those who were able to feed grain to livestock, had 5 percent more than their requirements. Emphasis should therefore be placed on utilization of "unconventional" feeds for livestock.

On the longer term trends (paragraphs 24-30) attention has already been drawn to the fact that production targets are not being achieved in developing countries as shown in paragraph 24, while paragraph 27 indicates that the production increases in most seriously affected countries are lower than in other developing countries. This raises the question of whether this is due to lack of basic resources; a lack of organization or management ability; a lack of planning experience or a lack of skill in attracting overseas aid and investment. But several countries, as indicated by Table 4, have reached a satisfactory point of development. The reason why some have, and others have not, is not discussed in the paper, and perhaps it ought to have been.

Paragraph 28 and Table 4 are particularly interesting in that they give the rate of change of agricultural production by individual countries during the period 1970-1978. Some countries are notable league leaders, but it is not clear what sections of the community have, in fact, benefited. Generally the Far East countries top the league, perhaps due to a combination of adequate resources and basic peasant industry and skills. Latin America differs in the sense that large-scale enterprises predominate but not necessarily in all countries. The same paragraph also indicates that in no less than five countries out of 106 agricultural production has failed to match population growth. Perhaps concentration of international effort should be directed towards these specific countries. There have been dramatic production increases including yields in the Near East, paragraph 30, but the explanation of this is not given, though it may be massive financial inputs. If, on the other hand, the increase can be attributed to technology the lessons learned could well be applied elsewhere, especially in Africa which exhibits the lowest yield increase of all.

I would like to refer briefly to pests and diseases (paragraphs 54-56). Here FAO can be congratulated on the manner in which they have coordinated control action and arranged for funds to finance the operations on desert locusts that had reached plague proportions in the latter half of 1978, and had rapidly been brought under control by 1979. The Centre for Overseas Pest Research has been closely involved with this work and this is an excellent example of the way in which international cooperation is being mobilised to tackle pests and disease problems. At the same time, however, it is worrying to record that specific crop production in certain countries is affected by non technical factors, such as insecticide shortages. A vague reference is made to integrated pest control in paragraph 91 without indicating the likelihood of success in developing such techniques and how various institutions can become involved.

The delegate for Angola made reference to paragraphs 57-61 dealing with food supplies and nutrition. These make apparent the disadvantageous position of the poorest countries to the extent that by 1977 the most seriously affected countries had 8 percent less than their requirements, while the others had 5 percent more than their requirements. There is clearly a critical problem emerging in Africa as per caput food production actually declined by 1.2 percent per year in 1970-1978. While this information in itself is quite depressing it does also suggest that individual national efforts to develop agriculture, in spite of assistance given, is having little if any effect especially in any attempt to increase food supplies by stemming the rise of population. This may well suggest that a critical review is needed to try and discover why international and domestic efforts of development across the board in Africa are not successful. While this forum may not be the place to raise such an issue, with its strongly emotional and political overtones, clearly this question must be considered by major donors and the multilateral organizations.

On cereal stocks and world food security (paragraphs 70-78), I would also like to refer briefly to the reference made to food losses at farm or village level. The figures reported in the FAO paper are somewhat lower than those previously reported and this downward reassessment seems correct. It would appear that farmers using traditional production and storage methods are relatively efficient. It is perhaps too early to generalise with confidence but in general only small losses are found. When the system is altered by either increased production or the use of new varieties the system can fail and serious losses may occur. This must always be borne in mind. The section on Fertilisers (paragraphs 87-90) mistakenly omits any reference to the need to develop non-chemical means of maintaining fertility. In the case of nitrogen this is particularly important in the face of the effect of rising energy costs and oil as a feedstock to which no reference is made. Whether fertiliser will be adequate by the year 2000 matters more than whether LDCs are able to produce 25 percent of it by that date. Potash and phosphate depend not only on the building of new capacity but also on the location of additional sources of supply at acceptable prices.

It is surprising that the conclusions of the COAG session on mechanization are not summarized in the section on farm machinery, nor has any account been taken of the fact that tractor size is increasing, and so horse-power per hectare should also be increasing. Mention is made of tractor numbers increasing in the Near East faster than elsewhere. This may be an area of smaller farms using smaller tractors, which would affect the horsepower involved, but this horsepower itself might also be increasing.

On forestry (paragraphs 100-107), the considerable increase in prices which has taken place in recent years is apparently affecting all forms of product. It is estimated that there will be a deficit of wood products by the end of the century and this must surely contribute to further increases in relative price. The importance of wood as a fuel is also stressed in the report although there is no reference to its use as charcoal. All of these points underline the importance of taking steps now to meet the anticipated increase in demand.

In conclusion, looking at development assistance for agriculture, paragraph 138 raises an important issue that LDCs often lack the resources to meet the recurrent costs involved in maintaining and operating certain projects and programmes, more especially so after donor support has been withdrawn. Unfortunately, FAO does not appear to have a convincing answer.

For both donor countries and multilateral agencies, particularly those with a poverty focussed aid programme, Table 19 may be interpreted as a measure of the problem-the inadequacy of targeting to date and/or the fact that it is this group which is most in need of help with family planning. For example, \$1.35 per caput of aid, or a supplement of about 1 percent of income is not likely to transform the lot of people on the breadline or below it but a similar sum spent on family planning backed by food aid in the case of famine or for vulnerable groups, might achieve a significant reduction in growth rates which would be a laudable contribution to agriculture by the year 2000.

I feel that I have criticized the FAO Secretariat perhaps in my earlier comments, but it was not intended as destructive criticism. We feel that the paper is an excellent document but it could have been improved with further amendments and additions.

R. S. MA'ARUF (Iraq) (interpretation from Arabic): First of all and before discussing the subject itself, I would like to congratulate you, Sir, on your election as Chairman of this important Commission, and I would also like to congratulate the Secretariat for this document on the State of Food Agriculture in 1979.

Having studied the document before us and having listened to other representatives, it appears to us that there is a unanimous view that the situation is not brilliant and that the future is not very promising. There is a shortage of cereals, prices are going up, and the developing countries are those which are suffering most-although most of them have an agriculture potential which is very great. But these countries need aid, need technology which can be offered by the developed countries in order to make the best possible use of their resources, and to produce the necessary amounts of food. A large number of developing countries have a great agricultural potential. They can produce a great deal and could thus help to solve the food crisis of the world; but they can only do it if they get sufficient technical assistance. This is why I feel that we have to stress the development of agricultural resources in the developing countries themselves, especially in those countries which have immense agricultural potential but limited human and financial resources, because if aid is offered to these countries the result will be efficient and rapid. No doubt, FAO can play an important role in this respect.

Iraq is a developing country. It is a country which has chosen to try and reach self-sufficiency in food. We have given priority to cereals, especially to rice and maize, in our present Five-Year Plan. In order to reach those objectives we have adopted the Five-Year Plan, because considerable investments had to be made for land reform and land improvement, which will lead to greater grain production. Our next Five-Year Plan will lay emphasis on irrigation of new lands and increased grain production. We will be able to increase the rice and maize area, and also increase production from non-saline land. We will be increasing yields of cereals in Iraq and will thus be able to help alleviate the world food crisis; also this would increase the aid which we are giving internationally and regionally to developing countries.

Then there is a Draft Resolution on Commodities and Food Production in document C 79/LIM/29.

D. CONSTANTIN (Roumanie): Je voudrais premièrement vous féliciter pour votre élection comme Président de cette importante réunion. Je voudrais aussi m'assoier aux délégués qui ont pris la parole avant moi et qui ont apprécié de manière positive les efforts du Secrétariat d'avoir élaboré et de nous avoir présenté une documentation pertinente sur la situation mondiale de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation.

En effet, on peut constater en analysant le document C 79/2 et son supplément que la situation alimentaire mondiale, notamment dans les pays en développement, ne s'est pas améliorée dans le passé récent.

Ainsi que l'on l'a déjà relevé ici, l'objectif des 4 pour cent par an de l'accroissement de la production alimentaire dans les pays en développement n'a pas été réalisé. L'assistance internationale pour la réalisation de cet accroissement fixée par la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation n'a été atteinte que pour moitié.

Il y a encore de gros obstacle: le protectionnisme dans le commerce international tend à s'intensifier et empêche l'accès des produits agricoles des pays en développement sur les marchés des pays développés, d'où la nécessité d'entamer des actions urgentes aussi bien au niveau national qu'international pour changer cette situation qui est tout à fait contraire aux objectifs du Nouvel ordre économique international.

En ce qui nous concerne, nous considérons que l'attention doit se concentrer premièrement sur l'accroissement de la production agricole, et par conséquent alimentaire, tout d'abord dans les pays en développement, cela constituerait à notre avis-ainsi que mon ministre l'a révélé hier à la plénière-les conditions fondamentales de l'élimination de la faim et de la malnutrition et permettrait d'assurer la sécurité alimentaire.

Evidemment, cela implique des efforts particuliers de la part de chaque pays. Dans le même temps, la coopération internationale doit apporter une contribution accrue, notamment en appuyant les pays en développement pour qu'ils puissent créer des capacités de production moderne correspondant à la nécessité d'accélérer la production agricole.

Nous sommes tout à fait conscients de l'importance du commerce international des produits agricoles pour l'économie des pays en développement, aussi bien en ce qui concerne l'export que l'import. Nous savons bien que les exportations de produits agricoles constituent la source principale des devises nécessaires au processus de leur développement. Or, le protectionnisme et les obstacles mis dans la voie des exportations s'accroissent. Nous considérons donc comme absolument nécessaire de libéraliser le commerce international.

Nous espérons que cette Conférence permettra d'arriver à des résultats concrets dans ce sens et c'est pour cela que la délégation roumaine donne son appui au projet de résolution qui nous a été soumis par l'intermédiaire du Conseil sur le commerce, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agricole international.

Pour terminer, le voudrais appuyer l'idée exprimée ici par le délégué du Pakistan que, dans l'avenir, en préparant la situation alimentaire mondiale, la FAO s'exerce de faire des recommandations d'actions concrètes à entreprendre.

E. K. SERWANGA (Uganda): The delegation of Uganda joins other delegations in congratulating the Secretariat on producing document C 79/2 as a basis for discussion on the state of food and agriculture.

We find the conclusions of the document quite disturbing in the sense that after the improvements of 1978, and despite the efforts and resources put into food and agricultural production, the 1979 prospects appear grim and the food situation remains uncertain.

It is even more worrying to note that those who can least afford to import food and where production has increased slowest are the ones most affected.

Document C 79/2 clearly shows that for most of these countries investment in agriculture has been minimal and inadequate relative to investment in other sectors.

The situation has been made even worse by the rising costs of imported agricultural inputs, notably farm machinery, fertilizers, fuel and petrol byproducts.

On fertilizers, it is sad to note that less and less is being channeled through the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme, thus denying the recipients the benefit of this important programme.

It is our considered opinion that improvements in agricultural production among the food-deficit countries will only be realized when permanent solutions to the prevailing bottlenecks are found.

We wish to report that the situation of food and agriculture in Uganda is worrying. Eight years of economic mismanagement followed by the effects of the war are responsible for the present sad food shortage and the agricultural situation.

Already general food shortages in many parts of the country are causing concern and it is likely that the outlook for 1980 will be even more grim as the rains have been rather erratic from 1979.

Production of major export industries has reached low levels which can no longer sustain our economy, which gravely affects our productive capacity within the sector. In the beef sector the population has dropped from 5.1 million heads of cattle in 1971-72 to an estimated 4.5 million heads of cattle now. Coffee production has dropped from 213.8 thousand tons in 1972-73 to 137 000 tons now; cotton from 46.7 thousand bales in 1969-70 to an estimated 40 thousand bales forecast for 1979-80; and tea has dropped from 21.9 thousand tons to 7.8 thousand tons. Notable increases in fish production have not met the expected targets.

What all this means is that Uganda's food import needs have increased at a time when its export earning capacity has declined drastically.

I would like to conclude on an encouraging note, that Uganda with its natural resources of virgin land, good soil, abundant water and a good climate is capable of reversing this gloomy trend in a very short time, given favourable conditions.

At the moment there is a political will to develop to a level where the country can be self-sufficient in food and agriculture.

We do emphasize, however, that political good-will and resources alone will not reverse this trend. Substantial financial and technical assistance will be required especially in view of the increased import crisis and the country's reduced capacity to earn foreign exchange.

Given such basic assistance in time and in sufficient quantities, Uganda's outlook for food and agriculture will brighten in the not-too-distant future.

B. SUSSMILCH (Observateur pour la CEE): Comme tous les collègues qui m'ont précédé, permettez-moi de vous féliciter pour votre élection comme Président de cette importante Commission.

Je me bornerai dans ma déclaration aux sujets pour lesquels la Communauté est responsable dans le cadre de la politique agricole commune. Un de ces sujets principaux est les échanges agricoles entre la CEE et les pays en voie de développement.

La CEE est d'avis que le commerce peut apporter une contribution importante à la solution des problèmes qui se posent aux pays en voie de développement.

A cet égard, il faut noter que la Communauté est le premier importateur mondial de produits agricoles et, qu'en 1978 ces produits représentaient plus de 24 pour cent de ses importations totales en provenance des pays en voie de développement.

Entre 1973 et 1978, les importations agricoles de la CEE en provenance des pays en voie de développement sont passées de 10 milliards à 17 milliards d'unités de comptes, ce qui représente une augmentation de plus de 71 pour cent. Avec ces chiffres, les pays en voie de développement sont de loin les premiers fournisseurs de produits agricoles de la Communauté, et au cours de cette même période, leur part dans les importations agricoles de la CEE est passée de 41 à plus de 47 pour cent.

La Communauté ne perçoit aucun droit d'entrée sur certains produits comme les graines oléagineuses, les tourteaux, le thé, les bois tropicaux et les fibres végétales. Les droits de douane perçus sur un certain nombre d'autres produits importants pour les pays en voie de développement, tels que le café, le cacao et les épices, ont été progressivement réduits et se trouvent actuellement à un niveau modeste, surtout si l'on tient compte de la mise en oeuvre, à partir du 1er janvier 1977, de l'offre que la Communauté a présentée dans le cadre des MTN pour les produits tropicaux.

Dans le cadre du Système des préférences généralisées, qu'elle a introduit en 1971, la Communauté a également accordé des tarifs préférentiels pour de nombreux produits agricoles en provenance des pays en voie de développement. Ce système a été constamment amélioré et couvre en 1979 plus de 300 produits agricoles transformés, pour un montant d'importations qui peut être évalué à un milliard 700 millions de dollars.

Il faut rappeler à cet égard, que dans l'esprit de la déclaration de Tokyo, la Communauté a consenti, dans le cadre des MTN, un effort supplémentaire en faveur des pays en voie de développement les moins avancés. En effet, - à partir du 1er janvier 1979, elle a introduit un régime spécial aux termes duquel tous les produits agricoles figurant dans la liste S. P. G. et provenant de ces pays peuvent être importés en exemption totale de droits.

D'autres avantages importants en matière de régime à l'importation ont été accordés aux produits agricoles en provenance des pays associés à la Communauté au titre de la Convention de Lomé. En fait, l'essentiel de ces importations - qui pour l'année 1978 représentent un volume de commerce de 5 milliards 500 millions d'unités de compte, et qui de 1973 à 1978 ont plus que doublé - entre dans la Communauté en exemption de droits. En outre, dans le cadre de cette même Convention, la Communauté garantit aux Etats ACP la stabilisation de leurs recettes provenant de l'exportation vers la Communauté d'environ vingt produits agricoles, bien connue sous le nom de Système STABEX.

Cette politique a pour résultats une libéralisation accrue des échanges de produits agricoles de la Communauté avec les pays en voie de développement. De tous les produits agricoles importés par la Communauté en provenance des pays en voie de développement, plus de la moitié entrent à droit nul et sans aucune autre restriction non tarifaire.

La Communauté estime également avoir apporté une contribution positive aux Négociations commerciales multilatérales dans le secteur agricole. A cet égard, elle a pris un certain nombre d'initiatives et elle s'est notamment engagée à participer aux arrangements internationaux de produits qui ont été convenus respectivement sur les produits laitiers et sur la viande bovine, dans le but de permettre une expansion des échanges et une meilleure stabilisation des marchés mondiaux.

Enfin la Communauté a également participé activement aux négociations relatives à un nouvel accord international sur les céréales. Elle considère que la mise en vigueur d'un tel accord pourrait apporter une contribution majeure à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et à la stabilisation des marchés et comporter des avantages importants, notamment pour les pays en voie de développement. Aussi, la Communauté regrette que ces négociations n'aient pas encore pu aboutir.

En conclusion, les éléments ci-dessus permettent de faire le point de la situation dans le domaine des échanges agricoles et témoignent des efforts accomplis par la Communauté dans ce domaine.

Please allow me some remarks about the Resolution of the Group of 77 on Commodities, Trade Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment submitted by the Group of 77 at the 52nd Session of the CCP and transmitted at the 76th Session of the Council to the Conference.

Mr. Chairman, the Community and its Member States have enjoyed fruitful cooperation in the framework of FAO. It strongly supported in particular FAO's work on commodities which was the basis for deliberations in other international for a such as the General Assembly of the United Nations and UNCTAD.

With regard to the last Session of CCP the Member States of the Community and the Commission of the EEC have very thoroughly examined the draft resolution on commodities, trade protectionism and agricultural adjustment submitted by the Group of 77 during the last meeting of CCP in October this year. The Community has come to the conclusion that the draft resolution in its present form is not acceptable. However, the Community would be prepared to enter into discussions about modifications of the text, but such discussion would only be worthwhile if undertaken on a realistic basis.

M. R. LEAR (New Zealand): Mr. Chairman, we would like to join others in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this Commission. We would also like to join other delegates in commending the document before us as a succinct and useful analysis of the state of food and agriculture. It is disappointing that it is not a very encouraging picture which is presented. The number of hungry and malnourished in the world remains appallingly high, and it is of concern, as Dr. Islam noted in his introduction to this item, that the world food security situation appears to be deteriorating. We were however pleased to learn from Dr. Islam that recent figures indicate that the level of investment in agriculture made by the developing countries seems to be increasing in real terms.

New Zealand remains convinced that the main solution to the problem of hunger and malnourishment, and to world food security, is increased food production by the developing countries themselves. We also remain convinced that it is essential, if the developing countries are to achieve this objective, and if long-lasting and genuinely based genuine world food security is to be achieved, that the world establishes a trading system for agricultural products which is conducive to and encourages increased production by the developing countries and by other efficient agricultural producers. This will require the adoption of a more positive approach to agricultural adjustment by the industrialized developed countries, and more liberal trading policies by the centrally planned developed countries. Over recent years New Zealand has observed a growing contradiction between the acknowledgement by the industrialized countries of the need for greater world food security, and the simultaneous strengthening of access restrictions to agricultural trade. The maintenance-and, in some cases, development-of high-cost, high-price agricultural industries has been encouraged in those countries. At a time when most governments acknowledge the threat posed to the world economy by persistent inflation, such uneconomic policies appear positively harmful.

The expansion of production which this new protectionism has encouraged has resulted in the accumulation of large surpluses of some agricultural commodities. The disposal of excessive stocks now poses a serious threat to the stability and growth of legitimate trade in agricultural products by those countries which seek economic growth through the exploitation of their comparative advantage as agricultural producers and exporters. These countries, which are vulnerably dependent on agricultural exports, are mainly developing countries, but they include more developed countries like New Zealand. Agricultural protectionism and trade disruption constitute a wasteful use of international resources. Investment, and production are being discouraged in the countries which have the capacity to develop efficient agricultural industries. If we are to achieve world food security and feed the world's rapidly increasing population, this situation cannot go unchecked.

I should mention here Mr. Chairman that we are unable to accept the view expressed by some industrialized countries, here, and in plenary, and in other fora, that their high-cost production of surpluses, produced behind high protectionist barriers, and then disposed of on world markets at heavily subsidized prices, contributes in any useful or productive way to long-term world food security. While in the short-term these high-cost surplus production and disposal activities may contribute to the food security of some countries, in the longer-term these policies discourage trade and often help discourage food production in the needy countries. In the medium-to long-term, therefore, these policies have a negative effect, we believe, on world food security.

Mr. Chairman, the Tokyo Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations concluded this year after nearly six years, without fulfilling all its goals. The Tokyo Declaration of 1973, inter alia, gave a mandate to participating countries to secure growth in world trade, to liberalize trade in agriculture, and to tackle the particular trade problems of developing countries. While the various codes and agreement, negotiation in the MTN, should help provide a potentially improved framework for the conduct of

international trade, the major objectives of the Tokyo Round were not met in full. Agricultural protectionism remains as intractable as ever, and the principle of comparative advantage is still being denied in the market place.

In an interdependent world economy in which trade is the engine for growth, New Zealand is unable to accept the continuance of trading patterns operating on two sets of rules—one set of rules for industrial products and another for agricultural produce. Agricultural protectionism is practised by virtually all industrial countries to the detriment of their own economies, to the disadvantage of their consumers, to the damage of the economic and social development of developing countries, and to the frustration of internationally efficient producers such as New Zealand. We sympathise with those developing countries who, in endeavouring to diversify and develop their economies, find their efforts frustrated by trade barriers of various kinds in the industrialized nations who should be leading by example.

The responsibility of this generation is to establish an efficient production base for feeding the next-seventy percent of whom will be living in eight developing countries by the year 2000. This stark fact demands new approaches based on comparative advantage and the principles of free multilateral trade in food as well as other products.

For these reasons, Mr. Chairman, New Zealand wishes to indicate its support for the draft resolution on commodity trade protectionism and agricultural adjustment forwarded to us by the CCP and the Council.

In indicating this support however we would note that our preference would be for greater reference to be made in the resolution to the need for liberalized market access for the agricultural exports of all countries, including countries like my own which are dependent on agricultural exports as well as for the developing countries.

We would also like to reiterate our concern that FAO in the work of the resolution recommends it undertakes in assessing the impact of the MTNs and reviewing developments in protectionism, should not duplicate the work done in other fora, especially GATT and UNCTAD. This point is, of course, already covered in the resolution and we would recommend that due note be taken of it.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je voudrais tout d'abord, Monsieur le Président, commencer, et c'est véritablement un plaisir pour moi, par vous féliciter pour votre élection. Il y a déjà longtemps que nous nous connaissons; nous nous sommes rencontrés dans plusieurs groupes, nous n'avons pas toujours été d'accord, mais néanmoins nous sommes toujours heureux de vous retrouver et encore plus de vous voir à ce poste.

Je voudrais également remercier le Secrétariat pour le travail fort utile et fort intéressant fait dans le document C 79/2 et son supplément N° 1, documents qui portent sur la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture. Il s'agit en fait des photographies, des panoramas de la situation. Comme toute photographie, elles peuvent être plus ou moins éclairées, suivant que le projecteur est braqué sur tel ou tel point, et également comme toute photographie, suivant le profil que l'on présente. Je ne dirai pas que la FAO est une vedette de cinéma, mais vous savez que les vedettes ont toujours tendance à présenter un certain profil pour se faire photographier. C'est ainsi que l'on pourrait dire que notre document se présente par moments selon certains profils que d'aucuns trouveront agréables et d'autres désagréables. D'autre part, le sujet ainsi abordé était fort vaste et de nombreuses questions évoquées seront reprises à d'autres points de l'ordre du jour, que ce soit l'aide alimentaire, la sécurité alimentaire, que ce soit l'évolution des progrès accomplis dans l'ajustement agricole; tout cela figure, je le répète, sous d'autres points de l'ordre du jour.

De même on a parlé dans les documents des recommandations et on se réfère à certaines d'entre elles relevant de la Conférence et portant sur la Réforme agraire et le développement rural. Cela aussi est un autre sujet, mais un autre sujet est traité au fond longuement dans ce document et ne relève pas d'autres points de l'ordre du jour. Il s'agit d'une part de l'énergie, de ses répercussions sur le développement de l'agriculture, du commerce et du protectionnisme. Sur l'énergie, il est évident que le renchérissement des coûts de l'énergie, des coûts pétroliers que personne ne peut nier, car si l'on peut discuter peut-être des causes de ce renchérissement, le fait lui-même est là, a des répercussions certaines, je dirai malheureusement néfastes sur divers aspects de l'économie agricole. Je n'ai qu'à penser aux industries des engrais, aux carburants pour les machines et à tous les produits chimiques dérivés du pétrole, je pense aux insecticides et autres; donc cette situation sera dommageable pour l'économie agricole.

Comme le déclarait ce matin encore la Délégation française en séance plénière, il est évident qu'il faut, en matière d'énergie, faire extrêmement attention aux conséquences qui pourront en découler pour le monde, pays producteurs et pays consommateurs, si on ne manifeste pas un esprit de responsabilité suffisant.

La deuxième partie concerne le commerce et le protectionnisme. Tout à l'heure, le représentant de la CEE, par la voix de l'observateur de la Commission, a indiqué qu'en cette matière le projet de résolution n'était pas acceptable sauf à en rediscuter. Il s'agit bien, je le précise, du projet de résolution sur le protectionnisme, le commerce, etc. Bien évidemment, j'appuie à fond cette position mais mon propos est de faire quelques réflexions sur ce que nous entendons. Tout d'abord, je dirai que j'entends parler constamment d'un renforcement du protectionnisme agricole. En toute bonne foi, pour mon pays, celui-ci étant membre de la Communauté, je dois dire que sur l'ensemble de la politique agricole de la Communauté j'ai essayé de trouver un soi-disant renforcement depuis ces dernières années. Or, je dois dire que je ne vois nullement un renforcement du protectionnisme agricole mais, même si cela doit surprendre beaucoup de monde, une diminution de ce protectionnisme. Je dis diminution du protectionnisme agricole. Chez nous, cela s'est manifesté par les réductions tarifaires intervenues dans les négociations commerciales multilatérales, que ce soit pour un certain nombre de produits agricoles de base, ou que ce soit pour des produits tropicaux. Il y a eu, qu'on le veuille ou non mais les faits sont là, un abaissement qui n'a pas été compensé par un rétablissement ou une augmentation par de nouvelles mesures non tarifaires dans d'autres domaines agricoles. Il y a eu aussi diminution du protectionnisme agricole mais évidemment, me dira-t-on, cela ne touche qu'un certain nombre de pays en développement, dans les améliorations consenties par la nouvelle Convention de Lomé.

Enfin, je dirai qu'il y a eu diminution du protectionnisme agricole par l'extension au cours des dernières années, encore l'année dernière, et encore en ce moment même; on se préoccupe de cela dans la Communauté pour le schéma des préférences pour l'année 1980. Il y a eu amélioration des préférences généralisée dans le domaine agricole.

Voilà quatre domaines où le protectionnisme agricole a été en réduction. Pour le reste, à ma connaissance, je ne vois pas de mesures de renforcement. Il y a la politique agricole commune que l'on connaît, elle n'a pas changé depuis son origine. Le système des prélèvements n'est pas une nouveauté, il est connu depuis le départ. Vous comprendrez dans ces conditions que je sois surpris d'entendre parler de renforcement du protectionnisme.

D'autre part, quand on parle de protectionnisme, on a aussi tendance à assimiler au protectionnisme les politiques de soutien, et à l'instant même, on en parlait pour les producteurs. Mais les politiques de soutien s'analysent dans un ensemble d'une économie générale. Il y a des décennies que l'on explique cela, dans un ensemble de politique économique d'un pays considéré. Le prix d'un produit agricole doit s'analyser en fonction des conditions économiques générales du pays, mais je ne m'étends pas sur ce sujet, on le connaît.

Je rappellerai enfin une chose qui a son importance. On nous dit que si on libérait complètement le marché, ce serait à l'avantage véritable des pays en développement. Je rappellerai simplement un point: une libération portant sur la plupart des produits agricoles, que ce soient les céréales, les produits laitiers, la viande, les oléagineux, profitera beaucoup plus aux producteurs d'autres pays développés qu'aux pays en développement eux-mêmes. Il suffit de se reporter aux statistiques de production, aux statistiques d'exportation, et on verra facilement quel en serait le résultat.

CHAIRMAN (interprétation from Arabic) I had hoped that we might have finished the list of speakers for this afternoon but it would appear now that this hope dwindles as further delegates asked to be inscribed in my list. We now have 14 speakers on the list I have before me—India, United States, Senegal, Japan, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Australia, Panama, Austria, Algeria, Cuba, Italy, Guinea-Bissau and the Observer of the International Agricultural Producers—and I would like to say that some delegates such as the delegates from Rwanda very kindly, instead of speaking have given us their texts so that these will be built into our reports. This is how we stand at present and I will give the floor to the delegate of India now.

R. C. SOOD (India): Mr. Chairman, may I on behalf of the Indian delegation add my congratulations to you on your election to this important office.

May I congratulate also the FAO secretariat on the presentation of their very able and comprehensive document on the state of food and agriculture in 1979.

It is a matter of regret that the overall picture Drought out in the report is not satisfactory. It has been brought out that in no less than 58 countries agricultural production failed to match the population growth in the period 1970-1978. Indeed a further disquieting aspect of the trend during the 1970s so far is that production has generally increased slowest in the poorest developing countries.

I would like in this context to bring out very briefly the Indian agricultural situation during this period.

India has over the last few years been making substantial strides in food production, rising from 111 million tonnes in 1976/77 to 125 million tonnes in 1977/78 and 131.4 million tonnes in 1978/79. This is due largely to gradual strengthening of agricultural infrastructure, including irrigation, both surface and ground, on the one hand, and to large expansion in regard to use of inputs like fertilizers and improved seeds. Our country has unfortunately suffered a most unprecedented drought during the current year-assessed as the worst since 1919-which is likely to cause a set-back to our efforts in increasing production. We fortunately have adequate stocks of about 21 million tonnes and hope by and large to take the drought in our stride.

I should like to mention here that in addition to the calamity resulting from the drought, agricultural development effort in our country is being punished as a result of a high rise in prices of fertilizers. An effort appears to be afoot on the part of the fertilizer industry to boost the prices of fertilizers out of all proportion to the rise of raw materials etc. We imported 4.11 million tonnes of fertilizers in 1978-79 at a cost of Rs. 4,586 million. For the same quantity the cash would be Rs. 1,260 million higher. The price of DAP has gone up from \$160 per tonne in June 1979 to I 250 per tonne in October 1979-within a period of four or five months.

The Consultative Working Group of the Fertilizer Commission, the Joint Session of the Programme and Finance Committees of the FAO Council and the Group of 77 have all endorsed the suggestion that the next meeting of the Fertilizer Commission should be held on a yearly basis early in January 1980. We would like the Conference to press for an urgent meeting of the Commission,

The overall picture brought out in the FAO document is disquieting. The Indian delegation, while agreeing with the overall assessments, would like in this context to lend its wholehearted support to the measures proposed by FAO for dealing with the situation. We would like to emphasize in particular the need for a stepping-up of external assistance to the stipulated level of \$8.3 billion as against the level of only about \$4.6 billion achieved so far, and other measures for ensuring world food security.

The Indian delegation would like to support strongly the call for an early resumption of negotiations for an international grains arrangement and the implementation of the Director-General's Five-Point Plan of Action of World Food Security.

The Indian delegation would like further to lend its support to the proposed action on commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustments, for ensuring a fair deal for the developing countries.

M. KRIESBERG (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, let me first add my congratulations to those of others in congratulating you on your election to the Chair of this important Commission.

I should like to keep my comments to as brief as I can, in view of your comments about the pressures of time.

My Government commends the FAO Secretariat on its report covering the state of food and agriculture for 1979 and its useful up-dating in the supplement before us. We are in general agreement with the data as reported and with much of the analysis provided. On the whole it is a balanced report. We welcome particularly the increased reporting on food consumption and nutrition and FAO's efforts to report more fully on public investments in the food and agriculture sectors, particularly in developing countries. We share the views of the delegate of Hungary that FAO should do more of this kind of reporting in its periodic studies. We also associate ourselves with the comments made by the delegate of the United Kingdom on the effect of rising oil prices on food production.

While over all we cannot be, and should not be, complacent about the situation particularly as it pertains to the poorest food-deficit countries, we should none the less take note of some positive aspects in the world situation. Improvements in the world food situation are the responsibility of governments, individually and collectively, and in this respect my Government feels that it has shaped its policies to act responsibly in line with all of our concerns to assure greater food supplies and more stable prices for basic food grains.

The performance of the United States farm and food sector is one of the brighter aspects of this year's food and agricultural situation. Let me cite a few evidences of that.

Large reserve stocks carried over from last year and bountiful harvests in food and feed grains this year mean that total availability at record levels is here to meet our very large commercial demands as well as our full food aid commitments. We still have large reserve stocks to carry forward into next year. Moreover, as publicly announced by Secretary Bergland, the United States will continue to encourage food production for the 1980 crop year.

I might cite just a few figures that we have put together in this connexion. Although world grain production is expected to fall about 4.5 percent in the 1979-80 period, the United States has been favoured by larger grain crops. Total United States grain production will be almost 6 percent above the 1978-79 period. United States food grain production—that is wheat, rye and rice—is now forecast at 64.4 million metric tons or 16 percent above last year. Feed grain production—that is maize, sorghum, oats and barley—is expected to total a record 224 million metric tons, fully 3 percent more than last year.

It should be noted that this means that we are fully able to meet our commercial and concessional food export commitments and to help stabilize prices in the event of any further crop short-falls.

The Secretariat has drawn our attention, and appropriately so, to transportation constraints on international movements of grain that exist in some major grain exporting countries, and how such restraints might compound a problem of undue concentrations of food reserves in a few countries. I should make some assurances here. Although we are experiencing some complications with the movement of crops on some portions of our domestic transportation system, we believe that we can meet our anticipated exports without major difficulty.

The United States Government shares the concern of the Secretariat and of other governments about the concentration of the world's food reserve stocks. We do not relish carrying so much of the burden. We have consistently urged an international system of nationally held reserves—widely held—as an essential part of a world food security system. Hence we were disappointed that the international wheat negotiations adjourned without establishing a realistic system of reserve stocks. We hope that it will be possible to meet again at some time to rectify that.

We do now—and we have indicated as much in other forums—welcome the increased efforts of FAO and the World Bank to help low-income countries establish food reserve systems and the infrastructure necessary for that purpose.

I turn now to some comments about trade in food and agricultural commodities.

First, as Secretary Bergland cited in addressing the Plenary Meeting the other day, the United States is the largest single importer of agricultural commodities from developing countries and the level of our imports now stands in excess of US\$10 billion. For the last year for which we have data, 1978, our imports of food and agricultural commodities from developing countries exceeded our exports to them of these kinds of food and agricultural commodities by some \$500 million. As an efficient producer of grains will continue to seek an expansion of our trade, both ways and more liberalized trade, in commodities of special interest to developing countries, through our own national policies, and through international negotiations such as in the MTH.

I should take note of a number of references to the draft resolution on commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustment, referred to the Conference by the CCP. It should be noted that the United States and other industrialized countries did not fully agree with the draft resolution in the CCP and expressed some reservations on it. We have continued to look at the draft resolution with concern, but with interest, and we are willing to enter into discussions which might lead to a consensus resolution on this subject of importance to us all.

Finally, let me point out one aspect of trade that is not dealt with in the Secretariat's report. On this point I shall be quite candid: if there is serious economic dislocation in the United States and other industrialized countries, as a result of forces beyond our control, trade among countries will inevitably decline despite our best efforts here or in other forums. This is indeed a world of growing interdependence. Increasing trade for developing countries, we believe, can best be assured in a thriving, expanding world economy that benefits both developed and developing countries. Let us work together, then, towards that end.

L. N'DIAYE (Sénégal): Tout d'abord, je voudrais, au nom de la délégation du Sénégal, vous féliciter de votre élection ainsi que vos collaborateurs. Une fois de plus, nous remercions le Directeur général de la FAO ainsi que le Secrétaire général de la FAO et leurs collaborateurs d'avoir bien voulu nous donner des documents si bien élaborés et si bien connus.

Comme le document C 79/2 l'a bien montré, les importations au niveau des pays en développement sont inquiétantes. En effet, ces importations sont passées de 2.7 pour cent l'an au cours de la décennie s'achevant en 1971 à 6.9 pour cent entre 1970 et 1977. Pour ce qui est du Sénégal, les importations alimentaires annuelles représentent une part importante dans le déficit de la balance commerciale de notre pays. Cette année, des pluies précoces et des pluies mal réparties vers la fin de la saison des pluies occasionneront des pertes de l'ordre de 30 pour cent. Dans cette situation et dans le cadre de la stratégie d'exécution du Plan alimentaire du Sénégal, un accent particulier a été mis sur le financement accru dans le secteur agricole, notamment au niveau des projets hydro-agricoles touchant la maîtrise totale de l'eau eu égard aux aléas climatiques et compte tenu également des rendements importants que ces systèmes d'aménagement peuvent procurer et aussi sans négliger les projets touchant les cultures sèches.

Tout cela doit être combiné, en tout cas c'est la politique du Sénégal, avec l'utilisation rationnelle des facteurs de production, une mécanisation bien adaptée, l'utilisation de variétés sélectionnées à haut rendement, des prix incitatifs aux producteurs, l'intégration agro-sylvo-pastorale, la colonisation de nouvelles terres fertiles naguère inoccupées et, parallèlement également, pour cette augmentation de production, il convient de mettre l'accent sur la formation de cadres compétents et consciencieux, je veux dire des cadres de la vulgarisation.

Un autre point mérite d'être souligné pour l'augmentation de la production alimentaire, il s'agit de la lutte contre la désertification et de la régénération des sols par le reboisement. Pour ce faire, nous attirons l'attention des sources de financement sur la nécessité impérieuse de faciliter les conditions de reboisement et de dotation de ce projet que certaines sources de financement considèrent comme des projets sociaux.

Mon gouvernement a mis un accent particulier sur une politique complémentaire pour la sécurisation alimentaire en prenant la décision ferme de réaliser des infrastructures de stockage pour cela. A cet effet, nous remercions les pays amis qui nous ont aidés à réaliser ces infrastructures. Par nos propres moyens nous avons réalisé plus de 13 pour cent de nos objectifs. Je signale qu'à court terme, l'objectif est de 230 000 tonnes d'infrastructures à réaliser, depuis le niveau central jusqu'au niveau du village.

Une fois de plus, nous apprécions le programme de la FAO sur les pertes avant et après récolte, et remercions la FAO ainsi que tous les systèmes des Nations Unies pour la sécurité alimentaire afin que la réalisation de plans alimentaires nationaux s'impose.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): I would like to draw attention to the fact that the representative of Sri Lanka has handed in the text of his statement, in order to make sure that it will be taken into account. This will be duly included in the VerButim Report.

I. TAO (Japan): First of all my delegation would like to extend its cordial congratulations, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the chairmanship of this important Commission.

As has been precisely shown in the excellent analysis by Professor Islam and his staff, the growth of world food and agricultural production remains very modest, and the cereal production is estimated to fall substantially in 1979. My delegation shares with other delegations an uneasiness at the fact that the world food situation is becoming precarious, after some years of comparatively favourable crops. As one of the major importing countries of agricultural products Japan cannot help but have a deep concern in these trends in other food deficient countries. These uncertain situations call for substantial measures to be taken, maintenance of protectionism of production by major cereal producing countries, increase of production by food deficient countries, and adequate stock-holding are needed.

In this connection the Director-General's Plan of Action on World Food Security is a timely proposal, and I hope that the Plan will be an important basis of world food security. In this regard, my Government continues to expand its assistance to the utmost possible for developing countries, to enhance their food production. In 1979 it budgeted approximately 100 million dollars for these objectives as part of the official development assistance.

I would like also to mention some specific aspects of Japanese agriculture. Rice, which is the staple food of the Japanese, is the most important product of Japanese agriculture. However, this production in 1979 is estimated to be the second highest because of favourable weather and because of the application of highly sophisticated technology by small farmers. At the same time this means the consumption of energy in Japanese agriculture has inevitably been increased. Thus, the recent uncertain oil

situation has caused concern to Japanese agriculture. It is becoming difficult for farmers to maintain their income because of the unfavourable market situation and also the increasing cost of input in their farms.

On the international trade issues. I would like to comment very briefly. The HTM negotiations were concluded this year after long consideration. We know of their different views on the evaluation of the results achieved at the Tokyo Round among the developed countries as well as developing countries. However, since it is too early to discuss the result of the MPM, we think that it would be more advantageous at this point to do our utmost to see that the fruits of HTM are implemented.

Concerning the Draft Resolution on Commodity, trade, productivity and agricultural adjustment, I regret that there are some points which we cannot accept. They render our support difficult unless they are modified. My delegation, however, eagerly hopes that we will obtain a fruitful conclusion in constructive discussion.

Mme L. DE AZEVEDO (Portugal): Avant tout, M. le Président, nous voulons vous féliciter pour votre élection. Nous voulons en 2^{ème} temps remercier le Secrétariat de la FAO pour l'élaboration du document C 79/2 que nous discutons en ce moment et qui nous a permis d'avoir une connaissance aussi complète que possible de la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture en 1979.

Nous avons demandé la parole également pour appuyer la proposition de la Norvège au sujet de l'inclusion d'une politique nutritionnelle pour les nourrissons et tous les enfants d'une façon générale dans les politiques nutritionnelles globales établies aux niveaux national et international.

Nous savons tous l'importance fondamentale d'une alimentation correcte au point de vue protéique et énergétique vis-à-vis du développement des enfants et tous les enfants du monde ont droit à cette alimentation, si nous désirons que l'égalité et la fraternité soient des réalités pour toute l'humanité.

Nous désirons aussi rappeler l'importance d'une distribution équitable des aliments à tous les niveaux: familial, national et international. Il peut y avoir des aliments en quantité suffisante, mais, si leur distribution n'est pas équitable, il y aura des gens qui ne pourront pas satisfaire leurs besoins nutritionnels.

Nous ne devons pas non plus oublier l'importance de l'éducation nutritionnelle à tous les stades de consommation des aliments (familiale ou collective) pour le meilleur profit des ressources alimentaires disponibles.

L'importance également de l'établissement de l'égalité entre hommes et femmes dans tous les processus de formation et d'éducation agricoles et non agricoles, car l'inégalité entre les deux sexes est normalement en relation avec le sous-développement et se présente comme le résultat d'un système économique injuste qui, en aucune manière, n'est favorable au développement.

Au sujet des programmes d'aide alimentaire, nous appuyons la délégation de la Suède quand elle dit qu'il faut les renforcer, mais nous voulons rappeler qu'il faut aussi aider les pays qui reçoivent cette aide à résoudre les problèmes nationaux de transport, d'entreposage des aliments offerts, d'éducation alimentaire et nutritionnelle à tous les niveaux, auprès des consommateurs afin qu'ils puissent en tirer le meilleur profit.

Les questions de l'augmentation de la production et de la prévention des pertes de denrées alimentaires sont très importantes pour le Portugal, étant donné qu'il est un grand importateur d'aliments - à peu près 50 pour cent des aliments qu'il consomme - surtout des céréales (et le maïs en premier lieu).

Le Portugal cherche à résoudre cette situation par la mise en oeuvre de programmes visant surtout l'élargissement des zones irriguées, l'emploi de semences améliorées, l'augmentation de l'emploi des engrais, la formation professionnelle adéquate pour tous les techniciens et les agriculteurs des deux sexes, etc.

Nous étudions maintenant la possibilité de l'établissement d'un programme d'aide bilatérale au sujet de la prévention des pertes de denrées alimentaires. Nous avons préparé un accord avec le CIMYT pour l'établissement au Portugal d'un Centre pour l'amélioration des céréales destiné à servir toute la région méditerranéenne, basé sur une station d'améliorations des plantes installée depuis longtemps au sud du Portugal.

En ce qui concerne les forêts, c'est là un secteur de production très important chez nous parce que le Portugal est davantage un pays forestier. Nous avons besoin de profiter au mieux des terrains marginaux qui sont actuellement réservés à la culture céréalière en les remplaçant par la forêt.

K. JONES (Australia): Firstly I should like to mention that the Australian delegation joins with others in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, and the Vice-Chairman on your election to the important positions on this Commission.

We in the Australian delegation have listened very attentively to, and taken careful note of, the statements of those delegations which have preceded us on this item. We feel that the document which the Secretariat has produced as a basis for discussion, C 79/2, provides an acceptable and comprehensive over-view of the state of world food production and agriculture for 1978. The indications of the prospects for 1979 are also noted and we lend our general support to the analysis found in that document. Although *per caput* dietary energy supplies have improved since 1974, Australia is very much aware that there are no grounds for complacency since in many regions the food available is inadequate to ensure the good health of the population. Continued efforts must be made to increase food production in developing countries. An increasing proportion of Australia's development assistance is devoted to this end. We believe, however, that success in this basic area depends primarily and fundamentally on developing countries themselves.

While accepting the essentially catalytic and supporting role of external assistance and cooperation, we must not overlook that the major mobilizations of human and material resources that accelerate food production are targeted to come from within the developing countries' own resources.

As a major exporter of agricultural commodities, Australia readily appreciates the importance of focusing on the major international policy issues such as those identified in document C 79/2.

At this point I would like to reflect back to the statement made by the delegate of New Zealand, and I have to say that we find ourselves very closely associated with the points which the delegate of New Zealand made in that statement.

I do not propose to repeat those in any detail. But with regard to the commodity and trade related problems raised within the document and in particular concerning the draft CCP resolution, the nature of the draft which this Conference has before it on commodity trade, protectionism and agricultural adjustment is, we feel, not unlike; many similar types of resolutions which originate within this Organization in that it clearly does not fully reflect the full aspirations of all those countries which clearly have a concern with the subject matter of that resolution. I think we must recall that not only the general thrust of that draft but also its detailed content in its present form have been the subject of extensive discussion within the CCP and considerable effort was made in that context to produce the draft that we now have before us. My delegation had hoped that that draft would have proved acceptable to the Conference. However, that is clearly not the case and I would like to conclude my remarks by saying that we in the Australian delegation would be very pleased to participate in the on-going discussions which are clearly necessary on this particular draft resolution.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá) Señor Presidente : En la primera intervención de la delegación de Panamá en esta Comisión deseamos expresar nuestra felicitación por su elección.

Sobre el tema que debate actualmente esta Comisión I de esta 20ª Conferencia de FAO referente a la seguridad alimentaria mundial y en especial a la producción de productos básicos y sobre comercio, la delegación de Panamá desea precisar los siguientes señalamientos:

Panamá, contrariamente a lo que se puede pensar, mantiene actualmente el 50 por ciento de su población en el sector rural. Este hecho nos obliga a adelantar una serie de políticas, planes y programas que logren un desarrollo de este sector primario y contribuir así a la seguridad alimentaria, tanto interna como externa. Así es como con la asistencia y cooperación de la FAO y del PNUD se ejecuta actualmente un importante programa de planificación agrícola que encuentra su materialización en el primer plan trienal de desarrollo agropecuario 1979-81 y del cual se desprenden planes operativos anuales y programas especiales.

Igualmente atestigua este esfuerzo de Panamá el haber incrementado las inversiones agrícolas en un 120 por ciento tal y como se lee en el párrafo 140 del documento C 79/2. Pese a los serios obstáculos internos y externos que la implementación de esta medida conlleva, las mismas se llevan adelante.

En torno al comercio exterior Panamá promueve en el ámbito interno un mayor control productivo nacional en rubros de exportación como el banano y en el ámbito internacional promueve, apoya y estimula la gran iniciativa que representa la union de países exportadores de banano, UPED, constituido por Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Colombia, República Dominicana, Nicaragua y Panamá; e igualmente apoyamos todos sus órganos constitutivos y en especial la Comercializadora Multinacional de Banano (COMUNBANA) que es un interesante caso en el cual un grupo de países en desarrollo se reúnen para comercializar conjuntamente un producto básico y constituye un hecho que en la medida que tenga éxito podrá repetirse en otra áreas del mundo.

Es por todo esto que la delegación de Panamá apoya el proyecto de resolución que el Consejo de la FAO acuerde someter a la Conferencia para su examen y decisión y que trata sobre comercio de productos básicos, proteccionismo y reajuste agrícola.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria) (interpretation from German): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Since this is the first time that I have had the opportunity of speaking in Commission I, I would like to congratulate you on your election, although it may be a bit late to do so. My delegation would like to wish you the best possible success in the next few days and weeks.

Like many of the preceding speakers, I also, on behalf of my delegation, would like to express the view that document C 79/2 and Supplement 1 to this document gives an excellent picture of the present situation with regard to the food situation in the world and the agricultural situation as well, and in order to be brief and since it is late I would just like to say that we agree in principle with this document and that we do not have any specific comments to make beyond those which have already been made by other speakers, and that we can accept this document. I would just like to add my thanks to the Secretariat for this very precise and excellent document.

Concerning the draft resolution which was proposed to the CCP by the Group of 77 and which is contained in document C 79/LIM/29. I would just like to say that the Federal Minister for Agriculture and Forestry stated in plenary yesterday that the views expressed by a number of developing countries in CCP and the wish they expressed to have better access to the markets of industrialized countries, is a wish that is fully comprehensible for us. Of course we in Austria understand that a great deal more will need to be done in this respect in future and this is the reason why the Austrian delegation in those fora which are responsible for international trade has always had a very understanding attitude. It is known that the multilateral trade negotiations in the framework of the Tokyo Round have only been completed recently, and the results of these negotiations will start to come into effect very soon. A number of measures have been adopted with regard to tariffs in the interest of developing countries and on the basis of consultations we have had with developing countries, Austria on 1 July 1977 has given redemptions of preferential tariffs for more than 60 topical products. According to the calculations made by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade Secretariat, the industrialized countries represented at these negotiations gave preferential treatment which represents something like \$15 billion taking 1966 as a reference year.

The Austrian delegation feels that the draft resolution which we have before us refers to matters which have been dealt with and are continuing to be dealt with by GATT. Practically all developing countries are represented in GATT. Practically all developing countries are represented in GATT and thus have an opportunity for stating their wishes in that particular forum. The adoption of the Resolution which has been presented to us here and which deals with matters for which other international bodies are responsible, does not seem reasonable to us. We continue to believe that such customs and trade questions should be dealt with by GATT. Unfortunately, therefore, and for the reasons I have given, we could not agree to the adoption of a resolution in this form. But of course we will always be ready to participate in any further constructive debate on this subject.

M. MOKHTARI (Algérie): Permettez-moi, Monsieur le Président, de m'associer aux nombreuses délégations qui ont pris la parole avant moi pour vous transmettre les chaleureuses félicitations de la délégation algérienne pour votre élection. Connaissant votre expérience, nous sommes convaincus que nos débuts seront toujours dirigés avec talent et efficacité.

Ma délégation voudrait apporter son appui total à la déclaration du représentant de la Libye relative au document C 79/2 sur la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture en 1979. Le représentant de la Libye a mis l'accent sur certaines conclusions du rapport soumis à notre examen, conclusions qui n'ont pas manqué de provoquer chez nous la même réaction. En effet, de nombreuses références sont faites au prix du pétrole; dans un souci de coopération, et pour ne pas prolonger les débuts en raison de l'heure tardive, je ne reprendrai pas en détail l'analyse de cette question qui vient d'être faite par mon collègue libyen. Néanmoins il convient de souligner que l'approche du problème soulevé dans

le document soumis à notre examen présente un caractère que je qualifierai de nuisible dans la mesure où il semble qu'une distinction soit faite entre pays en développement. C'est en quelque sorte l'arbre qui cache la forêt dans la mesure où nous assistons à une montée générale des prix. Dans ce contexte, il faut faire remarquer que le taux d'accroissement des prix du pétrole est sensiblement plus faible que celui des produits exportés par les pays développés. De nombreuses études significatives ont été faites sur la détérioration des termes de l'échange, et tous les pays en développement sans distinction souffrent de cette situation.

J'ai dit que j'allais être bref, mais vous me permettrez avant de terminer d'appuyer le projet de résolution contenu dans le document C 79/LIM/29 concernant le commerce des produits, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agricole.

J. ARIAS CAMPOS (Cuba): Ya que esta es la primera vez que tomo la palabra, deseo, aunque quizá algo tarde, en nombre de la delegación de Cuba, felicitarle por su elección a la Presidencia de nuestra Comisión, así como a los distinguidos colegas de Hungría, Indonesia y Granada por su elección como Vicepresidentes.

Estamos seguros de que bajo su sabia dirección nuestros trabajos se desarrollarán exitosamente y daremos un paso adicional hacia la solución de los importantes problemas en presencia. Me apresuro a prometerle el más decidido apoyo de mi delegación en su ingente tarea.

Señor Presidente, en el Informe del Director General que estamos examinando, se señala claramente, tal como se ha reconocido en otros foros internacionales la imposibilidad de alcanzar el objetivo fundamental de crecimiento fijado para los países subdesarrollados durante el actual decenio, que ya está prácticamente terminado. La ayuda alimentaria no ha alcanzado la meta fijada por la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación, a pesar de que el número de personas subnutridas, en especial los grupos más vulnerables, siga aumentando. Es preocupante la insuficiente respuesta de la comunidad internacional respecto del logro de los dobles objetivos de rápido desarrollo agrícola en los países subdesarrollados y la liberalización progresiva del comercio internacional de productos agrícolas de interés para los países subdesarrollados.

Este aspecto no solamente no se ha logrado en la forma esperada, sino que algunos países capitalistas desarrollados amenazan con utilizar los alimentos como arma contra países subdesarrollados y los someten a bloqueos económicos, que en el caso de mi país tenemos una larga experiencia.

Tal como se desprende del Informe del Director General acerca de las cuestiones que examinamos ahora, los países desarrollados continúan descargando sus problemas de inflación, desempleo y desequilibrio de balanza de pagos sobre las espaldas de países subdesarrollados. Datos recientes demuestran que tampoco en 1978, ni en lo que va de 1979, la economía internacional ha podido brindar incentivos sustanciales para el crecimiento y desarrollo de los países pobres. La brecha entre aquéllos y éstos se ha ampliado considerablemente. La participación relativa de estos últimos en el caudal productivo mundial ha descendido notablemente durante las dos últimas décadas.

El constante incremento de los precios de las manufacturas, los bienes de capital y de producción, los productos alimenticios y los servicios importados por los países subdesarrollados y el estancamiento y las fluctuaciones de los precios de los productos primarios que éstos exportan, han tenido por consecuencia el empeoramiento de las relaciones de intercambio de los países subdesarrollados.

Es por ello que no debe sorprendernos que la situación actual y perspectiva de la agricultura y la alimentación en los países subdesarrollados sea inquietante, como expresa en su Informe el Director General.

Y esto es así, básicamente, porque se les impide obtener los recursos necesarios, fundamentalmente a través de sus ingresos procedentes de sus exportaciones de productos básicos, para adquirir los medios de producción precisos al desarrollo de sus agriculturas y para importar los productos alimentarios que requieren sus poblaciones.

Lamentablemente, señor Presidente, consideramos que no podemos esperar que esta situación mejore en un futuro próximo. La crisis del sistema económico internacional que padecemos, no es simplemente un fenómeno de naturaleza cíclica, como quieren hacernos ver los defensores del estado actual de cosas, sino que es el síntoma más evidente del desajuste estructural existente, caracterizado, entre otras cosas, por desequilibrios y desigualdades crecientes que redundan en detrimento de los países subdesarrollados.

Ante esta situación, los países capitalistas desarrollados no sólo tratan de justificar el statu quo imperante, sino que obstaculizan los esfuerzos que realizan los países subdesarrollados para que en los foros internacionales se adopten medidas que al menos alivien la situación que hoy confrontan. Un ejemplo reciente de esta actitud lo constituye el fracaso de la UNCTAD V, como resultado de la posición inflexible, poco negociadora y poco constructiva de la mayoría de los países que integran el Grupo B, actitud que confirmó una vez más lo que se ha dado en llamar falta de voluntad política y que en realidad responde a la imposibilidad de aceptar las demandas por lo que a crítica profunda del sistema actual de relaciones económicas internacionales significaría, con el reconocimiento, además, de la incapacidad de sus mecanismos para darles solución a los problemas del comercio internacional y, en particular del subdesarrollo económico.

Otra muestra de la intrasigencia de los países capitalistas desarrollados lo es el resultado de las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales, en las que tampoco se han tenido en cuenta los intereses de los países subdesarrollados al haberse dejado de tratar muchos temas de importancia capital para nuestros países. Es necesario que las negociaciones continúen con el objeto de que se cumplan los compromisos contraídos por los países capitalistas desarrollados en la Declaración de Tokio.

La agudización de las medidas restrictivas tradicionales y la aparición de nuevas modalidades de proteccionismo impuestas por los países capitalistas desarrollados al comercio de productos primarios básicos dañan indudablemente en gran medida la capacidad importadora de los países en desarrollo. Los países subdesarrollados productores de materias primas tienen el derecho inalienable de ejercer plena soberanía sobre sus recursos naturales, tanto en la producción, en el modo de explotación, como en la comercialización de los mismos. Los países de economía de mercado tienen el deber de garantizar el acceso de estos productos a sus mercados.

Al examinar los resultados de la puesta en práctica de los principios que contienen el programa integrado para productos básicos, de la UNCTAD, tenemos que enfrentarnos a otro fracaso. Ni las negociaciones individuales por productos, ni las negociaciones para la creación del fondo común han arrojado los resultados esperados y necesarios; esto ha sido en realidad extremadamente pobre. Aún más, si examinamos la situación que confronta el convenio internacional del azúcar tenemos que repetir que la ya citada falta de voluntad política ha venido también obstaculizando el pleno funcionamiento del único convenio internacional completo sobre un producto básico que ha entrado en vigor desde la aprobación de la resolución 93 (IV) de la UNCTAD.

A casi dos años de su entrada en vigor, aún los Estados Unidos no han ratificado su aceptación del convenio y, en consecuencia, las disposiciones relativas al fondo de financiación de existencias especiales no han sido puestas en operación. Para los países exportadores, la mayoría de los cuales son países subdesarrollados, la no puesta en vigor de estas disposiciones constituye un pesado sacrificio que viola el balance de derechos y obligaciones que aceptaron durante la negociación del convenio en 1977. La ratificación de la participación de los Estados Unidos en el convenio ha sido vinculada en ese país a la aprobación de su legislación azucarera interna, de índole altamente proteccionista.

Por otra parte, la Comunidad Económica Europea se ha negado a participar en el convenio azucarero, y a partir de la negociación del mismo ha incrementado considerablemente sus exportaciones de azúcar, fuertemente subsidiadas, deprimiendo los precios en momentos en que los exportadores miembros se han estado sometiendo a una rígida disciplina a fin de mejorarlos.

Las exportaciones de la CEE crecieron, de un promedio en 1971/75 de 295 000 toneladas, a 3,3 millones de toneladas en 1978. En este último año la CEE destinó más de 600 millones de dólares para subsidiar esas exportaciones.

En nuestro criterio no existe justificación de orden alguno para tal política.

Señor Presidente, como usted bien sabe, el azúcar es uno de los productos básicos exportados por un mayor número de países subdesarrollados, y posiblemente es el mejor ejemplo de cómo los países capitalistas desarrollados, en general, proclaman una política en los foros internacionales y después aplican una política totalmente distinta en la práctica.

Uno de los mecanismos en manos de los países subdesarrollados para ejercer su legítimo e inalienable derecho a fijar los precios de sus productos primarios, con miras a obtener precios justos y remunerativos, así como proteger y mejorar el poder adquisitivo de sus exportaciones, lo constituyen las asociaciones de países productores y exportadores.

Entendemos que las actuales asociaciones deberían ser fortalecidas y crear nuevas entidades a estos fines.

La FAO debe jugar un papel importante en estos esfuerzos. Es necesario su pleno apoyo a las medidas acordadas en la UNCTAD, así como que continúe desarrollando su labor de complementación con ella.

Señor Presidente, por todo lo que hemos dicho hasta ahora, mi delegación apoya decididamente el establecimiento de un mecanismo permanente en la FAO para vigilar y estudiar las políticas proteccionistas que ponen en peligro las exportaciones de los países subdesarrollados, así como el establecimiento de un programa encaminado a eliminar las medidas proteccionistas que afectan a los productos agrícolas y alimentarios.

Aunque consideramos que no les satisface totalmente las aspiraciones nuestras, estamos dispuestos a apoyar decididamente el proyecto de resolución sobre comercio de productos básicos, proteccionismo y reajuste agrícola, que será examinado en la Conferencia.

G. DAL MONTE (Italia): L'examen du document 79/2 et de son supplément sur la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture représente toujours un des moments les plus importants de la Conférence et le Secrétariat, comme dans le passé, nous offre aujourd'hui une excellente quantité de renseignements et de données dans une forme très claire mais, sous certains aspects, vraiment inquiétante.

Malheureusement, nous devons constater qu'en dépit d'une diffusion toujours croissante des nouvelles méthodes scientifiques et d'instruments toujours plus perfectionnés, et bien que les financements soient à niveau multilatéral comme bilatéral qui augmentent d'un façon continuelle, la production agricole n'arrive pas à tenir le pas avec l'augmentation rapide de la population mondiale.

Si, en 1978, on a obtenu, dans la production agricole mondiale, des résultats remarquables, on doit néanmoins constater que c'est surtout dans les pays encore en développement, qu'on n'est pas arrivé à augmenter la production alimentaire de façon telle qu'ils puissent nourrir suffisamment et mieux leurs populations toujours croissantes. D'autres difficultés dérivent, pour les pays en développement, du fait que les négociations sur les différents aspects du commerce international n'ont pas progressé beaucoup.

Dans cette situation déjà très grave, on doit constater l'accentuation de l'augmentation vertigineuse des coûts de production en étroite connexion avec une croissante inflation qui est en train de produire des effets déstabilisateurs sur les économies des pays industrialisés, dans le même moment que les pays émergents voient s'affaiblir leurs ressources avec l'aggravation ultérieure de leurs difficultés structurelles. Sur l'augmentation des prix de production-imputables en grande partie à l'augmentation du pétrole et des engrais, -il aurait été opportun, selon l'avis de la délégation italienne, de disposer d'un examen plus approfondi qui prenne en considération aussi la viscosité des prix des produits agricoles. En effet, les prix de ces produits reflètent toujours, avec un remarquable retard, l'augmentation des coûts de production en causant ainsi une aggravation des conditions des producteurs agricoles concernés.

Je voudrais encore formuler certaines remarques d'ordre particulier sur des points spécifiques.

Au paragraphe 14, la délégation italienne a vu avec intérêt la référence faite aux investissements publics dans certains pays en développement. A ce propos, on peut constater que l'Organisation dispose de données seulement pour certains pays et que ces données sont souvent pauvres et assez peu significatives. En exprimant le souhait que la FAO puisse obtenir des renseignements majeurs dans l'avenir, la délégation italienne souligne le fait que ces renseignements peuvent constituer un élément essentiel pour la programmation des nouvelles aides à insérer dans les projets en cours et dans ceux qui sont à l'étude.

Je voudrais aussi me référer au paragraphe 56 dans lequel il est fait mention de la présence de la fièvre porcine en Italie. En effet, ce phénomène, qui s'est manifesté seulement en Sardaigne, a eu une portée très limitée, et aujourd'hui on peut dire qu'il est tout à fait dominé. Les autorités compétentes sont en train d'effectuer des plans organiques capables de résoudre ce problème dangereux à la racine en diffusant la pratique du "vide biologique limité" et d'autres mesures de prévention.

Enfin, la délégation italienne voudrait exprimer sa vive appréciation pour ce que la FAO a su réaliser dans le domaine du programme d'action pour la prévention des pertes de denrées alimentaires, programme établi en 1977, à l'occasion de la dix-neuvième session de la Conférence.

La délégation italienne appuie la décision prise par la FAO de concentrer ses efforts dans la première période sur la protection des céréales stockées, en donnant la priorité aux projets des pays en voie de développement dont la situation alimentaire est particulièrement critique.

Afin de trouver une solution valable au problème des pertes des denrées alimentaires de base après récolte il faut y songer, non seulement en termes de disponibilité de moyens techniques, mais aussi et surtout de préparation d'hommes, d'informations et de formation de personnel qui, sur place, sachent ce qui, en ce domaine, peut et doit être fait. C'est la condition sine qua non pour obtenir des résultats non éphémères. Cela est vrai non seulement pour les pays émergents mais aussi pour les pays développés.

A ce sujet, qu'il me soit permis de dire que l'Italie, qui possède une remarquable expérience scientifique et technique en la matière, a eu l'occasion dans le dernier biennium de fournir sa concrète collaboration dans le domaine de la défense des intérêts alimentaires en offrant l'hospitalité à quinze experts tanzaniens qui, pendant sept mois, ont suivi un cours de spécialisation au frais de l'université de Piacenza. Ces experts, maintenant, travaillent dans leur pays comme responsables de la conservation des céréales dans les magasins d'Etat. Il s'agit ici d'un genre de collaboration internationale dans lequel l'Italie a foi et qu'elle est toujours prête à offrir.

J. A. SANTOS OLIVEIRA (Guinée-Bissau): Je voudrais m'associer à tous les délégués qui m'ont précédé pour vous féliciter de votre élection à la présidence de la Commission I.

Le rapport C 79/2 sur la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture en 1979, que le Directeur général nous a soumis, est un excellent document de travail et nous l'avons beaucoup apprécié.

C'est vrai que l'agriculture africaine continue à être confrontée à la nécessité de produire assez de nourriture pour une population croissante, et, de plus, l'Afrique n'a pas encore comblé son retard par rapport à d'autres régions en développement. Au contraire, la production alimentaire de 1978 par habitant a diminué de près de 10 pour cent par rapport à 1969-71. Nous sommes confrontés aux grands problèmes de production agricole et à leur prix. A ce sujet, nous voudrions manifester notre inquiétude devant l'augmentation constante du prix des engrais et appuyer la déclaration de la République de la Libye sur l'augmentation des prix en raison du pétrole.

Nous nous félicitons des mesures découlant de la cinquième session de la Commission des engrais ainsi que de toutes celles prises par le Directeur général auprès des producteurs exportateurs pour l'accroissement des quantités d'engrais promises avant de permettre, à travers des programmes d'engrais, aux pays en développement les plus gravement touchés, de mettre en action des projets de développement, en particulier concernant les cultures vivrières, cela en faveur des petits exploitants.

M. Antoine NDEGEYA (Rwanda): Monsieur le Président, ma délégation est heureuse de vous adresser ses félicitations pour votre élection à la tête de cette Commission.

La délégation rwandaise est très préoccupée par la faiblesse de la production alimentaire mondiale, et spécialement dans les pays en développement. Nous sommes encore bien loin de l'objectif de 4 pour cent par an souhaité comme accroissement de la production agricole.

En ce qui concerne mon pays, et malgré l'arrivée tardive des pluies, nous pouvons affirmer que la situation alimentaire n'est pas trop défavorable. Cependant, je dois souligner le fait très particulier que jusqu'ici l'agriculture rwandaise, surtout axée sur la production vivrière, n'utilise presque pas de fertilisants chimiques pour maintenir et accroître la productivité des sols. Seule l'application des engrais organiques est courante dans mon pays. Le Gouvernement rwandais aide les agriculteurs à réaliser l'association cultures-élevage au sein des exploitations afin de préserver les capacités du sol et d'aboutir à une utilisation raisonnable de la terre qui est notre capital le plus précieux.

Aujourd'hui, l'absence de fertilisants chimiques pour notre agriculture s'avère être un frein puissant à l'augmentation de notre capacité de production alimentaire. La pression démographique est telle que les sols cultivés presque sans répit et l'engrais organique ne suffisent plus dans ce type d'exploitation intensive.

Nous sommes donc arrivés à un stade où l'utilisation des engrais chimiques est devenue indispensable. Malheureusement, étant donné notre position géographique et nos ressources limitées, l'importation d'engrais chimiques risque d'être un poids insupportable pour notre économie.

Devant cette situation, nous espérons trouver aide et compréhension au sein de la FAO et des autres organisations internationales.

Pour terminer, nous appuyons le projet de résolution sur le commerce des produits, protectionnisme et ajustement agricole.

A. M. F. FERNANDO (Sri Lanka): We have read with great interest document C 79/2 outlining the World Food and Agriculture situation and note with great apprehension the dismal situation prevailing in the world food situation and the need for both developing and developed countries to make every effort to achieve

the production rate of growth target of 4% required to meet this situation. We share the general disappointment about the failure to establish the International Agreement on Grains. However we think that one constructive suggestion in this general atmosphere of gloom has been that made by the Director-General of the FAO. I refer to the Five-Point Plan of Action enumerated by him.

Due to the disturbing trend of long-term consumption requirements exceeding production targets, some timely device as suggested by the Director-General is an appropriate point from which member nations should make a start at least at this late hour. We wish to commend particularly the proposal made by the Director-General concerning the IMF which has been invited to consider within the context of its financing facilities the feasibility of providing additional balance of payments support in meeting food import bills of low income food deficit countries particularly in the event of domestic food shortages and rising import prices.

I do not wish to repeat what most members have been emphasizing so far on other urgent prerequisites, such as the stabilization of fertilizer prices and the need for developed countries to give better prices for commodities of primary products which developing countries export at present, since all these are vital if these countries are to achieve any progress in this direction.

We for our part in Sri Lanka have given the highest priority for food and agricultural development in the last two years. While it is true that the performance of the 1970s has been poor after the present government came into power in 1977 the policies in relation to agriculture which are being implemented now have resulted in enabling production to reach a growth rate higher than most other countries of Asia.

The establishment of appropriate price incentives and the strengthening of agricultural support services such as Agricultural Extension, Research, Credit, Crop Insurance, Provision of Seed and above all, the improvement of irrigation systems more particularly, the commitment of my Government to accelerate the major river development programme of the Mahaweli, will no doubt enable us to reach self-sufficiency within the next few years. Of course, the achievement of the above goals are dependent to a great extent on solutions being found to the stabilization measures in respect of energy costs and fertilizer, and international financial assistance for major development works to hand being ensured.

Like all members who spoke before me my delegation wishes to recommend the adoption of the Resolution before the Conference.*

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Today we have heard 43 speakers who have referred especially to the State of Food and Agriculture in 1979. It is my feeling that this subject has now been sufficiently debated Dr Islam will in due course reply to the points raised and the questions asked. Following that we shall come to the question of Commodity and Trade Problems.

From the views expressed in this debate it would appear that there are certain differences on this matter. Nevertheless I have noted that there has been a positive note, that the various representatives who have expressed differing views have said that the door was not completely closed and that we might well reach a consensus of agreement. That was a very positive note and I am particularly grateful to all colleagues here who adopted it.

We are fully aware that time is short, especially as item 6. 2 and 6. 3, on fertilizers and forestry, have still to be dealt with. We really do not have enough time to continue a discussion of the protectionist measures in the way we have done so far. What is the answer? May I make the following proposal?

First we should consider that we have ended the debate on document C 79/2 and its supplement. Tomorrow, first thing, we should hear the reply from the Secretariat. Dr. Islam will reply to the points raised along with any proposals made or questions asked. Then we can go on to item 6. 2. That is the first aspect of my proposal.

The second aspect is that we should continue our discussion of the draft resolution on commodity trade and protectionism in a narrower framework. That would mean our arranging for unofficial consultations between Members. I personally would hope for direct consultations and I think we should go ahead with

* Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request

that in order to try and achieve a satisfactory result. I will report to the Commission on the consultations that I shall be having. Of course I cannot guarantee that these unofficial consultations will be completed when we come to the end of item 6. It might take a day or two for us to reach a result but I shall report the results of the negotiations at the earliest opportunity, which might even be Monday morning. I would then be the happiest of men. If I am able to announce good tidings tomorrow then I will be even happier.

If delegates agree to go along with this proposal I should be very grateful if you would arrange for the unofficial consultations to be launched this evening as soon as we adjourn. If necessary, we can have a meeting tomorrow and the day after, because I myself am determined to arrive at a result which will satisfy everyone, which is something which lies in your hands if you want us to achieve a satisfactory result.

If there are no objections to that proposal, we shall meet tomorrow morning at 09. 30 and hear the Secretariat's report following today's debate on the State of Food and Agriculture and if we are convinced by the Secretariat's replies we can go on to item 6. 2, fertilizers. The question of protectionist procedure is something on which I am sure we shall all reach a satisfactory conclusion-God willing.

The meeting rose at 17. 55 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h 55

Se levanta la sesión a las 17. 55 horas

conference

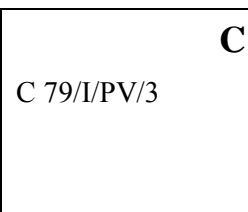
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

THIRD MEETING
TROISIEME SEANCE
TERCERA SESION

(16 November 1979)

The Third Meeting was opened at 9. 55 hours
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La troisième séance est ouverte à 9 h 55, sous la présidence de
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I
Se abre la tercera sesión a las 9. 55 horas, bajo la presidencia
de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACIÓN (continuación)
- 6. World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)
- 6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)
- 6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)
- 6. 1 State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)
- 6. 1 Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et Notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)
- 6. 1 El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Good morning, gentlemen I wish to call to order the Third Meeting of our Commission.

J. H. FEINGOLD (observer for the International Federation of Agricultural Producers): Our Federation, representing family farmers-large and small-in most part of the world, is in general agreement with FAO's assessment of the state of food and agriculture in 1979. Although concerned with many aspects of the subject our comments are confined, in view of the short time available, to one or two important areas which we find are either not mentioned in document C 79/2, or have not been fully covered in the debate, or should be more strongly stressed.

While the importance of various farm inputs is emphasized, little or no mention is made of the most important resource: the farmer and his family. Surely without their effective involvement and dynamic participation in the production process there will not be the hoped for rapid and sustained progress.

In this connection the involvement of farmers' organizations and cooperatives is essential, not only as a vehicle of input distribution and marketing of output, but also as an instrument of making the farmer's point of view and his problems known to the planners and decision makers. Farmers, especially the small and subsistence producers, are often bewildered and perturbed by the advice they are given by extension workers, of how to improve their production methods. This is hardly surprising when farming techniques in developing countries are often imported with little regard to their suitability for local conditions. So instead of imposing new methods on farmers, the problems arising from substantial changes should first be discussed with them, through their representative organizations.

It will be found in many instances, that the result will be a blending of past experiences-traditional farming and livestock keeping systems-and modern technology which will be far more suitable to Third World conditions than techniques evolved under entirely different circumstances. Mixed cropping, inter planting, and an input level appropriate to the means and capabilities of the small farmer would achieve sustainable production and form a sound basis for further progress in future. Too often, so called comprehensive, "packages"-seed, fertilizer and chemicals-designed and advocated by multinational companies are offered as the best way to increase production and to solve the problem of hunger. Multinational companies are obviously more interested in selling the maximum amount of their products and making the largest possible profit, than being concerned with the true welfare of small producer.

It is often not appreciated how far reaching the influence of these vast companies has become. In this connection FAO, and member governments, should study a book "Seeds of the Earth. A Private or Public resource?" published in Canada and dealing with the alarming domination by large multinational companies of the agricultural seed breeding and production industry.

It should also be stressed that many developing countries, being anxious, to ensure a secure and reasonable priced supply of fertilizer are persuaded by foreign based fertilizer manufacturing companies that they can build factories capable of producing good quality fertilizer at prices which compare well with those prevailing on the world market. A number of countries have either suffered serious financial losses or have been landed with uneconomic factories. FAO would provide a useful service to Third World countries, if they could make available studies and models of feasible and uneconomic production units, based on actual experiences in various countries.

In conclusion, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, reiterates its belief that sufficient food and export crops can be produced provided closer cooperation between governments and their farmers is established and a more favourable world economic climate is created through negotiations within the framework of the United Nations system. 1/

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): You will recall that yesterday, at the end of the afternoon meeting, we had concluded the discussion on the World Situation of Food and Agriculture 1979 and we had decided that at the outset of this morning's meeting we would first listen to the comments and reactions of Dr. Nurul Islam regarding your statements yesterday on this first item of the Agenda. You will also recall that we had considered that with regard to the Problem of Trade and Commodities and Protectionism, we would continue discussions of that subject within the context of unofficial consultations. These consultations commenced yesterday evening, and we feel that these consultations will probably go on this morning once we have reviewed Point 6. 1, which we are dealing with now. I would like to ask my colleagues who took part in the consultations yesterday and who were unable to complete all these consultations yesterday, to meet again at the end of this meeting. I think the consultations could take place in the Canada Room (A 341). You will be informed about the way in which the situation develops regarding these consultations.

I should now like to give the floor to Dr. Nurul Islam so that he can be kind enough to tell us what his reactions and comments are to the debate and statements which we have heard.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): We in the Secretariat are thankful to the delegates for the very useful comments and suggestions they have made for the improvement of our Report on the State of Food and Agriculture. In the short time available here I will not go over all the suggestions and questions but I will confine myself to a few salient ones. For the rest of the points raised, we in the Secretariat would welcome an opportunity to discuss with individual delegates during this Conference the various points specially raised by them and try to provide explanations as well as reactions to their suggestions.

At the outset I must reiterate that because of the brevity and the limited size of Mini-SOFA we do not intend to, nor were we able to, provide detailed explanations or elaborations on many of the statements in the document. Consequently, some of the statements because of their very nature and their being in summary form sometimes appear to be more of a generalization than they were originally intended to be or appear more sweeping than they are warranted by the analysis given or the facts provided.

This is certainly true in respect of the paragraphs on which the delegate of Libya has commented; that is, the subject of rising oil prices and its relationship to inflation and rising costs of production generally. We have taken careful note of his comments. This will help us in the preparation of our final report. Obviously, the question of rising oil prices has to be viewed in the context of general inflationary pressures caused by fluctuating exchange rates, expansion of monetary demand and the rise in other elements of costs of production. Not only the nominal price but the real price of oil in terms of other commodities has to be taken into account.

The recent rise, for example, in food prices is due to a shortfall in production in relation to the demand and it also has overall inflationary consequences.

Secondly, I may also mention in this connexion that in some of the statements in that report, to which reference has been made by the delegates of Libya, the Arabic translation is far from satisfactory and this is liable to cause misunderstanding. This will be corrected in the final version.

Many delegates have noted the need for an analysis of the impact of energy supplies and energy cost on agriculture. I may remind delegates that we had a special chapter in SOFA in 1976 on this subject. In fact we are now engaged in a study of the interrelationship between food and energy, including an analysis of the potential of food and agricultural crops for the production of commercial energy and the implications of this on cropping patterns and food production. An expert consultation on this subject is planned by us in mid-1980.

Reference has been made by several delegates, especially those from Kenya and Angola, to the special problems and restraints on food production in Africa. The Secretariat is in full agreement with these

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

views, which will be reflected more adequately in the final version of the report. In fact this was the main theme of the report of the Africa Food Plan which was prepared by us for consideration at the last African Regional Conference. We are monitoring regionally the follow-up of the African Food Plan by the African countries in terms of action at the country level. The next Regional Conference in Africa will consider all aspects of the follow-up of the Africa Food Plan including production, rural development food security and food trade.

Mention was made of the importance of rubber and the need for analysis of this important subject in greater depth than is provided in the present document. I wish to inform the delegates that we have already undertaken a study on rubber jointly with the World Bank, which includes a detailed examination of supply, demand and future prospects for rubber as a raw material. We also intend to cooperate closely with the International Rubber Council in Malaysia.

The delegate of Norway, and delegates from a few other countries, asked questions about our interest in and work on the role of human milk in the improvement of the nutritional status of children and on the advisability of the incorporation of infant nutrition, policy as a part of the overall and general food and nutrition policy. FAO is already supporting programmes in Member States for assisting them to promote infant nutrition policy as a part of food and nutrition policy and to encourage breastfeeding through nutritional education and training programmes.

A Codex Committee is working on dietary standards for processed food for children.

We have cooperated with WHO and UNICEF in recent meetings on this subject of infant and child feeding as well as maternal and child nutrition, to which the delegate of Norway made reference yesterday. We are also collaborating with them and other agencies on a code of ethics to be formulated for the marketing of breast milk substitutes and supplements.

Some delegates have mentioned the need for more detailed analysis of investment.

In my opening remarks I have referred to our on-going work in this area and also to the difficulties we are facing in collecting information on this subject.

We are exploring cooperation with the International Monetary Fund and other agencies for collecting data relating to government expenditure in the field of food and agriculture. Many developing countries do not have readily available data on this subject. Often this data has to be collected from scattered sources and processed and analysed. I would appeal to the Member Countries to extend their utmost cooperation in responding to our questionnaire on public expenditures in agriculture. We are in the process of providing revised and more detailed instructions, which we hope will enable them to give a better response to our questionnaire. I am afraid that unless the Member Countries are willing to devote time, effort and manpower to collect and coordinate the data, from relevant ministries of the government, especially the Finance Ministry, and help in analysing this data for the purpose of making estimates, our efforts will not succeed.

In the countries where we have economists under our authorized assistance programmes we are calling upon their services to help Member Governments in working out answers to our questionnaire.

The delegate of Kenya referred to a possible contradiction in our analysis of the movement of sugar prices. It is true that sugar prices have recovered substantially since April 1979 when they were at extremely depressed levels.

This welcome improvement, however, reflects the hurricane damage in the Caribbean and the lower output in several other regions. Nevertheless FAO still forecasts heavy sugar stocks of 27 million tons to 28 million tons at the end of the 1979-80 season, but we hope that sugar prices will continue to rise because they are still lower than their historical levels.

The delegate of the United Kingdom raised a very large number of questions and the Secretariat would be glad to have an opportunity to pursue some of these detailed questions with him separately and individually. The various specialists on the Secretariat would be glad to provide further clarification. But I will only touch upon one or two of the issues raised by him. For example, the need for an analysis of the differential performance of different countries in respect of agricultural growth has been referred to earlier by a number of delegates, not only at the present meeting of the Commission but at the last biennial Conference as well.

We have tried to do something in this respect in our last session as well as the present one but I wish to make a clarification on this subject.

Firstly, we hope we have something more to say on this subject in the final version of the report but I am afraid not very much more at this stage of our work in this area.

Secondly, in respect of comparative analysis of agricultural growth in different countries we face two sets of problems-one is methodological and the other statistical. The methodological issue relates to whether it is really possible to have a satisfactory analysis or derive Meaningful conclusions as a guide to policy or action by means of an aggregative analysis based on macro-economic indicators. It appears that an analysis of the reasons for differential performance requires very detailed case studies in respect of a wide range of policy variables including magnitude and pattern of investment, institutional factors, technology as well as physical resources of land and water etc, to illustrate only a few aspects of the variables which are involved in the situation. To what extent, for example, these causative factors or sources of growth are amenable to broad inter-country macro analysis and to what extent they would provide conclusions and generalizations more profound than we already are aware of is not quite clear. What is clear is that it is necessary to have in-depth case studies and they will indeed be worthwhile in view of the wide divergencies of specific conditions in different countries. And as the delegates are aware, these case studies are time-consuming and require a considerable amount of resources and manpower. We very much hope that individual countries will undertake such analyses of their own particular problems and prospects and we would aid the process and be willing to co-operate and assist. In fact, this is the kind of analysis we undertake in our planning assistance activities at the country level. We do indeed embark upon an analysis of institutional factors, policies, resources contributing to growth when we analyse their potential and recommend policies for the future. Assuming, however, that a broad aggregative inter-country comparative analysis based on a few indicators could yield some insight in answering this question. The problem is how to get comparative data for a large sample of countries for a sufficiently long-term basis to detect differential trends in different countries. The gap in statistical information is unbelievably large.

Our experience just related to you on collecting information for making estimates of investments, not total investment but merely public expenditure in agriculture, illustrate how difficult the task is.

We have noted the suggestions made by many delegates, both here and in the Committee on Commodity Problems, that a permanent mechanism should be established in FAO to monitor developments in protectionism and agriculture.

We will carefully consider the ways in which FAO's existing work within existing resources can be further strengthened in this biennium, always, of course, without duplicating the work done in other agencies. Here I might mention the kind of ideas we have in mind. Firstly, as the delegates are aware, we plan to issue a special study on agricultural protectionism including costs, in the forthcoming commodity review. In addition our commodity specialists are keeping changes in import policies under regular review as a part of their routine work. We shall explore ways in which this information can be made available to governments in a more regular and systematic way.

Thirdly, our intergovernmental commodity groups are also in several cases examining this question in respect of individual commodities development in which a few other points have been made by a number of delegates in calling our attention to the need for future work or calling our attention to the gaps in analysis or information. I will mention only a few of them and indicate our reaction.

For example, the role of consumer subsidy on food and its effect on food prices. This is indeed an important subject relevant to the formulation of food policy. It has wide economy-wise ramification as well. We indeed intend to cover this more adequately in our future work.

Special treatment of the least developed countries! we agree with the needs for special analysis, indeed we have a little bit of this already.

We have just prepared a special paper analysing the future perspectives of agriculture in the least developed countries in connection with the high-level expert consultation on least developed countries which UMCTAD is convening this month.

Use of food as feed for livestock production and the need for non-conventional sources of feed for livestock: this indeed is an important subject but also a very complex subject. We must resist the temptation to over-simplify this complex subject and we are strengthening our work in this area which we hope will be presented to the Intergovernmental Group on Grain. at their next meeting.

Scarcity of fuel wood and its impact on forestry development : this is a subject to which the Forestry Department is giving considerable attention in preparation for our contribution to the World Energy Conference .

Mechanism in agriculture: this is a subject that was discussed in the last meeting of the Committee on Agriculture. We will have more of it in our Final Report on the State of Food and Agriculture.

Analysis of population problems in low-income countries and their relationship to food shortage and agriculture growth: we have done special studies on this subject on the past and indeed we have a few publications already in this area.

I will not cover all the points mentioned in the debate as I just stated, because many of these issues have been discussed in the earlier Reports on the State of Food and Agriculture. Unless there is a drastic change in the situation we thought we could wait until we again undertake to do a special study of some of these issues.

The State of Food and Agriculture 1979 in its final Report will have a special chapter on forestry and community development. As I stated earlier, in 1976 we had a special chapter on energy and agriculture and later we had a special chapter on environment and agriculture,

Lastly, the delegate from the United Kingdom mentioned that the document on the State of Food and Agriculture does not contain an analysis of FAO's own activities and programmes in various problem areas which have been identified in this document. At this Conference we have two documents relating to this subject which are being discussed in Commission II, one a Review of Regular Programmes of FAO and the other a Review of FAO Field Programmes. These two documents can be considered as supplementary documents if you want to react this way, as they deal specifically with FAO activities in the field of food and agriculture.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you for this response-this very complete and lengthy response to yesterday's discussion and I would now like to put a question. Do you have any question you wish to put? Is there any elucidation you require from Dr. Islam? Is there anything you feel he has omitted in response? Apparently his answer has satisfied you all and there is no need for any further comment. My colleagues, I feel that we may well say that our discussion on the first item, the World Food and Agriculture Situation 1979, was an excellent point of departure as it were, for the work of our Commission. Practically everybody agreed that the documents prepared for this first item were excellent, despite the fact that some comments, which were always positive and constructive, were made in delegates' statements and improved these documents. I also consider that all your statements were most effective and demonstrated the interest you bear in these subjects. This is proven by the excellent answer from the Secretariat. This once again shows the excellent spirit in which this discussion was conducted, I do not think there is any need for me now to give you a summary of the debate. The very nature of the documents and of the discussion, make this redundant. Furthermore it will be very difficult for me to sum up so brilliant a debate. I am convinced that all the comments and all the remarks which were made were recorded and they will be found in extenso in the Report that the Drafting Committee will prepare.

And now let us say something about the second aspect of this particular item of the agenda which concerns trade and protectionist action. It is very natural that there should have been differing viewpoints. This has appeared in the course of the debate. Nevertheless, I think that it is encouraging that during the discussion everybody showed that they were willing to find a solution which would be acceptable to one and all. It is that which has encouraged me to start consultations, unofficial consultations, despite the fact that it is still too early for me to give you a report on the outcome of my informal consultations. Nevertheless I can say, now already, that the first round of consultations was carried out in an excellent atmosphere and that they were marked by a most constructive spirit and a sincere wish to achieve results that would be acceptable to all. I trust that I will very soon be able to report on the outcome of these consultations.

Distinguished delegates, dear colleagues, I think that we have finished discussion of the first item, except in respect of the second aspect, we have finished with 6. 1, and I think we should now go on to item 6, 2 of the agenda on Fertilizers.

I would like to ask the delegate from Grenada Mr. Alphonsus Antoine the Vice-Chairman to be good enough to come up to the rostrum in order to chair this meeting on fertilizers. I assume that discussion of the second item on our agenda today will occupy the whole of the remaining morning session. Let me state that we hope that the group, the Advisory Group, will be able to go to the Canada Room now already. This is Room A 341. And then I must tell you also that the Vice-Chairman, the delegate from Indonesia, will chair the meeting of this afternoon and that this afternoon's meeting will deal with 6. 3 Forestry-the "Jakarta Declaration".

Alphonsus Antoine, Vice-Chairman of Commission I, took the chair

Alphonsus Antoine, Vice-Président de la Commission I, assume la présidence

Ocupa la presidencia Alphonsus Antoine, Vicepresidente de la Comisión I

6. 2 Fertilizers-Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers

6. 2 Engrais-Mesures découlant de la cinquième session de la Commission des engrais

6. 2 Fertilizantes-Medidas dimanantes de la quinta reunión de la Comisión de Fertilizantes

CHAIRMAN: We now pass on to sub-item 6. 2, Fertilizers-Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers. The relevant document for the discussion is item C 79/19 and therefore, without further ado, I ask Dr. Dudal to introduce the item.

R. DUDAL (Director, Land and Water Development Division): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Honourable delegates, the document for this topic on the agenda C 79/19, I think it is very short and I think it is also self-explanatory, so I do not think there are elaborate comments required. I would only like to give you some additional information since the report on the Commission on Fertilizers, and this document you have in front of you, were also discussed by the Seventy-Fifth Session of the FAO Council and, as a result I should like to present to you the latest development in this field.

The Council gave full support to FAO's fertilizer activities and endorsed the Commission on Fertilizer's report. It also supported the recommendations contained in it. In the light of the increase in fertilizer prices in the export market in recent months I should like to draw particular attention to the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme and to the Option System. You will recall that the International Fertilizer Supply System Scheme was initiated in 1974. Since then it has completed 135 supply operations to 51 developing countries, which involved 500, 000 tons of fertilizer material worth about \$US 121 million. What is less known about the Scheme is that a number of recipient countries-24 up to now-have established counterpart funds worth \$US 28 million. This is the proceeds of fertilizer sales provided under the IFS. In this way contributions to the IFS, by the donor countries had a multiplying effect and I think we should like to underline this that the aid provided through IFS has had a double effect, both from the point of view of counterparts in local currencies and the fertilizers themselves. These counterparts funds have been used by the governments in cooperation with FAO to support agricultural development projects, particularly those connected with fertilizers used for development by small farmers. An analysis of consumption in the most seriously affected countries receiving fertilizer assistance through the IFS indicates that for a number of countries IFS assistance constituted a major share of their fertilizer supplies. And in other countries IFS assistance resulted in higher rates of growth of fertilizer consumption than would otherwise have been possible. The reason for this is the lack of foreign exchange of MSA countries to support their fertilizer needs.

The Director-General continues to receive requests for fertilizer assistance through IFS but, unfortunately, he cannot favourably respond in most cases because the IFS resources at present are very low. A number of countries contributed generously to the IFS during the period of high international prices and tight supplies. The Director-General, therefore, has appealed to these governments for a replenishment of IFS resources, but the response received so far has not been encouraging. On the other hand, I am pleased to acknowledge here that a new contributor, the Government of Ireland recently pledged assistance to the IFS. The need for replenishment of IFS resources is reflected by an estimate of fertilizer import requirements of the MSA countries for 1980-81. This will be 4, 400, 000 tons of fertilizer nutrient with a value at present prices and transport rates amounting to about \$US 2. 8 billion for a one year period. If 20 percent of these requirements were provided through aid to the value of \$US 550 million, and we sincerely hope that at least a hundred million dollars worth of fertilizer material could be channelled through the IFS through 1980-81 to assist in the most flexible and fast operational way to MSA countries who are in need of compensating exchange for import requirements.

Mr. Chairman, turning now to the option system we have to be aware that unlike the IFS the option system is not an aid programme. The purpose of the option system approved by the Commission on Fertilizers, and endorsed by FAO Council, is to ensure that MSA countries are able to purchase at least a share of their import requirement at prices comparable to those in the domestic markets of those fertilizer producers participating in the system. It will, therefore, only become operational if and when fertilizer prices in the international market rise above the level of those domestic prices.

As stated in document C 79/19 569 000 tons of fertilizer material have been committed in principle to the option system by fertilizer producers at the end of April this year. At the present time 469 000 tons of material have been committed by producers for the period of five years from January 1979 onwards. On behalf of the Director-General I should like to thank those producers for their commitment to the option system and trust that others will reconfirm their commitments. Mr. Chairman, the option system is now in place as requested by the Commission on Fertilizers and by the FAO Council, and it can become operational immediately if required. It is hoped, however, that it will not be necessary to operate the option system as work on fertilizer assistance provided through the IFS will aim at better ensuring adequate supplies of fertilizers and moderating the fluctuation in world fertilizer prices so that they will be stabilized at a reasonable level. I should like to take this opportunity to reiterate the Director-General's appeal for a replenishment of IFS resources which, as I indicated, have a considerable multiplying effect in terms of development aid and, therefore, we believe are a very effective form of aid to MSA countries. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you Dr. Dudal for your introduction. Just before I open this subject for discussion I would like to ask you to make your discussions as brief as possible subject to the fact that you want to cover whatever you intend to say. The floor is now open for discussion.

V. DE ASARTA (Italie): La delegation italienne est très intéressée par le système d'option établi par la FAO, ainsi que par le Programme international d'approvisionnement en engrais. En tant que pays producteur d'engrais, l'Italie est ouverte à tout programme d'exportation le plus large possible et à des prix convenant aux pays en développement qui ont le plus besoin de tels moyens de production. Mais cette intention rencontre cependant des obstacles d'une certaine importance en raison de l'augmentation des charges d'exploitation, et, parmi celles-ci, du coût de la main-d'oeuvre qualifiée aussi bien que de la croissance très grave des prix des matières premières nécessaires au processus de production des engrais, par exemple les phosphorites que nos industries sont obligées d'importer à 100 pour cent de l'Afrique septentrionale et occidentale, notre pays étant totalement dépourvu de mines de ce genre.

Cependant, dans la limite du possible et compte tenu des difficultés que nous devons surmonter en la matière, l'Italie voudrait manifester sa disponibilité, étant susceptible d'offrir, même à des conditions de faveur, des engrais chimiques aux pays en développement qui en ont le plus besoin.

L. LAPEBY (Gabon): C'est la première fois que je prends la parole au sein de cette Commission, et je voudrais d'abord féliciter le Président et les Vice-Présidents qui ont été élus pour conduire ses travaux.

Le programme des engrais a été créé pour essayer de pallier une situation très difficile, notamment dans les pays en développement. Cependant, il faut reconnaître tout d'abord que les engrais constituent un intrant qui a pour objet de compléter, favorablement j'entends, la mise en oeuvre de pratiques agricoles modernes en vue d'un accroissement de la production par le biais d'un effet multiplicateur 'des rendements, comme cela a été souligné tout à l'heure. Ce programme a commencé depuis un certain temps, mais j'aimerais savoir-et ce point est très important à mon avis, étant donné que les pays en développement ne vivront pas toujours de subventions, car j'appelle cela des subventions-si la FAO a entrepris une étude pour essayer de mesurer ce coefficient de multiplication. Je pense qu'il ne s'agit pas seulement de fournir des engrais en vue d'augmenter la production agricole; faudrait-il savoir encore si la quantité d'engrais fournie aboutit précisément aux résultats attendus, et cela à deux niveaux, notamment au niveau des petits producteurs qui n'ont souvent pas suffisamment de qualifications pour les utiliser. Il faudrait donc inclure les charges pour les amener à apprendre à utiliser les engrais. Au deuxième niveau, celui des grands ensembles dans le domaine vivrier, il ne faudrait pas que les engrais introduits dans les pays en développement servent plutôt aux cultures d'exportation.

S. A. PARVEZ (Pakistan): We have read document C 79/19 with interest and would like to compliment FAO on producing a brief but informative document. Before we proceed to comment on the contents, we would like to say a few words about the position relating to fertilizers as it exists in Pakistan. The use of fertilizers in Pakistan during the last six years has increased at a compound rate of 15.8 percent. In spite of this increase, the overall application rate, even in irrigated areas, is only about 36-kg per hectare, which is one of the lowest in the world. Thus, on the one hand we are faced with a situation in which there is a total realization of the fact that the use of chemical fertilizers in correct proportions, at an appropriate time and by suitable methods of application, is the most effective practice for increasing crop production and, on the other hand, a situation where this vital input is not available to the farmers in adequate quantities. While, hopefully, we expect to be self-sufficient in nitrogenous fertilizer by the end of 1981, the present domestic production of fertilizers is sufficient to meet only about 50 percent of the total requirements of fertilizer. The balance shortfall has therefore to be imported from abroad. Since the cost of imported fertilizer is much higher than the cost of fertilizer produced locally, the sale of fertilizer has to be heavily subsidized by the Government. This will indicate the extent of my Government's commitment to the use of fertilizers.

The farmer in Pakistan is highly sensitive to changes in fertilizer prices. After all, increased production and availability of fertilizer would be of no avail unless this vital input was brought within the reach of the small farmer, who constitutes a majority of the total farming community.

The cyclical trend in international prices, the recent sharp escalation in the prices of fertilizers and the formation of cartels of producers give rise to very serious concern. It is in this context that we have examined the whole matter. We would like to express our support for the efforts of the Commission, and especially of the Director-General of FAO, to complete the Options Arrangements in cooperation with interested parties, to facilitate its implementation once commitments by fertilizer producers have reached the target figure set by the Commission. We would also take this opportunity of strongly recommending the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme and would suggest that a percentage of bilateral fertilizer aid of traditional donor countries might be channelled through this scheme to reactivate it and at the same time take full advantage of its establishment machinery and experience in this field. We also fully agree that high prices would adversely affect the capability of farmers in developing countries, particularly of the small farmers, to purchase and use fertilizers in the required quantities, which would in turn adversely affect crop production in those countries.

This may perhaps not be the most appropriate forum to point this out, but we would like to stress that in developing countries like ours the use of fertilizer has a close relationship with the extension of credit facilities, particularly to the small farmer. Availability of fertilizer is sometimes by itself not enough. The extension of credit facilities brings this vital input within the reach of the small farmer.

I should like to say that the use of fertilizer in Pakistan is firmly established. The task of winning its acceptance by farmers is no longer necessary: in fact, now adequate availability is the cause for close and careful attention. The use of fertilizer has been assigned the highest priority by the Government of Pakistan. In this context, therefore, we would request that FAO extend its activities in Pakistan in the following fields: (i) training in fertilizer use development; (ii) study of environmental problems; (iii) study of the relationship between prices of agricultural products and fertilizers; and (iv) study on symbiotic nitrogen fixation.

We would like also to record our deep gratitude for FAO's assistance to the National Fertilizer Development Centre in Pakistan and the offer of a possible fertilizer grant by the European Economic Community. We look forward to further positive developments in this regard. We would in conclusion like to say that there is an increasing need for aid-giving agencies and countries to extend fertilizer assistance to developing countries like ours.

J. PUERTA ROMERO (España): La delegación española, en relación con el documento C 79/19 desea hacer las siguientes puntualizaciones: Primero, la necesidad de clarificar los mercados tanto de primeras materias como de productos básicos y terminados al objeto de que los países productores exportadores de fertilizantes posibiliten la mejora de la tecnología de la fertilización en los países en desarrollo.

Segundo, la conveniencia de que la FAO canalice las ayudas en fertilizantes hacia esos países en desarrollo, haciendo hincapié en la divulgación técnica que permita asegurar la asunción de la tecnología por dichos países para hacerla realmente eficaz y así poder resolver de forma sostenida y continuada los problemas de producción que aquejan a los países en desarrollo.

Tercero, el ofrecimiento de mi país de su más decidida cooperación para el diseño y ejecución por FAO de programas de análisis de la fertilización y técnicas más adecuadas a utilizar en las diversas regiones del mundo y, en especial, en Hispanoamérica, donde dicha cooperación, aunque desgraciadamente de forma esporádica, ya se plasmó hace algunos años en la donación de fertilizantes a algunos de los países andinos, que desearíamos continuar.

Por otra parte, quiero señalar señor Presidente, que la industria de fertilizantes en España, moderna, con plantas bien dimensionadas y buena tecnología, ha aumentado sensiblemente su capacidad productiva en el decenio 1965/75 de forma que la demanda interna supone solamente algo más del 50 por ciento de esa capacidad, por lo que cabría dedicar a la exportación el resto de su capacidad productiva. Sin embargo, es necesario tener en cuenta también que la industria española está sometida a los problemas internacionales derivados del suministro de materias primas para la fabricación de amoníaco y nitrogenados, problemas que vienen reduciendo sensiblemente la capacidad de trabajo de nuestras plantas industriales hasta el límite de cubrir sólo, y con dificultad y a precios elevados, la demanda interior, provocando consecuentemente un fuerte incremento de costes de los productos agrarios.

En resumen, señor Presidente, sería posible la colaboración española a efectos de instalación de industrias en países en desarrollo con nuestra propia tecnología; ahora bien, la aportación de fertilizantes a estos países sólo sería posible si se resuelven las dificultades de aprovisionamiento de materias primas en condiciones razonables de precio.

Para terminar, mi delegación ofrece a los países en desarrollo la posibilidad de formación técnica de personal en la propia industria española, junto a la cooperación que puedan aportar en ese campo otros países industrializados, apoyando, en definitiva, el documento C 79/19 sobre: medidas dimanantes de la quinta Reunión de la Comisión de Fertilizantes.

A. PAPASOLOMONTOS (Cyprus): My delegation has noted with regret the decline in support for the Scheme, and the non-response of governments to the appeal made by the Director-General on this issue. The International Fertilizer Scheme has played an important role in increasing production and productivity at relatively modest cost. My delegation, whilst fully realizing the deteriorating economic situation in some traditional donor countries, nevertheless wishes to urge those governments and organizations able to assist to do so, since such a contribution has a dual purpose.

whilst assisting developing countries most effectively with existing foreign exchange constraints, the emphasis has now been directed towards the small farmer. It will not only assist him in increasing his productivity, but will also have a demonstrable effect which would, over a long-term basis, act as an incentive for the small farmer who, with access to increased credit from IFS funds which are now available in most countries, can continue to make increased use of fertilizers in the future, thus increasing productivity over the long-term basis.

F. REDA (Egypt) (interpretation from Arabic): As my country is a developing country which has benefited from the International Fertilizer Programme, the IFS, I would first of all like to express my gratitude for those who helped in the implementation of this programme. I would also like to thank all those countries which sponsored this Scheme. Furthermore, I would like to highlight the problems which we have faced.

The quantities received were very helpful-we really benefited from them from two points of view. First of all we had the right quantity at the right time when agriculture really needed them. Then we took advantage of the income derived from selling these fertilizers to farmers at local prices, subsidized by the Government, so that international prices could be harmonized with local prices. So we took advantage of this to work out smaller scale projects in improving fertilizer utilization for small farmers, and also in other fields, as in the case of extensions, where we improved plant laboratories and plant equipment. There are other fields where improvement was achieved, but I shall not go into them here.

We have suffered a shortage in the last two years; and we have also suffered the consequences of this general shortage of fertilizers. I would therefore like to associate myself with the Director-General in his appeal to donors to assist us so that we can obtain the necessary quantities of fertilizers.

P. KANGA (Angola): Ma delegação reprend de nouveau la parole pour quelques minutes afin de retenir un aspect très important pour notre pays et un certain nombre de pays en développement: le problème corrélatif aux approvisionnements en engrais chimiques. Nous avons lu avec une attention particulière

mais surtout avec une grande inquiétude le document sur la question et, dans le tableau VII, nous avons constaté une vérité toute relative. En effet, la croissance de l'utilisation des engrais n'a pas pris en considération le chiffre absolu de la quantité d'engrais par hectare cultivé. Le taux de croissance de la production alimentaire en Afrique, dont nous avons parlé hier, le démontre d'une manière très claire. Nous retenons aussi comme très important l'information qu'a donnée hier à cette Commission M. Horatio Mends, rapporteur à cette Commission. Nous avons écouté aussi et appuyé l'intervention du délégué de la Libye sur le mythe évoquant la montée du coût du pétrole. A la suite de tout cela, c'est avec perplexité que nous avons analysé le document CL 79/19. On peut dire que toutes les constatations établies dans les documents sont correctes. Cependant, on peut ajouter qu'il accuse aussi beaucoup d'insuffisances. Nous avons décidé de citer trois points: en premier lieu, le problème des prix. Nous ne sommes pas un grand consommateur d'engrais, on peut dire que notre capacité d'utilisation ne dépassera pas 150 000 tonnes, et nous essaierons d'atteindre les 200 000 tonnes; mais nous avons cette année payé le double de ce que nous avons payé en 1974 pour la même quantité et, selon le document, nous devrions remercier les pays producteurs exportateurs d'engrais pour la faveur qu'ils nous ont faite, semble-t-il, en raison des prix de session retenus: notamment (et je cite) le niveau des prix internationaux à l'exportation atteindrait ou dépasserait le niveau des prix antérieurs.

Le deuxième point concerne les affirmations qui ont été déjà faites ici établissant une relation entre le prix des engrais et le prix du pétrole. Pour cela, et pour en finir une fois pour toutes avec ce mythe, ma délégation propose que la FAO fasse une nouvelle étude générale pour nous dire exactement quelle est la réalité de la situation. Autrement dit, il importe de connaître exactement l'accroissement du coût des engrais lorsque les prix du pétrole sont appelés à varier. On pense qu'il ne sera pas difficile de trouver le financement pour l'élaboration de cette étude, qui sera d'autant plus facile à faire qu'il existe une information très détaillée, notamment chez les pays producteurs de pétrole.

Finalement, nous pensons que ces problèmes des engrais chimiques, facteur déterminant de la croissance effective de la production, se résoudreont lorsque les pays en développement pourront s'approvisionner à des prix favorables et les pays producteurs doivent tout mettre en oeuvre pour aboutir à ce résultat, ou bien produire des fertilisants dans leur propre pays, afin que l'aide technique et technologique des pays développés établisse un régime de coopération. Pour cela, nous aurons besoin que l'aide des pays développés se traduise par le transfert effectif et désintéressé de la technologie. Nonobstant ces observations, nous approuvons le document.

M. M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): Fertilizers as an important input for increased yields is well recognized by many and this has already been pointed out under the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) where it is noted that. "Fertilizers were responsible for 56 percent of the total increase in crop yields in developing countries in the years 1965 to 1976."

Furthermore the growth in fertilizer use in developing countries has been within the range of 10 to 14 percent per year in the last 15 years.

The above observation is indeed very encouraging and so any factor or factors that would affect the supply would consequently depress yields correspondingly. The demand is already there as many countries aspire to increase food production.

Those who heard my Minister for Agriculture speaking at the Plenary Session yesterday will recall him state that the theme for the 4th Kenya Development Plan 1979 to 1983 is centred around alleviation of poverty particularly in the case of the small scale farmers, most of whom are trapped in poverty and live in rural areas. Therefore, the Government is laying great stress on the rehabilitation of coffee and tea (the chief foreign exchange earners) for increased production; intensive land-use to increase food production such as maize, wheat, rice, potatoes, sugar cane and horticultural crops.

Just to illustrate my point, the amount of fertilizers (all types but mainly phosphatic and nitro. genous) to be used this year, 1979/80, is about the same as pointed out by my Angolan friend: about 170, 00 metric tonnes, and we are hoping that this will rise. Last year it was about 150, 000 metric tonnes. This clearly shows that the farmer is increasingly out to utilize fertilizers, and it was also shown very very clearly during the coffee boom, when the coffee growers were able to spend substantial sums of money on the purchase of fertilizers. This situation is likely to slow down because the coffee boom is already over, and therefore it is going to be a hard time.

I would also like to make observations about certain types of fertilizer, such as DAP, which is extremely costly at the moment; also, various types of fertilizers vary in price between 4 percent to about 26 percent.

When looking at your document as you suggested, C 79/19, I am very grateful for your initiating contacts with fertilizer producers as well as exporters, and also the support which you gave to the option system, which at the end of April, as you said, has been about 569, 000 metric tonnes.

The only worry, as my Minister mentioned, is that of the International Fertilizer Scheme declining. This is going to be a very depressing factor, first of all because of the true price increase, and also because we have just set ourselves a target of an average rate of growth of 8.3 percent per annum between now and the year 2000. This is going to give us a very hard time and therefore I would appeal to countries to support this scheme and really help us to come out of the problem in which we are just now.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert) Comme c'est la première fois que j'interviens dans le débat de cette Commission, permettez-moi de vous féliciter de votre nomination comme Président de votre Commission.

Ma délégation appuie sans réserves le Programme d'action d'engrais de la FAO et invite les Etats donateurs à soutenir ce programme.

Par ailleurs, j'aimerais attirer l'attention sur le fait que la priorité devrait être donnée surtout aux programmes dans les pays qui consacrent tous leurs efforts aux productions vivrières alimentaires de base. Ma délégation juge qu'il est également important que le programme d'engrais puisse être suivi par un programme d'encadrement sur l'utilisation des engrais pour aboutir à l'objectif tracé et par conséquent à l'augmentation de la production et, par là, à l'augmentation du niveau de vie des agriculteurs.

F. ZENNY (Jamaica): This is Jamaica's first and, hopefully, only intervention on this particular item so I would like to take the opportunity of congratulating you Mr. Chairman. Jamaica takes a special pride in noting that a fellow member of the Caribbean, despite its size, can be called upon to play its part in these debates and therefore we take some pride in Grenada's election, in your person, to the Vice-President of this Commission.

On the question of fertilizer, we in Jamaica are perhaps faced with what we consider to be a rather peculiar situation and which bears some mention. By the standards of other developing countries we would be considered a medium-scale consumer of fertilizer in the sense that our annual requirement at this point in time runs about 45 to 50, 000 tons a year. However, we are constrained by a number of limitations in that the growth of fertilizer use lies in the hands of the small farming population of the country which has the principal vocation of feeding the country and providing it with basic food and raw materials. However, they are conditioned by two factors. One of them obviously is price and the other is the availability of the fertilizer, and on both these aspects Jamaica is very seriously concerned.

We have been faced with escalating prices. Our foreign currency under the IMF conditions to which we agreed has suffered severe devaluation. Over a period of roughly twelve months we have witnessed a 40 percent devaluation in our currency. All of this has made it very difficult for our farming population to increase their use and their application of fertilizer. The Government is now considering as much as a 50 percent subsidy on the landed cost of fertilizer without any guarantee that this will result in the increased use of fertilizer by those who need it most. Therefore, though we are not directly concerned with the IFS, not being included in the most seriously affected countries, we do share the concern of the Secretariat, and we are even more concerned at the fact that there has been little or no response to the Director-General's Appeal. In fact we think that the whole Scheme is a bit too modest and that there should be a significant increase in it.

Having said that, there is one aspect I would like to mention for the Secretariat to note. Most of our domestic food production in Jamaica-and I am sure we are not alone, I know Grenada, for example, is in that category-the domestic food production, as I say, is in the hands of a small hillside farmer who uses very intensively with major constraints a small plot of land. It is usually a hillside plot, it is usually rain-fed, it can grow, with good husbandry, perhaps two or three crops a year. It has a multiple cropping system in the sense that he is seeking to maximize his farm. Therefore he is devoting his land area to the various traditional crops he knows best. I am not suggesting that research has not been done in this area in the use of chemical and organic fertilizer and both of them as necessary. What I am concerned about is that not enough consideration is being given by FAO to this kind of farming system with a view to bringing it within the reach of the small farmer -not the bureaucrats like myself - but within the reach of the small- farmer to optimize his production

and ensure increasing productivity. Maybe that information is in FAO. I am not aware of it personally and, if it is, I stand corrected. But, if it is, the onus is therefore even more on FAO to make sure this is available to us and that it can be provided through simple schemes to these small farmers within the constraints and within the systems that I have described so that we can try, in spite of rising prices, with the combination of what we have to increase the productivity and the standard of living of these farmers. I should like to hear a little more on that from the Secretariat.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): My Government has noted with concern that international fertilizer prices, especially for phosphate and potash, have continued to rise in recent months. Diammonium phosphate prices were 45 percent higher in August than a year before, and the price of North American muriate of potash rose by 40 percent. The rise in prices is due not only to higher energy costs, but also to the recent tight supply of phosphate and potash for export in North America and Western Europe.

I repeat here the call of the leader of our delegation at the Plenary yesterday, that 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 small farmers may be ensured through an action plan for fertilizers.

In the light of this we strongly recommend the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme whose decline in resources in recent years is of grave concern to us. We therefore join the Director-General of the FAO in appealing to traditional donors to contribute to this Scheme generously. Easy access to fertilizer at "reachable" prices would constitute an important step towards our efforts in achieving food self-sufficiency.

M. DUCOMMUN (Suisse) Concernant l'emploi des engrais, pour accroître les rendements des cultures, la Suisse accorde la priorité dans sa politique de coopération au développement, au recyclage des déchets organiques de toute nature. Nous pensons qu'une fumure organique basée sur le compostage, le fumier des animaux d'élevage et les déchets organiques accumulés en ville, permet d'atteindre des niveaux de rendement appréciables.

De plus, cette fumure organique accroît la qualité des sols.

Dans la mesure du possible, il faudrait promouvoir des modes d'exploitation combinant l'agriculture et l'élevage. Tous ces procédés garantissent aussi une mise en valeur optimum des engrais minéraux.

Nous ne sous-estimons pas la valeur des engrais chimiques mais pensons qu'ils devraient être utilisés lorsque les cultures qui en bénéficient parviennent à couvrir les frais engendrés par leur emploi.

L'utilisation d'engrais et de tous les moyens de production achetés d'ailleurs devrait toujours être précédée d'un calcul de rentabilité économique et, de ce fait, nous sommes d'avis que les dons en engrais, au travers du Programme d'approvisionnement en engrais, ne se justifient pleinement qu'au moment où les disponibilités sur le marché mondial sont insuffisantes et les prix internationaux particulièrement élevés. C'est ce que nous avons fait par le passé.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German):

The delegation of my country has adopted the Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Fertilizer Commission and I will therefore limit myself to a few aspects only.

We can reckon that demand and supply for fertilizers will develop in a harmonious manner over the coming years. Developing countries were able to substantially increase their consumption of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers, but despite this favourable development, supported by the expansion of production capacities, MSA countries in particular are not yet able to supply their own agriculture up to the full extent required.

Against this background the option system to be established in FAO in respect of fertilizer is welcome. This scheme can contribute towards supplying developing countries on a continuous basis at adequate prices even in such situations where world prices are very high. In the Federal Republic of Germany it is the fertilizer industry which implements such a system. It negotiates on price fixing and other contract modalities with the respective contracting partner. The contracting parties will also decide on the manner in which the system will come into force.

According to the present FAO statistics the fertilizer aid to developing countries has been increased considerably, in particular within the framework of bilateral co-operation.

The Government of my country in 1978 increased its fertilizer aid to 80, 000 tonnes and has taken mainly into account MSA countries. This bilateral aid is in agreement with the objectives of the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme and FAO is notified of this. In the view of my Government the reciprocal information provided should be improved further so that donor countries can take projects requested by developing countries into account also within the framework of bilateral programmes.

A particularly important task of the Fertilizer Commission considered by my Government is the fact that efforts be made towards as economic an application of fertilizers as possible, so that despite the fact that energy and raw materials resources are limited, it is possible to reach the necessary increase in food production.

H. BAEYENS (Belgique): Ma délégation est convaincue de l'importance de l'utilisation des engrais si l'on veut espérer s'approcher des objectifs de développement agricole qui nous sont proposés. La contribution de la Belgique à l'action de la FAO en matière d'engrais se situe en ce moment principalement dans le domaine non pas du Programme international d'approvisionnement en engrais mais bien dans le domaine du Programme FAO des engrais et intrants connexes. La Belgique estime en effet qu'en raison de la situation actuelle du marché des engrais il serait préférable d'utiliser les ressources financières disponibles en les affectant à des projets du Programme FAO des engrais.

Ainsi que vous le savez, ces projets visent à initier les petits agriculteurs à l'usage des engrais, à démontrer l'intérêt de l'utilisation des engrais ainsi que d'autres intrants, de techniques culturales, d'organisations coopératives de l'approvisionnement, de la commercialisation des produits, etc. Si donc la Belgique concentre son action sur cet aspect du problème des engrais, ma délégation est néanmoins d'avis que le Programme international d'approvisionnement en engrais a rempli dans le passé une fonction importante et reste un instrument utile pour faire face aux situations d'urgence qui malheureusement ne manqueront pas de se produire dans l'avenir. C'est donc plutôt cet aspect d'instrument de secours d'urgence en matière d'engrais qui nous paraît justifier le maintien de l'IFS.

Enfin, je voudrais recommander que chaque fois que la possibilité existe, les opérations de l'IFS soient coordonnées avec les projets du Programme des engrais ou de programmes analogues, assurant ainsi que les engrais fournis par l'IFS servent effectivement à accroître la productivité des agriculteurs.

S. SHAMMOUT (Jordan) (interpretation from Arabie): As I am speaking for the first time I would like to congratulate the Chairman of this Commission and congratulate you personally also on your election as Vice-Chairman of this Commission.

As to the document we are discussing now there is no need for me to state that the availability of fertilizer for developing countries is considered as one of the main means of helping developing countries solve their food crisis, and there is no need either for me to recall that the increase of fertilizer prices on the international market has led to small farmers being unable to acquire the necessary quantities of fertilizer. I believe that it is for that reason that FAO has studied this matter in cooperation of course with the producing countries, donor countries-which have given a positive answer to this FAO project.

As to the experience of the International Fertilizer Programme and the experience we have had with it, Jordan has already asked for assistance under that Programme in order to distribute such fertilizers to the small farmers. However, the Director-General did not attain the whole aim he required although he did everything he could to help my country in overcoming the difficulties we encountered, and this was due to the drought which hit my country. The Director-General was unable to provide this aid because the availability of fertilizers was nil and that is why we would like to have this project broadened so that other countries could also provide their support to this Scheme, so that the Director-General will be able to give assistance to countries that need aid.

M. KRIESBERG (United States of America): The United States Government wants to touch on only a few points because of the time constraints suggested by our Chairman. The United States recognizes the importance of fertilizers as part of the package of inputs to improve yields of food crops. The United States has, therefore, made substantial fertilizers contributions to the developing countries within the framework of our bilateral assistance programmes to their food and agricultural sectors. In recent years the United States has contributed some 20-30 percent of total world aid given to these countries in fertilizers. We are encouraged by the increasing usage of fertilizers by the MSA countries resulting in part at least from substantial improvements in multilateral and bilateral aid programmes. Much has been said thus far about rising fertilizer prices; we are aware of the relationship between the prices of oil-derived chemical feed stocks and the final price of manufactured fertilizers. Hence we believe, as suggested by the delegate from Switzerland that more might be done-that FAO might do more-to encourage organic fertilizer usage. FAO should encourage studies on ways in which optimum yields might be achieved through more careful application of available fertilizers and combinations of fertilizers-and particularly applying this kind of research to the farming practices of MSA countries.

While the United States recognizes the value of FAO's International Fertilizer Scheme we believe that FAO's resources and substantial expertise might be better directed towards helping MSA countries in improving their fertilizer distribution systems, perhaps linking that with technical assistance on fertilizer usage and applications. Also FAO might help further in improving fertilizer consumption statistics, particularly in MSA, countries and thereby improve economic planning and aid in this vital input.

M. S. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): I shall not repeat the arguments put forward by preceding speakers nor say how important fertilizers are for developing countries. However, I would like to state very briefly some home truths about the world situation in regard to fertilizers at the present time.

As you will know and as we can see from the document we are examining now, the targets of the development strategy for the Second Development Decade which provided for a 4 percent annual growth for developing countries, were not achieved and it is impossible to achieve them at this stage. Everything that was done until the end of 1978 achieved a 2.9 percent annual growth rate only and that is why this Conference should examine a new strategy for the Third Development Decade. We must go beyond the purely academic stage where speeches are made, and set up a strategy that should make it possible for us to implement the aims we have set ourselves.

As several delegates said, the demand for fertilizers has increased by more than 10 percent over the last 15 years in developing countries. It seems to me therefore that there is a need to have a new look at the fertilizer situation during the Third Development Decade. If we look at FAO's statistics on utilization of fertilizers-if we look beneath the surface-we find that this utilization is very slight when we compare it to the use of fertilizers in developed countries. This means that there is still an enormous capacity for absorption of fertilizers in developing countries which will make it possible to increase the yield. Of course we will have to take into account other production factors and other inputs.

The document we are discussing now, C 79/19 shows clearly that the increase of fertilizer prices was 10 percent in respect of phosphates and 20 percent in respect of potassium and the increase of these prices continued throughout 1979.

Now this, of course, is an additional burden on developing countries and, especially, on the Most Seriously Affected countries because this continuing increase in fertilizer prices and the increase in demand creates a problem and especially for the balance of payments of these countries.

And now, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that I would like this Conference to adopt a recommendation in order to launch an appeal to the financing institutions, such as the World Bank and various financing funds so that they might give priority to fertilizer production in developing countries. I think this would constitute a very efficient and positive participation and would help developing countries in solving the difficulties that face them. These financial institutions should give priority to these production projects and provide the funds required for this at easy conditions and at the same time one should encourage projects at regional level as recommended by the Ministers for agriculture of the Arab and Gulf countries-this Conference decided a joint project for producing fertilizers in countries of that region, thus we know that some countries that produce potassium, others produce nitrogen, and regional projects will indeed be most useful to all countries.

The second item which was mentioned in document C 79/2 is that the world food production during last year was 105 million tons whereas the commitments for assistance to developing countries reached only 569, 000 tons. In other words, half a percent of world production. Now basing oneself on those figures we can support the appeal put forward by the FAO Director-General so that international commitments should be increased, and we propose that this Conference adopt a resolution in order to ask fertilizer producing countries to have a participation of 2 percent, that is to say 2 million tons in favour of developing countries. We feel that this would be a positive contribution within the framework of defining a new strategy for the third development decade.

M. BOUZIANE (Algérie): L'Algérie intervient une fois de plus sur cette question des engrais. Le fait de lier l'évolution des coûts des engrais à celle des prix du pétrole est naturel en soi, mais le fait aussi de mettre en relief la relation énergie/engrais par rapport aux autres facteurs qui influent sur le coût retient l'attention. Aussi, considérons-nous qu'il faut donner à cette relation sa juste dimension. Cette évolution ne saurait occulter en aucune façon le vrai problème qu'est la détérioration des termes de l'échange. Aussi est-il souhaitable de moraliser l'information en vue de démythifier la situation. Dans cet ordre d'idées, nombreux sont les dossiers qui existent au niveau de différentes instances dans divers pays pour répondre clairement et objectivement à la question. Nous appuyons en cela l'intervention de la délégation de l'Angola.

H. RIEM (Netherlands): My government thinks that the option scheme mentioned in document C 79/19, developed by the Commission on Fertilizers, is a valuable instrument to alleviate the difficulties that developing countries might eventually experience in the case of serious crisis. More generally we think that the Commission on Fertilizers is doing very useful work and we are sure that the Commission will continue to do that in the future and to look into many of the questions that have been mentioned here by other delegations.

However, Mr. Chairman, my government does not consider that the present situation can really be called a new crisis and, for that reason, we do have some doubts whether we should share the concern of other countries and delegations here with regard to the low level of activity of the International Fertilizer Scheme. We think that with regard to the next few years, and development in world markets of fertilizers, account has to be taken of the increase in production in developing countries. In the meantime our government will continue to maintain bilaterally its fertilizer assistance to developing countries and we want here to thank FAO for its support of our operations.

Mrs. S. BENHUMAN (Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of) (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you Mr. Chairman, may I give the view of my delegation regarding the question of fertilizers. In spite of the increase in production and consumption of fertilizers in the developed countries we in Democratic Yemen find ourselves in a very delicate position like other countries in the region. Indeed we obtain very small quantities of fertilizer from the IFS-International Fertilizer Supply Scheme. But in spite of that the government buys fertilizer at very high cost and sells it to the farmers at very low cost because it is subsidized to the extent of 50 percent and that is why, especially since our country is going through a period of very serious drought, we feel it is very important to support what has just been said by the delegate of the Arab Republic of the Yemen in favour of these proposals so that the Commission can pass recommendations along those lines. We feel developing countries, particularly MSA countries, must receive assistance at least equal to 2 percent of the world fertilizer production and that this aid should be distributed on the basis of the area of the particular developing country.

CHAIRMAN: We have a problem here. Grenada needs to make intervention on the fertilizer issue. The present Chairman is the only member of that delegation so I am asking you to permit me to take off the Chairman's hat and put on the hat of the delegate of Grenada and make our intervention.

A. ANTOINE (Grenada): A while ago the Jamaican delegate-by the way I am now speaking as the Grenadian delegate-summarized for you the system of agriculture in Jamaica and Grenada and, indeed, in the Caribbean region. We endorse and we support moves to increase the use of fertilizers. We believe that one way of increasing the food supply is to increase the use of fertilizers. The Grenada delegation, however, wishes to make the point that we would like to see FAO put much more energy and much more

emphasis on the use and preparation of organic fertilizers in the system that we spoke about as existing in the Caribbean. We feel that in small-scale agriculture the use of composting, the use of mulching, the use of organic fertilizers generally will make an important and, in fact, a permanent impact on agricultural production in this region and in these systems. We believe that whereas the use of chemical fertilizers is critical, is vital, any method used by FAO to create a capacity on the part of the small farmer to make his own fertilizer-to make a part of the fertilizer he uses -will make a permanent, significant impact on food production. Indeed, we believe that generally in developing countries the small farmers can make a significant contribution in terms of creating, making their own fertilizer, and we are calling on FAO, in fact to put some emphasis on the manufacture of organic fertilizers, in particular on farms.

CHAIRMAN: Now speaking as Chairman there doesn't seem to be another speaker so I would hand over to Mr. Dudal so that he can make any additions or any comments.

R. DUDAL (Director, Land and Water Development Division): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman and I should first of all like to thank the Honourable Delegates for the very comprehensive review they have made to the major issue of the option system and International Fertilizer Supply Scheme and referring at the same time to the overall fertilizer activities which FAO is conducting with your cooperation.

If I may respond to the questions and comments which have been made and the four major items. First of all under the option system. We are grateful for the support which has been given to the Options System. I should like to stress that the Options Systems can now start operating immediately, because the target of 500,000 tonnes set by the Commission on Fertilizers has virtually been reached and committed. The moment when the Options System can get into operation will depend on the relationship between domestic prices of the producers which have committed themselves and the international market price. Information will be issued in the next few days on how the Options System can become operational and giving further information on how MSA countries can take advantage of it.

On the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme, I should like to echo the appeal of the Director-General, which has been confirmed by a number of delegations present, to replenish IFS resources. I should like to express concern at the suggestion that the IFS should be kept dormant because there are fertilizers available on the market. This is correct, but they are available at prices at which a number of MSA countries - and I stress, MSA countries-have great difficulties in purchasing.

At present the IFS no longer faces an emergency situation, as it did in 1974, but there is a very serious gap in currency available to MSA countries to buy an input which is essential for their agricultural production.

There is an alternative; import more food. I do not think that this is the most effective way of going about it, because of the sheer physical transport difficulties. If we note that a tonne of fertilizer may produce, under favourable conditions, 8 tonnes of cereals, it is obvious that importing fertilizers and using them efficiently is much more effective than importing food instead. That is why I would like to dispel, if I may, the idea that at present there is no need for the IFS: We feel there is a strong need for the IFS to assist MSA countries. One should not wait until prices are very high again, it will then be too late. We would like to advocate prevention, rather than cure when the patient is already starving. Thus the appeal made by the Director-General is most relevant in the present economic situation of MSA countries.

It was suggested that our resources, instead of being used in support of the IFS programme, could be better used for fertilizer-use promotion-which I think we do-use for improving infrastructure and distribution systems and for improving fertilizer statistics. I fully agree that these services should be strengthened but before we improve distribution systems there must be something to distribute; before we account and make statistics of fertilizer there must be some fertilizer to account for. I think we should not reverse the problem but probably address ourselves as to what comes first.

I would like to appeal to countries which have an important bilateral aid programme in fertilizers to share part of that bilateral aid through the multilateral IFS mechanism. We now have some five years' experience, we can reach recipient countries very quickly. Our mechanism is now in place and, if I may say so, seems to work very smoothly, so that needy countries can be reached in a very quick and rather effective way.

It has been pointed out that our IFS programme should preferably be linked with fertilizer-use promotion programmes. This is what we have been doing and this is now a general policy, that where IFS donations are provided they are linked to the extent possible with on-the-spot advice on fertilizer use promotion programmes, including credit, marketing, distribution, storage and pilot schemes.

We appeal to traditional donors, but we would also like to appeal to other donors. We were very encouraged by the statements made by the representatives of Italy and Spain, indicating that they have export facilities, and we would like to ask of them if they could consider joining the IFS, maybe initially on a token basis and as the programme develops further maybe on a more intensive basis.

The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany asked us for better information on our IFS programmes. We are entirely at his disposal. We have been in contact with the bilateral development aid agency and authorities of his Government and have provided indications on possibilities for aid in this field.

I should like to inform delegations that every year we have a consultation on the fertilizer programme, where recipient and donor governments meet to exchange ideas and try to meet offer and demand in terms of fertilizer aid. Next year, this consultation will take place in March and it is open to recipient countries and, of course, to any country which would be willing to contribute to the IFS scheme.

May I now refer, very briefly because it is a very complex issue, to the question of prices, which was mentioned by almost all delegations. We share their concern about increasing prices and have therefore put very great emphasis on both the Options Scheme and the IFS, which are means available to us to try to alleviate the price pressure on a very important input. We would suggest, however, that prices of fertilizers be considered in terms of the price of the output and not looked at in absolute terms but in relation to the commodities produced with those fertilizers. I would say that a measure for discussing prices would be rather the input/output ratio than the absolute figures. Indeed prices have increased over the last months and the last year, considerably, but when comparing them with the prices of certain commodities I believe the price increases have been within, I would not say acceptable limits, but at least within reasonable limits. We do not know how this will develop next year or in the months to come, and that is why we would like to be prepared through the IFA scheme.

With regard to subsidies for fertilizer purchase by small farmers, FAO has made a study on subsidies and would be able to provide advice on the levels of subsidies which seem to be required to secure an incentive to farmers and producers at both ends.

It has been suggested that we make a study of the various elements which determine the prices of fertilizers at present, with special reference to energy inputs. I am very pleased to inform delegations that a document on the subject was prepared for the Commission on Fertilizers which met in January this year. It is available, and we will make it available to the honourable delegates from Angola and Algeria who specifically referred to this matter. We would be pleased to discuss the matter with them.

When discussing fertilizer prices, one element we have to keep in mind is the incentive required to encourage the establishment of new capacity.

We have made projections, as delegates know, for increased fertilizer use by the end of this century. The increased demand will require increased capacity, and that increased capacity will require an incentive to producers. So we have a kind of dilemma of, on the one hand, keeping fertilizer prices low so that they are accessible to small farmers and, on the other hand, providing a sufficient incentive for the production of fertilizers. So there, in between, lies the intermediate, I would say.

With regard to prices, reference was also made to the production of fertilizers in the developing countries themselves. Delegates are probably aware that in the FAO/UNIDO/World Bank working group FAO, in cooperation with UNCTAD, the United Nations and the UNDP, has carried out a number of studies over the last two years-in Latin America, the Near East, the Far East and Africa-on the possibilities of locating and establishing national and regional fertilizer production plants. Those studies are being brought to the attention of financing agencies, especially the World Bank which is encouraging investment in fertilizer production in developing countries. We are fully aware of this requirement and are addressing ourselves to it with the means available to us.

May I now refer to the last general topic, which is the effectiveness of fertilizers. The question was raised, how much fertilizers are being used for food crops on the one hand and for export crops on the other? This is of course the prerogative of Governments themselves. The way that fertilizers are used is of course entirely in the hands of national decision-makers. We have raised this question ourselves, because on a worldwide basis we have no precise figures of how much fertilizer is being used actually for food production. We have average figures per hectare and per country, but in only a few places do we have exact information about the proportion of fertilizer used for food. We shall be addressing ourselves to this question in our forthcoming Fertilizer Industry Advisory Committee session next March, where a number of studies will be presented on how much fertilizer is actually being used for food production.

Two delegations suggested that we make available to them experience in using fertilizer at small-farmer level, especially in small hill farms. We will of course make this experience available, but I should like to add that if so requested we could attempt to find extra-budgetary resources through donor governments for establishing a fertilizer programme in their country. The fertilizer programme, to which reference was made several times and which is directly addressed to small farmers in their own fields.

A last question, in terms of effectiveness of fertilizers, is the recycling of organic matter. I am pleased to inform delegates that we are launching a special programme in the Far East with the support of the UNDP to promote biological nitrogenous fixation, bio-gas production and the recycling of organic matter. We hope we will be able to do the same in other continents.

We have just concluded a meeting held, through the kind hospitality of the Government of India, at the end of last year, about the interaction between mineral fertilizers and organic matter to combine and reach the most effective use of both. We have published a bulletin on the experience which we gained through the study done in the People's Republic of China on organic material recycling and it is available in three languages. That means that we do attach importance to this issue. However, we feel very strongly that organic recycling can in most instances not entirely replace, and I would say in many places not even replace to a 20-30 percent share, the use of mineral fertilizers. I refer especially to tropical and sub-tropical areas, where, as you know, there is a problem with soil constraints. There are soils in the tropics which do not contain any considerable amount of Phosphorous and Potassium which as a result cannot be recycled-if we recycle zero and we end up with zero. We must keep this in mind, that experience gained, especially in temperate areas, can be only partially applied in the specific environment of the tropics. Taking this into account, I would like to assure you, Chairman, that we are giving our full attention to this very important problem which is at the same time related to making the most effective use of available energy, both renewable and nonrenewable.

At the last point know, which was touched upon, was the policy and strategy for the next development decade. I think this matter was brought up by both the Yemen Arab Republic and the Democratic Republic of Yemen, indicating that the time may now have come to give more thought to what will be the strategy for the fertilizer use in the next decade. We are very grateful for this suggestion, and will certainly follow it up.

We have dilemmas before us: on one side the requirement for food, on the other side the costs of inputs. We should like to bring it to the attention of the forthcoming Commission on Fertilizers.

If I may say so, the last 20 years of FAO's involvement in fertilizer use promotion have been of great encouragement to us. We take a certain pride-and I think this has been acknowledged here-that we have reached probably thirty to forty million small farmers during this period. We take pride in the fact that our programme may be one of the few which have a standing order for bicycles for extension agents, to try to reach the farmers in their own fields, because this is not possible with cars and tractors. Transporting fertilizers on the head or shoulders is a very painful exercise. It is not effective, in spite of scientific recommendations and in spite of fertilizer subsidies. We have found that a bicycle makes it possible to reach the farmers from the extension side, and also makes it possible for the farmers to do ten miles rather than two to get his fertilizer to the village. We could call it "appropriate technology", but we do take pride that we are operating this programme at the farmer's level as you so often have recommended.

My colleagues are available: Mr. Mathieu, Chief of Fertilizer and Plant Nutrition Services, and Mr. Couston, Secretary of the Commission on Fertilizers, and Dr. Bommer, of course, who holds the overall umbrella, for overall activities in the various divisions. We are at your disposal for any further information which you may require-we are all here, in our offices, at any time during the period of this Conference.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Dudal, for your very effective and efficient summary of information and comment on this very important piece of work.

We have come almost to the end of this discussion. I would like to thank all those who have participated in the discussions in a very short time frame. They have given us a most effective discussion of the issues raised in the documentation as well as providing the FAO System with ideas. It was a good job, well done in record time. The meeting is now over.

The meeting rose at 12. 20 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 20.

Se levanta la sesión a las 12. 20 horas.

conference

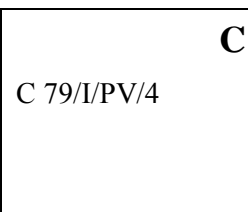
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

FOURTH MEETING
QUATRIEME SEANCE
CUARTA SESION

(16 November 1979)

The Fourth Meeting was opened at 14. 55 hours

S. Padmanagara, Vice Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 14h 55, sous la présidence
de S. Padmanagara, Vice-Président de la Commission I

Se abre la cuarta sesión a las 14. 55 horas, bajo la presidencia
de S. Padmanagara, Vicepresidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN
MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y
LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)
- 6. World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)
- 6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)
- 6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)
- 6. 2. Fertilizers-Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers
(continued)
- 6. 2. Engrais-Mesures découlant de la cinquième session de la Commission des engrais (suite)
- 6. 2. Fertilizantes-Medidas dimanantes de la quinta reunion de la Comisión de Fertilizantes
(continuación)

CHAIRMAN: Before we go into our agenda item 6. 3. I have a small point relating to agenda item 6. 1 that is the State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems. A statement by the Observer from the International Federation of Agricultural Producers has also been included. Furthermore, statements by delegations of Israel and the Phillipines on agenda item 6. 2 Fertilizers - Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers, - will also be marked in the record. Secondly, we have our Rapporteur here, that is Mr. Horatio Mends, and he has some more information for us from the Plenary.

H. MENDS (Rapporteur from Plenary to Commission I): I can assure you that the general trend of discussions in the Plenary has not changed much from what I reported yesterday. However, 22 more Heads of Delegations contributed to the general debate in the Plenary yesterday and 11 this morning, thus bringing the total of speakers to 64 at the close of this morning's session.

Heads of Delegations continue to decry the unsatisfactory food conditions, poverty, disease, malnutrition, for millions of the world's population. They have emphasized that the food problem was the responsibility of all and must therefore be the concern of all for priority solutions in this Conference. However, individual developing countries have also been urged to develop strategies and programmes to encourage farmers to increase food production.

FAO's assessment of the global food situation and its recommendations for improvements continue to receive total support from the delegations as the only realistic solution to eliminate hunger.

Some suggestions relevant to the issues that have emerged from the debates for your consideration are: that increasing energy costs make agricultural research imperative, for example, coversion of solar energy for farming purposes and that every effort should be made to increase the research capacities of the developing countries in these areas.

The highly reduced level of financial contributions by the UNDP has been noted with great concern. The Director-General should therefore be empowered by the Conference to approach the UNDP and other financial institutions to make extra efforts to increase their share of funding for agricultural production purposes, in the developing countries particularly.

Inflation and dwindling foreign exchange resources make it difficult for developing countries to procure their annual fertilizer requirements, therefore developed countries must continue to contribute to the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme and increase fertilizer aid under the bilateral arrangements.

FAO must continue its efforts with other agencies to find new approaches for developing forestry, particularly in the production of wood for timber and as a source of energy.

FAO should also carry out further studies on the Forestry For Community Development and recommend specific regional programmes and intensify its training activities in the forestry sector of the developing countries.

Since technical cooperation is one of the important elements in the process of sharing and transfer of appropriate technology, all speakers from the developed countries pledged their support for the recommendations for TCDC and ECDC and also their willingness to offer training facilities in their

countries to ensure availability of trained manpower in the developing countries. They are also willing to cooperate in research relevant to the needs of the developing countries and are willing to share their expertise at all levels with them.

I shall be reporting again when you move on to the next subject.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Quisiéramos expresar nuestra satisfacción por la manera tan adecuada y eficaz cómo nuestro distinguido colega y amigo Sr. Mends está transmitiendo a esta Comisión I los elementos sobresalientes del debate general que se celebra en la sesión plenaria. El relator escogido por nosotros ha respondido en muy buena forma a la confianza que depositamos en él.

Ya que estamos en el uso de la palabra deseáramos aprovechar esta oportunidad, con su venia y la de los delegados de esta Comisión, para informar que a fin de cumplir con el requisito del anuncio de veinticuatro horas previas para la consideración de los proyectos de Resoluciones, la delegación de Colombia, junto con las de Uruguay, Zaire, India y Yugoslavia, por el momento, hemos suscripto un proyecto de Resolución sobre seguridad alimentaria mundial, tema 7, que será considerado próximamente en esta Comisión. En este proyecto de Resolución se trata esencialmente sobre la manera de cómo implementar el Plan de Acción de Cinco Puntos presentado por el Director General de la FAO para tratar de asegurar la seguridad alimentaria mundial. Cumplimos con este anuncio y, como es natural, este proyecto de Resolución seguirá su curso normal, se someterá al Comité de Resoluciones, y oportunamente se presentará a esta Comisión.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): I apologise for taking you back a little but what I have to say is in connection with action arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers. The Commission met earlier this year in January and it was decided that it would meet some time in 1980. Now, as we are aware, the prices of fertilizers have shown an upward trend and this has become a matter of concern to a number of developing countries. We are therefore of the view that the Sixth Session of the Commission, which could meet any time in 1980-it could meet in January or December 1980-if it met in December 1980 it would be meeting after approximately two years, while the situation on fertilizers is developing very rapidly we would like to propose that the Commission should meet in the earlier part of 1980 rather than the latter part of 1980. I do not want to give any specific dates when we would like the Commission to meet but we would like it to meet at least in the first half of 1980 so that it can review and monitor the situation arising out of the recent increase in prices of fertilizers. This, needless for me to say, is a matter of great concern to those countries who rely on imports of fertilizers. Once again I apologise for taking up your time but I think this is an omission that should be rectified.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia desea apoyar la propuesta que acaba de hacer nuestro colega y amigo de Pakistán. El Relator de la Plenaria a la Comisión I podrá confirmar aquí la forma reiterada cómo los Jefes de delegaciones se han referido a la situación de los fertilizantes y, sobre todo, al aumento de los precios.

Consideramos que es adecuado que la Comisión de Fertilizantes celebre su sexto período de sesiones en la primera mitad de 1980.

A. J. PECKAM (United Kingdom): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman, like Mr. Masud of Pakistan I was unable to be present this morning when you took this particular item, and since I am also at the moment the Chairman of the Fertilizer Commission I am also grateful for your indulgence and support what Mr. Masud has said. I don't know that I entirely agree with some of the report, particularly the word "alarm" which is expressed about fertilizer prices. Nevertheless the fact remains that if one looks at nitrogen alone there has been a price increase over the last six months of something in the order of 20 percent-a price increase which is bound to concern particularly the developing countries which are poorest. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I think it is a situation which should be watched with the utmost care and I am happy to inform this Commission that with my colleagues, which include Mr. Masud, the consultative working group on fertilizers met earlier this month and came to certain conclusions.

Now I don't need to go into detail, Mr. Chairman, although there is very much I could say. But this particular question of when the Fertilizer Commission should meet the view of the consultative group was that a recommendation should be made to the Director-General that there should be an early meeting of the Fertilizer Commission and that it should meet with a view to undertaking a detailed scrutiny and review of the fertilizer supply. I should very much like to put that on record. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): I have heard the proposal given by the distinguished delegate of Pakistan and from what we heard in the morning you will recollect that we have repeatedly insisted on the issue of the uncontrollable price of fertilizers which should be monitored, and in view of this I strongly support the suggestion of Mr. Masud for an early session of the Commission on Fertilizers sometime in the early part of next year.

H. BAR-SHAI (Israel): Fertilizers are important for the production of food and human nutrition. Prices of fertilizers have risen considerably, and there is not yet a serious substitute for existing fertilizers. It could have been very useful, especially for developing nations, if fuel-oil and fertilizer producing nations cooperate in making fertilizers cheaper for those who need it through cheaper oil.

Being a semi-arid country we know that suitable fertilizing with a proper water policy, can correct much of what nature has deprived. Fertilizers should be utilized rationally, and compounds can be suited to different soils, sizes of farms, crops etc. , in order to be effective and inexpensive. For this purpose it is important that developing countries share their know-how and experience with one another. Israel is, of course, ready to share her wide experience in this field for the benefit of interested countries and thus contribute to the progress of developing nations 1/.

I. A. RONQUILLO (Philippines): The FAO Fertilizer Programme had laid out: a. a total of 8, 470 fertilizer and related input test sites in 13 countries; and b. 200 training courses on the use of fertilizer and related inputs with a total attendance of 10, 500 national staff members.

The International Fertilizer Supply Scheme (IFS) in the 1978/79 fertilizer year has distributed 44, 000 metric tons to 22 countries and an additional 3 assistance operations with a supply of 20, 000 metric tons as compared to the 1977/78 supply of 15, 000 metric tons in 14 fertilizer assistance operations in 14 countries.

The Fertilizer Programme, integrated with the IFS and other input oriented programmes such as the Seed Improvement and Development Programme (SIDP) is expected to provide a close linking of fertilizer aid with technical assistance to help alleviate the condition of rural areas in the Least Developed Countries (LDC's).

The Fertilizer Programme's impact is not restricted to farming and crop production alone but also to ensure correct use, and timely availability of inputs for the farmers said programme was assured of financial assistance from World Bank and IFAD.

In the Philippines, the FAO Fertilizer Programme at present involved 15 provinces, in which 1, 652 fertilizer demonstration trials had been laid down in 1978 on rice in farmers' fields and, in 2 provinces, 28 fertilizer demonstration trials on flue-cured tobacco.

The fertilizer pilot credit scheme had been operational in 4 provinces with a revolving fund of more than US \$280, 000. The accumulated interest generated from the operation of the pilot scheme was used to support group training courses and study tours within the country, to defray expenses for farmers' field days, purchase of fertilizer kits and for other purposes that would promote improvement of rational use, marketing and distribution of fertilizer.

Seminar-workshops on Fertilizer Use and Extension Service for the technicians directly working under the programme were conducted in 1978 to broaden and enhance their knowledge and outlook.

The Philippine Fertilizer Programme, which would terminate in 1979, had also supported training courses, seminars and study tours by some personnel to the Netherlands, Rome, Japan, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

The transfer of the computer software for the Fertilizer Programme in the Philippines from FAO Headquarters in Rome had been initiated. The computer software had facilitated the computerization of field demonstration trial results.

1/Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

Recently, the Philippine Government created the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority, which periodically reviewed the ex-warehouse fertilizer price ceilings and recommended to the President/Prime Minister the necessary price changes ^{1/}.

CHAIRMAN: We now take up the agenda item 6.3 Forestry-the "Jakarta Declaration" which was issued by the Eighth World Conference in October 1978-the relevant document whole afternoon and before I open the floor to the delegations Dr. Flores-Rodas will give his opening remarks in this agenda item.

6.3. Forestry-the "Jakarta Declaration" (8th World Forestry Congress, October 1978)

6.3. Foresterie-la "Déclaration de Djakarta" (Huitième Congrès forestier mondial, octobre 1978)

6.3. Montes-la "Declaración de Yakarta" (Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial, octubre 1978)

M. A. FLORES-RODAS (Subdirector General, Departamento de Montes): El Consejo de la FAO durante su septuagésimo cuarto período de sesiones consideró que la Declaración de Yakarta trata de una manera nueva varios asuntos que interesan directamente a todas las autoridades que se ocupan del desarrollo rural. Por tal motivo, el Consejo decidió remitir dicha Declaración a la Conferencia. Es la primera vez que el Consejo determina que una declaración adoptada por un congreso forestal mundial merece que sea presentada a la Conferencia porque el alcance de tal declaración coincide muy de cerca con el desarrollo rural integrado en general.

En el documento C 79/22 que estamos considerando, se resumen los conceptos principales de la Declaración de Yakarta, cuyo texto completo figura en el anexo al documento.

Deseo recordar aquí que los congresos forestales mundiales son reuniones abiertas a la participación tanto de representantes de gobiernos, como de profesionales independientes procedentes de todas las gamas de disciplinas, que tienen que ver con los montes y con la industria forestal en los ámbitos público y privado.

En el Congreso de Yakarta tomaron parte unos 2 000 participantes de más de cien países.

En esta oportunidad quiero dar, una vez más, las gracias al Gobierno de Indonesia en nombre del Director General por haber organizado impecablemente una reunión de tanta importancia y magnitud.

Señor Presidente, me voy a permitir citar algunos hechos que ilustran la Declaración de Yakarta para las políticas y los programas de la FAO. En primer lugar, ciertos pasajes de la Declaración apoyan las actividades actuales de la FAO en el sector forestal, mientras que otros contienen ideas y conceptos útiles para el futuro. En segundo lugar, durante el año transcurrido desde el octavo Congreso Mundial numerosos países han organizado reuniones internacionales de alto nivel para examinar la repercusión de la Declaración sobre las políticas y programas de desarrollo. En tercer lugar, las nuevas orientaciones de la Declaración que proponen en materia forestal coinciden con las que dimanaron de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

El programa de Acción aprobado por dicha Conferencia Mundial subraya la importancia de los bosques como recursos naturales, fuentes de empleo, base de industrialización rural, factores de protección ecológica y reserva de combustible, forraje y materias para la población campesina.

La Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural señala la necesidad de manejar los bosques teniendo en cuenta las necesidades de las comunidades locales e invita a los gobiernos a promover actividades forestales con la participación de la población rural a fin de satisfacer las necesidades de dicha población.

El que un congreso como el de Yakarta haya dado tan extraordinario peso en sus debates y en su Declaración Final a los aspectos forestales del desarrollo rural es cosa sin precedentes y altamente significativa, pero son más significativos aún los hechos que acabo de enumerar, el interés que muchos países están concediendo a la Declaración de Yakarta, la armonía de dicha Declaración con los principios de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural y la convergencia de las aspiraciones manifestadas en la Declaración con las recientes innovaciones en los programas de nuestra Organización en materia forestal, programas cada vez más orientados a contribuir al desarrollo rural según lo dispuesto por la Conferencia de la FAO.

^{1/}. Text inserted in the verbatim records on request.

Pero todo esto no es una coincidencia ; todo esto se debe a que las numerosas recomendaciones contenidas en la Declaración de Yakarta se resumen en un solo mensaje, el mismo mensaje que emana de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural y de la propia Conferencia de la FAO; la necesidad de mejorar la vida rural haciendo uso de todos los recursos naturales disponibles y movilizandolos todos los recursos humanos con espíritu de justicia y solidaridad. Esto quiero decir que todos nosotros, desde el campesino al hombre político, y desde el forestal al agronomo, al industrial y al planificador hemos de trabajar juntos para racionalizar el uso de los recursos forestales y para aplicar sistemas de manejo que sirvan mejor a los intereses de la población rural; esa población que hasta ahora pocas veces ha podido participar plenamente en los beneficios del desarrollo forestal.

Si se quiere que esto ocurra, será necesario, en muchos países, hacer importantes cambios. En primer lugar, habrá que tener voluntad política y habrá que transformar actitudes y conceptos.

El desarrollo forestal no habrá de basarse solamente en consideraciones ecológicas y económicas, sino también en consideraciones sociales. El uso agro-silvo-pastoral integrado de la tierra deberá terminar en muchas zonas con la vieja pugna entre los usos agrícolas, ganaderos y forestales, ya que la industria forestal deberá dar paso a la industria forestal rural o ir de la mano con ella. En breve las plantaciones de árboles forestales, las intervenciones en el ecosistema forestal y los beneficios que de él se deriven deberán buscarse teniendo muy en cuenta la participación de los campesinos y el impacto sobre la vida rural.

Tales cambios en los conceptos y enfoques en que se basan la gestión forestal tendrán sin duda fuerte repercusión en las políticas y programas forestales a nivel nacional e internacional. Ya dije que la FAO se ha anticipado a las orientaciones de la Declaración de Yakarta, algunos de nuestros programas en curso como el de la contribución forestal al desarrollo comunitario y el de pequeñas industrias forestales así lo demuestran. En su Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1980/81, el Señor Director General propone el nuevo programa 2. 3. 4 "La siveicultura al servicio del desarrollo rural" que supone una continuación y puesta al día del trabajo de la FAO en este campo.

La Declaración de Yakarta, sin dirigir recomendaciones algunas específicamente a la FAO, contiene a mi juicio numerosas ideas dignas de tenerse en cuenta al determinar el futuro papel de la Organización en el desarrollo de los recursos forestales del mundo. He aquí muy brevemente algunas de estas ideas. Parece cierto, por ejemplo, que los recursos forestales tendrán que contribuir mucho más que hasta ahora a la producción de alimentos y de energía, de ahí el mayor peso que ya estamos dando en los programas de FAO al desarrollo de sistemas agro-silvi-pastorales y a la producción y buen uso de la leña y del carbón vegetal.

Recientes adelantos tecnológicos en la química de la lignina que permiten hacer digestibles las fibras leñosas, tal vez nos permitirán avanzar en el uso de la madera para alimentar al ganado. Puede llegar pronto el momento en que se pueda utilizar la biomasa forestal para producir carne, cosa que tendría profunda repercusión tanto en la mejora de los niveles de alimentación como en los métodos de manejo y ordenación forestales.

Al margen de estas perspectivas, más o menos lejanas, recordemos que hoy día la leña sigue siendo la principal fuente de energía para la mitad más pobre de la humanidad.

Recordemos, además que está aumentando el uso del material leñoso para producir energía industrial y que últimamente también los grupos sociales que gozan de altos ingresos tienden a usar más leña y más carbón vegetal.

En vista de estas tendencias son ya muchas las administraciones forestales nacionales que dedican, o vuelven a dedicar, gran atención a la producción y aprovisionamiento de leña para energía, cosa que no era fácilmente previsible sólo hace algunos años.

Señor Presidente, me he permitido hacer estos breves comentarios para mostrar como la Declaración de Yakarta al señalar todas estas cosas arroja una luz nueva, un luz más humana y menos tecnocrática sobre los problemas del sector forestal.

También he tratado de mostrar que la FAO no es insensible ni ajena a la nueva percepción de esos problemas ni tampoco tardía o tímida a la hora de buscar y proponer soluciones. Por eso creo que la FAO como siempre podrá seguir apoyando en el futuro a los países Miembros con humildad pero con confianza en el esfuerzo de conservar y desarrollar los recursos forestales poniéndolos cada vez al servicio de la población rural pobre, la mejora de cuyas condiciones constituye el desafío principal que hemos de afrontar.

CHAIRMAN: We have all heard the introduction to this agenda item. Forestry and foresters are very important for our survival in this world and we are very happy to note a new force in forestry and also a new spirit among foresters. This item canes under the World Food and Agriculture Situation and the subject of forestry is included here since it is linked with food production, with employment for the rural population and with integrated rural development. I invite delegates to express their views and make proposals for action as a follow-up to the Jakarta Declaration.

I should like to call first on the delegate of Indonesia, with the concurrence of the Commission, since Indonesia was the host to the 8th World Forestry Congress.

S. HABBJO PRAKDSO (Indonesia): The Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia had the privilège of hosting the 8th World Forestry Congress which took place in Jakarta from 16 to 28 October 1978. This was the largest world congress on forestry ever held to date. It was indeed a big event, not only because a great number of foresters and professionals in fields related to forestry, from all parts of the world, were assembled there but, above all, because this august gathering constituted a world brains trust in forestry. The latest advancements in forestry sciences, as well as valuable experiences of forestry practices all over the world, were pooled to be used as a basis for its deliberations on the extraordinary theme "Forests for People".

It was not only a global stocktaking and a reappraisal of the role which forests, forestry and foresters have so far played, but also an international pledge of a new dimension in forestry as an integrated part of man's overall endeavour to develop fully his potentials in the struggle to satisfy his desires and realize his ideals.

Forestry has arrived at a juncture at a time when human society has been split into two camps, not so much in the sense characterized by Rudyard Kipling in his famous poem, "East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet", nor into two camps confronting each other in the frustrating dialogue between North and South, but into two camps the demarcation of which over-crosses East and West boundaries as well as North and South dividing lines, since they are found within national jurisdictions-namely, the affluent and the underprivileged groups, the urban rich and the rural poor.

Overviewing the situation of the forest wealth in developing countries in humid tropical regions, we observe that these forest resources have become a double prey of the growing demand for timber by the affluent society within as well as outside the concerned countries on the one hand, and of the expanding needs of the mushrooming rural millions for more land on the other.

Foresters as well as scientists and professionals who deal with forest resources are fully aware of this serious situation. They also know that if shifting cultivators learn how to cultivate the soil more intensively and grow their food crop more rationally, or if they can find an alternative living which is better than to continue practising shifting cultivation, they would abandon their slash and burn habit.

But foresters generally considered that the changing of this traditional life pattern did not belong to their responsibilities. According to them other government services or non-governmental agencies are responsible for that.

However, they overlooked the fact that these shifting cultivators live in the remote backyards of the country beyond the reach of extension and other servicing agencies. It is exactly for this reason that they remain backward and bypassed by the national development activities. They overlooked the fact that forests are the only neighbours of shifting cultivators, and that foresters working in these forests are the only link between these poor farmers and their Government.

They overlooked the fact that these shifting cultivators find that the only way out for their survival is the forest land which is capable of prolonging their life as it can produce food, and lies just next door.

However, foresters gradually and fortunately realized that they could not remain indifferent towards this situation.

In this very connection the Eighth World Forestry Congress became the culminating point of this deepening awareness, of this general rediscovery. It was an inspiring rediscovery that forest lands can produce not only timber, but also food for immediate consumption by the rural poor who live in their vicinity; that if intensively managed and comprehensively utilized, forest can provide not only employment to millions of rural people, but also materials needed by rural people, particularly for fuel and shelter: in other words, that forests can become an asset for rural development; that forests if properly conserved and rationally managed constitute a regulator of the water flow of wells and rivers indispensable for productive agriculture, promote a healthy environment for man's life and recreation; that the humid tropical jungles embody valuable genetic resources, flora as well as fauna, only a very small number of which has up till now been utilized for the benefit of mankind.

These things became the central points of discussion by the Congress. Hence the main theme "Forests for People" has been broken down into the following sub-themes: Forestry for Food; Forestry for Rural Community Development; Forestry for Employment Promotion; Forestry for Industrial Development; and Forestry for Quality of Life. All these foci had one and the same target, that is the well being of man wherever he lives but particularly those who thus far have been overlooked in our feverish drive for development, the rural poor, the closest neighbours of the forests.

More important than its size, the Eighth World Forestry Congress will always be remembered as having deepened the consciousness of the international society, that the ultimate objective of all development efforts is not physical or material, but human. This is the basic motivation for the selection of the Congress' theme: "Forests for People."

This Forestry Congress had the courage, as expressed by our Minister of Agriculture in his general statement as leader of the Indonesian Delegation, to break away from traditional approaches which separated foresters from rural people and forestry from rural development. Forests wherever they are located and whoever owns, manages or utilizes them, are a trust to be used to meet the needs of the underprivileged majority, and not merely to satisfy the desires of the few who are economically strong.

One may argue that the idea "Forests for People" is an old one. This might be true. But certainly it is a new concept, a new departure, a new approach, a new sense of values.

This means a new orientation of forest policies and a review of existing management systems of tropical forests which should be adjusted to physical, economic and social conditions of local rural communities, which vary from region to region, even within individual countries.

It also entails not only a new approach to forest land use, but also a reorientation of national land use policies, which finally should lead to a new international land - use order as forests wherever they are located are significant shareholders in the land and water household of the earth.

This also means that the day is over when socio-economic sectors and sub-sectors can remain straitjacketed into their monopolistic disciplines.

This boils down to multi disciplinary approaches and multi-purpose forest management systems.

This consequently means that within the FAO Secretariat as well as within government administrations, the compartments within the Forestry Department and the walls between departments and ministries should function as connecting links that knit them together rather than remain as demarcation lines.

We are very pleased that the Director-General in his general statement emphasized that "Forestry for the People" is one of FAO's high priorities for the future as forestry was recognized as an important aspect of rural development. In delegation fully supports this.

It is also gratifying to note the Forestry Department of FAO under the able leadership of Dr. Flores Rodas has already initiated steps in the right directions.

We are also glad that other international organizations are giving financial and technical support in this venture.

The Indonesian Delegation strongly feels that FAO, particularly its Forestry Department, should assume the stewardship in this regard and should translate the Jakarta Declaration into action programmes, and should also mobilize resources in order to assist member nations in the realization of this Declaration.

Unless rural people experience themselves that forests, through appropriate and purposeful management, benefit them in a tangible and direct way, and felt by them as an indispensable asset for the welfare of their community, -in addition to meeting national as well as international interests-the poor farmers will continue destroying the remaining forests of the tropical world with a speed of more than 15 million hectares per year in their desperate search for food, fuel and shelter.

Only then, the destroyer of forests, the shifting cultivator, the small farmer who has finally become the victim of his own action, could well be the recreator of the devastated forests.

Only then the new concept "Forests for People" will inseparably be united with its counterpart: "People for Forests".

CHAIRMAN: Before I give the floor to the next speaker I would like to inform you that we already have 23 speakers on the list and, as is traditional with Chairmen I am afraid I must ask you to be brief, bearing in mind the short time that we have for this item. The delegation of Israel has asked for their statement to be marked on the record.

S. A. ANGOT (Guyana); She Guyana Delegation supports the "Jakarta Declaration".

I was a participant at the 8th World Forestry Congress in Jakarta in 1978, and was impressed with the discussions and Declaration on Forests for People, which was the theme of the Congress.

In the opinion of the professional foresters attending the Congress, agroforestry would contribute in a great measure to the production of food-a situation seldom envisaged when the problem of food shortages is considered.

For a long time the general impression has been that forests were there to provide timber and lumber for construction works, building and fuel; and food production was never associated with forests. The Jakarta Congress provided an impressive Declaration on projects which have been overlooked for years by many governments. Now we have world food shortages and hungry and starving millions, agroforestry should be a high priority for food production in rural areas, especially in countries which are heavily forested.

Great emphasis was laid at the Jakarta Congress on the need to use forests for the production of food. Declarations 5 to 7 have a direct bearing on the work of FAO. I think it is proper that this twentieth FAD Conference should draw attention to this source of food for people.

My Delegation recommends that in the report of these proceedings a strong recommendation should be made to Member Nations to introduce agroforestry projects in their countries, especially in rural areas. This, in our view, should reinforce the Declaration of the Jakarta Congress.

Taher NEZAMI (Iran): Comme c'est la première fois que notre délégation prend la parole au sein de cette Commission, je tiens tout d'abord, Monsieur le Président, à vous féliciter ainsi que les Vice-Présidents, pour votre élection à la tête de cette Commission.

En ce qui concerne la déclaration du Huitième Congrès forestier mondial de Djakarta, je dois porter à votre connaissance que, malgré les différentes difficultés et les mauvaises démarches du régime pourri renversé, au cours de ces dernières années les forestiers consciencieux, professionnels et patriotes de mon pays, ont pu réaliser des travaux assez considérables dans le domaine forestier et en particulier en ce qui concerne la reforestation et l'aménagement des bassins versants. En outre, sur le plan technique, nous avons pu aider certains pays voisins qui ont les mêmes problèmes.

Au nom du gouvernement révolutionnaire de la République islamique de l'Iran, je vous assure que mon pays appuie fortement la politique et les mesures qui vont être proposées par la FAO pour la sauvegarde, la bonne exploitation et l'extension des forêts et tout ce qui les concerne.

John T. WOODS (Liberia): This is the first time that I have personally spoken in this Commission, and I would therefore like to congratulate you on your election to Chairman.

On the issue to be discussed, I have a few comments on the principles of the Jakarta Declaration. My Government gives very high credibility and acceptability to the Jakarta Declaration, and extends its gratitude and congratulations to the staff of the Eight World Forestry Congress and to the Government and people of Indonesia for the preparation of this Congress.

We therefore allude to the principles of the Declaration and we are dedicated to implementing them to the utmost of our ability.

The topic of the Congress was Forestry for the People. Those of us who attended the Eight World Forestry Congress in Indonesia know the sentiments which surrounded the discussion there. The need to bring forestry to the people was not only felt to be long overdue but also to be of high priority in the immediate future.

One group of people—women—was felt to have been left out in the preference for employment in the past and should be given due attention and higher priority in the future. We in Liberia are pursuing a serious course in this direction. More than 100 women are employed in re-forestation nursery activities. For the first time the University of Liberia has enrolled two women in the forestry programme for the past academic year. These are big steps in the right direction and require FAO's support and encouragement. From the policy point of view, we feel that the involvement of women in forestry should have been considered in this biennium. If I were asked what could be done specifically, I would simply say that there should be another seminar for women nursery workers.

Paragraphs 14, 15 and 25 of the Declaration address themselves to the rural development aspect of forestry. We are in full agreement with this aspect and wish to mention the efforts we are applying in this direction in Liberia. Rural development has taken dramatic root in the minds of politicians in my country and so the will is assumed to be there. This is important because we only need to seek the means now. The policy of the Government is to decentralize its administrative functions and allow the people to have a greater say in what affects them. The planning process is also going to be decentralized so that the rural people can participate in and decide on programmes to improve their lives.

In forestry we are already way ahead. Our forestry administrative functions are, by and large, decentralized because of their nature. The forest is with the people, and the rural people particularly live in and near the forest. The problem is how to increase their role, or the role of the rural community, in the maintenance, and not necessarily in the establishment of the forest charcoal. In this connection small-scale wood based industries, such as wood carving which are prevalent, need to be improved. Village saw mills and wood lot operations are now placed on the drawing board for our rural development strategy. We are now involved in two trial plantations for a variety of pine species to provide raw materials for pulp and paper. All this should supplement and not displace the efforts to improve chemical pulping to allow maximum utilization of little known species which we have in great abundance. All these processes are a step in the right direction in creating employment and increasing the purchasing power of rural people. This is rural development.

Paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 of the Declaration draw specific attention to the need for fuel wood in developing countries. It is true that most of the people depend on fuel wood and charcoal as a source of energy, especially for the preparation of their food. So that the security of the food supply is meaningless without the means or technology to prepare the food. Accordingly I find that the action programme proposed for 1980-81 concentrates only on the rural poor. I think this is a mistake. Urban dwellers of necessity have to be seriously considered when we consider that the costs of other forms of energy, such as thermo-electricity, kerosene and butane gas are becoming relatively more expensive as compared with fuel wood. In my country there has been a dramatic shift in demand from these types of energy to charcoal and fuel wood without the requisite shifts in supply to cope with the demand. Therefore fuel wood and charcoal as an alternative source of energy are no more a matter of rural development but a national concern. FAO, IBRD and all concerned should look at this situation very seriously. It should be considered even beyond the intention of the Jakarta Declaration. I think this should be an important policy.

We in Liberia have seen the signal and the Forestry Development Authority is taking an active role in research on the cheapest method of producing charcoal. We need FAO's assistance and support in this endeavour so as to speed up our efforts and deliver results to the population immediately.

Paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of the Declaration deal with wildlife conservation. It may sound strange to most of you that over 80 percent of our population depend on bush meat as a main source of protein diet. Fish, as a substitute, is not very expensive but its distribution is costly. To secure and

maintain this important source of food, especially for the rural poor, we need to pay serious attention to our wildlife conservation programme. First of all, there is a need to protect the wildlife stock and allow for an optimum utilization pattern which will balance the rate of depletion with the rate of replenishment so that the supply is always secured and continuous. The other aspect is to develop agro-silvo-pastoral programmes. Both of these avenues are being explored in Liberia. The Forestry Development Authority has sought strong Government support in devising regulations for the control of hunting and the protection of the valuable wildlife species. The re-afforestation projects involving our trial plantations are also studying the possibility of grazing animals in these plantations. Again, we will require the input of FAO in these efforts.

As a matter of policy, my delegation considers that the action programme proposed for the promotion of lesser-known species is inadequate. Therefore we propose that a special advertising fund be allocated for the promotion of these species on behalf of all timber produced in developed countries to be sold in our countries are heavily advertised, even wood products. How can this kind of supportive effort also apply to our lesser known species?

On the question of resource appraisal we would like to see more energy and resources directed to forest resource appraisal and determination in order to provide a basis for more national management and utilization of our forest resources. We recommend specifically a more intensive use of remote sensing techniques.

HANS KR. SEIP (Norway): First I would like to congratulate Dr. Rodas on the very good presentation of the important paper before the Commission. I would also like to join him in thanking the Government of Indonesia and the Forest Service in Indonesia for the most successful Congress a year ago.

The Jakarta Declaration is not a paper that could be put aside in a file with a few comments and then forgotten. It is a very serious document which could mean a turning point for world forestry, before it is too late. But there is not very much time left for action.

I would only mention two points that to me seem to be most important. The first point is that if the forest is to be beneficial to people, it must be recognized that forestry is an exercise with many facets, goals and problems. Some of these are connected with agriculture, some are not. When management decisions are made in forestry it is urgently needed to have input from all these aspects. If decisions are made purely from the point of producing industrial wood it might not solve the problems of the rural population. On the other hand, if the needs of the rural population are the only basis for decision it would certainly not solve the problems of necessary products for the people of the world. This could be exemplified further.

There is therefore a strong need for national and international agencies with responsibility for forestry to take care of all aspects of forestry in a balanced way. That means that the whole chain of operation, from establishing new stands, through silvicultural treatment, logging and transport, trade and processing, must be seen against the full and complex goal for the activity. To this end it is important that countries establish a clear forest policy, taking care of all the aspects of forestry including local supply and employment, industrial needs and protection purposes.

This is not always the case, and I would like FAO to study whether it is properly done on the international level. The second point I would mention is the statement in paragraph 24 of the Declaration that:

".....if present trends continue and potential demands materialize, there is the prospect of a serious gap between the world's needs for industrial and other wood products and the capacity of the world's forests to supply these and other essential goods and services".

It is further stated that this can only be avoided if, among other things, harvesting is more complete and more efficient and large areas of successful plantations are created and intensively managed. Going further into this problem it turns out that there is an extremely large gap between what is needed and what is actually happening in these fields. That is to say that investments in the creation of new forests and in making inaccessible forests accessible must be considerably increased now, if the lack of wood is not to be the bottleneck of general development around the next turn of the century. At that time it cannot be repaired. We know that these investments are necessary. We know also that it is difficult to find funds for them. I therefore want to recall what the Minister of Agriculture for Norway said in his statement in Plenary. I quote "I would request that the Director-General take steps to see that the Department of Forestry in FAO initiates comprehensive discussions on the financing problems connected with agriculture, with a view to finding out how the necessary capital can be raised.

A. OSENI (Nigeria): As my delegation is holding the floor for the first time in this Commission I join my fellow delegates in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this important Commission and I also congratulate the Vice-Chairman.

My delegation supports the Declaration wholeheartedly. As indicated by my Head of Delegation in his statement in the Plenary Session today, Nigeria places great emphasis on forestry development. I thank the Indonesian Government for such a successful congress for the outcome. We look forward to effective implementation. Although this document had by its very nature to be very general-and I share in the blame because I participated fully in the congress-the paragraphs which mention the tropical forests do not do so in sufficient detail. It mentions that more than half the world's forests are in the tropics but it does not say that their global contribution to the regulation of the climate has indications for all mankind. Attention is drawn to the alarming rate at which tropical forest ecosystems are being destroyed but it should be emphasized that because of lack of knowledge of these ecosystems we do not know what potential benefits for mankind have been destroyed at the same time. I recommend that greatly expanded studies of all aspects of tropical forest ecosystems should emanate from this discussion.

In this connection the "state-of-knowledge" report of Unesco/UNEP/FAO on Tropical Forest Ecosystems should be praised for providing a benchmark study and identifying areas for further work. Governments should be urged to study this report and consider the contribution they can make to advancing the knowledge of these ecosystems which are not only part of our common heritage but are essential to the continued well-being of the human race. My delegation would like to join with the delegate from Norway in appealing to FAO, the World Bank, UNEP and other industrialized nations to increase investments in forestry and the developing countries and we appeal to all nations to increase financing of forestry activities.

The delegate from Indonesia has outlined the benefits and values of forests in this document and I do not intend to go further into that. I just support him. If we are to reduce urban migration, unemployment and protect our environment and resources as well as provide forest products and other natural resources, we need to give more support to forestry.

In support of the delegate from Guyana on agro-forestry, forestry contributes substantially to food supply but our problem as foresters is that whoever produces food is called a farmer so we do not take the credit though we contribute substantially. My delegation would want more emphasis on agroforestry and pastoral forestry as the case may be and to bring out other colleagues to an understanding and also to promote and join them-if we cannot beat them we must join them-and join them in an integrated approach to rural development.

Now talking about rural development my colleague from Liberia mentioned bushmeat. One interesting thing about bushmeat is borne out in rural urban migration. We find that a number of urban dwellers who have got accustomed to the good habits from rural areas have spent a very high percentage of their incomes on bushmeat and other foods from the natural forests-from the rural areas to which they have been accustomed-and so there is a need to cater for a lot of people not only in the rural areas but also in the urban areas by preserving and maintaining our forests.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): En primer lugar, quisiéramos destacar la forma clara, lúcida e ilustrativa como el Director General Adjunto Jefe del Departamento de Montes de la FAO puso de relieve ante esta Comisión los aspectos fundamentales de la Declaración de Yakarta. El Dr. Flores hizo una exposición que facilita nuestra intervención y que confirma el conocimiento y el dominio que él tiene en la disciplina de montes confiada, en buena hora, en el seno de esta Organización al Dr. Flores.

El Gobierno de Colombia desea reiterar su pleno apoyo a la forma como viene trabajando el Departamento de Montes, lo cual quedo demostrado en la Comisión II cuando se discutió este aspecto de los trabajos de nuestra Organización dentro del programa de labores y presupuesto.

Deseamos también expresar una vez más nuestro apoyo a la Declaración de Yakarta producida por el Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial, que en octubre del año pasado tuvo lugar en su lindo país, señor Presidente, en Indonesia, nación que tiene gran importancia forestal y cuyo pueblo amable y acogedor a través del Gobierno de Indonesia ofreció asistencia y apoyo valiosos que fueron definitivos para el buen desarrollo de ese Congreso Forestal.

Hemos oído con mucha atención a todos los oradores que nos han precedido, quienes han revelado su condición de expertos en materia de montes. Los colegas de Indonesia, de Guyana, Irán, Liberia, Noruega y Nigeria han hecho interesantes exposiciones que nosotros compartimos, y así evitamos repeticiones,

para limitar nuestra intervención a decir que apoyamos, en nombre del Gobierno de Colombia, los aspectos fundamentales de la Declaración de Yakarta y, particularmente, aquellos aspectos que se destacan en el documento C 79/22 después del párrafo 6, donde dice: "la necesidad de medidas urgentes para salvar los recursos forestales del mundo".

O. GARCIA ROCHA (México): En primer lugar nuestra felicitación por su nombramiento. También nuestra particular felicitación al Dr. Flores-Rodas por el sustancioso documento que nos ha presentado.

La delegación mexicana desea manifestar su pleno apoyo al documento "La Declaración de Yakarta" hecha por el Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial celebrado en Indonesia, en octubre de 1978, en razón de su calidad y contenido propositivo, que plantea recomendaciones para coadyuvar al mejoramiento, no solo de la actividad forestal como tal, sino principalmente de la realidad socioeconómica que afecta a más de 1 500 millones de habitantes, el 35% de la población mundial, integrados por los grupos que habitan el bosque y la selva.

La alternativa que ofrecen los aprovechamientos forestales como generadores de empleo en áreas rurales, constituye una importante posibilidad para fijar a la población en sus lugares de origen. Sin embargo, el impulso a la actividad forestal debe darse dentro de un contexto de política forestal que estime el uso del recurso, no aisladamente como insumo industrial, sino eminentemente como factor prioritario del desarrollo de la comunidad rural.

La actividad rural de las comunidades rurales con base en el aprovechamiento forestal, parece ser la alternativa más viable para reducir las desigualdades económicas, asegurar el empleo y el ingreso, acceder bienes y servicios de los pobladores y asegurar el orden ecológico mediante la incorporación del campesino a su cuidado.

La organización de los productores forestales, campesinos dará lugar a la pequeña industria forestal de naturaleza de labor intensiva, lo que asegurará márgenes de empleo más amplios. La sustitución del contenido de capital por la mano de obra, en la medida de lo posible, esclarecerá conceptos, ya que aun cuando el capital es un importante factor de impulso, en el fondo no es sino la expresión del valor de jornadas de trabajo acumuladas, siendo la geneta fuerza motriz del desarrollo, como lo señala La Declaración de Yakarta.

La posibilidad de que los bosques se conviertan en una fuente importante de energía induce a pensar en una política de producción y aprovechamiento de biomasa que permita proporcionar energía de alto y bajo grado, así como materiales orgánicos sintéticos, con una participación lógica frente a los combustibles líquidos, gaseosos y químicos.

De acuerdo con lo anterior, la delegación mexicana propone: Primero: que FAO estudie, recomiende y promueva la obtención de mayores recursos destinados al sector forestal a fin de que éste disponga de recursos técnicos, administrativos y de investigación más amplios. Al respecto, sugerimos que pudiera elaborarse un documento para que sea presentado en la próxima reunión del Comité de Montes.

Segundo: que FAO establezca los mecanismos que estime necesarios para hacer que las actividades forestales tengan un mayor nivel de participación e importancia dentro de la Organización.

Finalmente, deseo manifestar que durante el Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial en Yakarta, el Jefe de la delegación mexicana solicitó, a nombre del país, la Sede para la celebración del Noveno Congreso Forestal Mundial, solicitud que será ratificada por el Jefe de nuestra Comisión en la plenaria del lunes próximo.

O. M. MBURU (Kenya): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor, I would like to congratulate Dr. Rodas for the very clear introduction to the subject of discussion this afternoon. I would also like to express appreciation to the Government of Indonesia for the very successful World Forestry Congress. I would like to commend the Assistant Director-General for the Forestry Department and FAO for bringing to the attention of the Conference the Jakarta Declaration. It has very long reaching and very useful objectives and it is a Declaration that requires to be supported by all nations of the world.

Mr. Chairman, some time back you said you had a list of 23 speakers and I think only seven have spoken, so I will not read the statement that I had prepared-not all of it-but I will take one or two items, and that is the role of women. The discussion in Jakarta stressed very much on the need as the delegate of Liberia said of giving equal employment to women. I want to stress another point and that is the role that women can play in afforestation and tree planting. Not only the women that are employed by the Forestry services but the women in the rural areas. We in Kenya have realized the

impact that women can have. We have the National Council of Women of Kenya who have embarked on a very ambitious tree planting scheme and the establishment of green-belts in the rural areas. This is having a very important and very favourable impact in the rural areas of Kenya.

The other point I would like to mention is the question of planting trees and afforestation in semi-arid and arid lands. Most of Kenya and a lot of areas in Africa are in the category of semi-arid, or arid, and there is a great need for carrying out research in afforestation in these areas. We in Kenya have got the assistance of IDRC of Canada who have started on afforestation research of semi-arid land, and we do believe that FAO can play a role in initiating this type of research.

The other point, my final point, I would like to mention is that it is going to be difficult to realize the objectives of the Jakarta Declaration without intensified training. Many countries have tended to emphasize or concentrate training at the professional and technical grades, but they have, by and large, not given sufficient attention to vocational training. And I would urge FAO and other bodies to assist in introducing, or intensifying vocational training and in general training at all levels.

Mr. Chairman, I had a longer statement which I will hand in to be included in the record.

G. CAMELARIS (Cyprus): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor. My delegation fully supports the Jakarta Declaration issued by the Eighth World Forestry Congress held in Indonesia. We have noted that there is a growing possibility of a serious gap developing between world need and supply in forestry products. This is a very serious concern to all of us and we should take all possible measures to improve and remedy the situation. As a first step we fully support the idea for developing and maintaining proper forest inventories and introducing proper forest management for the basis of a safe and sustainable annual yield. My delegation recommends that FAO should assist in this respect, either through direct field programmes or, better still, through the organization of suitable training courses in these fields. Only then shall we be able to reliably estimate stocks and save yields in each of our developing countries.

We support also the idea that to the extent possible forestry should be integrated with agriculture and foresters should also look to planting of trees which can also be of benefit for their timber.

My final point, Mr. Chairman, concerns the subject of forest protection from fires which is a serious problem in many countries having a dry climate. Quite often considerable extents of forests are being destroyed by accidental fires. This issue has not been directly covered in the Jakarta Declaration. My Delegation, therefore, strongly recommends that FAO's activities could be substantially expanded in this field, in order to enable governments of developing countries to formulate programmes and acquire appropriate technologies and equipment in view to building a local capacity and expertise in forest fire prevention and forest fire fighting.

SANG WOO PARK (Korea): Since this is the first time for me to have the floor I would like to express the pride of having a very able Chairman and Vice-Chairman in this important Commission I. I also wish to express my appreciation to Dr. Rodas for his clear introduction and positive attitude towards forest policy. My delegation extends gratitude to the Government of Indonesia for hosting the Eighth World Forestry Congress which successfully finished in October last year. It is the opinion of my Government that the Jakarta Declaration clearly covers fruitful conclusions and recommendations in relation to current problems and the future prospects of the forestry and agriculture sector. Taking this Opportunity I am pleased to convey to you that my Government fully supports all the recommendations and conclusions expressed in the Jakarta Declaration because forestry is an integral element of basic resources to our human life. My delegation particularly stresses the importance of points 5, 7 and 9 of the Declaration.

The conservation of forestry resources and efficient utilization of forestry land are especially important in countries where increase in food production is seriously required with agricultural land constraint. The Republic of Korea belongs to these countries. We have to continue increasing food production to feed people in a country where less than one-quarter of the total land is agricultural and population density is very high. In order to bring self-sufficiency in main staple food grains in Korea today we have devoted our efforts not only to land reform, the green revolution and assimilated the current revision of integrated rural development movement, but also transforming of forestry land into agriculture land. We have been exploring forestry resources as an assimilated package programme because we believe that conservation of forestry resources supports agricultural production. New sources of rural income can be explored in forestry, and forestry is an important source of energy to rural people in the current energy crisis.

In this connexion my delegation asks FAO to play a more positive role to explore the useful forestry resources and also that FAO should develop the ideas expressed in the Jakarta Declaration in the future FAO Programme as an integral part of rural development.

T. B. S. KORACHI (Maroc) (interpretation de l'arabe): Monsieur le Président, la délégation marocaine qui prend la parole pour la première fois tient à vous présenter ses chaleureuses félicitations pour votre nomination au poste de Président de la Commission I. Je vous souhaite un plein succès dans l'accomplissement de cette charge. Nous présentons également nos remerciements à M. Rodaz pour son excellent exposé.

Les conclusions et recommandations de la Conférence de Djakarta ont mis en relief la nécessité de sauvegarder la forêt qui joue un rôle très important aussi bien économique que social. Elles ont également insisté sur l'urgence d'une mise en valeur rationnelle de la forêt et de ses ressources, tout en sauvegardant son équilibre biologique. Le Maroc souscrit à cette déclaration et l'approuve. Toutefois, il y aurait quelques observations à formuler.

Il nous semble que l'on n'ait pas assez insisté sur les relations qui lient la forêt aux autres secteurs de l'agriculture. En particulier, il paraît utile de souligner que la forêt est aussi un refuge naturel pour le cheptel qui y trouve une subsistance d'appoint pendant les périodes de pénurie en fourrage.

Cet afflux de bétail est souvent à l'origine de la dégradation de la forêt. Aussi, les programmes de sauvegarde de la forêt devraient-ils envisager des mesures touchant non seulement le patrimoine forestier lui-même mais également les régions limitrophes. Nous insisterons plus particulièrement sur la nécessité de mettre en place des programmes intégrés visant:

- l'amélioration des périmètres pastoraux afin d'augmenter leur potentialité fourragère et réduire ainsi la pression qui s'exerce généralement sur la forêt par les troupeaux riverains;
- la mise en valeur des terrains de parcours afin de fixer les populations et leur cheptel;

Par ce biais, nous pensons que nous aurons tracé une politique d'équilibre englobant toutes les composantes agricoles de la région.

Certes, le Programme EMASAR, dans la mesure où il est toujours en vigueur, tente d'apporter une aide pour l'amélioration des parcours dans certains pays, et c'est là une contribution importante de la FAO aux pays concernés.

Il serait souhaitable dans ce cadre que le programme ait une plus large contribution et qu'il intègre dans ses études le patrimoine forestier.

La forêt doit, comme il est mentionné dans la déclaration, contribuer à assurer des ressources importantes aux collectivités locales. Dans ce cadre, je citerai l'exemple du Maroc où une loi forestière a été promulguée en 1977 qui, entre autres mesures, prévoit l'affectation des ressources tirées de l'exploitation forestière au budget des collectivités communales qui sont dans notre pays l'unité administrative de base. Ces ressources permettent à la collectivité de se lancer dans ces programmes de développement général, d'amélioration et de l'extension de la forêt et de ses productions, et constituent un moyen d'émulation entre les collectivités. C'est là un modeste exemple de ce que mon pays a entrepris dans le cadre d'une politique de mise en valeur de la forêt.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): The 8th World Forestry Congress hosted by the Indonesian Government in Jakarta, was a great success and I should like sincerely to thank the Indonesian Government and to express the appreciation of my Government to that Government for its cordial reception and for the excellent organization of this event, attended by more than 2000 delegates from more than 100 countries, as well as by representatives by twelve international organizations. The Congress has proved its worth as a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences, between scientists and representatives of forestry administrations, as well as a point for establishing relations between representation of the forestry industry and trade in forestry products.

With the adoption of the Jakarta Declaration the Congress promoted worldwide awareness and consciousness of measures for the maintenance of forests and the purposeful and systematic management and utilization of forestry resources, to enable the forest to fulfil its manifold functions. The Declaration especially stresses the importance of the forest for the rural population and for rural development programmes. My Government agrees with the focal points in the statements.

The recommended measures go beyond what is purely technical. The Jakarta Declaration is therefore addressed not only to forestry specialists and foresters but also, and primarily, to Governments. Governments are made aware of the consequences of the trends that have prevailed so far and the need for establishing long term programmes, going far beyond the area of forests as such. That is where the basic importance of the Declaration lies.

J. R. GOMEZ RICAÑO (Cuba): Nuestra delegación se une de todo corazón a la felicitación que usted a recibido por su elección, así como felicita también al señor Rodas por su clara y estimulante introducción.

La lectura y análisis de cada uno de los párrafos que conforman el documento C 79/22, titulado "La declaración de Yakarta" puesto a consideración de esta Comisión, revela, a juicio de la delegación cubana, cuestiones de interés para todos los países del mundo y en especial para los que están en vías de desarrollo.

En primer lugar, la Declaración sintetiza los acuerdos que se tomaron por los participantes al 8º Congreso Forestal Mundial en el marco de los debates en torno a las cinco esferas de discusión, o sea, "la contribución forestal a las Comunidades Rurales", "la contribución forestal a la alimentación", "la contribución forestal a la promoción del empleo", "la contribución forestal al desarrollo industrial" y "la contribución forestal a la calidad de la vida". Todo ello relacionado con el lema central del Congreso: "El bosque al servicio de la colectividad".

En sentido general, nuestra delegación apoya las sugerencias y recomendaciones que se hacen en el documento a los gobiernos con respecto a la variada problemática de sus recursos forestales y especialmente las referentes al desarrollo actual y futuro de las Comunidades rurales, cuya subsistencia y modo de vida en general tanto dependen de tales recursos en muchos países del mundo.

En segundo lugar, cuando analizamos párrafo por párrafo su contenido y los comparamos con lo que ha sucedido realmente sólo en el último decenio con la creación, manejo, explotación, utilización, comercio y conservación de los bosques en los países en vías de desarrollo y el destino de las poblaciones que de tales bosques dependen, no podemos menos que sorprendernos y llegar a la conclusión de que entre el espíritu de la letra de los acuerdos del Congreso y otros similares que reiteradamente se han venido tomando en todos los eventos de carácter regional y mundial desde 1970, y las realizaciones concretas llevadas a la práctica por los países en materia forestal, media todavía un abismo ancho y profundo que afecta tanto a la vida de las Comunidades rurales como a los recursos mismos. Se reconoce que no menos de 1 500 millones de personas en el mundo desarrollado dependen de la leña para cocinar. Si ello es así, debemos coleccionar los serios problemas que esas personas tienen con los propios alimentos, el vestido, la vivienda, la educación y la salud, por la relación que generalmente existe entre modo de vida y tipo de energía utilizada.

Por otro lado, para darnos cuenta de qué le ha podido llegar de los beneficios que obtienen los países de los recursos forestales a sus comunidades rurales vamos a referirnos solamente a la producción y comercio de los productos forestales.

De la superficie total de los bosques del mundo estimada en 4 300 millones de hectáreas, más de la mitad, 2 970 millones de hectáreas, se encuentran en los países subdesarrollados, o sea, en los trópicos, subtrópicos y zonas semidesérticas de alta, media y baja pluviosidad; ubicación que indica, además, fragilidad de tales recursos y sus afines, suelo, agua, fauna, clima y paisaje escénico.

No menos de 930 millones de hectáreas de bosque denso, rico en maderas, aunque heterogéneo en especies y en edades, corresponden a los países en vías de desarrollo. De su potencial sostenible de 2 600 millones de metros cúbicos cada año se utiliza menos del 10 por ciento en productos forestales, de los que a su vez el 80 por ciento o más es leña. Ello indica, por lo menos, poco desarrollo de las estructuras sociales; de las infraestructuras de aprovechamiento e industrias; así como cortas selectivas, falta de personal capacitado, etc.

Tomando 1976 como año tipo, de los 35 000 millones de dólares que arrojó el comercio mundial de productos forestales, solamente 4 170 millones de dólares correspondieron a los países en vías de desarrollo y, según aparece en documentos de la FAO, las exportaciones de estos países consisten aun predominantemente en madera rolliza sin elaborar, a lo que se suma el inconveniente de no dejar ningún valor añadido a los países. Porque como acertadamente expresó el Presidente de los Consejos de Estado y de Ministros de Cuba, Comandante Fidel Castro, en su reciente histórico discurso pronunciado en el seno de las Naciones Unidas: "Para la mayoría de los países desarrollados la industrialización de los países en desarrollo es vista como una amenaza".

Por otro lado, en los propios documentos de la FAO se expresa que en 1976 las importaciones de los países en vías de desarrollo alcanzaron la cifra de 4 080 millones de dolares. A simple vista parece que hubo un pequeño balance favorable a estos países; pero cuando se conoce que son importadores netos de papel nos percatamos que la balanza es desfavorable porque ¿cuántos metros cúbicos de madera en rollos hay que entregar a cambio de una tonelada de papel? Esto se llama, señor Presidente y señores delegados, intercambio desigual, refiriéndose al cual el Presidente del Movimiento de Países no Alineados, en su reciente discurso de la ONU, expresó: "Hoy se cambia una hora de trabajo de los países desarrollados por diez horas de trabajo de los países subdesarrollados". Horasademás, que no resisten tampoco ninguna comparación en la magnitud del esfuerzo que se vierte en ellas. De este solo ejemplo que hemos tomado, o sea, el de la producción y el comercio maderable, ¿cuánto de los ingresos llegó realmente a las Comunidades rurales?; ¿cuánto de esos ingresos quedó realmente en poder de muchas trans-nacionales, aparte del agotamiento del recurso forestal?

En otras oportunidades hemos expresado que el sector forestal forma parte del contexto físico de cualquier país y que no podemos considerar el problema forestal desligado del problema agrícola, pues ambos constituyen la base del desarrollo en muchos de los países subdesarrollados.

Por ello, cuando la Declaración de Yakarta expresa en su párrafo siete: "Un compromiso con el desarrollo rural por parte de los forestales será ocioso, si no hay un compromiso firme de parte de los gobiernos. Este compromiso debe incluir medidas para reducir las desigualdades del campo, especialmente en la distribución de la tierra y en el acceso a los servicios y a la ayuda social, significa fomentar el esfuerzo propio, la ayuda mutua y la cooperación. Significa reconocer que la gente es la fuerza motriz del desarrollo y no simplemente el objeto pasivo del desarrollo".

Nos parece, señor Presidente, cuando leemos ésto que se está refiriendo a la realización de la reforma agraria; nos parece que se está refiriendo a cambios más profundos que han de llevar a cabo los pueblos para alcanzar las metas que propone la Declaración de Yakarta,

No obstante lo anterior, que consideramos como una premisa, nuestra delegación aprecia firmemente los esfuerzos que la FAO, con su idoneidad indiscutible en el campo técnico-organizativo, hará en favor de las Comunidades rurales relacionadas con la actividad forestal, como se desprende de los programas de montes, tal como cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo, inversiones, programas de cooperación técnica y otros, con sus bases a nivel de países propuestos para el bienio 1980/81.

R. DZIECIOLDWSKI (Poland): The Polish delegation actively participated in activities of the Eighth World Forestry Congress and contributed to the development of the "Jakarta Declaration". The programme of action contained in it is thus by us generally accepted. Now we work on its implementation in practice.

The main theme of the Congress "Forests for People" requires the intensification of forest management and the development of woodworking industries. The Jakarta Declaration rightly states that "industries can be scaled to the economies of developing countries, rather than just to economies of scale". And further. . . "although mechanization of some activities may be desirable, the important role which forests can play in providing employment, suggests that in some circumstances; the labour intensive role of forestry should be deliberately preserved". One of the six Polish papers presented at the Congress dealt just with designing small wood industry plants for developing countries. Other papers from Poland concerned the protection of genetic material of forest plants and animals, the utilization of forest by-products, and health protection of forest workers. In each of these fields our country is able to provide expertise and assistance for developing countries needing it.

Our recent involvement in FAO activities in the field of forestry and wood industries is many-sided and fruitful. Our experts are active in the works of the FAO/ECE/ILO Joint Committee for Forest Operations and Vocational Training, the COFO, FAO Advisory Committee for Cellulose and Paper, the Wood Committee of ECE, and other bodies of FAO.

We organize numerous scientific seminars and other kinds of meetings of international character. In 1978 two such events took place in Poland. The first of them was a 10 days long study tour for 43 experts from 12 countries. It covered problems of forestry, wood and paper industry, and nature protection. The other one was the seminar, organized with the cooperation of IUFRO, in the prevention of accidents in forest operations, with the participation of 45 experts from 19 countries.

In 1979 also two symposia were organized in Poland. In August this year there took place in Warsaw an international symposium on the impact of airborne pollution upon vegetation. Some 56 high-class specialist from 25 countries and 6 international organizations, as well as a numerous group of Polish scientists participated in it. On November 5-10, 1979 there was convened in Poznan an international symposium on economic and technical aspects of the development of furniture industry.

All those important international meetings were organized by us in cooperation with, and under the auspices of FAO.

Future contributions of Polish forestry and wood industries to FAO activities will take various forms. Most important of them are:

Firstly, technical research, designing and organizational assistance in carrying out rational forest management, industrial wood processing, wildlife and environmental protection, game management, and organization of national parks and nature reserves;

secondly, equipment and participation in equipment of woodworking plants in machines and tools produced in Poland;

thirdly, further cooperation with FAO in organizing in Poland international scientific meetings. In 1981, for instance, a workshop on forest-fire prevention and protection is planned;

fourthly, cooperation in developing forecasts, projections, and trade prospects for definite branches, markets, and regions. We may be able to extend these works to include continental or global scale;

fifthly, training of foresters and wood specialists from developing countries in our colleges and universities;

sixthly, sending Polish experts in forest and wildlife management, wood and paper industries, and natural environment protection for short and long-term assignments in developing countries.

This is our programme of cooperation with FAO on the implementation of fundamental tasks and goals of forestry put forward in the Jakarta Declaration. It goes without saying that those highlights which concern the intensification of forest production and protection of forest gene resources which apply to European conditions are the subject of our routine work under the programme of national forest economy. "Forests for people" was an idea practised in our forestry some years before the 8th World forestry Congress.

A. MASHHADY (Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of) (interpretation from Arabic): Since I take the floor for the first time, I would like to congratulate you on the trust of the Conference which was clearly evinced by your election to chair this Commission, and I wish you all success.

We believe that the document on the "Jakarta Declaration" has included a number of very important points concerning the field of forestry and the role of forestry in rural developments, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia deems it necessary to accelerate acceptance of this recommendation. In spite of this, the document did not concentrate upon, or give sufficient details about, the following points:

Wood and timber are a multi-purpose resource which should not be defeated by use as firewood. The Kingdom believes that we should find other sources of energy, such as solar energy, and that we should embark on the search in this field.

We believe that we should pay greater attention to studies into developing forest in arid and semi-arid areas and increasing the areas of forest so as to prevent soil erosion and to stem the encroachment of the desert. In addition to the role played by forests in developing livestock in arid areas, we also have to protect forests from certain dangers such as flooding and fires.

We should also assist certain countries to protect and preserve their natural resources and, since the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is convinced of the role played by forests in developing natural resources and of the need to protect the environment from certain climatological factors, and bearing in mind the benefits to be gained in the fields of leisure and tourism, and in order to use trees for sand dune fixation, we have embarked on an ambitious programme to increase the areas of forest in the Kingdom. We have set up a special Department of Forestry which has the following functions:

One is reforestation in a rational manner, either industrial or natural, to protect forests from fires, to combat pests and fungus diseases which may damage forests and control the attack by certain rodents and animals which could affect trees and to set up shelters. We have also embarked on a sand dune fixation programme in the eastern part of the Kingdom and we have planted about eight million Atollan plants in this programme.

The Department also has artificially renewed some of the forests in Baha, Taif and Asir. We have reforested approximately 18 thousand Donum in the first area, five thousand in the second, and 1 600 in the area of Asir. The number of plants planted there were approximately 400 000.

A-AUTOINE (Grenada): Mr. Chairman, may I congratulate you on your election as Vice-Chairman of this Commission. May I also congratulate Dr. Rodas on his very 'brilliant and clear introduction. May I also finally congratulate the Government of Indonesia for having hosted the Jakarta Meeting which culminated in this Jakarta Declaration.

Without recapping the contents of the Declaration, I would like to say that the delegation of Grenada supports and endorses the Jakarta Declaration. In fact it is very close to our own policy for the development of forestry. However, the Declaration will reinforce and further inform our own policy on forestry.

We regard our 10, 000 acres of forest as central to our entire agricultural strategy. The whole of our agricultural sector, indeed the survival of the entire country, is dependent on this 10, 000 acres of forest which occupies the centre of the island and from which all streams radiate. It is true that if one destroys the agriculture one destroys the people. Within a policy framework quite related to the Declaration we have been developing this very vital natural resource. We have taken an inventory of our forests. We have developed a scheme for the harvesting of existing forest and the replanting systematically of new forest. We have in fact been embarking on a system of replanting fruit forest, that is, large trees which, other than the wood, yield fruit.

Because we regard the conservation aspect of forestry as vital (this is why we made this point this morning on fertilizer, that it is vital to recycle organic waste in any kind of discussion on fertilizer development), we see in fertilizer and recycling of waste and the preservation of forest a key to the preservation of water and soil resources. But in forestry we face financial and technical problems, particularly financial. Indeed, on the programme that I mentioned before, it would seem that we can only re-afforest about a quarter of the planned area. In this regard we shall be relying very heavily on the resources of FAO for technical assistance and, hopefully, on other international agencies for our financial assistance, so we look forward to support for our programme, especially as it fits so nicely into the Jakarta Declaration.

H. CAURIA (Finland): During the Seventy-fourth Session of the Council in November last year, my country was one which supported the proposal to submit the Jakarta Declaration to this Conference. We did it because we considered it timely to draw the attention of the highest governing body of FAO to the impact which forestry is able to have for the good of the people in developing countries, particularly in rural areas.

The Eighth World Forestry Congress in Jakarta dealt with a wide range of problems related to forestry in developing regions. The layout of the Congress rested basically on forestry premises. However, what is significant is that the approach to the problems was entirely guided by the overall theme of the Congress "forests for people". This gave the discussions, in a way, a new dimension, which can be seen in many recommendations of the Jakarta Declaration.

In view of the importance of the Declaration as a whole and of the single recommendations included in it, one may be tempted to underline and elaborate on a number of those recommendations. However, I have chosen not to do so, because I think that this might lead too far into technical issues, and this Commission is, after all, a forum for policy matters.

What is significant, however, from a policy point of view is that the foresters of the world-those who are working in the forestry institutions and administrations in all Member Countries-have proved that they clearly see the potential of the forests as a means of contributing in a concrete and meaningful way to the welfare of the people. How this is to be done is a policy matter as well as a technical issue. The ways and means vary from country to country, but the principles for carrying them out are put forth in the Jakarta Declaration. I also want to say, based on experience in my own country, that unless people who have influence in political, administrative and financial matters recognize the possibilities of the forest resources as a component in building up their country, the provision of many important commodities and services will be endangered, and even the living conditions of the people-the environment-may suffer irreparable damage. Therefore it is the wish of my delegation that the Jakarta Declaration should be carefully studied in all Member Countries, not only by foresters, but above all by decision-makers, planning authorities and people who are involved in agriculture and rural development matters.

Finally, it has been noted that the Declaration contains no recommendations specifically addressed to FAO. This is, of course, formally true and it may be quite right that the World Forestry Congress directed its message primarily to the governments. After all, they have the political and operational power at the national levels.

However, in our view, FAO has been, and will be in the future as well, deeply involved in the matters related to the implementation of the recommendations of the Jakarta Declaration. As we all know, FAO's role is other than that of the Member Countries, but its responsibilities in supplying technology, consultancy and advisory and training services are always there. We believe that the Declaration is already taken by FAO as a useful document for guidance in its further activities with the Member Countries.

I. OZORAI (Hungary): May I start by saying how pleased my delegation is to have in the Chair the representative of Indonesia, a country that extended very warm hospitality to the participants to the Eighth World Forestry Congress in Jakarta. We also appreciate the brilliant introduction of Dr. Rodas.

The Jakarta World Congress has given a comprehensive review of the world forestry and timber industry. The Declaration made a commendable attempt to focus on the possibilities forestry may use in contributing to the solution of the problems the world economy is facing. According to the general views of the Congress, two prerequisites have to be considered for this solution. The first is the common understanding so that every economic development in forestry should serve human welfare. The second is the elaboration and implementation of programmes in utilizing natural resources of which forestry is considered one of the most significant.

It was the first time, at this Congress, that forestry had been given not merely traditional but specific consideration. It has become evident that apart from the production of timber and fuel wood, forestry is a responsible key element of the human environment. Forestry has a role in ecological protection too. The biosphere surrounding our globe cannot be divided by country boundaries nor can it be subject to national legislation. The inter-dependence which has become a near reality in mother nature would hopefully be pursued in the economic, social and political cooperation between countries as well.

Since the Second World Forestry Congress held in Budapest in 1936, it was the Jakarta Congress where, for the first time, research and research workers were brought into the limelight. Not less than 120 research workers were holding scientific lectures and making professional statements which covered about half of the total information at this Congress. Science and practice made a perfect platform. The Congress encouraged participating countries to support research in forestry and in the timber industry to a greater extent.

The Government of Indonesia, as the host, did its utmost in promoting the successful and fruitful work of the Congress.

In conclusion, I should like to say that in my country the Eighth World Forestry Congress has remarkable publicity and the experience gained there will serve to benefit our forestry people in carrying out their work.

G. PUERTA ROMERO (España): La delegación española desea, también, en primer término rendir público homenaje de agradecimiento al Gobierno y al pueblo de Indonesia por la celebración, con gran éxito, del octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial. Tenemos experiencia en estos Congresos, por haberse celebrado el sexto en nuestro país, y estamos en capacidad de apreciar el tremendo esfuerzo realizado y también como el éxito del mismo debe satisfacer plenamente a sus organizadores.

En este éxito ha participado, sin duda, la FAO, que además de su apoyo aportó su conocimiento y experiencia en los problemas forestales mundiales. Buena parte de ello lo constituyó el propio temario del Congreso al abordar, ante todo, los problemas de las poblaciones rurales pobres y el potencial del sector forestal para resolver, en parte al menos, estos problemas. Con esta orientación se ha demostrado una vez más la sensibilidad de la FAO hacia los problemas del mundo en desarrollo.

Desearíamos comentar algunos de los principales puntos de que consta la Declaración de Yakarta. En primer lugar compartimos la preocupación mundial por la disminución de la superficie forestal, lo que representa una seria amenaza, no sólo para la producción de las necesarias materias primas, sino también para la protección del suelo y el agua.

También ha sido preocupación del Congreso que traslada a los Gobiernos y a los forestales en particular, la contribución que debe hacer el bosque y las nuevas plantaciones forestales a la alimentación de una población mundial cada día en aumento.

Que España es deficitaria en la balanza comercial de productos forestales, muy principalmente en madera y derivados de madera, es cuestión sobradamente conocida por los Organismos dependientes de las Naciones Unidas, y en concreto por la FAO. Por ello, por la Administración forestal española se ha tomado ya muy buena nota sobre las recomendaciones encaminadas a la mayor producción, tales como la utilización óptima de cada hectárea forestal a través de los trabajos culturales que demande, la plantación de especies de crecimiento rápido, las plantaciones en el medio agrícola, que además de hacer un efecto protector produzcan madera, y aquellas otras plantaciones y utilidades del bosque que permitan aportar alimentos a la población, desarrollando e investigando técnicas agroforestales.

En España se han tomado medidas para que en los próximos años, y ampliando la actuación ya realizada en años anteriores, se desarrolle un programa de auxilios a la actividad forestal que contemple toda las acciones que se hagan, junto a proyectos de ordenación, planes técnicos y trabajos de infraestructura encaminados al aumento de la producción.

El Congreso, señor Presidente, se ha pronunciado también sobre la contribución que debe dar la actividad forestal a la población del medio rural, empobrecido en casi todas las regiones del mundo. Esta opción, que compartimos, confiamos que pueda hacerse cada vez más intensa en nuestro país, en beneficio del desarrollo de la actividad forestal.

Toda la actividad forestal en España va dirigida por tanto, de una parte, a disminuir nuestro desequilibrio exterior en productos de la madera, y de otra no menos importante, a vitalizar nuestras áreas rurales especialmente las de montaña, proporcionando a nuestros suelos y nuestras aguas la beneficiosa influencia de una cubierta forestal protectora, pero sobre todo a su población una mejor calidad de vida.

No está de más recordar a este respecto que España está incluida, desgraciadamente, en lugar de preferencia en el mapa mundial de la desertificación, y que el deterioro secular de grandes áreas forestales nos ha traído males que estamos tratando de corregir ahora con grandes costos y esfuerzos. Hemos elaborado un programa de seguimiento y lucha contra la erosión en la España mediterránea que reclamará fuertes inversiones en el próximo decenio.

En esta misma línea España va a establecer un proyecto en el Sureste del país para la lucha contra la desertificación en el Mediterráneo, dedicado a mejorar el conocimiento de las causas de la desertificación y las técnicas a aplicar para combatirlo, así como a la formación de personal.

Queremos, señor Presidente, que este proyecto pueda servir para la comunidad internacional interesada en estos problemas y, por lo tanto, lo ponemos a disposición de la FAO, esperando poder contar más adelante con su participación en el mismo.

Por último, nos satisface señalar, que en la medida de nuestras posibilidades, estamos colaborando con numerosos países, y sobre todo con los de Iberoamérica, haciéndonos mutuamente partícipes de nuestras experiencias en el campo forestal.

No quisiera cerrar mi intervención sin respaldar vivamente la intervención clara y concreta del Subdirector General de Montes de la FAO, Dr. Flores Rodas, sobre la Declaración de Yakarta.

S. A. PARVEZ (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation would like to compliment Mr. Rodas for the lucid and able manner in which document C 79/2 was introduced to this Commission. The Jakarta Declaration on Forestry was the result of the deliberations of the Eighth World Forestry Congress. My delegation is very pleased to be associated with the great appreciation and tribute extended to the Government of Indonesia for hosting such a significant congress.

The importance of the forestry sector need not be over-emphasized as this is now a universal realization. When the English World Forestry Congress urged the governments of the world and professional foresters to make increased efforts towards forest improvement, better land management, improved research and greater emphasis on development in forestry outside the forest areas in view of the present social and environmental pressures, it was only giving words to a felt need which has become more pronounced today than ever before. We feel that the World Forestry Congress was a significant forum that addressed itself to a matter of fundamental importance. We commend the theme of the Congress and also the Declaration. The Jakarta Declaration has our full support and it gives me pleasure to inform the Commission that Pakistan has already been seized of the situation and has under implementation several forestry projects and programmes that the Jakarta Declaration calls on Member Governments to embark upon.

I would now like to apprise you briefly of the position of this sector in Pakistan. Like most countries Pakistan too finds it desirable to maintain a certain minimum of its area under forests. Based on the density of population, state of development, consumption habits and climate it is estimated that Pakistan

would require 20 percent of its area to be under forests. The shortage of forest produce in the country is very serious and to overcome it we have taken steps to change the widely entertained notion that forestry has no right to any productive land and must be limited to residual land. The role of forests in the national economy, both productive and protective, entitles forests to claim an adequate share of land and water. In the recent past developments of far-reaching importance have taken place in this sector that recognise the part played by forests in our economy and also in maintaining environmental balances.

The new forest policy aims at the maintenance of quality of human environmental improvement, increasing wood production, development of under-developed wooded area, development of water sheds through proper land use, development of range lands for optimum production of forage and livestock, conservation of wildlife and development of silviculture. Based on the above the allocation for the forestry sector in Pakistan in the Fifth Five-Year Plan has been raised to about 119 million dollars. This is a substantial increase from only about 14 million dollars allocated for the forestry side in the Fourth Five-Year Plan. Implementation of the Fifth Five-Year Plan is being undertaken through the following measures.

Firstly, popularising the growing of trees on farmland and in urban areas through a vigorous forest extension programme. Secondly, large-scale forestation programme for state and private lands including linear planning and development of riverain forests. The increasing productivity of the main coniferous forests and irrigated plantation by introducing intensive fast-growing species. Fourthly extended watershed range management, wildlife management and silviculture programmes, and fifthly improving the standard of education and research in forestry and starting effective education and research in wild lands, especially range management, harvesting and processing of wood silviculture and wild life.

I have gone over briefly what we in Pakistan are doing to demonstrate that the Jakarta Declaration is an important milestone. We have not only endorsed it but also are trying our best to implement it in both letter as well as spirit to the extent possible within our available resources. We would however like to stress here that FAO and international assistance to boost activity in this sector would be appreciated. In conclusion, we are gratified to note the importance and priority that the Director-General is giving to the forestry sector and would like to emphasize the need for this session of the Conference to endorse the Jakarta Declaration.

M. PANJSHERI (Afghanistan): As this is my first time taking the floor I want to say congratulations to you in this position.

The forests in our country occupy 1. 978 million hectares and play a significant role in national economy. They provide cover to the mountains, haul down large precipitation, prevent soil losses and check the onward march of deserts. Forest protection, regeneration, restoration and scientific exploitation are urgently required to sustain and save them from further depredation. Reafforestation is the need of the hour to tide over the serious problem of denudation, land degradation and to prevent desertification. Here I would like to draw your kind attention to the recommendations made by the Nairobi Conference on Desertification. The Conference urged the United Nations, and the specialized agencies to provide adequate technical and financial aid in addition to present international and bilateral aid to the developing countries to combat desertification through scientific forest and pasture management. Pastures in our country occupy 62 percent of the total land area and constitute an extremely important source of animal nutrition. Therefore, I will request the FAO to consider the deputation of an expert committee to evaluate the present position of forests, range lands and pastures in our country. The recommendations of the Committee would provide chief guidelines to prepare a sound investment programme.

We also urgently need an adequate trained personnel for forest and pasture management. I am sure that training of our forest men along with establishment of a Forest Research Institute will receive enough and sympathetic attention for the FAO.

Mr. Chairman my delegation in Jakarta supported the Declaration. Right now, once again, my delegation supports the Jakarta Declaration in document C 79/22 prepared by the Secretariat of FAO which is very important for improving the national diet and for expanding the marketing of animal products abroad. So it is imperative to improve the quality and quantity of animal products which is possible through the development of our range lands, and to improve economic, social and cultural conditions of the nomads, living in these areas.

Thousands of hectares of these pastures are destroyed every year due to lack of any programme for their preservation and protection. Survey work in 16 provinces has been completed for formulating programmes for improvement of these pastures and range lands. Nutritious grass varieties will be grown, and where

possible, irrigation facilities will be provided. Since long years ago social classification has been brought among Kochis and they have divided the pastures among themselves. The Kochi chieftains in addition to cattle raising are engaged in trading of wool, ghee (milk fat) and dairy products and with the collaboration of comprador traders exploit almost all the Kochis.

Forest land. Afghanistan has 1, 980 million hectares of forest land out of which 450, 000 hectares is in Paktia and 440, 000 in the Kunar region, the rest is scattered in the northern and western parts of the country. The forest provides us with wood, packing material for fruit and vegetables for local and foreign markets. The annual exploitation capacity of the forest land is about 28. 66 million cubic metres of wood and 1. 2 million cubic metres of wood is used for different purposes. The largest energy necessary for house heating and cooking purposes is provided by the forest wood and bushes. The wood consumption as a fuel is more than 1, 000, 000 tonnes every year, of which more than 500, 000 tonnes are cut from forests.

The forests in the northern and northern-western part of the country mainly in Badgis and Herat provinces, covering 500, 000 hectares, are producing about 80, 000 tonnes of pistachio, which is a dry fruit earning considerable foreign exchange. Formerly, the forests of pistachio were very dense, but diminished slowly due to indiscriminate exploitation. Another dry fruit Chalgoja (pincon pine) is also collected from forest, mainly grown in Paktia, Kunar and Nangarhar provinces.

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 to 25 years.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan considers that protection, restoration and planned exploitation of forests is a very urgent matter and in order to save the forest land from destruction the following measures have been planned during the Five Year Plan period (1979-1983):

- (a) More than 500, 000 hectares of forest land will be surveyed for proper planning of forests.
- (b) Feed roads in forest lands will be constructed for easy approach to the forests and easy transportation of forest products.
- (c) Forest lands covering about 1. 3 million hectares will be protected from improper exploitation.
- (d) About 110, 000 hectares of land will be reforested.
- (e) The ecological studies of the forest region will be completed.
- (f) The proper exploitation system for wood and fruit production in the forests and facilities for their marketing will be studied and developed.

Mr. Chairman, our delegation in Jakarta supported the Declaration and now once again my delegation supports the Jakarta Declaration and also supports FAO assistance in their forest development.

M. QADI (Observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization) (interpretation from Arabic): In response to your appeal for brevity I would like only to refer to the fact that forests in my occupied land, Palestine, is subject to a lot of pressures. The fanatic Zionist gangs, supported by the Israeli Government, are occupying forests as public holdings for the establishment of new settlements and for restriction of Arab areas under several pretexts, including security. Thus, they seek to eliminate a large area of these forests. Israel also adopts a policy to disallow the plantation of new areas of forests, especially in the mountainous areas, so that water, rainwater may cultivate the coastal areas under the occupation of Israel. Israel suffers from a deficiency of water resources to cover its investment plans for the next years, as was stated by the Director of Water Department of Israel who said that Israel needed 450 million cubic metres of water in addition to available resources in order to cover its investment plans. This is in addition to the fact that there are other security considerations. We are now considering the question of forests and I wish to draw the attention of the international community to the practices of Israel in this respect so that your distinguished Commission may adopt any appropriate method to stop the elimination of existing forests. And I also wish that you send an investigation, or enquiry committee, from this Organization to Israel in order to investigate the situation prevailing as far as forests are concerned in my occupied country.

H. BAR-SHAI (Israel): One cannot exaggerate the importance of forestry to the national economy both economically and ecologically. Being a semi-arid nation, we know from our own experience that trees can help change the climate and bring about more rain in many areas. This is true to countries which are geographically situated in areas similar to ours.

One of the main tasks is to find suitable means to aid food production through rational foresting.

In the Mediterranean Region there is a very active Forestry Commission that has been dealing with the special problems and aspects of forestry of this region. It had shown some good results, and through international cooperation had contributed much toward progress in this period and to the benefit of the nations' economies.

May I voice Israel's request and hope that the Mediterranean Forestry Commission continue its independent activity as has been the case until now. 1/.

The meeting rose at 17. 30 hours

La seance est levée à 17 h 30

Se levanta la sesión a las 17. 30 horas

1/. Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

conference

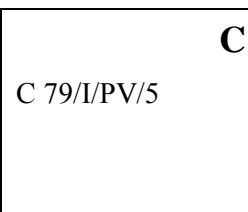
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

FIFTH MEETING
CINQUIEME SEANCE
QUINTA SESION
(19 November 1979)

The Fifth Meeting was opened at 09. 45 hours

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La cinquième seance est ouverte à 9 h 45 sous la présidence de

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I

Se abre la quinta sesión a las 09. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN
MATIERE D' ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y
LA ALIMENTACIÓN (continuación)
- 6. World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)
- 6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)
- 6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)
- 6. 3 Forestry-the "Jakarta Declaration" (8th World Forestry Congress. October 1978) (continued)
- 6. 3 Foresterie-La "Déclaration de Djakarta" (Huitième Congrès forestier mondial, octobre 1978)
(suite)
- 6. 3 Montes-La "Declaración de Yakarta" (Octavo Congreso Forestal Mundial, octubre 1978)
(continuación)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): This morning we resume discussion of sub-item 6. 3, namely Ebrestry-the "Jakarta Declaration". I believe delegates know that the pertinent document is C 79/22.

The Vice-chairman, the delegate of Indonesia, has informed me that discussion was intensified at the last meeting and that this item met with considerable enthusiasm on the part of all delegates. Naturally we welcome such enthusiasm and consider it an excellent sign. Delegates know, however, that the Commission is almost one meeting behind in its agenda and I must therefore stress that this sub item should be completed this morning. Delegates will also know that there is a long list of speakers for this morning and will undoubtedly recall that the Chairman of the last meeting closed the list of speakers. However, should there be anybody who wishes his statement to be put into the record of the meeting he is kindly requested to inform us accordingly. The Secretary will read the list of countries who wish to have their statements on the record.

SECRETARY: Statements by Israel, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritania, El Salvador, India and the Philippines on this item, that is the Jakarta Declaration, have been received by the Secretariat for inclusion in the record of the proceedings of the Commission. In addition a statement by the delegation of the Philippines on the item concerning Fertilisers has also been received by the Secretariat for inclusion in the discussion.

A. RODRIGUEZ PIRES (Cap-Vert): Ma délégation appuie sans réserve la Déclaration de Djakarta. Mon pays, la Pémblioue du Cap-Vert, membre du Comité inter-Etats. connaît très bien l'action hélas catastrophique de la sécheresse sur l'écologie. Depuis l'indépendance nationale, nous avons mis sur pied un vaste programme au niveau national qui répond parfaitement à la Déclaration de Djakarta. C'est ainsi que grâce à la participation massive de notre peuple laborieux une aide importante nous a été fournie par la FAO et le Gouvernement de la Belgique. Nous avons pu mener, en dépit de beaucoup de difficultés une campagne de plantation d'arbres. Nous avons réussi à en planter plus d'un million cette année. D'autre part, nous avons réalisé des travaux considérables dans le domaine de la conservation des sols et de l'eau et de la lutte contre la désertification et l'érosion.

Pour terminer, je voudrais féliciter le Dr. RODAS pour son brillant exposé et nous souhaitons que la FAO, plus précisément la Division des Forêts, appuyée par tous les Etats Membres assure la mise en pratique au niveau mondial de la Déclaration de Djakarta.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Señor Presidente: sobre el tema en discusión, permítaseme, antes de continuar, expresar nuestro sincero reconocimiento al Dr. Flores-Rodas, Jefe del Departamento de Montee de la FAO, por su presentación introductoria sobre el tema, que se caracterizó por su forma sucinta, pero abarcadora y completa como abordó la cuestión forestal en general y en particular lo referente al contenido que recoge la Declaración de Yakarta.

Panamá posee dentro de su territorio importantes áreas de bosques tropicales (del cual nos habla el punto 13 de la Declaración de Yakarta) y dentro de estos bosques tropicales contamos con bosques homogéneos de cativa y prey que representan un verdadero recurso natural renovable, con producción potencial, a perpetuidad, siempre y cuando se les someta a un ordenamiento forestal.

Por estas particularidades concretas y porque existe una identificación de propósitos y objetivos entre la Declaración de Yakarta y nuestras políticas, planes, programas y proyectos es por lo que la delegación de Panamá apoya esta Declaración.

Sobre este particular, permítame hablarle, Señor Presidente, de la elaboración del Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Forestal preparado con la asesoría de la FAO, así como del proyecto: Desarrollo Forestal de Panamá, realizado con la contribución y participación del PNUD y FAO, que se complementan e implementan, actualmente, y que consideran una secuencia de proyectos hasta el año 2005 dentro de una perspectiva que conlleva la incorporación de áreas forestales a la producción y economía nacional, mejora en los sistemas de manejo, de extracción, de procesamiento, de clasificación, comercialización y uso de maderas y productos forestales, así como aspectos de política y legislación forestal, Centro para la Formación de Obreros Forestales y de investigaciones y demostración silviculturales, al igual que el establecimiento de un Banco de Semillas Forestales y un Centro de Tecnología Aplicada a la Madera. Aspectos, todos éstos, abordados por la Declaración de Yakarta y particularmente tratados en sus puntos 24, 25 y 26.

Pero, hay algo más, Señor Presidente, dentro de todos estos Proyectos y es que uno de ellos reviste importancia estratégica para Panamá, como es el del Ordenamiento y Manejo de las Cuencas Hidrográficas de los Lagos Artificiales que nutren y alimentan el Canal de Panamá. Canal éste cuyo funcionamiento no deja de verse amenazado por el inadecuado manejo de los bosques. Estos son los problemas remanentes de las explotaciones coloniales y neocoloniales que sufren nuestros pueblos. Y frente a ello, nos toca tomar las medidas para buscarles soluciones definitivas y duraderas a los problemas de la conservación de nuestros propios recursos naturales y renovables.

Y para terminar, Señor Presidente, apoyamos la Declaración de Yakarta por su visión de conjunto y por su identificación con el desarrollo rural, y conforme a lo aprobado por la pasada Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, que bien puede resumirse en la aceptación de una plena y total participación del pueblo en el uso y disfrute de sus recursos naturales, conllevando este uso y disfrute la insustituible necesidad de o ambiente estructurales, entre ellos el de la distribución de la tierra, tal como se señala en los puntos 7 y 17 de la Declaración de Yakarta.

WU TIAN-XI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): Mr. Chairman in October last year the Chinese foresters were sent to attend the Eighth World Forestry Congress during which they exchanged experience with foresters from various countries. We considered this exchange of experience most beneficial. The Jakarta Declaration on Forestry for the People adopted by the Congress stresses the important role of forestry in preserving the environment for agriculture, promoting food production, increasing rural employment and providing abundant forest products.

In view of the current state of forestry in the developing countries the Declaration recommends such policies and measures as preservation of forestry resources, afforestation and regeneration, rational logging, multipurpose use of forest products, all of which are feasible in our opinion. We would like to express support for the positive and constructive spirit of the Declaration.

My Government has paid close attention to forestry development since the Congress. The first forestry-law was promulgated by the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress on February 23, It contains provisions on forest management and protection, logging, exploitation of forest resources and afforestation.

The people of the whole country are called upon to implement these provisions conscientiously. As usual in spring and again in autumn, manifold activities were organized in tree planting and afforestation with the emphasis on afforestation or the regeneration of existing forests as the local conditions dictate.

We are making a big effort to bring about a substantial change in forestry development which we regard as an essential element in the capital construction of agriculture, and for those implications to future generations we shall be fully responsible. All this we believe is in line with the spirit of the Jakarta Declaration. In this connection we would like to stress that practical action is needed to implement the positive spirit of the Congress.

R. IBAROUREN (Argentina): Deseo, an nombra da mi delegación, felicitar a usted, al Vicepresidente y demás miembros de la Mesa.

Ni gobierno apoya y valora decididamente la Declaración de Yakarta y en virtud de ello mi delegación desea hacer conoer parte de lo que se está desarrollando en el orden nacional dentro del marco de referencia de dicha Declaración.

Al respecto nuestro Instituto Nacional Forestal ha iniciado un amplio programa de plantaciones leñosas forrajeras en zonas áridas y semi áridas; simultáneamente interviene en un plan de manejo silvo-pastoril de la región boscosa del noroeste argentino.

Los subsidios fiáosles por medio de créditos que se otorgan para implantación de cortinas protectoras en las áreas de alto riesgo son contribución del sector forestal a la mejor producoión de alimentos y a la racionalización del uso de las tierras.

En orden al mejoramiento del medio ambiente está contribuyendo con subsidios para la formación de bosques comunales, así como para la implantación de espacios verdes, arbolado y en el caso de cinturones ecológicos de la ciudad de Buenos Aires y otras ciudades del país.

La producoión de combustible en las actividades forestales y la generación de energía con idéntico origen son motivos de atención y estudio mediante la colaboración entre diversas instituciones nacionales interdisciplinarias especializadas en el tema.

La identificación de recursos forestales por medio de inventarios, algunos de los cuales se hicieron en conjunto con FAO y en los que me ha tocado personalmente intervenir, ha sido encarada como tarea prioritaria de cultivo.

Con la iniciación y revelación de bosques nativos y especialmente en las sonae de mayor interés forestal y en donde existe creciente demanda en materiaprima leñosa para atender industrias instaladas y proyectos de nuevos establecimientos el Instituto Forestal también ha reforzado la tarea de investigación silvícola por medio de sus estaciones experimentales distribuidas en todo el territorio nacional y ampliando los programas de estudio tecnológico maderero en cooperación con otras instituciones, especialmente el Centro de Investigación de Celulosa y Papel con el Centro de Investigación Tecnológica de la Madera.

La pelítioa forestal argentina está encuadrada en la ordenación de la ley 1 2 3 7 3 y sus normas modificadores y reglamentarias. Esa política presenta definida coincidencia con la que postula la Declaración de Yakarta que asegura, a nivel de nuestro país, una acción sin pausa para el logro de los objetivos comprendidos en esa Declaración.

T. J. SHO-SAWYERR (Sierra Leone): My delegation supports the Jakarta Declaration as contained in document C 79/22. However, my delegation feels that more attention should be paid to the follow-up of the recommendations in the Declaration. We wish therefore to offer some suggestions on follow-up measures.

On the production of fuel wood we would like to see more identification of adaptable, fast-growing species of wood locally and internationally, possibly at regional level, for fuel wood production as an alternative source of energy; also the establishment of national nurseries of these woods species on a revolving basis for dissemination.

Existing integrated agricultural projects should be annexed to some of these projects on fuel wood as components to reduce the time constraints involved with project identification, formulation and preparation prior to implementation. Moreover this approach will reduce the overall cost of such a forestry project, particularly on the administration aspects.

On forest industries: it is an open secret that forest industries are lucrative business and handled at high altitudes far beyond the scope of the average village carpenter. Against the background of rural development and the reference may by the Declaration on forest industries in paragraph 15, my delegation is of the opinion that a reorientation of programmes is necessary to involve the rural carpenter, the one or two-man carpentry workshops in the rural areas. In this area we feel FAO can be of considerable assistance, particularly in the organization of workshops for small-scale industries as well as cottage industries, not just teaching basic principles but using local forest materials. Borrowed experiences from developing countries of identical resources, including expertise from these countries, should form part of these workshop programmes.

It is imperative that an effective follow-up programme to such workshops be included in the overall preparation, to monitor the progress and impact of the programme.

We listened with interest to the introduction of the paper by Mr. Flores-Rodas during which he referred to wood chemistry as one of the programmes for implementation. We welcome the idea and would like to stress that on request by Governments appropriate studies should be done on the qualities of local species of wood for various uses including paper manufacture and veneer production. This exercise will link squarely with forest inventory programmes which need immediate additional financial support. FAO's programme of Forestry for Community Development and Forestry in Symbiosis with Agriculture should be further strengthened as part of a follow-up to the Declaration. At a time when more land is being cleared for food production there has never been so urgent a need to implement conservation programmes. For this reason we look forward to a more successful implementation of the recommendations contained in the Declaration which we once again support.

F. A. del PRADO (Suriname): I should like to mention that the delegation of the Republic of Suriname joins with the others in congratulating you and the vice-chairman on your election to these important positions. Our appreciation is expressed to Dr. Flores-Rodas for the clear presentation of his document. We should also like to congratulate the Government of Indonesia for the organization of the Eighth World Forestry Conference held in Jakarta during October 1978.

Suriname fully endorses the Jakarta Declaration and its emphasis on forestry matters in order to improve the quality of life in general and in rural areas in particular. Suriname is a forest-rich country which places great hopes on further development of its forest resources to better the standard of living of its people. The past and continuing assistance of UNDP/FAO in the assessment and development of the potential of these natural resources as well as in its management for sustained production is gratefully acknowledged.

Suriname with its relatively small population but vast forest resources needs assistance in the proper development and management of its forests. Therefore we wholeheartedly endorse the call on international organizations and developed countries to assist us in inventorizing and managing this resource as phrased in paragraph 10 of the Jakarta Declaration. We specifically would like to receive assistance with regard to associate experts or volunteers in the field of reforestation, forest management and wild life management with emphasis on game species.

Energy from biomass, especially wood and wood residues, is of special concern to my country which possesses no hydrocarbons of any sort. but a large forest estate. Of special interest are wood and charcoal for domestic use, cooking in the forest areas and small-scale power generators for villages in the interior and small industry.

The rather young University of Suriname, especially the Polytechnical Faculty and the Faculty of Natural Resources, has recently embarked on a modest energy research programme to seek, among other things, simple workable intermediate-technology solutions to the problems mentioned above. These faculties of the university have indicated their great interest in mutual exchange of information with foreign countries and institutions in pursuing such research as well as actual outside research assistance in these fields. Recognizing that the forest management authorities should play a leading part in the evaluation of proposals for forest industry development Suriname has incorporated relevant sections to this effect in the draft forest legislation.

My delegation wishes to point out that for Suriname with its restricted scientific manpower and research facilities ready access to documentation is essential. For that reason we strongly support the recommendation to strengthen existing forestry information and documentation services and to coordinate their activities.

Of special interest in this respect is the Instituto Forestal Latino Americano de Investigación y Capacitación (IFLAIC) at Merida, Venezuela, a joint institute of Venezuela and a number of Latin American and Caribbean countries, among them Suriname, established under the auspices of FAO.

Over the years IFLAIC has concentrated on regional forestry documentation and information, a function that is most important for a country like Suriname for reasons stated above. Therefore Suriname requests as a matter of urgency both FAO and the developed countries to consider favourably measures to strengthen IFLAIC in its role as a regional forestry documentation center.

Mr. Chairman, from the foregoing it will be clear that Suriname not only endorses the Jakarta Declaration but is actively developing its forest resources in line with the recommendations contained in the Declaration, with the valued assistance of bilateral aid and international organizations, UNDP, FAO and the Organization of American States. My country, Suriname, sincerely hopes, however, that our specific requests for assistance in relation to items 10, 12 and 23 of the Declaration will be favourably considered and duly honoured.

A. LOPES RIBEIRO (Portugal): Because we are very short of time, I will be brief in spite of the great importance that our delegation attaches to the problem under discussion. First of all we would like to congratulate Dr. Flores-Rodas for the excellent presentation made to us earlier. We think that the subject was presented just as it is.

Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt, at least among the agricultural people, that forestry plays an important role today and one can easily envisage its great importance in the future. We are all quite aware that forestry is vital for the human being. No need to stress this in our Commission. Of course, Mr. Chairman, for many reasons and, also, because my country is from the ecological point of view primarily a forestry country, we fully endorse the Jakarta Declaration. We think that forestry problems merit more attention in the future than they have received in the past. Being so we urge FAO to pay as much attention as possible to the forestry problems of the world, if we really look for a better way of life for humanity.

S. SAITO (Japan): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to make brief comments on this item. First of all my delegation would like to take note of the Jakarta Declaration. My delegation is of the view that forestry development should be continued not only by increasing its production, but also by creating comfortable living conditions for the rural population.

In order to achieve those objectives I think that the following points should be emphasized, as seen in the Jakarta Declaration:

1. Adoption of appropriate land use programmes including reforestation.
2. Levelling up of forestry workers' conditions and enlargement of forestry training programmes.
3. Better management and renewing of forestry resources.
4. Strengthening of forestry administration.

In major wood consuming countries in the world, including Japan, a situation of insufficient wood supply is forecasted in the future. Bearing this in mind my Government is now making every effort to conserve forestry resources through increasing the ratio of artificial forestry and implementing other relevant programmes, taking into account environmental conditions and in conformity with long-term afforestation programmes. Those efforts aim at achieving domestic supply of forestry products as much as possible.

On the other hand, my Government has cooperated in the forestry development in the area of forestry techniques upon the request of developing countries, and is also ready to cooperate to every possible extent in the future.

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand): Like all other speakers before I will try to be brief. Being a country which has faced serious problems of deforestation, Thailand is now trying her best to reserve and build up forests to the level considered optimal. Beside all the relating work carried out by the Government, His Majesty the King of Thailand himself also places much concern on the Government programme for reforestation. His Majesty the King does not only support it but also provides additional funds and supervises the programme himself.

Hill tribe people who in the past dealt very much with shifting cultivation now turn the deforested land into productive orchards and new forests. With such awareness of deforested problems in mind we wholeheartedly support all the valuable substances contained in the Jakarta Declaration. In addition my delegation would like to propose that the Jakarta Declaration be added to the report as appended so that Member Governments would have the benefit of having the whole facts rather than the benefit of discussion only.

ALI BEN-RAMADAN (Libya) (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to give a quick review of the document C 79/2 concerning the Jakarta Declaration on forests. We consider that this Declaration is of considerable importance. Moreover, the most important points thereof should be the fact that we should consider forestry protection and traditional exploitation thereof all within the framework of an integrated activity and complementary to the general agricultural activity, and as a part of the development of the agricultural community as a whole. Integrated through the development we consider grazeland and forestry activities and activities in other conventional sectors, as an integral part of the activity for increasing food supplies and agricultural produce. The Jakarta Declaration, with its emphasis that forestry should be a part of the general effort for the service of mankind can well be considered as a positive development in considering this vital sector as one of the important sectors in the world. This Declaration clearly shows what measures and policies should be adopted by the various governments so that forests will be at the service of people and as a part of agricultural land and rural development. And it also emphasized the wide part forestry can play in conservation of the environment, the control of floods and desertification. Naturally every country will take such measures as it finds suitable to its own conditions and policies. We, in the Libyan Jamahiriya, consider that forests have their own particular attention. Afforestation programmes have a considerable share in the various integrated agricultural and rural development programmes for we find the number of trees planted annually can be counted in scores of millions and by way of example I can only say that we expect to be planting around 70 million trees within the next two years.

Afforestation in Libya bears in mind protection of agricultural land, protection of land against erosion, control and avoidance of desertification providing sources of animal fodder, maintenance of environmental balance through the evaluation of protected areas, plus the fact that there is regional cooperation among the African countries for a Green Belt that would control desert creeping.

Yet considerable technical problems and difficulties are met with in these activities. We therefore favour cooperation on an international basis in order to overcome the problems and difficulties. Such cooperation will be insufficient if it exists only among favoured countries. International institutions and organizations also should be involved. Here we see eye to eye with the views of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kenya and others regarding the necessary research that should be undertaken for the afforestation of desert and semi-desert land.

The Jakarta Declaration did not call on FAO to do anything in particular, yet the message as a whole is crystal clear. We believe that FAO has already played an important part in the forestry sector and we are therefore fully convinced that it can fulfill the new requirements and address itself to those requirements, making whatever modifications are necessary to meet them, be they infrastructural changes or the formulation of programmes, and above all for creating a new framework covering the concept of the role of the Organization in the forestry sector.

However, in our discussion today we should go far beyond the Jakarta Declaration and avail ourselves of this opportunity to endorse whatever FAO is doing at present and whatever it will be able to do in the forestry sector, thus flinging the doors open for our Organization to do anything it can in the light of the new concepts of the Jakarta Declaration.

In conclusion, the delegation of the Libyan Jamahiriya supports the requirements of the PLO in calling on FAO to protect deserts in occupied lands from the spoilage done by the intruders.

M. DIB (Syria) (interpretation from Arabic): The Jakarta Declaration contains twenty-six recommendations on forestry and the role it plays in rural development. Most of those recommendations are of considerable importance, particularly those from 4 to 9 and 12, 17 and 24. Our present policy agrees totally with those recommendations, because they insist on the protection of forestry resources, be it from the economic, touristic or aesthetic points of view. We are contemplating considerable activity in this sector.

In our Forestry Department we have a special department for the regulation and protection of watersheds. We have also formulated our plans for artificial lakes in forests in order to profit from rain water. Last year we started our green belt programme which extends from South to North and has a total length of 1, 2000 kms with a 20 km wide road to separate the urban areas from the desert and thus control desertification and desert creeping. I leave it to you to consider the economic and social benefits to be derived therefrom. The implementation thereof is being followed very closely by both FAO and the World Food Programme. Other control belts are being established in order to guarantee the products.

Our Five-Year Plan covers the afforestation of 12, 000 hectares in semi-arid land and we shall be planting over 22 million trees this year. The implementation of the Plan is receiving considerable attention on the part of the Government and of the President himself in particular. However, we still lack applied research on forestry agriculture. Our continued activity in this sector and the achievement of the results aspired for depend on the availability of technical personnel and material resources for the protection of forestry against fire, which occupies the greater part of our activities.

Our delegation supports the Declaration and calls upon FAO to undertake a technical training and extension programme, in cooperation with all possible world institutions. We hope that the programme will be crowned with all possible success.

G. A. STENEKER (Canada): Our delegation would like to congratulate you, Sir, on your election as Chairman of this Commission and also to thank Dr. Rodas for the excellent way in which he introduced the Declaration to the Commission. On behalf of Canada I would like also to thank the Indonesian Government for hosting the Eighth World Forestry Congress.

Canada supports the Jakarta Declaration and recognizes the full endorsement given by FAO to the Declaration, as reflected by the establishment of the new programme 2. 34, Forestry for Rural Development. The favourable reaction to the Declaration last Friday and this morning by numerous delegations has demonstrated the important role of forestry throughout the world, something which has not always been recognized by governments both in developed and in developing countries. The Declaration has emphasized that trees, apart from their role as a source of fibre and for conventional wood products, play a vital role in both food production and proper land management. Forestry should therefore not be seen as a competitive activity to agriculture but, as many delegates have pointed out, as an activity without which agriculture would in many instances be impossible. In this light we would like to stress the importance of agro-forestry and urge that FAO's sub-programme 2. 34. 2, Agro-silvicultural Pastoral Development, be strongly coordinated with that of other agencies in the same field.

We would particularly like to underline Article 9 of the Declaration, dealing with the question of energy and the important role of fuel wood in food production. Furthermore, we strongly endorse Article 21, dealing with the protection of representative areas, and we recognize that it will require cooperation among FAO, Unesco, RUCN and UNEP.

Finally, we urge that FAO cooperate fully with UNEP in the preparation of the planned meeting to deal with the problems of the degradation of tropical forests to be held in Libreville, Gabon in 1980.

P. KANGA (Angola): Nous ne voulons pas répéter tout ce qui a été largement abordé par différents délégués dont nous partageons l'opinion. Le document de la Conférence de Djakarta présente des recommandations et des orientations très fondées. Aussi il est du devoir des pays en développement de le mettre en pratique et la FAO devra jouer un rôle très important pour la concrétisation de ces recommandations tant scientifiques que techniques. Ainsi ma délégation confirme son appui total à toutes les suggestions et recommandations de la Déclaration de Djakarta.

Si YOUCEF (Algérie): Les orientations contenues dans la Déclaration de Djakarta constituent un tournant dans l'histoire de la foresterie. La délégation de mon pays a approuvé et soutenu cette Déclaration. Nous saisissons cette occasion pour remercier le Gouvernement d'Indonésie des efforts déployés pour la réussite de ce congrès, et la chaleur de leur accueil. Nous voudrions aussi féliciter le Dr. Rodas pour la clarté avec laquelle il a introduit le sujet et posé le problème.

Les forestiers ont jusqu'à présent considéré l'homme comme le principal ennemi de la forêt. C'est lui qui défriche la végétation; c'est lui qui laboure; c'est lui qui brûle. Il était alors évident d'interdire à cet homme l'accès à la forêt. C'est ainsi que nous avons hérité d'une législation forestière qui se base sur une farouche répression des délits.

Mais la force, c'est un fait connu, ne peut mener au règlement d'un problème. Bien au contraire!

De nouvelles techniques d'aménagement et de gestion doivent pouvoir être testées et mises en oeuvre pour intégrer l'homme dans tous les programmes d'aménagement, en essayant de répondre particulièrement à la satisfaction de ses besoins alimentaires.

L'homme en effet défriche et laboure pour avoir de nouvelles terres de culture; il incendie pour avoir de nouveaux parcours. Comment donc ignorer ses besoins?

La nouvelle vision de l'aménagement doit intégrer la forêt dans le cadre d'un plan global de développement qui tienne compte des objectifs du pays, mais aussi des ressources disponibles et des besoins des populations.

Les besoins de mon pays en matière de bois et dérivés sont énormes. La situation des forêts algériennes n'est pas aujourd'hui en mesure de répondre à la satisfaction des besoins. Il faut absolument utiliser d'une façon efficace et rationnelle toutes les ressources en bois disponibles et particulièrement les bois de petite dimension provenant des branchages et des maquis.

Un effort dans ce sens doit être fait pour recourir à des techniques de transformation de ces petits bois. La FAO peut jouer un rôle dans ce sens.

Notre inquiétude c'est cette tendance d'aborder les questions relatives à la forêt d'une façon sectorielle.

La forêt ne doit pas être considérée comme seule source de production de bois. C'est aussi une réserve de fourrage pour les animaux et un facteur de production agricole et animale. C'est enfin un facteur d'équilibre biologique et écologique qu'il faut absolument préserver et développer.

La gestion de la forêt doit ainsi se fonder sur des bases à la fois économiques et écologiques et, à ce titre, notre délégation insiste auprès de la FAO pour que toutes les expériences qui tendent vers la recherche du développement des zones forestières sur ces bases soient aidées particulièrement dans les zones arides et semi-arides.

L'Algérie ne peut participer à ce débat sans évoquer les importantes décisions arrêtées au cours du Séminaire de Nairobi sur la désertification et sans rappeler la nécessité et l'urgence de mettre en oeuvre le programme d'étude et de recherche arrêté. Nous appuyons les propositions du délégué de la Jamahiriya arabe de Libye qui vise à renforcer la coopération internationale en la matière.

Nous félicitons à cet effet le délégué de l'Espagne pour les dispositions que son pays vient de prendre et qu'il nous a communiquées.

Directement concernée par les problèmes d'érosion et de désertification, l'Algérie affecte d'importants moyens matériels, financiers et humains pour la lutte contre ces fléaux.

L'édification du Barrage Vert et la création d'un SEFOR traduisent cette volonté.

Mais si la préoccupation est grande, il n'en demeure pas moins vrai que la situation demeure alarmante.

Le problème n'est pas un problème d'investissement. C'est surtout un problème de technique et de méthode. Le reboisement ne peut constituer à lui seul la solution. Il reste insuffisant. Seule une mise en valeur intégrée répondant aux besoins fondamentaux des populations et une gestion rationnelle et polyvalente de l'espace forestier permettent d'apporter un élément de réponse.

Ces observations nous semblent importantes. Elles posent néanmoins un autre problème lié aux structures même de gestion.

L'Algérie entend trouver une réponse à ce problème structurel grâce à la révolution agraire appliquée aux forêts et aux terrains de parcours qui permettra d'améliorer les conditions de vie et de travail des populations concernées.

Nous terminons notre intervention en attirant l'attention de la Communauté internationale sur la déclaration du délégué de l'Organisation de libération de la Palestine qui présente la situation des forêts des Territoires arabes occupés. Cette situation est d'ailleurs la même pour les forêts des pays qui luttent encore pour leur liberté.

E. K. SERWANGA (Uganda): The Uganda delegation endorses the Jakarta Declaration, and our country will do its best to implement most of the 26 points presented in so far as they are applicable to our local conditions. The document is refreshing and highly interesting. It should take its place as one of the most important and possibly revolutionary records in the annals of world forestry. It is a challenge to traditional foresters the whole world over to involve rural communities with forestry practice and to assist them to incorporate it as an important item in the strategy for their future development. To traditional foresters, the idea is rather novel and promotes much thought.

Uganda has a relatively long tradition of forestry practice. Like many other countries of the world, our forests are of the traditional type. We are used to spending large sums of public funds to manage the Uganda Natural Forest Estate as practicably as possible, and in this Estate we produce timber and fuel wood on an economic basis. They have had little time to get out of the woods and go to the people and to help them to build up forestry as part of their rural community development strategy. Uganda is endowed with a fairly rich cover of natural vegetation, most of which is tropical highforest, rich in valuable timber trees. We have extensive savannah woodlands which can be successfully forested with exotic and indigenous quick growing trees. The climate is good. Therefore, the problem of diminishing fuel products has not yet arisen. But we now realize that with a rapidly growing population this problem will face us in the near future if we do not do something about it now.

The Forestry Department of our country has as a result created a fully-staffed section of forest public relations and extension services. One of its major responsibilities is to work among the rural communities and persuade them to grow trees and wood lots on their own land holding for their future use.

On the global scale, our delegation wishes to lay emphasis on the need to arrest the threatening "poor man's crisis", to quote from the Declaration. This is the impending world shortage of fuel wood and charcoal. Our delegation associates itself fully with every effort made by this Organization to assist the world's rural communities to be self-sufficient in these valuable forest products.

Our delegation however notes that the Jakarta Declaration was not directly addressed to the FAO Council: the message was apparently aimed at the national Governments. But in spite of this, our delegation would be very grateful to FAO and its related Agencies if it could increase its efforts in assisting member governments to achieve the idea highlighted in the Declaration, particularly in promoting forestry in the rural community development strategy. We are fully aware of the valuable work already done by FAO/SIDA in organizing seminars on forestry and rural development. For this, we are deeply grateful to FAO and the Swedish Government, but it is our humble opinion that their efforts could be improved upon a little more.

Many of the tropical countries, of which my own country is one, are now fully convinced of the great value of these seminars to their rural communities. Our observation is that the number admitted to the seminars should be increased at any one course. If they are not increased, this often creates a rather long waiting-list. All the same, the cooperation and hospitality of various member governments in organizing these seminars is highly commended by our delegation. We are for example very grateful to the Governments of Thailand and India for offering to host and organize the next seminar to be held in Thailand and India from November 25 to December 15 this year. Unfortunately, Uganda will not be represented: our application was delayed owing to circumstances over which we have no control, and we are now on the waiting list.

Our delegation therefore requests FAO/SIDA to examine the possibility of organizing another seminar in the future on the same lines for those countries on the long waiting-list, and also the possibility of organizing similar seminars in future, in suitable countries of the African continent.

Referring again to the Declaration in the context of global forestry strategy, our delegation gives particular support to Point 6 of the Declaration, which makes special recommendations to control the spread of desertification, flooding, and soil erosion in arid and semi-arid regions of the world. Uganda is rather sensitive on this issue, because we are not very far south of the Sahara Desert. We recommend that FAO makes a great effort in assisting the various national schemes engaged in this work at the moment.

In conclusion, our delegation wishes to express our sincere thanks to the Government of Indonesia for hosting the Eighth World Forestry Conference, to the President of the Conference, Mr. Soedjarwo, and to the FAO Council for putting in such a vast amount of effort and work which resulted in this very valuable historical document.

G. CONSTANT (France): Pour répondre à votre demande, je vais limiter mon intervention à deux points précis qui intéressent non seulement mon pays, mais un certain nombre d'autres et notamment les pays du bassin méditerranéen. Je m'explique:

Je voudrais rappeler l'attention de nos collègues et, plus spécialement encore de la FAO sur l'intérêt qui nous paraît très vif, quant à nous, de recevoir l'appui de la FAO pour la réanimation de deux groupes d'étude d'objet forestier et d'un intérêt absolument certain; ces deux groupes sont les suivants:

Le Groupe qu'on a coutume d'appeler "SILVA MEDITERRANEA" et qui regroupe ce nom doit évoquer chez certains de mes collègues des souvenirs précis pratiquement l'ensemble des pays qui bordent la Méditerranée. C'est une vieille institution qui a rendu dans le passé de grands services et qui s'était un peu assoupie, mais qui vient de reprendre une certaine vie puisqu'elle s'est réunie à plusieurs reprises et que notamment, en septembre dernier, ce n'est pas vieux, une rencontre qui a eu lieu à Lisbonne a permis précisément aux pays méditerranéens de souligner l'intérêt qu'il y aurait à réanimer ce groupe.

Les événements récents d'ailleurs, je crois, nous y incitent puisqu'on notera que des incendies particulièrement sérieux se sont déclarés tout autour du bassin au cours de ces dernières années, et que nous avons intérêt, je pense, dans l'esprit même des conclusions de Djakarta, à faire revivre ce groupe.

Ma demande est concrète, nous demandons que l'OAA nous aide à pouvoir faire redémarrer ce groupe qui intéresse, je le dis encore une fois, l'ensemble des pays méditerranéens et qui ne sont pas tous, évidemment, des pays riches pouvant même poursuivre cette action.

Le deuxième groupe que nous souhaitons, quant à nous, voir également reprendre vie, mais qui ne peut le faire que s'il reçoit là aussi une aide en valeur limitée, mais une aide de la FAO, est le Groupe de travail dit "DÉS BASSINS VERSANTS". La Commission européenne des forêts - ceci intéresse il est vrai spécialement les pays européens - avait pris une décision également de faire revivre ce groupe de travail qui avait une activité tout à fait concrète et qui fonctionnait jusqu'ici, sous l'autorité du professeur roumain Munteanu.

En 1980, la France se propose de tenir une réunion sur son sol à Grenoble, dans les Alpes, mais nous avons constaté avec un certain étonnement, je dois dire, que dans l'état actuel du projet - je vais souligner la chose à la Commission de la salle d'à côté - on n'avait pas prévu à cet égard, un crédit de soutien qui pourtant, jusque-là, avait été toujours maintenu. Là aussi, - M. le Président et M. le Directeur général, je saisis cette occasion pour vous dire que, moi aussi, j'ai beaucoup apprécié la synthèse lumineuse que vous avez faite des travaux de Djakarta - via question, mon observation plutôt est très concrète et je la présente non seulement je crois au nom de la délégation française mais d'un certain nombre de collègues car j'ai eu des conversations à cet égard: nous souhaitons qu'un crédit de soutien soit prévu pour la réanimation de ce Groupe de travail des "Bassins versants".

Je limiterai là mon propos, non pas que l'ensemble des problèmes évoqués autour de la foresterie ne justifiaient pas, de la part d'un pays qui a la tradition que vous savez dans cette matière, une plus longue intervention, mais vous avez rappelé que nous étions en retard et je me borne donc, suivant votre conseil, à souligner à nouveau ces deux points concernant deux groupes de travail très positifs et très concrets et pour lesquels il me semblerait tout à fait normal et logique, dans l'esprit de la Déclaration de Djakarta, que l'OAA veuille bien nous apporter une aide en valeur limitée, mais qui aurait pour nous une valeur de symbole.

J. DOORENBOS (Netherlands): The Jakarta Declaration accepted by the Eighth World Congress, and even more specifically its recommendations, are not directed directly to FAO. However, these recommendations agree to a large extent with the existing concepts within the Forestry Department of FAO. These programmes not only concern forestry production per se but also the combatting of erosion, the management of water resources, improving the rural energy situation and the lack of rural employment, to mention just a few of the aspects. In fact it is so much an integrated part of rural development. For these reasons the links with FAO should be very firmly maintained and, as the delegate of Libya has already said, when he expressed it in this way, FAO's role is crystal clear. We should like to support this.

As already expressed in the Plenary, the Netherlands fully endorses the Declaration and emphasizes again the importance of placing forestry as an integrated part of rural development.

With our discussion almost finished, the Declaration as such is now a fact. The time is now here to implement and follow through our recommendations. For this action international cooperation will be required and, as already stated in the Plenary, my country is ready to take its share.

J. J. CABRERA MALO (Venezuela): Señor Presidente, señores delegados: la delegación de Venezuela quiere agradecer muy especialmente la deferencia de darle la palabra, ya que por deber partir muy pronto a mi país, no le es posible esperar al final del debate.

La delegación de Venezuela quiere dejar constancia de su adhesión a las resoluciones de la Conferencia de Yakarta. Durante esta mañana hemos oído con verdadera satisfacción cómo los distinguidos representantes de los diferentes países han manifestado, digámoslo así, toda su identificación con el concepto emitido en Yakarta y que, prácticamente, ha invadido el mundo entero, si pudiéramos usar esta palabra.

El distinguido delegado de Argelia ha sentido muy claro que el hombre no puede ser considerado como un enemigo del bosque; yo diría que en realidad el hombre no lo ha sido, simplemente no ha sabido cómo manejar el bosque o no le hemos enseñado cómo manejar el bosque y de allí ha venido esa separación, esa lucha entre el campesino que necesita comer y el bosque que aparentemente constituye un obstáculo que hay que derribar para poder obtener austentos de esos suelos.

Mi país ha decidido definitivamente iniciar la política de plantaciones con fines de aprovechamiento y participación de toda la comunidad; ha querido en esta forma eliminar las barreras que venían existiendo entre agricultores y bosques para integrar ambos esfuerzos y lograr así que la sumatoria de todas estas acciones permita un verdadero desarrollo armónico. En tal sentido, me es sumamente satisfactorio indicar que para el próximo año han sido destinados 30 millones de bolívares, es decir 8 millones de dólares aproximadamente, para la primera etapa de plantaciones con participación de la comunidad en aldeas rurales deprimidas por la erosión de los suelos y cuya agricultura prácticamente ha quedado reducida al mínimo con el agravante de que aquella población tiende a emigrar a las ciudades principales, ya que es la única forma de conseguir un sustento.

Estos planes prevén la plantación de 15 000 hectáreas para un turno de siete años y cuyo producto será destinado a la satisfacción, en primer lugar, de las necesidades de los campesinos en cuanto a leña y carbón que aunque pudiera parecer extraño porque en el país hay petróleo, para el campesino no es fácil usar el petróleo y prefiere derribar el árbol que lo tiene más cerca.

En segundo lugar, estos productos serán destinados a satisfacer las necesidades de industrias que puedan utilizarlos en ciclos relativamente cortos. Todo ello seguido de plantaciones permanentes de tal forma que aquel ciclo continuará, esperamos, que para siempre.

Quiero en esta oportunidad dejar especial reconocimiento a las declaraciones del distinguido representante de Suriname, acerca de los servicios y asistencias prestadas por el Instituto Universitario de la Región de Mérida en nuestro país. Por mi parte debo declarar que buena parte de los principales problemas que confrontamos al iniciar planes de reforestación en nuestro país, fueron resueltos y encontramos soluciones en la excelente investigación que Suriname ha llevado a cabo en su Instituto de Blakawatra y en las demás regiones de ese distinguido país.

Finalmente, me es grato indicar, como identificación de mi país a los programas forestales y a las normas indicadas en Yakarta, que por primera vez ha sido creado un fondo de 100 millones de dólares, 400 millones de bolívares, para destinarlos al final en forma de créditos de plantaciones industriales con forma mixta de participación privada, participación oficial y participación campesina.

Venezuela empezó hace algunos años un programa de aprovechamiento de suelos marginales completamente desérticos para plantaciones con fines industriales. Este uso, este programa, ya lleva 10 años y actualmente cubre unas 100 mil hectáreas aproximadamente.

Quisiéramos en la forma más clara, más franca y más espontánea o libre de la experiencia que hemos tenido aquí a otros países que en condiciones similares quisieran aprovecharla.

(illegible) ZUKI BIN HAJI KAMALUEUDI (Malaysia): This is the first time that the Malaysian delegation has intervened in Commission I. As such, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election.

Malaysia would also like to place on record its thanks to Indonesia for work well done in hosting the Eighth World Forestry Congress.

The item under consideration is important to us in Malaysia as we are a major exporter of tropical hardwoods. In 1978 we exported 16.1 millions cubic metres of saw logs and 2.8 millions cubic metres of sawn timber.

Consequently, the Jakarta Declaration has our full support. This support was first expressed by Malaysia at the Eighth World Forestry Congress, from which emanated the Declaration now before the Commission. At that Congress the Director-General of Forestry of Malaysia was elected co-President

I am pleased to inform the Conference that Malaysia is already in the process of implementing the Jakarta Declaration on Forestry. We have recently declared a National Forestry Policy which simply incorporates the relevant points of the Jakarta Declaration on Forestry. Under this policy two types of forest land have been declared, namely the Permanent Forests and the Permanent Forest Estate. The former constitutes the area required for watershed protection, coastal protection, shelter belts for wild animals, and erosion control. The forest in this area will be permanently maintained in its virgin condition. On the other hand, the permanent forest estate will constitute the economic exploitation zone and the source and sustenance of the timber industry.

A total of 12.8 million acres has been designated as the Permanent Forest Estate. As exploitation proceeds a cess would be collected to be used for forest rehabilitation and reforestation of this area so that Malaysia will be able to continue as an exporter of tropical hardwoods in the future. Besides the area earmarked as the Permanent Forest Estate there is at present a substantial area under forest, which once exploited for its timber potential will be converted to agricultural land for crop and livestock production. However, the very success of the implementation of the national forest policy depends to a great extent on the success of our efforts to improve and develop our existing farmland so as to increase its productivity and the income of the farmers. In this way there will be no encroachment into the areas designated as forest lands and the degree of competition for the use of land between forestry and agriculture is thus reduced. Our in situ development programme is so orientated. The improvement in the productivity of the land through the development of irrigation facilities, provision of credit, expansion of marketing facilities and better extension services would lead to higher output and income of the farmers. We are now in the process of promoting development of integrated timber complexes so that more value can be added to our forest products. We intend to reduce our exports of sawlogs while expanding our output and exports of sawn timber and moulded timber as well as timber items intended for consumer utilisation such as furniture. In this respect we would like to urge the developed countries to help us help ourselves. We are not interested in aid per se. rather we want trade. And in the case of the forest and timber industry Malaysia would like developed countries to reduce if not totally remove their presently high tariff rates against imports of processed timber products from Malaysia and other developing countries.

Let me conclude by reiterating Malaysia's support for the Jakarta Declaration and also call upon FAD to assist those Member Countries requiring technical aid in preparing their national forest policy along the relevant principles of the Jakarta Declaration.

F. LEGAULT (Gabon): La délégation gabonaise se joint aux autres délégations pour vous féliciter à l'occasion de votre élection à la Présidence de cette Commission. Notre pays appuie la Déclaration qui doit servir de ligne directrice aux objectifs forestiers de la FAO car elle traduit les soucis de la communauté forestière mondiale. C'est pourquoi, notre délégation-notre pays étant couvert à 80 pour cent par la forêt-retrouve dans les différents sujets évoqués dans cette déclaration un écho des problèmes préoccupant la politique de développement de notre pays. Nous retenons particulièrement dans cette déclaration l'importance qui doit être accordée aux inventaires forestiers, notamment dans les pays tropicaux, car il est difficile d'assigner à une forêt inconnue des objectifs de production. C'est malheureusement la situation qui est la notre dans nos forêts tropicales.

La FAO a contribué à la réalisation des programmes d'inventaire dans plusieurs régions du monde. Cet effort n'a pas été suffisant et mérite d'être poursuivi. Les opérations d'inventaire nécessitent souvent la mobilisation de moyens matériels et techniques très importants qui ne sont malheureusement pas dans nos possibilités locales. C'est pourquoi, nous souhaitons que la FAO et les autres organismes internationaux apportent un appui plus important et plus soutenu pour renforcer ou améliorer les structures nationales existantes dans les domaines des inventaires, accélèrent le processus de la vulgarisation des nouvelles techniques et mettent tous ces moyens en oeuvre pour aboutir à leur application rapide. C'est seulement à partir d'une connaissance parfaite des différents écosystèmes que nous pourrions envisager la possibilité de conférer à nos ressources forestières leur vocation de production en harmonie avec les différents intérêts qui s'y rattachent. Nous considérons donc l'inventaire comme étant l'une des mesures efficaces et indispensables à prendre dans l'immédiat. Entre autres, la Déclaration de Djakarta a mis en évidence à juste titre le rôle de la forêt dans le développement rural. La délégation gabonaise partage parfaitement ce point de vue, ayant l'expérience de cinquante années de programmes de reboisement. Ces chantiers de reboisement représentent de véritables poles d'attraction dans les milieux ruraux et constituent un support réel à tout projet de développement intégré. En effet, les populations peuvent être associées aux activités forestières par la création de centres agrico-sylvicoles, et d'industries artisanales utilisant des techniques intermédiaires à la portée des masses rurales.

Ce sont là des opérations limitées. Seul un plan d'aménagement global, établi sur la base d'éléments réels, peut donner à la forêt sa capacité de production et de régénération. C'est pourquoi, une fois de plus, nous réitérons notre appui total à la Déclaration de Djakarta.

F. BARRIENTOS FERNANDEZ (España): Muchas gracias, señor Presidente por autorizarnos a hacer esta intervención adicional.

La delegación de España desea expresar que apoya vivamente la propuesta de la delegación de Francia en favor de la vitalización por FAO de la silva mediterránea y del grupo de trabajo de cuencas hidrográficas. Con ello reiteramos nuestra posición expresada ya en las reuniones de la Comisión Forestal Europea y del Comité de Montes de FAO, posición que hemos compartido prácticamente con todos los demás países del Mediterráneo.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We have listened to almost the last of the speakers today, and in addition to those countries mentioned as having presented their written statements to be incorporated in our proceedings I am now adding the names of El Salvador, Mauritania, and Zambia who have requested us to incorporate their written statements with our proceedings. I wish to assure all those who have presented these written statements that their statements will be taken into full consideration upon preparation of the report of our Committee. Should there be no other speaker who wishes to take the floor I will then give the floor to Mr. Flores-Rodas who will comment on Friday's and today's discussions on this important subject.

M. A. FLORES-ROPAS (Subdirector Generali Departamento de Montes): Gracias señor Presidente, quisiera en estos momentos hacer un resumen del gran apoyo hacia la Declaración de Yakarta.

Durante esa Asamblea y la discusión que la Declaración de Yakarta ha provocado se me ocurre una idea y una reacción; la reacción, al comparar los dos cuerpos directivos de la FAO que tienen que ver con el Departamento de Montes que son: el Comité de Montes y, por supuesto, esta magna Conferencia.

Durante las sesiones y las deliberaciones que ocurren en el Comité de Montes se discuten obviamente problemas puramente forestales; es la primera vez que al nivel más alto de los miembros de gobierno de la FAO, como es la Conferencia, se discuten problemas que no sólo conciernen al sector forestal, sino también conciernen a todas aquellas instituciones y personas que tienen que ver con el desarrollo rural. Esto para el Departamento de Montes es de suma importancia porque, como dije al discutir este problema al nivel de COFO, digo de Comité de Montes, es obvio; pero no lo es, y tiene mucha significación que se discuta este problema en la forma tan honesta y abierta que lo hemos discutido durante el viernes pasado y el día de hoy.

La Declaración de Yakarta y también vuestro apoyo a ella significa un estímulo muy grande y un apoyo también a los programas de trabajo y de presupuesto que el señor Director General ha sometido a la consideración de la Conferencia para el próximo bienio 1980-81.

En este momento quisiera leer o citar en una forma literal dos contribuciones de países miembros de esta Conferencia que, a mi modo de ver, resumen nuestro interés sobre el asunto. Cito: "Si los bosques han de ser alguna vez beneficiosos al pueblo, muchos aspectos y cuestiones tendrán que involucrarse; algunos de ellos conectados con la agricultura, otros con la industria y otros con la protección del medio ambiente. Hay una necesidad muy fuerte para que las agencias nacionales e internacionales responsables por los asuntos forestales adopten aproximaciones balanceadas y comprensivas hacia el desarrollo forestal basado en políticas que armonicen los factores de producción, de protección y sociales".

Otro país que también se refiere a este asunto dice lo siguiente: "Era ya tiempo de llamar la atención a este cuerpo gobernante más alto de la FAO sobre la importancia de los asuntos forestales para la vida de los pueblos en general.

Los forestales del mundo probaron en Yakarta que tienen una clara visión del impacto potencial que los forestales pueden tener sobre el bienestar de la humanidad. La decisión política es ahora necesaria para hacer que esto sea posible.

La Declaración de Yakarta debe ser estudiada no sólo por los forestales, sino especialmente por los políticos, aquellos que están a los niveles decisivos de los países y por los planificadores del uso de la tierra.

Aunque no hace ninguna recomendación específica a la PAD la Declaración, esto también es obvio que la FAO no puede evitar ser instrumento en guiar al mundo forestal sobre la implantación seria de propuestas que hagan honor a la Declaración de Yakarta".

Refiriéndome específicamente a la Declaración de Yakarta, y después de leer estas dos citas que resu-men, a mi modo de entender, el sentimiento de esta Asamblea, muy poco más puedo decir sobre tal Declaración.

Para terminar, señor Presidente, querría referirme específicamente ala demanda de las honorables representaciones de Francia y de Espana referentes a silva mediterránea y al grupo de trabajo sobre cuencas de montana. Para hacer esta referencia quisiera hacer, con su permiso, señor Presidente, un poco de historia sobre este desarrollo.

Durante el año pasado hubo una reunión del Grupo de trabajo sobre cuencas de montana, aquí en la sede de FAO. Esta reunión también era consecuencia de algunas disposiciones de COFO 4, celebrada aquí en Roma en mayo de 1978·Sobre este punto la Recomendación de COFO) fue la inclusión en los grupos de trabajo, específicamente el de cuencas de montana, de países en desarrollo con problemas similares. Tal grupo, haciendo honor a la solicitud de COFO, tuvo por primera vez tal reunión en FAO aquí en Roma, con la inclusión de miembros de países en desarrollo con problemas similares.

Posteriormente, durante la reunión, a mediados de este ano, en la Comisión Forestal Europea, se discutieron los asuntos del reavivamiento de este Grupo detrabajo y la ampliación del Grupo de trabajo referente a la silva mediterránea. Había, a propuesta de la Secretaría, algunos problemas de tipo legal para poder ampliar tales Grupos de trabajo. Se presentaron a la Comisión Forestal Europea tres alternativas por parte de la Secretaría. La Comisión Europea, haciendo oídos a la solicitud de la Secretaría sobre estas tres alternativas, decidió resolver el presentar al próximo COFO, que se celebrará en mayo del próximo ano, aquí en la sede de Roma, algunas soluciones sobre cómo la FAO puede seguir apoyando tales grupos de trabajo.

Quiero hacer constar que la FAO sigue apoyando las ideas y los trabajos de silva mediterránea y del Grupo de trabajo sobre cuencas de montana. Como dije, existen algunos problemas de tipo legal, de tipo presupuestario y de tipo de prioridades de los trabajos de FAO, que tendrán que ser analizados y recomendados por COFO el próximo ano de 1981, ante los cuales la Secretaría, indiscutiblemente, los tomará muy en cuenta.

Creo que al hacer esta última intervención he llegado al final.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you, Mr. Flores-Rodas, it seems we have completed our discussion on this special Agenda Item 6. 3, namely, Forestry, the Jakarta Declaration. I wish to thank you all, in particular for having responded to my appeal at the beginning of the meeting concerning the shortage of time and the necessity for being brief in our discussion of this item.

I do not wish to attempt to summarise the discussions, because these will be very efficiently covered by the report. However, I may try to summarise, and I wish to point out that the discussion on the subject was of the highest standard. As far as the number of speakers were concerned, that went totally beyond expectations. We had 46 speakers in addition to 5 other delegations, who have submitted their written statements on the subject. There is no doubt that this is a clear indication of the importance of the subject, and that the Jakarta Declaration with its perception and keen imagination deserves all support and agreement on the part of the participants in the discussion.

Once again, I say I shall not attempt to summarise the excellent discussion but will confine myself to discussing the major points.

The first, the Jakarta Declaration seems to have won unconditional support. Second, the concept of forestry to mankind seems to win support and complete understanding on the part of all participants, and there is a very clear appeal for magic forestry in the rural development, along with whatever requirements or policy decisions may be required to be taken by the other organizations.

It was also clear from the discussions that adoption of the principles of the Jakarta Declaration requires a definite political intention. It became clear that both this Declaration and its adoption require a new outlook on the part of countries and governments as far as forestry is concerned for the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration recommendations.

It was also evident from the discussion that most, if not the majority, of the speakers have mentioned that the Jakarta Declaration does not refer particularly to FAO, yet all those speakers have clearly shown that there is a mission or a task, though this is not written, that should be undertaken by FAO. It is evident that it is up to FAO, sometimes in cooperation with other specialized agencies, to intensify the present programmes and to continue with them, in addition to the opening of new horizons and the adoption of new concepts that will bear in mind the futuristic outlook of the Declaration.

There is clear understanding, likewise, that the Forestry Department at FAO deserves all support and strengthening so as to face the new challenges. It became evident from the discussions, also, that there was a clear appeal for the strengthening of international cooperation on a regional level, or at other levels within the forestry sector, particularly with respect to desertification and erosion.

It was natural that considerable specialised aspects of the discussion, particularly on certain details of the Declaration, or because of the special conditions in the countries of the speakers, and all the other points, are reflected seriously in the report.

I need not reiterate also that there was unanimity of opinion on the necessity of thanking the Government of Indonesia and the efforts which gave the Conference its success, appreciation to the other countries which enabled certain delegations to participate, or for their assistance and participation towards the success of the Conference. To my mind, these are a few of the main points on which the discussion has centred.

Naturally, there is a host of other points which the report will bear in mind when it is prepared by the Drafting Committee, and which will be examined by you for adoption later on.

With this said, we conclude the discussion of this agenda item on Forestry, and before adjourning I shall give the floor to Mr. Dutia, the Secretary of our Commission, for a few remarks which he wishes to give.

SECRETARY: After consultation with various delegations which the Chairman of the Commission has held, the following composition of the Drafting Committee, which will prepare the draft report for Commission I, has been decided upon: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Czechoslovakia, Japan, Kuwait, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan, South Yemen, Uganda and the United States of America.

The first meeting of the Drafting Committee will be held today, after the close of the afternoon session, in the Malaysia Room, B227.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We shall proceed this afternoon to deal with item 7, which is dealt with in the Director-General's Report on the Implementation of the Plan of Action on World Food Security. The Director-General himself will be here to deliver a statement on this important item on our agenda. I remind delegates of the various documents on the subject. There is C 79/23 and C 79/23-Corr. 1, in Arabic and English only. Then there is C 79/23-Sup. 1(Arabic only), C 79/23-Sup. 2 and C 79/LIM/34. The last mentioned contains the Draft Resolution presented by Colombia, Guinea, India, Tunisia, Uruguay, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

O. M. MBURU (Kenya): My delegation would like to commend FAO for bringing to the attention of the Conference the Jakarta Declaration which represents an expression of all the Foresters, and not only National Forest Administrations, represented at the 8th World Forestry Congress.

The very worthy recommendations contained in that Declaration need support of all nations. FAO has given a lead in increasing the resources for the programme Forestry for Rural Development which was a major aspect of discussions at the Jakarta Congress whose theme was "Forests for People".

The energy crisis cannot be over-emphasized. The great majority of the world's low income groups depend on fuel from wood for cooking their food. There is a great need to intensify afforestation and tree planting, both in and outside the Forest reserves to meet their demand for fuel. This could also have the additional benefits of soil stabilization and providing fodder for livestock.

To realize these aims, there is need for intensified research in afforestation and land and forest management and in particular afforestation and tree planting in marginal and arid lands such as the Sahel. We feel that FAO and other agencies have a role to play in this. We in Kenya have started with the assistance of IDRC of Canada, research in afforestation of semi-arid lands. The greater part of Kenya is either arid or semi-arid and we therefore greatly appreciate the need for this research.

One thing to bear in mind is the environmental impact resulting from the increasing demand for wood and food. We therefore urge FAO to continue cooperation with UNDP and other bodies such as ICRAF (International Council for Research in Agro-Forestry) in order to ensure balanced development without ecological damage.

The role of women in rural development should also be accorded adequate recognition. We in Kenya have experienced the impact that women can make in rural tree planting. The National Council of Women of Kenya have embarked on an ambitious tree planting scheme and establishing a green belt that is having a very favourable effect in the rural areas. The Forest Service is doing its best to support this.

It is difficult to emphasize too strongly the importance of training. Many developing countries have tended to concentrate on training of professional and technical grades but not enough has been done for vocational training. It will be difficult to realize the recommendations contained in the Jakarta Declaration without adequate training at all levels and we look forward to assistance from the international community to bring this about, and FAO has an important role to play in this. . 1/

R. C. SOOD (India): Mr. Chairman, the Eighth World Forestry Congress with the theme "Forests for People" reaffirmed the formal declaration of the Seventh World Forestry Congress, which had as its theme 'The Forest and Socio-Economic Development'. The Eighth Congress examined in depth as to how forestry might best serve human beings individually and collectively.

The 74th Session of the FAO Council (November-December 1978) considered the "Jakarta Declaration" adopted at the Eighth World Forestry Congress held in Jakarta in October 1978 and has decided to refer it to the 20th Session of the FAO Conference for its consideration.

The Indian delegation to the Eighth World Forestry Congress, led by the Inspector-General of Forests in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, took active part in the celebrations of the Congress as well as in the formulation of the "Jakarta Declaration". This Declaration deals innovatively with a number of issues of direct concern to all authorities including Governments, National and International Organisations, etc. concerned with the development of various aspects of forestry especially in relation to rural development. At the 74th Session of the FAO Council also, the Indian representative along with other delegates appreciated the basic tenets of the Declaration.

The Jakarta Declaration has made a number of very weighty recommendations, which are unexceptionable if the problem of forestry is to be satisfactorily solved. Forestry is an important requirement for maintaining nature's ecological balance but seems unfortunately to go by and large by default. This is due primarily to pressure of population, lack of discipline in regeneration of forests, and lastly a lack of appreciation of the need for forests by the average policy-maker, resulting in starvation of funds. What is needed perhaps is a practical, economical, down to earth answer based on identification of species which can be grown from seeds rather than seedlings, need no irrigation and can survive drought, are fast growing and are not browsed by stray cattle. The Jakarta Declaration comes not a day too soon, particularly because of its innovative approach of "Forests for the People".

The principles enunciated in the Jakarta Declaration are unexceptionable and are wholly accepted in India's forestry development plans.

The Congress declared that the World's forests must be maintained on a sustainable basis for the use and employment of all people. In the forest management and planning activities, India's policies are directed towards this goal.

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

In India since the inception of the Second Five Year Plan, efforts have been directed towards increased forest production by reaching hitherto inaccessible forests and also by resorting to man-made forest plantations. At the end of 1979, India will have an aggregate of 3.4 million ha. of man-made forests raised during the successive development plans. The potential for sustained growth and production and expansion of man-made forests particularly in non-forest lands is still vast and efforts are being made to utilise this potential both in the short and long run.

India has launched a massive Community Forestry Programme to benefit the rural poor by providing them fuel, fodder, food, nuts, etc. within a short period. The programme envisages growing fuel wood and fodder trees along with fruit bearing trees on village common lands, canal banks, road sides and railway lines. During the 6th Plan a sum of Rs. 1150 million has been set aside for this programme. Two World Bank aided projects in social forestry, one in the State of U. P. and the other in the State of Gujarat, have been formulated.

India possesses 500 species of mammals, 2100 species of birds and over 30,000 species of insects. To preserve the wild life, 6 national parks, 13 game sanctuaries and 24 zoological gardens have been established in India. To protect the magnificent tiger and his habitat, 9 areas have been declared as 'Project Areas' under the Project Tiger. The Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 is meant for the protection and conservation of wild life.

The Congress drew attention to the necessity for the increasing needs in scientific, technological and managerial information to be met efficiently. To train Indian forestry personnel in the modern business aspect of forest resources management, the Institute of Forest Management has been established in India with assistance of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). FAO also is likely to be involved in this work.

As will be seen, Mr. Chairman, we, in India, have accepted the principles enunciated in the Jakarta Declaration, and would like to lend our wholehearted support to the same 1/.

R. MAROUF (Iraq): My delegation expresses its full support for the 'Jakarta Declaration' which explained the methods of utilizing forests and forestry products for the benefit of the people, in addition to raising several important issues and concepts. We hope that FAO and its member countries will cooperate to implement the concepts and ideas of the 'Jakarta Declaration' for the benefit of mankind.

In this context, I would like to draw attention to Iraq's efforts in protecting and developing forests, orchards and palm trees in recent years. With the support of the Government, and under its supervision, 10 million seedlings of forest trees and about 7 million seedlings of fruit trees and ornamental plants were produced last year, in addition to protecting and developing natural and man-made forests over an area of 30 000 hectares. Afforestation activities were expanded to conventional and desert areas for sand-dune fixation over more than 6 000 hectares. Large areas of the farm and projects owned by the Socialist Sector were covered with fruit trees. All these activities correspond with the 'Jakarta Declaration' 1/.

M. BCOUM (Mauritanie): Le Gouvernement de la République islamique de Mauritanie approuve et appuie la "Déclaration de Djakarta" sur la foresterie.

Mon pays est aux trois-quarts désertique et connaît depuis plus de dix ans les effets de la sécheresse qui sont venus accélérer la désertification.

Grâce à l'assistance des Etats-Unis d'Amérique et de la Fédération luthérienne mondiale, des projets de reboisement sont en cours. Le Gouvernement mauritanien a organisé une campagne de plantation d'arbres pendant les mois d'août et de septembre 1979; les couches populaires y ont participé. Malheureusement l'insuffisance des pluies a limité la portée de cette campagne.

Parmi d'autres actions entreprises par le Gouvernement mauritanien, il a été systématiquement interdit la coupe d'arbres et des sanctions très sévères sont prévues à cet effet. Mais l'ampleur de la désertification est telle en Mauritanie que le Gouvernement mauritanien envisage d'intégrer dans les projets de développement rural des actions de reboisement et de protection de la nature. Il compte également sur une assistance extérieure plus soutenue pour faire face à la désertification dévastatrice 2/.

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

2/ Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

I. A. RONQUILLO (Philippines): The Philippines is one of the participating countries of the Eighth World Forestry Congress which fully subscribes to the mandates of the 'Jakarta Declaration'. There were a number of issues tackled in the Declaration which highlight the need for urgent action to safeguard the world's forest resources, among which were: ensuring the forest resources continued contribution to the control of floods and desertification; regulating water supplies for biological production; maximizing their support and important role in environmental stability; promoting the use of wood as a renewable source of energy; providing employment opportunities and contributing to rural development. The Declaration likewise called upon Governments to adopt proper land use; including reforestation; improve the status of forest workers and expand forestry training programmes at all levels; introduce forest resource conservation; renewal and expansion programmes in order to meet growing world wood needs; and provide support and political backing to forestry administrations.

The Philippines today, with 57 percent of the total land area being forest lands are still ecologically healthy, and the plan to retain at least 40 percent of our total land area as forest lands will not alter this condition. But this does not suggest however, that we are exempted from problems brought about by forest destruction. It was because of the alarming rate of rapid depletion of our forest resources which resulted in loss of lives, destruction of property, floods and other damages that the government, through the Ministry of Natural Resources, intensified its programs for forest conservation and management.

We have around 13 million hectares of forest lands which are managed under the sustained-yield concept of forest management. In line with the State adopted policy of multiple-use sustained yield management, the government has provided for an effective system of natural regeneration thru selective logging in dipterocarp forest and seed tree method in pine forests. Activities are also conducted to regulate water supplies for biological production. There are watershed rehabilitation and selective logging.

The principal reason for the formulation and implementation of the watershed programme is to provide and safeguard the quality of water which emanates from the watersheds. Watershed rehabilitation involves vegetative and structural measures. Vegetative measures minimize erosion caused by heavy rainfall. On the other hand, the structural measures, allow silted water to settle, thereby minimizing sediments entering bigger bodies of water. They also help minimize bottom scouring and stream bank erosion, due to high stream flow.

Selective logging which is the systematic removal of mature and over mature trees is designed to leave undamaged sufficient numbers of healthy residuals to provide future harvest and prevent excessive soil erosion and surface run-off during heavy rains.

In line with this, is the limitation on log export which started in 1976 expansion of the local processing of logs and slow down in log production to slaken the pace of deforestation.

Activities presently undertaken in support of this are range management, food production in forest lands by holders of pasture leases and timber licenses. The range management activity involves the development and management of all rangelands throughout the country in support of the national drive for self-sufficiency in meat, milk and other livestock products. Most of the existing pastures are not properly utilized and developed. Some pasture areas are either understocked. Taking cognizance of this, our government has launched a programme to develop and properly manage all lands suitable for range purposes. The range management project seeks to evaluate 969, 000 hectares of forest lands covered by pasture leases in order to place them under intensive range management or to find suitable land uses for them. The Forest Industries Food Production Program, by virtue of PD 472, requires timber licenses and pasture lessees to set aside a certain portion of their area for food production for the consumption of their employees.

On maintaining their important role in environmental stability, we pursue the watershed rehabilitation, reforestation and kaingin management programs. The government has embarked on the Program for Forest Ecosystem Management (PROFEM) which is a holistic ecosystem approach to forest management. It aims to prevent irreversible consequences of destructive human activities on the forest ecosystem, renewal of degraded forest areas, increase public participation in agro-forestry activities for the production of food and wood, conservation of water and power irrigation and domestic use, minimize the effects of floods, droughts, soil erosion and other destructive factors on the ecosystem. On June 6, 1977, the President issued PD 1153, requiring every citizen, ten years old and above and not physically or mentally disabled, to plant one tree every month for five consecutive years.

In 1976, the government succeeded in reforesting 31 734 hectares of denuded forest over three times more than the previous annual average. The 1977 effort showed a reforested area increasing to 52 506 hectares level. In 1978, we have reforested around 78 425 ha. As of the middle part of this year, our reforested area reached 20 140 hectares.

Forestry statistics show that the No. 1 destroyer of forests are the shifting cultivators. Since this problem is socio-economic in nature, the government opted to harness the shifting cultivators in forest development activities rather than prosecuting them through the Forest Occupancy Management. Forest Occupancy Management aims to contain shifting cultivation thru rural development. This program involves the introduction of improvement and physical development of selected sites inside forest lands. Demonstration farms appropriate for upland agricultural production with emphasis on soil erosion control are likewise introduced to forest dwellers.

Another remedy is the "Slash and Burn" Project of the FAO/UNFPA, a multi-country project being implemented in the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Thailand. The main objective of which is to prevent further destruction of our forest resources by shifting cultivators and at the same time formulate policies/programs for the upliftment of the economic and social status of shifting cultivators.

The activities undertaken in support of this are the establishment of communal tree farms, foreign-assisted tree farm projects and studies on the feasibility of utilizing logging and millwastes for fuel. The Communal tree farming program basically involves the mobilization of families, barangays, and/or communities and local government units in each applicable city/municipality to set-up, operate and manage community tree farms/piantations to generate enough wood and other forest products to supply industries using these resources aside from providing added means of employment for thousand of Filipinos. Since the program specifies giant ipil-ipil as the species to be planted, the planting of said trees will accelerate fuel wood production needed for our energy consumption.

The establishment of energy farms in two-hectare plantations in each barangay is being specifically undertaken to generate fuel wood as a dendrothermal energy source.

The utilization of logging wastes for fuel is a project of the government which will be implemented within this year. The project is aimed at finding ways by which the amount of wood wastes available can be commercially utilized. Considering that wood wastes can be properly utilized as additional source of energy and as fuel wood and materials for secondary wood processing, foreign exchange earnings, and labor employment can be easily generated as well as conserve the fast diminishing timber resources.

There are also the on-going foreign assisted projects on Small Holders Tree Farms. Under these, farmers are given loans to start the farms of Giant ipil-ipil trees for fuel.

The Kaingin Management Program through the intercropping method practiced would provide additional income to forest dwellers. An increase in agricultural productivity would then decrease the need of forest dwellers for additional clearings in nearby forested lands. The forest occupancy program would alleviate and ameliorate conditions of forest dwellers which is part of the rural development program of the government.

The Communal Tree Farming Program is also designed to involve people in food production through agroforestry for their cash crop production and food consumption. Through this program, immediate generation of employment and additional income to the countryside is ensured while giving more meaning to government-to-people relationship.

The government is pursuing various training programs for forestry personnel. Among these are the RP-German training on reforestation and soil erosion control under which, ten training sessions have already been conducted involving about 260 BFD field personnel; the UNDP-FAO-RP training on multiple-use forest management have also been conducted for district and assistant district foresters; graduate fellowships, local and abroad, and observation and study tours.

The above activities are merely enumeration of what we in the Philippines are doing. We have formulated a forest development plan, involving other forestry activities which encompasses the means by which we can judiciously utilize, conserve and manage our forest resources for the benefit of our people ^{1/}

^{1/} Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

A. E. MARTINEZ (El Salvador): La Delegación de El Salvador desea en primer término expresar su satisfacción por la magnífica exposición que hiciera el Dr. Marco Flores Rodas sobre la Declaración de Yakarta, tema que abordó con claridad y conocimiento.

El Salvador cuenta con proyectos de desarrollo forestal localizados en la zona norte del país, áreas que han estado sometidas a procesos de degradación, originados en su mayor parte por la intervención del hombre, en unos casos por motivos de subsistencia, en otros donde ha sido necesario efectuar obras de ingeniería indispensables para el desarrollo rural. Dentro de este contexto la Dirección General de Recursos Naturales Renovables a través de su departamento Forestal y el Proyecto sobre Ordenación de Cuencas Hidrográficas aplica, desde hace una década, gran parte de las medidas contenidas en la Declaración de Yakarta, contando dentro de la labor de asesoría el apoyo y asesoría de la FAO.

Consideramos que la Declaración de Yakarta constituye un aporte sustantivo a la problemática Forestal y que merece de nuestro Gobierno el más cálido respaldo 1/.

B. O. M. CHIYABWE (Zambia): We fully endorse the Jakarta Declaration. We also agree that the resolutions cover some of the urgent actions required to be taken by man to safeguard the world's forest resource.

It is not our wish to make a progress report regarding our activities in Zambia. However, we are tempted to do so in order to enable us to highlight a few points relevant to this particular discussion. Our experience is that political backing to forestry administration has stimulated forestry development in the rural areas. Under the mass party, the United National independence party, we have been able to acquire large tracts of forest areas which would otherwise have been put under shifting agriculture. Both Central Government and Local Authorities now accept and support the view that gazetted forest estates should not be released for shifting cultivation. This has been a break-through in our forestry administration. It is therefore our intention to raise the extent of the forest estate from 9.5 per cent to 16.0 per cent during the Third National Development Plan to safeguard unused land from shifting agriculture.

Although we have this political backing we still find it difficult to raise funds for resource and forest industries development. I commend those countries that are able to set aside a percentage of their revenue for future investment in forestry development. We would therefore suggest that FAO urge those member countries who have not done so to make a start 2/.

The meeting rose at 11.50 hours.

La seance est levée à 11 h 50.

Se levanta la sesión alas 11.50 horas.

1/ Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.

2/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

conference

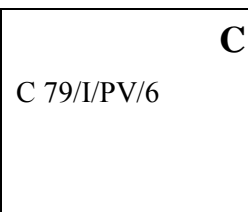
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

SIXTH MEETING
SIXIEME SEANCE
SEXTA SESION

(19 November 1979)

The Sixth Meeting was opened at 14. 50 hours
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La sixième seance est ouverte à 14 h 50, sous la présidence de
Mohamed Sidki Zehm, Président de la Commission I
Se abre la sexta sesión a las 14. 50 horas, bajo la presidencia de
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN
MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y
LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)
7. Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security
7. Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale
7. Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Ladies and Gentlemen, I call this meeting, the Sixth Session of Commission I, to order. Delegates will remember that at the end of this morning's meeting I had announced that the discussion on item 7 on the report of the Director-General on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security would start this afternoon and I would remind you that the documents relating to this item on the agenda are the following: C 79/23, C 79/23-Sup. 1, which only concerns the Arabic version. Then we have document C 79/23-Sup. 2 and C 79/23-Corr. 1 for Arabic and English only, and the document relating to the draft report which is C 79/LIM/34.

There is nothing that can better illustrate the importance of the subject with which we are dealing than the presence of the Director-General, Mr. Edouard Saouman himself, who in person will present an introductory statement to this session. All delegates know how much work the Director-General has had to do at this session with his multiple responsibilities. It had been agreed that the Director-General should speak to the Commission this morning but since the discussion on the previous item, Forestry, was extended, he will speak this afternoon. For all these reasons the Director-General will perhaps find it difficult to be present here for some time after having finished his introductory statement. Of course we give him a warm welcome and we are waiting for his introductory statement on this important matter with great attention and patience. Of course, we would have liked him to have stayed as long as possible but, if necessary, I am sure we can trust the Director-General to come later on and join the Commission again. Otherwise, I have no particular points to make and since the Director-General is present I would like to ask him to take the floor immediately.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, we have come to the most important single subject on the agenda of this Conference. The subject is Food Security. Food security is the responsibility of individual men and women at the family level. But it is the duty of governments at the national level. And the world food crisis taught us, once and for all, that it is fundamentally a global responsibility.

In 1974 this concept was enshrined in the International Undertaking on World Food Security, to which over 80 nations and the EEC have since subscribed.

Why, then, has there been such limited progress since 1974? Some countries learned the lessons of the world food crisis. They took unilateral action to strengthen their own food security. But others, including a number of major producing and consuming nations, postponed decisions while their negotiators grappled with the complex problems of a new international grains arrangement. These negotiations have failed to reach an agreement. As a result, the international undertaking on world food security remained virtually a dead letter.

Mr. Chairman, I am sure that all delegates will agree that, however desirable a new world grains arrangement may be, future negotiations must not slow down progress towards food security. The FAO cannot sit idle while the world, and in particular the food-deficit developing countries, remain without protection against serious crop failure. This is why, earlier this year, I proposed a five-point plan of action to implement the undertaking without further delay.

My initiative was supported by the UN Committee of the Whole. After careful examination by the Committee on World Food Security, the plan was adopted in June by the Council of FAO. It has since been endorsed by the World Food Council. It is now the task of this Conference to determine how the plan should be implemented.

In doing so, the Conference will no doubt want to bear in mind that, following the adoption of the FAO plan, food security has become a major issue of concern at several high-level meetings this very year. I refer, for example, to the seven-nation economic summit in Tokyo, the Commonwealth Meeting of Heads of

Government at Lusaka-the Commonwealth Ministers have met here in Rome a few days ago and have discussed this very problem-and the Havana Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries which I attended. More recently, there have been renewed discussions on food aid at the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, and at the Food Aid Committee in London.

Following this renewed interest in food security at the international level, - a number of governments and the EEC have informed me of the various measures they intend to take in order to implement the plan. The summary of these replies has been circulated to delegates. FAO however has not yet received replies from several major producing and consuming countries. I hope, Mr. Chairman, that, in view of all the consultations at the highest level, those governments which reserved their position at the Council can announce today their full support for the plan. No one has ever said to be against the plan, in fact nobody could declare to be against the plan on food security, what was said was:"we reserve our position, it is too early" or, "we shall see next June-next November"-now we are in November and we hope that those countries will be in a position to give their support to the plan. This is all the more essential because the immediate food security situation today is as precarious as it was before the world food crisis. Owing to the sharp fall in world cereals production, import requirements have leapt to 184 million ton(ne)s, reflecting the heavy requirements of developed countries, particularly the Soviet Union. How has the world coped with this situation? Fortunately, there are sufficient supplies available to meet the deficit. But the sheer magnitude of the requirements-which are 36 million ton(ne)s more than only 3 years ago-is straining transportation and handling systems to their limits. In fact some exporters have had to defer millions of tons(ne)s of shipments because of their logistic problems. For grains one must use relatively small ships-15, 20 or 30 thousand ton(ne)s; it is not like oil, for which there are tankers of half a million ton(ne)s of 300. 000 ton(ne)s each. As a result, transport is a very important matter for grains and, of course, is very costly. Today I received the visit of a Minister, who told me that his Government had been able to secure credit to import 100. 000 ton(ne)s of maize. The cost of the grains was 12 million dollars, but he told me that the cost of freight was 13. 5 million dollars, more than that of the maize! As a result, they were trying to secure an additional loan from another country, since the same country was not ready to provide credit for both the grains and the freight.

During the various meetings which I have had the privilege to hold with many ministers-on Friday alone, I had the honour to meet 23-most of them referred to the problems which their governments encountered in paying their bills for grain imports. This is becoming a very acute problem and I was therefore glad when, during the discussion he had with me, the Vice Chairman of the EEC, agreed that there was now room for many countries who have the possibility to produce more grain to do so, in order to meet the needs of developing countries. In the coming years, supply of food grains to developing countries is going to be the major problem. I have been informed that a meeting between the main suppliers, the USA, Canada, Argentina and Australia, is taking place now in Argentina, to discuss this problem, and I hope that it will come up with some positive results.

The upsurge in demand in developed countries has, moreover, caused a sharp rise in wheat prices which is hitting the developing countries twice over!It has raised the cost of their commercial imports, and it will reduce the availability of food aid whenever this is allocated in value terms. The heavy demand will also deplete reserve stocks.

Let me raise now two simple questions. Should not those developed countries which face periodic crop failures follow the example of developing countries like India, which had the foresight to set aside a national reserve of 20, 000, 000 ton(ne)s of grains? But here I must add that India is now suffering from drought. Should drought continue as at present, the whole reserve of India would be wiped out-only this year, the 20, 000, 000 ton(ne)s of grain could be used. This illustrates how much the situation is precarious. If India had to face once more the same situation next year, they would not have again the same 20 million ton(ne)s reserve. Their population is 660 million! And what may happen to world grain markets and supply next year when reserves will be low if the crops fail once again in a number of major producing areas?

Mr. Chairman, I have been following this volatile situation closely, through our early warning system, and I shall continue to do so. If the situation deteriorates I can assure the Conference that I will not hesitate to invoke the consultative provisions of the Plan of Action.

In the meantime, I believe that the grain exporting countries have three major responsibilities. First, they have a responsibility to ensure that their logistic problems do not prevent the developing countries from satisfying their import needs on reasonable terms, and without adversely affecting their economic development. Secondly, all possible steps should be taken to increase the availability of food aid, bearing in mind that the CFA has recently concluded that food aid needs are likely to grow substantially

in the 1980s. In concrete terms, I hope that all food aid donors can now announce their readiness to join in the efforts to bring into effect a new and enlarged food aid convention by 1980. Thirdly, looking ahead to 1980, exporting countries should encourage their farmers to maximize their production next season. I welcome, therefore, the action of the United States Government in lifting restrictions on the acreage planted with grains.

A further point: action is needed to offset the rise in world grain prices this year which has added about \$2 billion to the import bills of developing countries, many of which face, as I said, serious foreign exchange difficulties already. This illustrates the strong need for special balance of payments support, as provided in point 3 of the Plan of Action. I have been in contact on this question with the Managing Director of the IMF, M. Jacques de Larosière, who has agreed to place the FAO proposal before the Fund's Board later this year.

At the same time, Mr. Chairman, it is clearly necessary for developing countries to redouble their moves towards national and collective self-reliance. I welcome the recent regional initiatives taken by the ASEAN countries, by a number of the CILSS in West Africa, and also in other regions. I hope that the FAO Regional Conference next year can help to promote practical regional food security programmes of this kind.

Finally I would like to refer to FAO's role. The Organization stands ready to provide all possible assistance to developing countries, within our limited resources, both through the regular programme and through the Special Action Programmes. It has now been agreed that the World Food Programme should, in future, give higher consideration to requests for assistance for national food reserves. Other international agencies, including the World Bank, are also showing increasing interest. I would, therefore, urge donor countries to renew their support to the FAO Food Security Assistance Scheme. Here, I have to pay tribute to the Netherlands, who have been generous in making on a continuing basis contributions to this Scheme. Without the grant from the Netherlands, the Scheme would have almost collapsed. I want also to add the name of Switzerland. Both of them have been supporting this Scheme and I want to take this opportunity to thank them. The Federal Republic of Germany is also doing a lot bilaterally in this field, and we have the same purposes.

We believe that this Scheme has served as a focal point for technical expertise, as well as for mobilizing assistance from bilateral and other sources for the high priority projects of developing countries.

Mr. Chairman the time for delay and discussion is past. The time for action is now. I am only too well aware that there have been in the past many well-meaning resolutions approved and pledges made in the UN bodies which have not been effectively implemented, but have often remained pious declarations. I am sure that this Plan of Action cannot be allowed to meet the same fate. The provision of food security is too vital an issue for the millions of hungry masses in the poorer regions of the world who are held in a precarious balance between survival and starvation.

It would be Mr. Chairman a grave failure of political will and of international cooperation if progress in world food security is hampered because some countries have not found it possible or are unwilling to play their full part in its implementation. The Plan of Action lists five vital steps towards food security. So I urge the Conference to endorse it. But this endorsement must be based on a wholehearted willingness of governments to put it into action now, step by step, according to individual circumstances and responsibilities. And all developed countries must be ready to accept the special responsibility which falls on their shoulders.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic) : Thank you Mr. Director-General. I am fully confident that I am speaking on behalf of everyone in expressing our most profound gratitude and admiration to you for your brilliant introduction to the subject. This statement is an excellent starting point for our discussions and I am convinced that several of you, Ladies and Gentlemen, will certainly take into consideration what we have just heard from the Director-General in this afternoon's discussions and the following sessions. If I may make a personal remark here, I would like to single out what the Director-General told us in the latter part of his report when he said that the time for hesitation, discussion and negotiation is over and that it is high time to take action. Once again, on behalf of all of you I would like to thank the Director-General.

I now open the discussion on the item, recalling that your comments should relate to the principal document which is the Director-General's Report on the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security. And you should also express your views on the draft resolution and on the contents of document C 70/LIM/34. I give the floor to the delegate of Colombia.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): En junio pasado, cuando se presentó este tema a la consideración del Consejo, la delegación de Colombia reconoció que se trataba de un esfuerzo notable de buena voluntad, dirigido este esfuerzo a contrarrestar los efectos negativos que estaban entorpeciendo el avance hacia la seguridad alimentaria mundial. Sin embargo, dijimos también, inspirados en realismo a nuestro modo de ver en ese momento, que luego resultó limitado en el tiempo, dijimos, que abrigábamos ciertas dudas acerca de la posibilidad que esta acción unilateral de la FAO pudiera superar la carencia de voluntad política que había conducido a la ruptura indeterminada de las negociaciones para lograr un acuerdo internacional sobre cereales y para elaborar un nuevo programa de ayuda alimentaria. Esto lo dijimos con la franqueza y la claridad habituales en nuestras actitudes. Pero de junio hasta hoy, han transcurrido ya casi seis meses, y los hechos demuestran que este Plan de Acción de Cinco Puntos representan en realidad un aporte constructivo y eficaz de la FAO en pos de la seguridad alimentaria mundial.

En efecto, la situación no ha cambiado, nada nuevo se ha producido en relación con el acuerdo sobre cereales ni con el Programa de Ayuda Alimentaria. Entonces, ante esos hechos ¿cual debe ser la actitud de todos los Estados Miembros de la FAO? ¿Cruzamos de brazos en actitud pasiva a esperar tranquilamente a que se regrese a una nueva crisis como la que padecemos a principios de la década presente? Dije todos los Estados Miembros de la FAO, porque si bien la falta de seguridad alimentaria mundial afecta particularmente a los países en desarrollo, no obstante los hechos que vienen acaeciendo, el Gobierno de Colombia todavía confía en el espíritu de solidaridad y en el ánimo de mutua cooperación que deben existir entre todos los Estados Miembros de la FAO sin distinción. Y cuando me refiero en particular a los países en desarrollo, en estos problemas relacionados con la agricultura y la alimentación, parece obvio que haga referencia directa a la FAO, a nuestra Organización, a la Agencia de las Naciones Unidas especializada justamente en los campos de la agricultura y la alimentación. Y nos parece aún más adecuado que los países en desarrollo al padecer esas inquietudes y al expresar esas esperanzas y esos deseos, confíen en la FAO porque esta Organización, a través de un plan como éste, está demostrando que se encuentra en condiciones de ofrecer al Tercer Mundo apoyo positivo y asistencia eficaz para lograr la seguridad alimentaria mundial.

El primer documento básico sobre este tema, el C 79/23, tiene fecha de agosto de este año, y por ello sólo queremos hacer una breve referencia a este documento para concentrarnos más bien en el Suplemento 2 que es posterior. Bastaría citar de este documento el párrafo 30, en el cual se indica la Reunión que tuvo lugar en Bangladesh con apoyo técnico de la FAO dentro de la aplicación de uno de estos cinco Puntos, Reunión que condujo a la aprobación de varios proyectos por cerca de 30 millones de dólares.

El Suplemento 2 que tiene fecha de noviembre de este año, o sea, que está completamente actualizado, demuestra que bajo la guía de estos cinco Puntos acogidos a esos principios, el grupo de países nórdicos, acompañado siempre por los Países Bajos, han confirmado su actitud constructiva en los países de América Latina se cita El Salvador, Perú y Guatemala, entre otros que, como en el nuestro, Colombia, se adelantan políticas semejantes con precios de sustentación para garantizar existencias reguladoras que aseguren rendimiento a los productores y precios razonables a los consumidores.

Se hace también alusión en este Suplemento 2 a la actitud de la Comunidad Económica Europea y nos complace que esa importante fuerza económica asista tan eficazmente a la ACP en el acuerdo renovado de la Convención de LOME y también a los países en desarrollo no asociados a esa Convención, que nos asista en estos campos tan importantes para la subsistencia de nuestras poblaciones.

Se habla también de la actitud de Hungría y de los países árabes, Arabia Saudita y los Emiratos Arabes Unidos, países árabes que con su actitud positiva en la cooperación internacional, no sólo contribuyen a la seguridad alimentaria en su propia área, sino también producen beneficios en otros sectores del mundo. En Africa se cita el caso de Tanzania, en Asia los de Tailandia y de India; Estados Unidos y Canadá igualmente marchan en buena dirección, y en Europa, la República Federal de Alemania, Austria y también Suiza. Pero nosotros quisiéramos hacer una observación particular, y por ello hemos dejado a Suiza como última referencia porque si se observa el texto de este Suplemento 2, las acciones benéficas de los países que citamos están dirigidas casi todas a suministrar mayor ayuda alimentaria mientras que en el caso de Suiza se especifica claramente que según el Gobierno de ese país, para asegurar las posibilidades de seguridad alimentaria en los países en desarrollo, es necesario aumentar las posibilidades nacionales de producción.

La delegación de Colombia desea reiterar ese concepto que ya fue expresado por el jefe de nuestra delegación en la declaración que hizo durante el debate general.

El Gobierno de Colombia considera que la seguridad alimentaria mundial no podrá seguir dependiendo del buen o del mal tiempo, de la mayor o menor ayuda alimentaria, sino de la necesidad de que en los países en desarrollo se establezcan bases estables y sólidas sobre las cuales se logre un crecimiento continuo y permanente de la producción agrícola. Por eso celebramos el carácter pragmático de las actividades de la FAO dirigido justamente a la asistencia directa y eficaz a los países en desarrollo.

Tal como aparece en el LIM/34, señor Presidente, la delegación de Colombia en asociación con los colegas de Guinea, India, Túnez, Uruguay, Zaire y Yugoslavia, hemos presentado un proyecto de Resolución que ya sufrió su curso reglamentario en el Comité de Resoluciones. En el LIM/34 podrán ver su texto, que después de haberlo redactado con nuestros colegas pensamos que era aún muy débil y que continua el mínimo en este campo; pero procedimos así con la esperanza de que este proyecto de Resolución pueda recibir apoyo unánime de esta Comisión y que las reservas que aún se suscitan sobre este plan puedan desaparecer.

Como podrá verse en este texto, solo nos proponemos hacer recomendaciones a los países exportadores de cereales, a los Gobiernos en general, al Comité de Políticas y Programas de Ayuda Alimentaria y, como es esencial, al Director General de la FAO para que él reciba un apoyo necesario y sustantivo de los Estados Miembros que le permitan continuar implementando los cinco Puntos de su Plan de Acción.

Sabemos que el texto no es perfecto, apenas va a iniciarse la discusión de este proyecto de Resolución, y estamos dispuestos a oír las opiniones de los demás miembros de esta Comisión y sobre el éxito definitivo que pueda tener este proyecto, confiamos que bajo su inteligente dirección, señor Presidente, esta Comisión producirá una Resolución que signifique un instrumento útil para que el Director General pueda seguir activando el cumplimiento de los cinco Puntos de este Plan de Acción y para que en realidad todas estas actividades redunden en beneficio, particularmente, de los países en desarrollo Miembros de la FAO.

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL (interprétation de l'arabe): Je me vois obligé de quitter cette salle pour revenir à mon bureau où un Ministre, chef de délégation, m'attend. Mes collègues, et en particulier le Dr. Islam, suivront vos travaux et me feront rapport de leur bonne marche. Je vous souhaite une pleine réussite, Monsieur le Président, dans la ligne de l'excellent travail que vous avez déjà effectué.

A. RENAUD (Canada): Je vous remercie de me donner l'occasion de présenter les vues du Canada sur le Plan d'Action pour la Sécurité alimentaire mondiale proposé par le Directeur général de l'OAA et adopté par le Conseil en sa 75ème session. Et je suis heureux de pouvoir le faire car, on s'en souvient sans doute, lors de ladite réunion en juin dernier, le Canada avait expliqué qu'il n'était pas encore en mesure de donner son appui au Plan d'Action.

Notre gouvernement a maintenant terminé une étude plus approfondie du projet et il me fait plaisir de vous informer que mon pays est en accord dans l'ensemble avec le Plan d'Action même s'il nous reste quelques réserves dont je vous fais part à l'instant. Le Canada reconnaît d'abord, comme vient de le dire le distingué délégué de la Colombie, que le Plan représente véritablement un pas en avant vers les objectifs de l'Engagement international de 1974 auquel il a donné son adhésion. De plus, ce Plan nous apparaît une démarche positive vers une plus grande sécurité alimentaire mondiale en l'absence d'un nouvel arrangement international sur les céréales dont les clauses économiques comporteraient des engagements formels de stockage de réserves.

Nous sommes donc en accord avec le Plan sur de nombreux points, lesquels d'ailleurs sont déjà pratique courante au Canada ou reflètent nos politiques nationales. Quelques éléments du Plan par ailleurs ne sont pas sans nous donner des inquiétudes. J'aimerais énumérer les premiers ainsi que les seconds, lesquels d'ailleurs, malgré notre désaccord, n'infirmant pas notre appui donné au Plan dans son ensemble.

D'abord le Canada est bien d'avis lui aussi que tous les pays, tant importateurs qu'exportateurs, doivent prendre les mesures nécessaires pour maintenir des stocks céréaliers suffisants à leurs besoins respectifs. En tant que grand exportateur de céréales, le Canada a développé des politiques de production et de mise en marché dont le but est de satisfaire tant à nos besoins internes et d'exportation qu'à nos engagements d'aide alimentaire. Tout en acceptant de continuer à exporter des céréales à l'échelon mondial, nous nous demandons s'il n'y aurait pas lieu de partager plus équitablement le fardeau des frais de stockage à long terme. Si les pays importateurs ne prennent pas l'initiative d'assumer une plus grande responsabilité dans ce domaine, l'avenir continuera d'être menacé par le niveau instable et des stocks et des prix.

Pour ce qui est des critères applicables à la gestion et au déblocage des stocks nationaux, nous attachons beaucoup d'importance à la note au bas de la page qui indique clairement que, je cite, "les critères spécifiques peuvent varier d'un pays à l'autre, selon les règles ou principes déjà établis" et, j'ajoute, dans chaque pays. Pour nous, ceci signifie qu'en l'absence d'un accord international qui coordonnerait plus efficacement les stocks nationaux, le Canada continuera de gérer à sa façon son système afin d'assurer dans la mesure du possible un flot constant de céréales vivrières.

Sur la question des mesures spéciales destinées à aider les pays à faible revenu et à déficit alimentaire, point n'est besoin de rappeler ici les gestes posés par le Canada vis-à-vis de ces pays. Ils sont, nous le croyons, tout à fait dans la ligne d'action proposée par cette section. Nous avons cependant des difficultés avec l'item 3 du Point III invitant "le Fonds Monétaire international. . . à examiner. . . la possibilité de fournir un soutien supplémentaire à la balance des paiements. . . pour aider à faire face aux coûts croissants des importations alimentaires" de ces pays. Le Canada considère qu'en tant qu'institution monétaire, le FMI n'est pas l'organisme à qui de pareils problèmes puissent être soumis, à moins évidemment qu'il s'agisse de difficultés vis-à-vis de l'ensemble de la balance des paiements. En d'autres mots, nous sommes d'avis que le problème de financer l'importation alimentaire, surtout en cas d'urgence, relève des agences qui ont pour but d'aider en pareilles situations et non pas du FMI.

Le Canada est d'accord avec les objectifs des Arrangements spéciaux pour l'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire, comme en font foi ici encore plusieurs de nos programmes bilatéraux. Nous nous demandons toutefois jusqu'à quel point le PAM devrait faire servir ses programmes d'aide alimentaire directement à la constitution ou au maintien des stocks de réserve de pays en développement. A notre point de vue, l'assistance à la création et à l'élargissement des stocks par les pays en développement, lorsque nécessaire, devrait être fournie sur une base bilatérale. Quant au PAM, nous croyons qu'il devrait continuer de se concentrer à fournir l'aide alimentaire à des projets en voie d'exécution et à des programmes spéciaux d'alimentation.

En dernier lieu, Monsieur le Président, les mesures suggérées pour promouvoir l'autonomie collective des pays en développement nous plaisent beaucoup. Comme le rappelait la semaine dernière notre ministre de l'Agriculture, l'honorable John Wise, dans son discours à l'assemblée plénière, à la longue et avant tout, la sécurité alimentaire mondiale ne peut être fondée que sur l'amélioration du niveau de production des pays en développement eux-mêmes. Et pour y arriver, chez eux comme chez nous, les fermiers et autres producteurs doivent être les premiers à en retirer des avantages, afin d'être encouragés à produire mieux et plus. Dans cette perspective, nous nous permettons une toute petite mise en garde en ce qui concerne les "arrangements commerciaux spéciaux" suggérés au paragraphe 3 du Point V. Eu égard au débat courant sur le protectionnisme, nous ne serions pas en faveur de toute démarche, quelle qu'elle soit, qui créerait de nouvelles barrières commerciales discriminatoires. Elles ne feraient qu'ajouter aux contorsions des marchés mondiaux, à l'instabilité du commerce et, éventuellement, à l'augmentation des coûts tant pour les exportateurs que pour les importateurs. En conclusion, Monsieur le Président, nous tenons à assurer la Conférence de la coopération du Canada dans l'application du Plan d'Action et nous espérons, encore une fois, que ce sera un pas de plus vers la sécurité alimentaire mondiale tant souhaitée. Je vous remercie.

J. R. COOPER Jr. (Liberia): The situation has acquired a state of urgency and a need for total commitment on the part of all countries to avoid a recurrence of the 1972-73 world food crisis. My delegation endorses the Director-General's five-point Plan of Action and, as a matter of expediency, urges that the food aid in the International Emergency Food Reserve targets be met. Notwithstanding, the food aid in the International Emergency Food Reserve current targets should be considered with a view to upward adjustments due to current and anticipated increased demand. Conference document C 79/24, Agriculture: Toward 2000, indicates a projected food aid target of 32 million tons on a trend basis and 20 million tons on a normative annually up to 1990.

The Liberian delegation also endorses the proposal that the International Monetary Fund should provide additional balance-of-payments support for meeting the rise in food import bills of low-income deficit countries in the event of domestic food shortages and rising import prices.

We support the negotiation of a Food Aid Convention separate 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 grains arrangements.

Liberia is a subscriber to International Undertaking on World Food Security and has adopted and is implementing national stock policies. However, these policies have to include imported grain, since Liberia is still a net importer of rice, her main staple.

Liberia received a Food Security Mission from FAO which prepared proposals in the areas of marketing, including strengthening of the Ministry of Agriculture's Marketing Division and additional storage and processing facilities for rice, and the establishment of a crop-forecasting unit within our Statistics Division. We anticipate funding for these projects in consonance with our efforts to improve food security measures.

Liberia is a recipient of FAO's Action Programme for Prevention of Food Losses in the area of rice; she is also a recipient of the World Food Programme.

World food security is hollow without increasing food production capacities in developing countries in order to attain self-sufficiency. This statement takes due cognizance of the realities, that not all developing countries can be self-sufficient in food production. However, recent trends, where surplus food grains are concentrated in only a few developed countries, have increased the risks of food insecurity, and hence the imperative need for developing countries to become self-sufficient.

In the short run, the FAO's Action Programme for Prevention of Food Losses has the greatest potential for immediate substantial gains in increasing food availability. Therefore, we strongly recommend that support to this Programme should be substantially increased. Concurrently, this Programme should be implemented with measures to increase food production by increasing production capabilities within the context of national food sector strategy plans. The approach to using food sector strategy plans was advanced for a number of reasons.

Firstly, the complexity of food production, taking into account problems of production, incentives to increase food production, institutional problems of land tenure and research, sociological problems of farmers' response and acceptance, and physical infrastructure development relating to access roads, transportation, storage and processing facilities must be borne in mind.

Past attempts to pursue increased food production without taking into account all of these factors in terms of their complexity and inter-relationship have not met with success.

Secondly, the sector strategy should embrace a multi-faced approach to food production, distribution, nutrition and investment. This strategy should ensure that food is made available to the very poor and needy, especially to children.

Thirdly, the sector strategy should alert national policy makers to the resource requirements and commitment to the task. Also, bilateral and multilateral donors will be equally informed so that they can more rationally programme their areas of cooperation.

Within this context, the Liberian delegation views the preparation of national food sector strategy plans. However, we hasten to emphasize that the preparation of national food sector strategy plans should not be a precondition to aid.

It is no mere accident, but a deliberate attempt, fostered over a number of decades, which has resulted in the poor performance of food production in developing countries and stagnation in the African region. This Condition has been precipitated by the emphasis placed on export crops at the expense of food crops, by which developing countries were forced to produce the former. Research, extension, markets, credit and prices were all geared towards export crops. Unfortunately, these conditions still persist today.

In addition, multilateral and even bilateral donors are orientated in their appraisal of projects to finance only those projects which are financially and economically viable, which means that the rate of return of the projects should not drop below a certain level. As a result, a number of food production projects were excluded.

Now, the imperative need is increased availability of food, and not whether projects have a certain rate of return. The decision is: food, or salvation.

In closing, we recommend the following:

- (1) donors restructure their policies and priorities in favour of food production projects;
- (2) nationals of developing countries be trained in project analysis in order to increase the preparation of food production projects for financing, if possible, within the context of national food sector strategy plans;
- (3) more nationals be trained for implementation of food production projects.

LIN GAN (China) (interpretation from Chinese): Having heard the important speech which was made personally by the Director-General, Mr. Saouma, to this agenda item, we cannot but express our concern at the present situation of world food security, particularly at the acute food shortages in some developing

countries. At the 75th Session of the Council, we stated our views on the Plan of Action of World Food Security proposed by the Director-General. The Director-General has now made further proposals for action aimed at the implementation of the Plan.

A few days ago the Head of my Delegation spoke at the Plenary Session on how China manages to feed her nine hundred million-odd people. I shall not repeat what he said, but merely add a few remarks on the question of world food security, from our own experience. We consider that the factors which affect world food security are complex, involving economic and natural conditions, as well as social and political aspects. A solution will require, first, the efforts of individual governments, and secondly, consultation between countries. It stands to reason, therefore, that consideration should proceed from each country's specific circumstances, with careful study in the light of the related factors, and appropriate measures should be adopted suited to each country's characteristics and needs. So far as economic factors are concerned, the national policies of a given country on food production, reserves, distribution and consumption, are inter-related and inter-active. None of them should be over-emphasized at the expense of others.

Naturally, it is highly desirable to pursue a policy on food consumption which benefits the entire population and ensures rational distribution and utilization. However, it is commonly acknowledged that the problem of production has the most important and universal relevance to the majority of developing countries, as production provides the groundwork. So, only with increased food production can a nation ensure improved consumption for its population and further development of trade and the setting up of reserves.

In order to speed up food production, in the light of specific circumstances in developing countries, favourable conditions created by the international community are indispensable, in addition to the efforts made by the developing countries themselves.

With regard to the establishment of food reserves, we hold that all countries where conditions permit should take active measures to establish and replenish food reserves at national and local levels. The more food reserves one country has, the greater the guarantee for domestic food security; likewise, the more countries having food reserves, the greater will be world food security. International food reserves are supplementary to those of each country. The countries concerned should take part in consultations if they regard it as feasible, and establish such internationally held reserves on the basis of mutual benefit and joint management. It is certainly necessary for the international community to take measures to assist low-income, food-deficit countries, to meet their import requirements and emergency needs.

Third World Countries deserve sympathy and support when they try to strengthen their food security by adopting ways and means which they deem appropriate in accordance with their specific circumstances. Necessary assistance should be provided in various positive ways to help them overcome the difficulties they may encounter.

SANG-WOO PARK (Korea, Rep. of): My delegation would like to heartily welcome the discussion on this important food security issue under the gloomy food and agriculture situation we are facing today. I believe that the presence of the Director-General, Mr. Edouard Saouma, until a few minutes ago, reflects his keen interest in this critical problem, which was shown to be true in his introduction. I am very pleased and honoured to have had him here today explaining the vigorous FAO challenge to this matter.

We have the dilemma of a rapid increase in population and a slow increase in food production on a global basis, resulting in the possible continuation of hunger and malnutrition in some parts of the world. Many of us doubt whether we shall have a real increase of food production per person in the future.

On looking into the analysis of the world food and agriculture status in 1979, discussed in the first session of this Commission, our attention was drawn to several important issues. Firstly, while there has been a trend for grain stocks to increase in the world as a whole, variations in the increase in food production persist between developed and developing countries. Secondly, while the food stock is concentrated in a certain continent, many importing countries are suffering from increasing food import demand and the burden of foreign currency payments. Thirdly, no concrete internationally coordinated reserve food stock system is in operation. Furthermore, the world cereal stocks in 1979-80 are likely to fall below the minimum safe level for world food security.

Under these circumstances my delegation regards the Five-Point Plan of Action on World Food Security, proposed by the Director-General of FAO, as timely. Therefore, as stated by the Head of the delegation of Korea in the Plenary, we fully support it.

The Government of the Republic of Korea has already subscribed to the undertaking and has adopted national cereal stock policies. It has already achieved its target of stockpiling 1.1 million tons of staple food grains, or the equivalent to a quantity of two months' national consumption. The operation and management of the national stocks are guaranteed by national regulations and subject to the criteria of the undertakings. According to the Korean experience, food stockpiling can be achieved by increased production, a price support policy, storage facilities, etc. Actually, as a developing country, it is very difficult for it to take all the burden on its shoulders alone. It needs cooperation and assistance in many areas.

The crucial problem of food security in many developing countries is financial capital which is required for investment in production, storage, transportation, importation and other areas. In this regard special measures to assist low income food-deficit countries to meet current import requirements are badly needed. Special measures for food security assistance also have special meaning.

Therefore the Korean delegation would like to support the draft resolution on World Food Security shown in document C 79/LIM/34.

Finally, I would like to reiterate the point which the Head of the Korean delegation made in the Plenary:

"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.

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. "

J. S. CAMARA (Guinée): Je voudrais tout d'abord exprimer ma profonde gratitude au Directeur général pour être venu personnellement nous présenter cette partie de notre Programme de travail. Cela est dû à l'importance même du sujet, mais je suis certain que le Dr. Islam et ses collaborateurs ne manqueront pas de nous aider dans notre approche pour parvenir à un accord sur la question qui nous est soumise. Le Directeur général a déclaré ici, et vous avez repris cette phrase vous-même, Monsieur le Président, que le temps des discussions stériles est largement dépassé. Je partage entièrement cette déclaration et j'y souscris. Certes, des efforts sont faits et continuent à l'être, mais nous sommes loin des buts à atteindre. Il est fort regrettable de constater que les faits concrets ne correspondent pas aux déclarations.

La FAO a soumis un Plan en cinq points précis, concrets, offrant de larges possibilités d'intervention aux Gouvernements. Lorsque l'on parcourt la liste des réunions des chefs d'Etat ou de Gouvernement, liste contenue dans un document qui nous est soumis, nous voyons que tous ces textes ont traité cette question. On ne peut que manifester notre inquiétude de voir ce qui reste à faire pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire et l'autonomie de chacun. La baisse de la production, le coût élevé des transports perturbent l'économie des pays en développement surtout ceux qui connaissent un déficit alimentaire et qui se trouvent de ce fait les plus gravement touchés.

Notre Conférence doit donc solliciter une reprise rapide des négociations pour un nouvel accord international sur les céréales, ainsi que la rédaction du texte de la nouvelle convention relative à l'aide alimentaire. Il faut que les gouvernements, par une sincère volonté politique, passent aux faits concrets.

Aux assises pour la Paix, qui viennent de se terminer à Paris au siège de l'Unesco, les participants ont précisé l'énorme somme sacrée aux dépenses pour l'armement, de l'ordre de 500 milliards de dollars, soit l'équivalent du produit national brut des 75 pays les plus pauvres du monde. Le stock d'armes mondial représente 3 tonnes TNT par habitant de la planète. 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. C'est vraiment ahurissant. Ces chiffres parlent tout seuls et soulignent une tendance fort préoccupante vers une politique de la terreur plutôt que vers une politique de développement économique, et surtout de production alimentaire et de création de conditions pour assurer à tous les pays une sécurité alimentaire, une autonomie et une indépendance. Voilà pourquoi mon Gouvernement appuie avec la plus ferme détermination le plan du Directeur général. Ma délégation, avec six autres, présente un projet de résolution susceptible de recevoir l'appui unanime de la Conférence, donnant ainsi au Directeur général un instrument efficace en vue d'un travail fructueux pour l'Organisation et pour les gouvernements. C'est dans ce cadre que mon Gouvernement, avec ses faibles ressources et avec l'assistance de la FAO, est en train d'élaborer un plan pour sa politique de stockage et pour assurer sa sécurité alimentaire, peut-être même, dans un avenir pas très lointain, celle d'autres pays de la région, à savoir la constitution d'un stock de réserves de 10 000 tonnes et la construction de magasins et de silos pour les contenir, sans oublier la formation d'un personnel adéquat pour le contrôle et le suivi de ce Programme. En faisant cette politique, notre Gouvernement attache une importance particulière à son autonomie en ce qui concerne l'alimentation. Nous estimons en effet qu'en suivant le plan élaboré par le Directeur général, qui a déjà reçu l'appui de nombreux gouvernements lors du Conseil dernier, nous estimons que nous rendrons un service utile à tous les Etats Membres, comme l'a exprimé notre collègue de la Colombie. Nous vivons dans une interdépendance qui nous oblige les uns et les autres à nous préoccuper des problèmes, surtout dans le domaine de l'alimentation qui aujourd'hui revêt plus d'importance que jamais, alors que nous sommes presque en l'an 2000. Comme l'a dit M. Guernier, membre du Club de Rome, la politique alimentaire mondiale devrait tendre à doubler la production d'ici vingt ans si nous voulons éviter une famine générale qui n'épargnerait presque personne.

R: RAMPERSAID (Trinidad and Tobago): The Trinidad and Tobago delegation shares the view of the Director-General that food security is the most important subject on the agenda of this Conference. We also share the disappointment and concern expressed by the Director-General and other delegates who have spoken so far on the unsatisfactory rate of progress being made in the area of food security. We note with regret that to date the food aid target of 10 million tonnes has not yet been realized. This target was adopted at the World Food Conference in 1974. Current FAO estimates of food aid needs is in the region of 15 to 16 million tonnes. The emergency food reserve target of 500, 000 tonnes annually has also not been achieved despite the recent decision by some of the large producers to increase their contributions.

Negotiations for a new international grains agreement have not met with much success. We note with relief however statements made in the Plenary by some delegations which give rise to optimism about the conclusion of such an agreement at an early date.

Mr. Chairman, this delegation fully endorses the five-point plan of action put forward by the Director-General and hopes that the plan will receive the support and cooperation that is necessary to ensure its success. There is an obligation, moral or otherwise, on all of us to do our utmost to achieve complete relief of hunger and malnutrition among the world's poor. Mr. Chairman, feeding the world's poor can't always be a question of economics. We are each one of us, our brother's keeper.

This delegation feels that in the context of measures for increasing world food security, greater attention should be paid to increasing food production in developing countries. Such measures are now more urgently needed than ever. During the period 1970 to 1978 the average rate of growth of food production in developing market economies was about 2.9 percent per annum which is way below the 4 percent minimum growth rate that was suggested at the World Food Conference in 1974, and even less than the average growth rate of 3 percent per annum achieved in the 1960s. Considering that the population growth rate in these countries is roughly 2.5 percent per annum the per capita food increase is at best minimal and totally inadequate to relieve the serious problems of malnutrition. We endorse unreservedly the emphasis given by the Director-General in his five-point plan on national and collective self-reliance. We feel convinced that food security cannot become a reality unless developing countries attain a greater degree of self-sufficiency in food. This is both necessary and desirable because of (1) the psychological satisfaction that is derived from the knowledge of greater independence in so vital an area as food supply; (2) the importance of increased food production in general economic development; (3) the balance of payments problems which these countries almost chronically experience and which are aggravated by the heavy expenditure of foreign exchange in food imports; (4) the problems involved in the storage and transportation of food from the developed countries; and (5) the fact that developed countries may be fast approaching the limit of their capacity to expand food production whereas developing countries in some instances have enormous untapped resources.

But for the development of the food sectors the developing countries need not only encouragement but assistance and support. They need financial resources for the purchase of the input required for the application of modern technology and for the development of the necessary infrastructure, including an appropriate institutional framework. They need assistance in the development and improvement of appropriate technology in production, harvesting, marketing and distribution. They need the assurance of access to a wider export market in which they can obtain reasonable prices for their products. In this context the Declaration of the Seven-Nation Economic Summit to which reference is made at page 7, paragraph 39 of Document C 79/23 is welcome and encouraging. It is also our hope that additional resources will be made available through the FAO regular budget, and the Technical Cooperation Programme for assisting these countries in the development and transfer of technology.

Mr. Chairman, the Trinidad and Tobago Government is giving renewed emphasis to the development of the food sector not only in our country but also in the Caribbean region. We recently presented to our Parliament a White Paper on Agriculture which presented the general policy orientation and charts the course which our agriculture will follow.

We have strengthened our institutional framework by the creation of a Food and Agriculture corporation which will have special responsibility for implementation of large-scale projects as well as for the marketing of agricultural produce. It is hoped that this body, which will be free from the normal bureaucratic procedures and constraints, will be able to operate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously.

We have created a special Food and Agriculture fund with financial appropriations which will ensure the provision of funds on a long-term basis for large-scale projects. This fund is an addition to the annual appropriations on the Capital Expenditure and Recurrent budgets which on the average account for between 10 and 15 percent of the total budgetary allocation of the country.

We have channelled to our Agricultural Development Bank substantially increased funds for the provision of credit to farmers at highly-subsidized rates of interest. The normal interest rate is $b\frac{1}{2}$ percent per annum which is lower than the prime rate in the commercial banking sector. In addition we have established a soft loan facility in this bank through which loans are provided at 3 percent per annum for small farmers and cooperatives for food production.

Our range of incentives to agriculture has been expanded and the rate of subsidies increased. In the context of our special programme for grain production we are at present paying to our rice farmers a guaranteed price for paddy that is almost twice the price at which rice is sold.

On the regional level we seek to cooperate and collaborate with our Caribbean brothers in promoting an integrated development of the region's agriculture. Under the Agricultural Marketing protocol of the Caricom Agreement we have accepted special arrangements for trade in agricultural commodities. We have taken the initiative in introducing the Caribbean Food Plan, details of which are currently being finalized with technical assistance provided through the UNDP and FAO.

We have created a Caribbean Integration Fund to meet our obligations arising from participation in regional projects. We are collaborating with the Governments of Guyana and St. Kitts in a joint project for production of corn and soya beans on a large scale in Guyana.

More recently, as mentioned in Document C 79/23-Sup. 2, we established a disaster relief fund to assist the less developed countries in the Caribbean to finance reconstruction after natural disasters.

Mr. Chairman, food production must always remain a major priority in economic policy. Man shall not live by bread alone but without bread he cannot live. Food security must always be a primary objective. It is ours and we shall do what ever we can to achieve it. We support the Plan of Action put forward by the Director-General of the FAO and we urge its acceptance by member countries.

HORATIO MENDS (Rapporteur from Plenary to Commission I): I will be very brief indeed. Last Friday twenty-three more Heads of Delegation attended Plenary and all the speakers enthusiastically supported the programmes and projects which the Director-General has proposed to the Conference. The major emphasis was on the follow-up of WCARRD, the Five Point Action Plan for World Food Security, and the development of integrated fishery management plans in the Exclusive Economic Zones. The developing countries made reference to slow progress in the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

In relation to the item on your agenda for discussion today, all the speakers made particular reference to the Five-Point Action Plan proposed by the Director-General for World Food Security as one of the important prerequisites for achieving their development. Only one country was cautious about the implementation of the Action Plan, and in this regard he raised two questions. In the prevailing food production situation of the world, could security be guaranteed to all countries and the groups that need food? And, second, would it be possible to implement the plan on account of the high increase in prices and in the exorbitant freight charges?

Another country came up forcibly and suggested the Plan of Action for World Food Security should include not only those who receive food aid at present but also those who are likely to become food deficit countries in the immediate future.

The Netherlands announced their decision to contribute \$2.5 million to implement the Action Plan and urged other donors to support the programme. Many speakers stressed the need for the establishment of a food reserve centre to ensure food security in time of deficiency. In particular the head of the delegation of Malta proposed that with the removal of a military base from their territory ample storage facilities have become available for a regional food reserve centre to be established. In view of its strategic location in the Mediterranean the delegate stressed that FAO seriously consider using these facilities for the benefit of the countries in the area.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): It may perhaps be appropriate for me to recall that there is a draft resolution that you may wish to comment upon. Speakers who have not yet expressed their views, perhaps would like to comment on the draft resolution.

P. KANGA (Angola): La délégation de la République populaire d'Angola est d'accord d'une manière générale sur les documents de travail présentés pour la discussion de ce point et en particulier le document C-79/23.

De son contenu ressortent les propositions du Directeur général en vue de l'application du Plan d'action. Nous sommes entièrement d'accord sur les mesures destinées à mettre en oeuvre de manière effective le plan d'action, néanmoins, nous aimerions apporter notre contribution pour éclairer cet important aspect et en faisant part de certaines considérations de caractère préliminaire.

La conception de la sécurité alimentaire nous paraît parfaitement claire: on prétend ici garantir à tous les peuples la base alimentaire indispensable à leur bien-être, indépendamment des conditions naturelles et spécifiques de chacun et des circonstances particulières, en particulier les calamités.

Ainsi, la sécurité alimentaire passe en premier lieu par la capacité de production de chaque pays, par la capacité de production au niveau mondial et par la formation et la gestion des excédents non consommables immédiatement. Ce sera sur ces trois points que je baserai mes commentaires.

La République populaire d'Angola proclame comme l'un de ses principes de base non seulement l'autosuffisance alimentaire traditionnelle, mais aussi l'introduction et l'expansion de nouvelles cultures alimentaires capables d'augmenter le niveau alimentaire général de nos populations. Nous pensons atteindre ces objectifs dans la mesure où leur définition est partie d'une volonté politique clairement définie par notre parti lors de son premier congrès et appliquée quotidiennement par le gouvernement.

Ces objectifs se matérialisent par la priorité donnée à l'agriculture, soit sur le plan des investissements, soit sur celui de la formation de cadres. On les concrétise sur le terrain par la réactivation croissante des fermes coloniales abandonnées et leur transformation en unités étatiques consacrées en grande partie à la production vivrière intensive, également par l'appui que nous donnons aux petits paysans, en particulier par l'allocation des machines agricoles, à l'approvisionnement en semences améliorées, fertilisants et pesticides, et, par la garantie que le paysan peut vendre ses produits à un prix rémunérateur et ceci pour la totalité de ses excédents. Nous nous sommes aussi assignés comme objectifs à moyen terme la dynamisation des coopératives que nous considérons non seulement comme la forme la meilleure pour assurer la participation populaire dans la production et la gestion, mais également comme la voie la plus efficace pour rationaliser les efforts de l'Etat dans la répartition des moyens matériels et humains dans l'agriculture.

Finalement nos objectifs résident attestés dans l'implantation des grands projets de complexes agroindustriels en particulier dans la production des céréales, de lait et de viande de qualités variables car nous considérons que c'est là la forme la plus rapide et peut-être la plus économique de produire les aliments dont nous avons besoin. Tous ces aspects représentent le point le plus important de la sécurité alimentaire.

En premier lieu, chaque pays mesure de ses possibilités, doit garantir son auto-suffisance. Plusieurs pays en voie de développement ne le font pas bien qu'ils soient politiquement indépendants et continuent à dépendre des grands intérêts capitalistes mondiaux. Ainsi les investissements destinés à l'agriculture sont consacrés à la production de matières premières pour l'exportation et la production des denrées alimentaires est laissée à l'entière responsabilité des petits paysans. Ces derniers, limités dans la possession des terres possèdent à peine une technique complètement dépassée, d'une faible productivité et ne disposent ni de crédits, ni de l'assistance technique; dans ces conditions ils arrivent difficilement à dépasser leur niveau de survie. Et c'est ainsi que leurs excédents lancés sur le marché sont très réduits et insuffisants pour alimenter les populations urbaines toujours croissantes.

De là la nécessité de recourir au commerce international où ils rencontrent deux difficultés.

En premier lieu, le problème des prix; pour importer ce dont ils ont besoin, ils doivent produire plus pour l'exportation et ceci se traduit par la détérioration des échanges entre les pays développés et les pays en voie de développement, et comme l'exportation des matières premières est toujours croissante, la capacité de l'importation des pays en voie de développement est d'autant plus limitée. C'est ce qui aggrave la situation du déficit alimentaire.

En deuxième lieu, outre le fait de payer des prix élevés, certains pays en voie de développement sont parfois obligés d'accepter des compromis politiques, et certains pays développés utilisent comme objet de pression politique leurs excédents alimentaires.

Nous sommes d'accord avec un système d'aide alimentaire multilatérale, telle que nous le propose la coordination de la FAO et du PAN, et nous considérons donc que l'aide alimentaire, qu'elle soit sous forme de dons ou d'achats, doit être avant tout attribuée aux pays dont les ressources naturelles sont limitées afin de venir en aide aux calamités ou de résoudre certains problèmes d'émergence.

Dans notre pays, nous vivons deux situations sur lesquelles nous aimerions attirer l'attention de cette Commission.

D'abord la situation de nos compatriotes du sud du pays, dont les cultures sont menacées de manière permanente par des incursions, des bombardements de bandes racistes d'Afrique du Sud; en deuxième lieu des centaines de milliers de compatriotes qui se sont réfugiés dans les pays voisins, fuyant la menace de la guerre coloniale et qui reviennent massivement pour le moment. Les uns et les autres ont besoin d'une aide alimentaire.

De plus, nous avons également besoin de cette aide pour les populations qui cherchent à réactiver les grandes plantations de café et de sisal étant donné les conditions dans lesquelles elles ont été abandonnées par les colons et détruites par des actes de banditisme provoqués par les racistes sudafricains et leurs laquais, ce qui fait qu'elles n'ont pas encore atteint un niveau de production normal.

Nous avons dit également que la sécurité alimentaire passe, en plus de la capacité de produire, d'acheter ou de recevoir, par la possibilité de l'employer au moment opportun. Nous considérons qu'un plan qui localise les excédents alimentaires auprès des grands producteurs est un plan qui a échoué dès le départ et qui permettra la répétition des points déjà signalés : spéculation et pression politique.

Nous reconnaissons que tous les pays en voie de développement ne possèdent pas encore un réseau d'infrastructures capables de garantir le stockage dans de bonnes conditions des aliments nécessaires à leur sécurité alimentaire. Nous pensons donc qu'il est impérieux que la FAO aide ces pays dans l'établissement du réseau nécessaire et qui fonctionnera auprès d'autres organismes internationaux comme force de pression afin que ces infrastructures soient favorisées en termes de financements.

À part les commentaires que nous venons de faire, nous répétons que nous appuyons d'une manière générale le Plan d'action qui vise à assurer la sécurité alimentaire dans le monde.

De la même façon, nous soutenons tout à fait le projet de résolution C 79/LIM/34 qui répond à beaucoup de questions que nous avons également soulevées.

A. MSHHADY (Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of) (interprétation from Arabic): In the name of God the Merciful, Mr. Chairman, the document which has been presented to us on this subject refers to the evolution of the food situation as well as the efforts made by the area organizations, by governments, by other institutions within the framework of a common programme to ensure world food security. Government fully supports the proposals submitted by the Director-General. We have already adopted all the proposals and all these recommendations in an effort to ensure our autonomy in the field of food production. And this is because we know the need for close cooperation towards security in the developing countries, is also based upon the constant policy of making every effort to alleviate the burden of the populations of developing countries in their efforts to cover their food requirements particularly in cases where special difficulties confront them.

Above and beyond that has been said here and elsewhere on world food security, and on the basis of the draft resolution adopted by the FAO Council at its Seventy-fifth Session in June 1979 in Rome, my Government has taken the following steps to do its share on world food security.

- (i) We are adopting a long-term strategy to increase food production in our country and to create sufficient food stocks to cover a minimum period of three months, which we later intend to increase to six months.
- (ii) In cooperation with the Gulf countries and with Arab and international institutions, we intend to draw up a long-term plan of action in order to guarantee food security to our region, the particularly important region of the Middle East.
- (iii) We cooperate with the World Food Programme in order to offer our assistance to the developing countries, on the basis of the priorities adopted by the Programme, by participating in the Programme for an important part of its financing.
- (iv) Within the framework of the forthcoming programme for the Middle East, we take part in the financing of projects to ensure the growth of food production and ensure basic commodities.
- (v) Through the Saudi Development Bank we offer long-term credits on the best possible terms to developing countries.
- (vi) Within the framework of the League of Arab States and the Islamic movement, we cooperate for the establishment of a long-term strategy to ensure world food security.
- (vii) We have created possibilities for the storage and stocking of grains in particular for at least a six-months period and we are doing our best to increase the storage capacity. We are encouraging the private sector to participate in the effort to increase storage capacity, by longer-term credits and grants in this sector. Furthermore, the production of meat and dairy products will be encouraged by the offer of interest-free credit in order to participate in the development effort of the food industries and in the agricultural field.

We hope that all the governments of FAO member states will not fail to give their support to the Director-General's plan to ensure world food security.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): There are forty-seven names on my list of speakers and in order to avoid any surprises at a later stage I will inform the Commission that we shall continue this meeting for a further half hour on our original schedule. I have even started thinking of the possibility of holding a night meeting tomorrow. This of course depends on the cooperation of delegates and the length of their interventions, particularly if they make sure that the interventions bear only on the essence of the documents submitted and particularly the draft resolution. Of course, we are very much interested in listening to statements on the efforts made by each government and each country in order to bring about world food security, but perhaps it will be possible to ensure that statements on production figures be handed to the Secretariat in writing, to be recorded by the Secretariat. That would save a considerable amount of time. We are already one session late in our programme and we have a great deal of work ahead. Of course, I am entirely in the hands of delegates for the final decision.

M. BOCOUM (Mauritanie): Il n'est jamais trop tard, Monsieur le Président, pour vous exprimer toutes nos félicitations pour votre élection au poste de Président de notre Commission. La délégation de la République islamique de Mauritanie vous assure de sa collaboration afin que nos travaux soient couronnés de succès.

Mon pays, dont les besoins céréaliers se chiffrent à quelque 180 000 tonnes, vient d'être frappé de nouveau par une sécheresse jamais connue depuis l'existence de notre République. Une mission mixte Mauritanie, pays et organismes donateurs, chargée de l'évaluation de la situation agro-pastorale au mois d'octobre 1979, vient de déposer ses conclusions. Il faut s'attendre au maximum à une production de 25 000 tonnes de céréales. C'est ainsi plus de 150 000 tonnes de céréales que le Gouvernement mauritanien devra importer au cours de l'année 1980, soit plus de 30 millions de dollars américains que devrait prélever sur ses propres ressources le Gouvernement mauritanien s'il était amené à faire face tout seul à cette situation alimentaire, sans compter les problèmes hydrauliques et pastoraux que connaîtra le cheptel mauritanien, étant donné aussi les problèmes de devises. Il suffit de rappeler que la Mauritanie est sortie il y a quelques mois seulement de la Guerre du Sahara pour le moins ruineuse pour son économie. Nous restons confiants car, comme par le passé, nous pouvons compter sur l'aide extérieure et surtout sur le soutien traditionnel de la FAO.

En ce qui concerne plus précisément le plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, la délégation mauritanienne approuve l'esprit et le contenu des documents C 79/23 et C 79/23 Supp. 2. Elle soutient les propositions qui y sont faites ainsi que le projet de résolution C 79/LIM/34 sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, particulièrement en son point 5.

Le Gouvernement mauritanien a créé l'Office mauritanien des céréales, instrument privilégié de la politique céréalière, chargé de la réalisation du programme de sécurité alimentaire. Ainsi, l'OMC est chargé notamment de la constitution et de la gestion des stocks de sécurité et de leur régulation, de la politique de commercialisation des stocks et d'incitation de la production par le biais de prix rémunérateurs aux paysans. Depuis 1976, la République fédérale d'Allemagne apporte une assistance soutenue et diversifiée à l'OIC dans le cadre du programme de sécurité alimentaire.

Aussi, un programme d'infrastructure de stockage des céréales, d'une capacité de plus de 60 000 tonnes, est actuellement en voie de réalisation grâce à l'assistance de la UFA, des Pays-Bas et du PAD. Une programmation pour la constitution du stock de sécurité, actuellement inexistant, est faite sur cinq ans. Des pays et organismes donateurs sont vivement sollicités pour y participer car c'est le moyen le plus indiqué pour nous mettre à l'abri des effets répétés de la sécheresse, en attendant la réalisation des projets agricoles actuellement en préparation et en cours de négociation avec les institutions de financement dans la perspective de l'auto-suffisance alimentaire, c'est-à-dire de la sécurité alimentaire.

T. MOSKOVITS (Malta): Since this is the first opportunity for the delegation of Malta to address the Commission I of the Conference, allow me to express to you, Mr. Chairman, our warmest congratulations on your appointment to the high post of Chairman of this particularly important Commission. We are sure that under your able guidance our work will be interesting and fruitful.

At the outset of our intervention we wish to stress that Malta is a strong supporter of the World Food Security scheme. It not only subscribed to the basic ideas of the scheme but also became one of the first member of the Committee on World Food Security. It attended all the sessions of the Committee and was always anxious to submit proposals to it, as well as to other FAO meetings, on food security problems.

In the following remarks we will give some examples of our proposals, but before doing so we wish to note that Malta fully subscribes to the Director-General's Plan of Action submitted to the Fourth Session of the Committee on Food Security and the consequently adopted relevant resolution of the Seventy-fifth Session of the Council.

We replied on 22 October last to the circular letter in which governments were asked to report on the progress they had made towards implementation of the Plan of Action. Perhaps the reply arrived late, and that is why it was not included in C 79/23-Sup. 2.

We do not wish to prolong this debate by describing the advantages and the various characteristics of the Plan after the excellent introduction by the Director-General himself and the very good working papers before us. We will not repeat most of the interesting points made by previous speakers underlining once more the great merits of the Director-General in launching this Plan as a bridge over the gap created by the interruption of the United Nations negotiations for the conclusion of a new International Grains Agreement. Furthermore, we think it is useless to stress that the idea of the creation of a coordinated system of national food reserves is not new and that with a somewhat different scope, namely, as an outlet for emergency assistance to countries which suddenly suffered natural or manmade calamities it was launched about ten or twelve years ago by the World Food Programme. Already at that time Malta suggested the setting up, instead of or in addition to the proposed coordinated system of national reserves at strategically important points, regional or sub-regional food reserves. That proposal is still our basic idea. With this in mind, we wish to limit our intervention essentially to some remarks on Section 5 of Chapter III of the Plan of Action, entitled "Collective self-reliance of developing countries". It is obvious that one of the greatest handicaps for small, and often poor, countries consists of the high cost of establishing food reserves, building storehouses for stock piling and the maintenance and handling of such stocks.

Paragraph 29 of document C 79/23 indicates that the World Bank, in recognition of the urgent need to improve cereal storage and handling facilities in developing countries, includes in an increasing number of its projects investments for such facilities: "The storage and handling component of these projects has grown from US\$2 million in 1974 to US\$384 million in 1978, totalling US\$500 million for the five year period." We feel that considerable savings could be made if centrally located storage facilities could be used, and the expenses for the building of small, national food stores would be used for the purchase of foodstuffs to be stored. That our reasoning is gaining ground is shown by the fact that the ASEAN group of countries has decided to set up an ASEAN Emergency Rice Reserve, totalling initially 50,000 tons of rice, and that the Ministerial Council of the Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel is also considering the setting up of a regional food reserve for the Sahel. If our information is correct, the problem of the establishment of food reserves is also in the foreground of consideration in Arab countries, which considered an FAO feasibility study on this matter at the Second Arab Conference on Food, Science and Technology, held in March 1979 in Riyadh.

In order to promote cooperation on food security policy in the Mediterranean, the Government of Malta offered storage facilities in former military warehouses located on the island, using them for the establishment of a regional food reserve for neighbouring Mediterranean countries. Handling, transport and storage rates would be competitive, and the storage and other facilities could be converted at minimum cost. This formal offer was first made at the Fourth Session of the Committee on World Food Security in April 1979, and, as the report of the session states, "Some other delegates suggested that this offer should receive careful examination by the countries concerned." The 75th Session of the Council together with the report of the Committee on World Food Security, was also informed of the offer of the Government of Malta, and expressed the hope "that positive steps would be taken to implement these proposals." The FAO Technical Consultation on Economic Cooperation Among Developing Countries, held by FAO at the end of June, also recognized the importance and economic advantages of establishing sub-regional and regional foodstocks, and, noting the offer of the Government of Malta, felt that the facilities could be conveniently used by Mediterranean and North Africa countries, particularly since adequate transport facilities were available.

I am particularly grateful to the Rapporteur, who very kindly mentioned also that my Minister in the Plenary Session last Friday indicated that the Government of Malta still sticks to this offer.

Turning now to a more general aspect of the problem, we wish to point out that the Plan of Action adopted by most countries which have subscribed to the Undertaking on World Food Security, specifies that the international community should recognize the urgent need for fostering collective self-reliance of developing countries in the vital sector of food security, and that to this end they should intensify efforts to establish cooperative arrangements, including the setting up of regional reserves, and that the governments concerned should consider joint action on reserve stocks held nationally or regionally.

Further, the Plan of Action requests that concerned international financial and technical organizations, as well as the developed and other potential contributor countries, should extend all necessary support to promote the efforts of developing countries to strengthen their collective self-reliance. In this context, of particular significance is the proposal of several delegates at the Fourth Session of the Committee on World Food Security to establish an international fund on food security, to be allocated by the Committee on World Food Security to augment the assistance provided to developing countries for food security projects.

As you have requested, Mr. Chairman, that we should also comment on document C 79/LIM/34 which contains the Draft Proposal, we wish first of all indicate that we fully subscribe to it in spirit. Nevertheless, we would like to make some comments and additions to it.

We think that a new Point 3 should be included, to read as follows: "Invite governments which adopted the International Undertaking on World Food Security to establish national food reserves, and participate in the creation of regional or sub-regional food reserves, or in the creation of an international fund for food security. '

We would propose also the addition of a new Point 9 which would be added to the present Point 9, as follows: "Requests the Director-General to prepare drafts of contracts which would be used by countries interested in participation in the establishment of regional or sub-regional food reserves, thus facilitating cooperation among those states. "

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I have great satisfaction in informing you that the delegation of Guinea-Bissau has communicated its text to us in writing and has waived its right to speak. Also, this morning I failed to mention that the delegation of India also submitted a text on forestry to us—that is to say, a declaration on the Jakarta Declaration.

I would like to hear your views on one question. What we have heard today on the item of World Food Security and the relevant Resolutions is only a beginning. A number of speakers who have taken the floor cannot really be considered a valid sample for what is to follow, but, to be certain, I would like to know whether you feel it appropriate to consider the setting up of an informal consultative group, similar to our procedure on the question of protectionism. Possibly we would not have the same reasons or motives for such a measure, but, as a proportion and to avoid hearing 52 speakers without coming to agreement at the end of the discussion, I would like to submit this idea to you so that I may have your reactions to this suggestion. I do not know whether I personally would chair this advisory committee—it depends on your attitude; if I hear no objections to this idea, without your actually expressing your views on the matter I would consider that you agree to this suggestion. I do not see any objection and I therefore declare this adopted.

RAMADHAR (India): We are considering the present item against a background of a worsening world food situation. The other day we heard the Director-General tell us that 32 countries are facing unfavourable crop conditions. Wheat and coarse grains fell by 62 million tons in 1979, and it is estimated to be 3 percent below the long-term plan. Rice production is also likely to fall by about 2 percent as compared with last year. The number of undernourished, mostly women and children, in developing countries continues to increase. At the same time, cereal imports of developing countries are steadily rising. The import needs of developing countries are forecast to exceed 70 million tons for a second year in succession. The recent increase in grain prices would add two billion dollars to the import bill in absolute terms, and, as a proportion of the total world cereal import of the developing countries, food aid remains much less than it was in the late-1960s. Pledges for international food reserves for 1979 are still only 308, 000 tons, considerably below the end world target of 500, 000 tons of cereals.

The United Nations Negotiating Conference on a new international grains arrangement adjourned without any indication as to when it was going to be resumed. We are aware that the International Wheat Council has set up a committee to consider the issues outstanding from the United Nations Conference. The report of that committee is likely to be discussed in the next session of the International Wheat Council beginning on 26 November.

Global food security today is more precarious than it ever was before. The plan of action is more relevant than it was in June 1979 or in April 1979. The proposals outlined in paragraphs 38 to 54 of document C 79/23 therefore deserve full support and acceptance. Therefore my delegation, along with some other delegations, proposes that the draft resolution in document C 79/LIM/34 be adopted by this Conference. I would not like to go into the draft resolution clause by clause at this stage. It is intended to focus attention sharply on measures of global food security and point to the future course of action. The various operative clauses of this draft resolution are in accordance with the International Undertaking on World Food Security, the recommendations of the World Food Council, the decisions of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, the Committee on Food Aid Security, food security and recommendations of our own Council and Conference.

I would therefore urge the unanimous adoption of this resolution by the Conference and I would like to join the Director-General in appealing to everyone here by saying that now there is no time for reservations but this should be done by complete unanimity.

This delegation has been encouraged by the statements made so far by various delegations and fortunately we have not heard any dissenting words. I would like to compliment the delegation of Canada, which has joined in the general consensus which prevailed earlier, and we hope in that positive spirit other delegations will also join and that complete unanimity will emerge on this draft resolution.

Before I close I would like to comment on the two points raised by the delegate of Canada. The first relates to the special measures to help importing developing countries and the desirability of asking the IMF to have a food financing facility. If we look at the terminology in the Five-Point Plan of Action, as well as in the draft resolution, the words are:

"Invites the International Monetary Fund to consider, in response to the request made by the Director-General, the feasibility of providing additional balance of payment support for meeting the rise in food import bills of low-income food-deficit countries. . . "

This is in clause 8 of the draft resolution. This kind of facility will be made available by the IMF only when this falls within the overall terms of the functioning of IMF. So I do not see any harm in requesting the IMF to examine this; and this is the spirit of the paragraph.

At the last annual meeting of Governors of the World Bank and the IMF held in Belgrade in October 1979 this matter came up for discussion and many of the members there raised this point.

I am referring to paragraph 50 of document C 79/23-Sup. 2 where two points were specifically raised. One was how food security programmes based on decentralized storage systems could be designed to assure adequate prices to farmers. The other was the liberalization of access to IMF financing facilities or the setting up of a special food import facility to deal with the crises created by natural calamities and rapid increase in food grain prices.

So now we find that the IMF itself is very much seized with this issue and therefore there should be no harm in asking the IMF to consider this.

The other point made by the delegate of Canada related to the use of food aid for food security. It will be recalled that this item was considered at the Eighth Session of the CFA, which decided that without prejudice to priorities of the food aid as decided earlier, food aid should continue to be given for assisting the developing countries in building food reserves. I think that these two points which are very important should be allowed to remain there.

Mr. Chairman, you have just suggested the constitution of an informal consultative group. This is an excellent idea, but so far we have heard unanimous support for the draft resolution and we have not heard any differences of opinion about the different clauses of it. An informal consultative group is definitely desirable. But I think we have to listen to other delegations also and if you feel there is complete unanimity on this resolution, as there has been so far, probably this kind of consultative group may be redundant.

G. DUCOMMUN (Suisse): L'attitude des autorités suisses à l'égard de la sécurité alimentaire est exposée aux paragraphes 23 à 25. du document C 79/23 Supp. 2 et elle reste valable à ce jour. Vous pouvez donc vous y référer pour plus d'informations.

Dans sa déclaration générale, notre chef de délégation a rappelé quels sont à nos yeux les piliers de la sécurité alimentaire nationale. Premièrement, la mise en place d'un potentiel de production agricole national permettant en cas de besoin d'assurer l'auto-provisionnement vivrier du pays même s'il doit en résulter un coût élevé; deuxièmement, une répartition des emplois rémunérés ou des terres qui assurent à chaque famille le pouvoir d'achat ou le potentiel de production indispensables à la satisfaction de ses besoins fondamentaux. Ceci est très important sans quoi la sécurité alimentaire dont nous nous préoccupons ici serait celle des favorisés et oublierait la sécurité alimentaire des pauvres; troisièmement, l'existence de stocks nationaux de stabilisation des marchés dont le volume sera fonction de l'irrégularité des récoltes et dont la gestion doit garantir l'auto-financement de ces stocks. Ceci est très important aussi: la gestion saine des offices nationaux de commercialisation et de stockage des céréales. Des stocks régionaux ou internationaux pourraient utilement réduire les frais liés à l'entretien de ces réserves nationales.

Cette conception est cohérente avec la priorité que la Suisse a retenu pour sa politique de coopération au développement, à savoir le développement rural et la production agricole vivrière.

Mon Gouvernement a l'intention d'augmenter sensiblement son aide publique au développement dans les années à venir. Il poursuivra ses contributions au Programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et au programme pour la réduction des pertes alimentaires. Nous remercions le Directeur général pour les paroles aimables qu'il a eues à l'égard de la Suisse à ce sujet.

Pour ce qui est de l'aide alimentaire en céréales, nous estimons qu'elle est indispensable en cas de catastrophe. En revanche, l'aide alimentaire de longue haleine en tant que l'une des formes d'aide à la balance des paiements n'est pas considérée par ma délégation comme le meilleur type d'aide lorsqu'il s'agit de soulager la faim des pauvres. L'aide alimentaire pourrait s'avérer fort utile lorsqu'un pays déficitaire a élaboré et met à exécution une vigoureuse politique d'auto-provisionnement alimentaire, aide couvrant ainsi le déficit alimentaire dans la période de transition qui précède l'auto-suffisance. Mais en l'absence de politiques fermes et intégrées concernant l'alimentation, l'emploi, la production vivrière, le stockage et la commercialisation des produits vivriers, le support de la balance des paiements par l'aide alimentaire pourrait par contre avoir des conséquences paralysantes sur les gouvernements.

J'aimerais dire aussi quelques mots sur la politique de sécurité alimentaire de la Suisse. Elle repose sur deux fondements, d'une part le maintien d'un potentiel de production agricole minimum et d'autre part des stocks vivriers stratégiques. Actuellement, notre agriculture satisfait à un peu plus de la moitié de notre consommation calorique nationale, c'est dire que nous sommes un gros importateur de vivres, le plus gros peut-être par habitant. Mais en cas de rupture des approvisionnements, nous pouvons mobiliser notre agriculture en sorte qu'elle assure l'auto-provisionnement du pays. Ce niveau de production peut être atteint en trois ans et le déficit alimentaire de la période de transition serait couvert par les réserves stratégiques.

J'aimerais rendre attentifs les pays exportateurs sur le fait que si la Suisse réduisait notablement la protection de son agriculture, donc les obstacles tarifaires et non tarifaires aux importations de produits agricoles, elle verrait immédiatement le restant de son agriculture s'effondrer car elle ne pourrait survivre aux prix pratiqués sur le marché mondial. Il en résulterait une agriculture au potentiel encore beaucoup plus réduit, incapable d'assurer notre sécurité alimentaire et notre indépendance nationale, donc inconciliable avec notre politique de neutralité.

C'est pour cette raison que le projet de résolution sur le commerce des produits et le protectionnisme n'est pas compatible avec notre sécurité alimentaire. Ma délégation espère que ces explications seront considérées à leur juste valeur par les pays exportateurs.

Concernant la résolution qui se trouve dans le document C 79/LIM/34, ma délégation doit exprimer les difficultés qu'elle a avec le texte qui nous est proposé. En effet, mes autorités ne pensent pas souscrire entièrement au plan d'action en cinq points proposé par le Directeur général. Ces difficultés ne portent pas sur l'ensemble du plan d'action mais sur ses exigences concernant l'aide alimentaire en céréales et sur ses exigences concernant le déblocage des stocks nationaux céréaliers en cas de situation extrêmement difficile sur le marché. La Suisse a l'intention de participer à un système international de coordination des stocks nationaux mais ceci dans le cadre d'un accord international qui élabore des mécanismes pour le remplissage et le déblocage de ces stocks afin que le prix des céréales puisse être maintenu à un certain niveau.

A. ARRIFI (Maroc): La délégation marocaine appuie fermement les propositions du Directeur général en vue de l'application du Plan d'action concernant la sécurité alimentaire, ses propositions pour des perspectives de travail sur deux fronts, l'une à long terme qui vise l'accélération de la croissance de la production alimentaire et l'autre immédiate pour mettre sur pied le système mondial de sécurité alimentaire.

Pour ce qui concerne le premier point, je me permettrai de rappeler que la priorité donnée au secteur agricole a été formulée depuis longtemps par mon pays et l'objectif d'auto-suffisance alimentaire fait partie intégrante de notre plan de développement économique et social.

Pour ce qui concerne le programme d'action immédiate, je voudrais formuler deux observations sur quelques dispositions du Plan d'action: d'abord le stockage. Au niveau national, nous estimons qu'il est très important d'améliorer les infrastructures de stockage existantes et de décentraliser au maximum les points de stockage, notamment au niveau du producteur, c'est-à-dire le plus près possible des agriculteurs, et ce, d'autant plus que les encouragements donnés au système de coopératives facilitent la gestion d'un point décentralisé de stockage.

Deuxièmement, le critère de gestion et de déblocage des stocks. Ces critères tels que développés ne nous semblent pas assez explicites. En effet, les critères évoqués relèvent à notre sens beaucoup plus du domaine des directives générales que de celui d'un cadre normatif précis.

Troisième point, les pertes alimentaires. En ce qui concerne ce point, il est certain que ce domaine relatif aux pertes de produits revêt la plus grande importance et nous appuyons de ce fait tous les efforts de la FAO sur ce plan. Mais au moins, je voudrais attirer l'attention de l'assistance sur les points suivants : mon pays, comme certainement beaucoup d'autres pays africains connaît un fléau redoutable qui opère beaucoup de prélèvements dans les récoltes céréalières et oléagineuses qu'il s'agisse par exemple du moineau, qui pour mon pays réduit de 15 à 20 pour cent les rendements escomptés en céréales vivrières, il serait souhaitable que la FAO intervienne dans ce domaine pour contribuer à réduire l'impact néfaste du moineau. Un projet analogue relatif au criquet pèlerin sauverait une grande partie des récoltes des pays de l'Afrique du Nord.

En conclusion, nous voudrions remercier le Directeur général de son exposé concis et concret, tout en en apportant notre soutien total au Plan d'action sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

M. S. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): I will be very brief so far as the point of view of my delegation is concerned. First of all, allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on the way in which you are guiding our discussions with great wisdom and relativity. This, I am sure, will help us to produce fruitful results.

I will start with a specific comment concerning the draft resolution in document C 79/LIM/34, the (a) of paragraph 5 of this draft resolution. I wonder whether what the Plan of Action pursues is approximately \$10 million or ten million tonnes. This is my question. This goes back to 1974. If ten million tonnes is the objective, I would like to ask for the necessary correction so that this will be borne in mind. However, if what we are seeking is the programme against losses referred to in paragraph 31 in document C 79/23, if that is what we are aiming at, then the objective is 320 million, not 310 million. That is why I would like to ask those who submitted this draft resolution to bear this point in mind.

My delegation would like to express its wholehearted support for the Five-Point Plan of Action proposed by the Director-General, and wishes to support also the draft resolutions submitted by a certain number of countries. We consider what the draft resolution is suggesting is the minimum to ensure world food security. The Head of my delegation said in Plenary that he expressed concern concerning the present indications on world food aid, which has not reached 10 million tonnes. Moreover, we felt in the Director-General's declaration at the beginning of this afternoon's Session his bitterness at the very slow progress made within the Member countries which have committed themselves to going further.

We think that if food aid has not increased in the desired way during the 1970's decade, and if this food aid in 1975/76 has amounted to 18 million tonnes, there has actually been no increase. Furthermore, the aid to developing countries in financial aid to development, in this field we notice the aid extended to these countries has actually decreased. It was 2.79 percent in 1949 and today it is merely 0.22 percent according to the World Bank statistics. The aid to the development of developing countries has not reached the objective of 1 percent of the GNP of the developed countries.

I would like to remind you, also, that the question of the food security is indivisible and unique for all, as is the case for world peace, and we are wondering why some of the developed countries are not enthusiastic to support the Five-Point Plan of Action which is proposed by the Director-General and which is the minimum required in order to arrive at this food security, while the military expenses, for instance, last year, amounted to 400 billion. We notice that the increase of the military expenses in view of the present situation will add nothing to the security of these countries.

This is the reason why my delegation once again wishes to reiterate its support for this Plan of Action and the draft resolution, and requests the authors of this draft resolution to give some information concerning the aid to be extended to the developing countries to put this aid in figures for indicative purposes at least, in order to help us to face up to this challenge.

O. DIALLO (Mali): Je serai bref. Tout d'abord, permettez-moi de vous féliciter de la compétence avec laquelle vous dirigez nos débats. Ma délégation vous remercie de lui avoir donné la parole sur ce point important de l'ordre du jour qu'est l'application du Plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Pays sahélien, enclavé, le problème de sécurité alimentaire préoccupe "beaucoup notre gouvernement. C'est pourquoi notre Plan de développement économique et social vise a priori l'autosuffisance alimentaire de nos populations.

Aussi, je voudrais signaler combien est utile pour notre pays le programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire de la FAO.

Ce programme nous a aidé tant sur le plan de conseils pratiqués, que sur celui des réalisations déjà effectuées. Il nous a aidés à mobiliser des fonds pour réaliser une bonne partie de notre programme de constructions de magasins de stockage destinés principalement aux stocks de réserve que notre Ministre du développement a signalés dans sa déclaration du 16 novembre.

A notre avis, il est souhaitable que les ressources du programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale soient augmentées afin que ce programme puisse continuer son travail essentiel.

En conséquence, nous soutiendrons fortement toutes propositions qui seront faites dans ce sens.

SUKRIYA ATMADJA (Indonésie): First of all I would like to thank the Director-General for having presented the FAO Conference with his clear and concise report on the implementation of the Plan of Action on world food security.

My delegation wishes to submit a few comments and observations on the very useful information and suggestions contained therein. We further wish to present a "brief report on our rice programme as one of the Government measures which, to a very large extent, has contributed to the strengthening of national food security in the country.

As stated in the Director-General's report, the Council in adopting the Plan of Action on world food security expressed concern regarding the world food security situation which is believed to be no less precarious than before on the world food prices in the early seventies. My delegation fully shares these views and feelings of apprehension. While world food supplies and carry-over stocks of cereals appear to be adequate at present, and are certainly more ample than five years ago, however, one cannot but feel concerned observing the many distressing features that accompany the seemingly rosy, but highly misleading, picture of the current world food situation.

Certain major disquieting features as identified by the Council are in particular: first, the fact that developing countries as a whole instead of succeeding in reducing their food deficit have, on the contrary, become increasingly dependent on external food supplies.

Second, the failure of the international community to arrive at a consensus on the setting-up of a new international grains arrangement, at a time when world supplies and stocks appeared to be more than adequate.

Third, the indication as brought out by FAO's Fourth World Food Survey that the number of undernourished people in the developing market economies since 1969/71 has instead of declining, continued to increase to 420 million in 1974/76, and maybe to 450 million at present.

Bearing all this in mind, my delegation is in full agreement with the Director-General for having brought to our attention three critical implications of recent developments in the world grain supply/ demand situation as mentioned in paragraphs 9 to 11 in the report. We further agree with his assessment of the situation, that the international community has no alternative but to act now, and on two fronts. Long-term measures to accelerate food production growth, particularly in the developing countries, and immediate steps to establish a World Food Security System.

Accordingly, my delegation endorses the proposals for implementation of the Plan of Action as presented by the Director-General in paragraphs 38 to 54 of his report. The paragraphs 50 to 52 on Collective Self-Reliance correctly emphasize the important point that the key importance for attaining world food security is the stepping-up of domestic food production, particularly in developing food-deficit countries, and the growing constraints they have thereby to overcome -among others because of their growing cereal import bill-it is vitally important that international assistance for agricultural development in developing countries be stepped-up so as to meet the requirements of 18. 300 million in 1975 prices as estimated by the World Food Council.

Still on this point of collective self-reliance I would like to refer to the historical agreement reached by the five Member Countries of ASEAN-Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand-to set up what they call an ASEAN Food Security Reserve, which includes the establishment of an ASEAN Rice Emergency Reserve. The size of such an Emergency Reserve has initially been determined at 50, 000 tons. This amount as well as the contributions of each Member Country to such Emergency Reserve will be periodically reviewed, taking into account the general food situation in the ASEAN region as well as in the world. The ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board which is to supervise and coordinate the implementation of the Reserve, is soon to have its first meeting.

Mr. Chairman, allow me, briefly, to present a report on the activities we in Indonesia have undertaken to strengthen national food security.

Bearing in mind the vital importance of rice for the nation, the question of food security for our large and growing population is centered on the crucial question of adequate availability of this staple food grain. Thanks to the considerable efforts made by the Government-especially under the so-called Rice Intensification Program-rice production has increased over the last period of ten years at the annual rate of 4 percent. In spite of such progress, however, imports of rice are still necessary to meet domestic requirements-as well as to build stocks. With current imports of about 2 million tons Indonesia is, in fact, the single largest rice importing country in the world.

The main objective of the Government food policy is the assurance of adequate availabilities of rice at all times at stable prices, attractive to producers and within the reach of consumers at large. In the implementation of such a policy a National Rice Stabilization Program developed since the end of the last decade, and plays a vital role". It makes use of two basic instruments: first, a price mechanism and, secondly, a stock mechanism.

A floor price of rice is determined every year, safeguarded by the Government through its domestic procurement programme. An average of half a million tons of rice is procured each year, or about 3 percent of the national crop. To prevent market prices from exceeding the ceiling-which is also determined each year-rice from the national stock is released on the open market. The size of such market operations, while basically depending on the size of the crop, has tended to increase over the years. In 1977/78 it amounted to 2 million tons, four times the amount of 10 years ago, but declined to 1. 052 million tons in the following year as a result of the 1978 bumper crop.

The national stock of rice maintained by the Government in support of the Programme is multi-purpose in character. In addition to releases on the open market-which are the most important and characteristic under the Programme-the national stock is also responsible for the regular supply of rice for the Government civilian personnel and armed services. It also makes available rice supplies in times of emergencies or calamities. Depending on the size of the crop, a minimum stock level of 300, 000 to 400, 000 tons appears to be required during the months of peak harvests, and of 700, 000 to 1, 200, 000 tons during months of scarcity.

The Government has just completed the first phase of a rice warehouse programme which includes the construction of 323 units of modern warehouses of 3, 500 tons capacity each. The second phase of the programme provides for the building of smaller storage facilities of 1, 000 tons capacity. In addition, the village cooperatives have started construction of even smaller godowns suited to conditions at village level.

Particularly since 1974/75 the National Rice Stabilization Program has in an increasing and convincing way demonstrated its capacity to ensure the adequate supply of rice, also in years of substantial production shortfall. Market prices of rice have thereby remained within the tolerable limits between floor and ceiling prices. This was true, even after the substantial devaluation of the national currency which became effective as of 15 November 1978. Bearing in mind the weight of rice in the cost of living index, the high degree in stability of rice prices must have contributed to a large extent to the overall economic stability of the whole country, which was reflected in the declining inflation rate over the year.

It can thus be stated that the National Rice Stabilization Programme as the basic tool in the implementation of the Government food policy has over the years demonstrated its positive contribution to the achievement of three highly important objectives:

Firstly, the assurance of adequate supply of rice at all times at stable prices and thus the maintenance of national food security; secondly, the assurance thereby of a fair price to the rice farmer and thus providing an important incentive for increased rice production; and thirdly, the promotion of the country's economic stability-not to speak of political stability as well.

While the greatest emphasis so far has been given to rice in the Government food production programmes, however, the objective of promoting a more diversified pattern of consumption has become an established policy of the Government in recent years, especially with the start of the Third Five Year Development Plan, 1978/79-1982/83. The aim of such a change in policy emphasis is to reduce as much as possible the country's dependence on rice, and at the same time promote expansion in the production of non-rice basic food commodities. In order to stimulate production of such commodities, the Government, for example BULOG, is to start this year procuring maize, soybean, groundnut and mung bean from the farmers through the village cooperatives, at floor prices recently determined by the Government. It is expected that such promotion of a more diversified consumption pattern will further facilitate the attainment of national food self-sufficiency, and at the same time contribute to improvement in nutrition standards.

This is, Mr. Chairman, a brief review of the measures we have taken in Indonesia to strengthen and ensure national food security. Copies of the more detailed report have been made available by my delegation for those who may have a special interest in the matter.

Allow me to make a comment on document C 79/LIM/34. First may I express my gratitude to the delegations of several countries who had the initiative to formulate a draft resolution. I am not in a position to evaluate it in more detail. I leave it to the Committee, but my position is, I fully support the document of the draft in spirit.

J. A. SANTOS OLIVEIRA (Guinée-Bissau): Au sujet du point 7 de l'ordre du jour, Plan d'action à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, notre délégation veut, comme elle l'a déjà fait en séance plénière, appuyer fortement le programme d'action en cinq points proposé par le Directeur général.

Nous voudrions aussi soutenir le projet de résolution sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale présenté par les délégations de la Colombie, de la Guinée, de l'Inde, de l'Uruguay, du Zaïre et de la Yougoslavie.

La Guinée-Bissau est un pays qui, en conditions normales, a des possibilités de produire des aliments en quantités suffisantes pour faire face à ses besoins. Toutefois, la longue lutte pour la libération nationale, avec la destruction des faibles infrastructures de base existantes, a requis tous les efforts de production du peuple guinéen.

Après l'indépendance totale, un nouveau fléau s'est abattu sur la plupart du pays-la sécheresse.

Après la plus grande sécheresse de l'année 1977 qui nous a forcés à demander l'aide du programme de sécurité alimentaire, la sécheresse de cette année a de nouveau frappé notre pays. La diminution des pluies a été remarquable, mais c'est surtout l'irrégularité des jours de pluie qui a causé les plus graves conséquences.

A cet égard, nous sommes obligés de recourir encore une fois à l'aide du programme de sécurité alimentaire.

Monsieur le Président, nous profitons de cette occasion pour remercier de l'action menée jusqu'à présent dans notre pays par le Fonds de sécurité alimentaire, et pour donner, encore une fois, tout notre appui au plan d'action et au projet de résolution ici présentés ^{1/}.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic: The last speaker for today will be the Observer for the World Wheat Council and I now call upon him.

^{1/} Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

J. H. PAROTTE (Observateur pour le Conseil international du Blé): La plupart des orateurs qui sont montés à la tribune de la séance plénière, de même que ceux qui l'ont précédé ici au cours de ce débat, ont fait allusion d'une manière ou d'une autre à la mise en place d'un arrangement international comportant d'une part des engagements formels en matière de stocks de réserve et d'autre part une nouvelle convention relative à l'aide alimentaire. Depuis l'ajournement de la conférence des négociations c'est au Conseil international du Blé qu'il appartient de prendre toute nouvelle initiative en ce qui concerne la reprise de ces négociations. Il serait donc utile qu'avec votre permission je fasse le point de la situation sur les discussions qui ont eu lieu récemment au sein du Conseil et qui se poursuivront dans une dizaine de jours, d'abord, au sujet de la Convention sur le commerce du blé. A sa dernière session en juin dernier, le Conseil, reconnaissant la nécessité d'aboutir aussi rapidement que possible à un nouvel accord contenant des dispositions économiques substantielles en vue de stabiliser le marché international du blé et de contribuer à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, décida d'établir un comité spécial afin de rechercher la solution des questions encore en suspens à l'issue de la Conférence des négociations. Ce Comité spécial s'est réuni les 24 et 25 octobre derniers. Conformément à son mandat, le Comité a examiné d'abord l'évolution de la situation mondiale du blé depuis l'ajournement de la Conférence. Il a ensuite porté son attention sur les problèmes d'ordre logistique qui pourraient entraver les courants des échanges mondiaux des céréales. Il a également examiné les mesures prises dans différents pays exportateurs et importateurs pour résoudre ces difficultés. Celles-ci sont bien connues et il est inutile que je m'y attarde.

Certains délégués ont fait valoir que les problèmes logistiques ne constituaient pas un phénomène nouveau et qu'ils seraient surmontés comme ils l'avaient été par le passé. Ils avaient le sentiment qu'il serait encore possible de reprendre les négociations au point où elles avaient été ajournées en février 1978. Selon eux aussi, aucun facteur nouveau n'était apparu qui serait susceptible de faire particulièrement obstacle à la reprise des négociations.

D'autre part, plusieurs délégués ont exprimé un point de vue différent selon lequel les perspectives pour la reprise des négociations demeuraient défavorables; elles l'étaient peut-être devenues davantage encore à la suite de l'évolution du marché au cours des derniers mois. Les problèmes d'ordre logistique ci-dessus mentionnés, qui avaient fait l'objet d'une discussion assez profonde, avaient des incidences sur la reprise de la Conférence sur les bases arrêtées lorsqu'elle s'était ajournée. On estimait en outre qu'il était plus nécessaire que jamais que les pays importateurs, qu'ils soient développés ou en développement, détiennent des stocks importants susceptibles d'assurer la réalisation des objectifs de stabilité du marché et de sécurité alimentaire.

Une troisième opinion a été avancée selon laquelle la situation s'était modifiée à un tel point depuis l'ajournement de la Conférence qu'il était nécessaire d'envisager la convention sous un angle entièrement nouveau. Si une nouvelle convention avait été mise sur pied, on peut se demander si certaines de ses dispositions auraient en fait fonctionné dans le contexte de l'évolution subie par la conjoncture.

Le problème le plus important n'est pas seulement celui de la mise en place d'un système ou d'un mécanisme de stockage, mais bien celui des besoins d'importation des pays en développement qui s'accroissent de jour en jour. Les achats de céréales de la plupart de ces pays en développement sont souvent limités par des impératifs financiers. Il est donc nécessaire d'avoir une vue beaucoup plus large d'un nouvel accord que cela a été le cas lors de la négociation.

Quoi qu'il en soit, je peux vous assurer que les membres du Conseil international du Blé sont parfaitement conscients de l'importance de l'invitation qui leur est adressée au paragraphe 3 du projet de résolution.

En ce qui concerne la Convention relative à l'aide alimentaire, le Comité de l'aide alimentaire a tenu des consultations informelles également à la fin du mois d'octobre. A l'issue de la Conférence, au cours de laquelle une nouvelle convention a été négociée aussi bien par les pays donateurs que par les pays bénéficiaires, les nouveaux engagements des pays donateurs existants portaient sur quelque 7,6 millions de tonnes. Depuis lors, un certain nombre de pays donateurs ont manifesté leur intention de mettre en oeuvre la nouvelle convention et leurs nouveaux engagements. Les autres pays donateurs sont en train de réexaminer leur position. Nous en saurons davantage à ce sujet lorsque le Comité de l'aide alimentaire se réunira lui aussi à la fin du mois.

On m'accuse souvent de faire preuve de trop d'optimisme; mais cette fois, j'ai de bonnes raisons d'être optimiste et de croire que le Comité pourrait se réunir à nouveau tout à fait au début de l'année, au mois de janvier par exemple, pour mettre au point la nouvelle convention qui pourrait alors entrer en vigueur le 1er juillet 1980. D'ores et déjà, on peut se féliciter que l'Autriche et la Norvège participeront à la Convention. Espérons que d'ici peu de nouveaux pays donateurs viendront rejoindre les pays donateurs traditionnels.

Je voudrais suggérer aux auteurs de la résolution dont nous sommes saisis de compléter son paragraphe 6 en invitant les autres pays donateurs qui sont en mesure de le faire à se joindre à la nouvelle convention aussi rapidement que possible.

The meeting rose at 18. 10 hours

La séance est levée à 18 h 10

Se levanta la sesión a las 18. 10 horas

conference

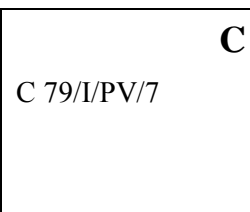
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

SEVENTH MEETING
SEPTIEME SEANCE
SEPTIMA SESION

(20 November 1979)

The Seventh Meeting was opened at 9. 45 hours,
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La septième séance est ouverte à 9 h 45, sous la présidence
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I

Se abre la séptima sesión a las 9. 45 horas, bajo la presidencia de
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN
MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y
LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)
- 7. Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security (continued)
- 7. Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (suite)
- 7. Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (continuación)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Ladies and Gentlemen, I call the meeting to order and we continue our discussion on item 7 concerning the report of the Director-General on the implementation of the Plan of Action on Food Security. You might recall that I requested you yesterday in a clear manner to address yourselves, in relation to the consideration of the report itself, to the Draft Resolution in document C 79/LIM/34. I would like to repeat this today and I hope that you will consider the relevant Draft Resolution, and if I don't hear any opposing point of view, in view of the consensus we reached yesterday, I shall consider that there is general agreement on the Draft Resolution and this might influence my decision regarding the composition of the Contact Group because we do not constitute contact groups without any reason—we constitute such contact groups only if there is need for such groups.

Before we resume our discussions today I would like to give the floor to Mr. Mends, our Rapporteur.

H. MENDS (Rapporteur from Plenary to Commission I) : Thank you very much. Again twenty three Heads of Delegations and five representatives of international organizations addressed the Plenary yesterday. As was the case on Friday, the major emphasis was on the follow-up of the WCARRD, of the Five Point Plan of Action for World Food Security, and the development of fisheries in the exclusive economic zones.

In yesterday's discussions many governments made specific reference to the study of Agriculture: towards 2000". All of them congratulated the FAO for undertaking such a meaningful study which covered most of the important problems in the food and agriculture sector. Developing countries were unanimous in their demand for increased financial and food aid from the developed countries. According to most of the speakers it is somewhat ironical that towards the end of the second development decade food production has rather decreased and the overall agricultural situation is showing very disturbing trends. Many countries which were self-sufficient with regard to domestic production of food have had a deficit in recent years. Therefore some of the developing countries hold that they should concentrate on making themselves self-sufficient in food production.

In the meantime, they emphasize the need for the speedy conclusion of the negotiations regarding the finalization of the Wheat Agreement.

Some countries, while appreciating the effort of FAO in promoting high yield in varieties of crops expressed their distress at the projected increase in fertilizer prices. It is quite evident that without the supply of fertilizers agricultural production cannot be increased they emphasized.

A few countries made specific reference to the importance of forestry development. Mexico expressed a desire to host the next World Forestry Congress. Mexico also wanted the Director-General of FAO to prepare a study on development of forestry in general. According to another country a particular reference to the decline in the prices of forest products has been evident in view of the fact that increased production is going on too. Turkey considered forestry products as a very useful alternative source of energy.

Now to the item for your discussion this morning, that is the Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security. All countries congratulated the Director-General for the Five Point Plan which he has proposed for world food security and some of the countries suggested that the International Monetary Fund should be requested to assist in financing the food import bill of developing countries.

Only one country expressed difficulty in participating in the world food security undertakings due to transportation costs and this was Papua New Guinea.

Other interesting statements and proposals have been made with particular reference to the subjects for your discussion and I shall be reporting on that in due course.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I thank Mr. Mends for his comprehensive statement which will help us very much in our discussions. Ladies and Gentlemen, now we resume our discussions today and I give the floor to the distinguished representative of the Netherlands.

J. BERTELING (Netherlands): Mr. Chairman, I shall confine myself mainly to the subject of the Food Security Assistance Scheme since the other important subjects will be dealt with also on our behalf by the Representative of the EEC Commission and for the sake of brevity I shall comment on the Draft Resolution contained in LIM/34 as you requested.

My delegation is disappointed—we are very disappointed since we heard many supporting words for the Food Security Assistance Scheme but hardly any action and no additional financial support. The Netherlands Delegation announced in Plenary an additional contribution of about \$2.5 million for 1979 which is about 25 percent of the target mentioned in paragraph 5(a) of the Draft Resolution. It is therefore quite logical that we can accept that particular paragraph, but with a normal kind of burden sharing an even higher annual target could be reached and the Netherlands Government feels itself somewhat lonely in supporting the Food Security Assistance Scheme and we think that also for FAO this unbalanced situation can be dangerous.

The Netherlands support paragraph 5(b) and will do its utmost to improve the coordination between its bilateral assistance to the food security programme of the developing countries and the FAO Secretariat.

It also plans to enlarge its support for food production activities substantially because we consider this as one of the most important contributions we can make. The Director-General made it very clear to us once more yesterday.

Concerning paragraph 3 (c) we consider the 17-18 million tons food aid by 1985 as an estimate and certainly not as a target at this moment. The Netherlands gives substantial food aid. The majority of our assistance in the food and agriculture sector will however go primarily to the small-scale food production sector.

The suggestion in paragraph 7 to request the Director-General to consider, in cooperation with the World Bank and other multilateral financial institutions, ways of assessing the needs and scope for improving food security infrastructures warrants our full support. We consider that also the World Food Council Secretariat should be involved in this important exercise.

Finally, I would like to say that my delegation has noted with some satisfaction that the Director-General, among the comments in his report on the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development considers food security as one of the activities related to agrarian reform and rural development. May I add that it is necessary to use some clear definitions on food security—what it is and what is not and what, for example, is the relationship with the food losses programme?

Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to call all countries to assist the FSAS substantially and to coordinate with FAO on its food security activities.

A. FERNANDEZ Y GONZALEZ (España): Aunque mi delegación piensa, como nos recordó ayer el Director General, que la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial es uno de los temas fundamentales de esta Conferencia, trataré de reducir al máximo mi intervención, siguiendo sus indicaciones Sr. Presidente.

Un elemento esencial para la seguridad alimentaria es la existencia de un sistema eficaz de reservas de cereales básicos; ahora que los niveles de reservas mundiales se hallan en descenso, se hace más evidente la oportunidad perdida, durante las dos anteriores campañas productivas para constituirlo a nivel internacional. Porque según nos informa la Secretaría de que todos los países en desarrollo que habían establecido objetivos de reservas nacionales en el marco del compromiso voluntario sobre la seguridad alimentaria, sólo una minoría ha podido alcanzar tales objetivos. De ahí, el interés y la oportunidad que presenta hoy el Plan de Acción de cinco puntos presentado por el Director General. Mis autoridades ven con el mayor interés y espíritu de colaboración este Plan, ya aprobado por el Consejo de la FAO y por el Consejo Mundial de Alimentación, como sustitutivo temporal de algunas cláusulas previstas en el proyectado Acuerdo Internacional sobre Cereales.

En relación con los dos primeros puntos del Plan, España viene aplicando desde hace tiempo políticas y objetivos en materia de reservas nacionales de cereales, especialmente para asegurar una adecuada soldadura entre campañas de comercialización, de acuerdo con unas normas reguladoras que publica anualmente el Gobierno, y que especifican los niveles de precios de sustentación, de reservas de seguridad y su oportuna gestión y movilización, así como las modalidades de comercialización.

En el caso del trigo, al tener España una producción sensiblemente equilibrada con el consumo nacional, su política de reservas no incide desfavorablemente sobre las actividades de producción y comercialización de otros países; antes bien, contribuye a no producir desequilibrios en el mercado mundial. Por ello mismo, sin embargo, nuestra posibilidad de ayuda alimentaria se halla condicionada, en lo que se refiere a trigo por las disponibilidades efectivas de nuestra propia producción, salvo en casos de situaciones particulares de emergencia. Por ejemplo, en el caso de los recientes acontecimientos en Nicaragua, el Gobierno español ha enviado una ayuda extraordinaria en productos alimentarios, harina de trigo, arroz y azúcar, principalmente, por un contravalor superior a los 7 millones de dólares.

Sin embargo, y como contrapartida a la autosuficiencia en trigo, nuestra demanda de cereales secundarios como el maíz y sorgo depende fuertemente de la oferta exterior, por lo que debemos apoyar todas las iniciativas para conseguir una seguridad de acceso y una estabilidad de precios en los abastecimientos del mercado mundial. Porque pensamos que son un instrumento positivo para la seguridad alimentaria mundial, apoyamos el que la FAO promueva medidas concertadas tendentes a lograr acuerdos internacionales sobre productos, en el seno de los Grupos del CPPB y de la UNCTAD. También debe contribuir a ello el perfeccionamiento y ampliación de las actividades del Sistema Mundial de Información y Alerta sobre Agricultura y Alimentación.

Aunque no sea nuevo, conviene recordar en este punto que la ayuda alimentaria es un elemento importante, pero cuantitativamente limitado, para la seguridad alimentaria mundial, como parte del mecanismo de transferencia de recursos a determinados países en desarrollo. Puesto que se trata de un tipo de transferencias "adicionales", debería evitarse toda interferencia de las corrientes de ayuda alimentaria en especie, o de las transacciones en condiciones especiales de favor, con el funcionamiento normal y abierto de los sistemas de producción, intercambio y de consumo de alimentos. Por otra parte, conviene tener presente que la acción internacional debe ayudar a que los países en desarrollo consigan liberarse, como grupo, de una dependencia alimentaria tan creciente y acusada como la actual; porque en esta década el aumento de las necesidades de importación viene siendo de casi el 7 por ciento anual, frente al 2.7 por ciento de incremento registrado en los años 60. Para aumentar significativamente sus producciones alimentarias, los países en desarrollo han de disponer de la ayuda necesaria para aumentar su capacidad técnica y para poner en práctica una política de asignación de recursos que indique las prioridades para la inversión agraria, los incentivos a la producción, consideraciones nutricionales, etc.

Mi delegación considera que la inclusión de consideraciones nutricionales en los programas y proyectos de desarrollo agrario y rural, cada vez más frecuente, constituye un paso importante para mejorar las disponibilidades alimentarias en los países en desarrollo, y piensa, también, que las actividades del Subcomité de Nutrición del CAC, servirán para clarificar muchos conceptos y serán útiles para mejorar la eficacia de los proyectos ejecutados por los diversos organismos de las Naciones Unidas relacionados con el desarrollo.

Señor Presidente, el punto número 5 del Plan del Director General incluye el concepto de la autosuficiencia colectiva de los países en vías de desarrollo en cuanto a seguridad alimentaria, que mi delegación comparte plenamente. Es preciso fomentar la producción de alimentos del Grupo, sin confiar demasiado en las aparentes facilidades de acceso a los mercados mundiales, puesto que el volumen de intercambios representa una parte reducida de la demanda global de alimentos, y cualquier oscilación de la oferta disponible tiende a desestabilizar con rapidez el mercado. La experiencia nos indica también que la seguridad en los abastecimientos, las reservas estratégicas y los niveles de precios de los alimentos, deben constituir un elemento de tranquilidad en las economías familiares, pero sin que resulten dañadas comparativamente, por ello, las rentas de los productores.

En el marco de este objetivo de autosuficiencia colectiva alimentaria de los países en desarrollo, debe situarse a nuestro juicio el potenciar en lo posible las transacciones de tipo triangular en ayuda alimentaria, es decir, la compra de alimentos a ciertos países en desarrollo para su transferencia a otros países en desarrollo también, pues aunque hasta ahora su alcance parece haber sido limitado, en el caso del arroz, la experiencia ha sido positiva, y constituye un incentivo más para aumentar la producción selectivamente en ciertos países del Grupo. En este sentido, el Gobierno español viene poniendo a disposición del Programa Mundial de Alimentos una contribución por bienio de 400.000 dólares en metálico, con el deseo de que puedan servir para aumentar las compras locales en efectivo de alimentos y favorecer las transacciones triangulares entre países en desarrollo.

Para concluir, señor Presidente, tengo instrucciones de reafirmar el espíritu abierto de cooperación de mi país, principalmente en el orden técnico, para asesorar en aspectos relacionados con la formulación y ejecución de programas y proyectos concretos, nacionales o regionales, en el marco del Plan de Asistencia de FAO para la seguridad alimentaria, brindando nuestra experiencia reciente en temas de ordenación y mejora de amplias zonas rurales.

Teniendo en cuenta lo que antecede, señor Presidente, mi delegación ve con simpatía el Proyecto de Resolución patrocinado por Colombia y otros seis países en desarrollo, que figura en el documento LIM/34, y confía en que no le será muy difícil al Grupo Consultivo que usted nos proponía ayer, en el caso de que sea preciso reunirlo, llegar a un texto de Resolución que pueda ser aprobado por la Plenaria.

D, VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): Thank you Mr. Chairman. First I would like to state that the importance of the item on our agenda on World Food Security is proved by the great number of participants in this discussion, as well as by the fact that the Director-General found it necessary to introduce personally this item on our agenda. We thank him very much for his statement which was very clear and to which he gave also an assessment of the present world food situation, as well as on the activities that FAO is undertaking in this period.

The world food situation, as you know Mr. Chairman, is at the moment, in fact, very difficult and it is as a result of a global decrease of production of food, mainly grains, which also provoked the falling of the level of stocks. It seems that food stocks have come below the so-called minimum level of 17 percent to 18 percent which was estimated earlier by FAO.

Also as a result of this, and of some other difficulties in world trade, prices have risen by 30-40 percent in the last few months. Having this in mind I think that we could estimate the present situation as very serious and very similar to that one on the eve of the World Food Conference in the early 1970s.

I mentioned the increase of prices by about 30-40 percent which was mainly wheat which would cause great difficulty for importing countries and, especially, for the developing countries which import about 60 percent of the world exports.

Also this increase in prices would cause developing countries an additional expense of foreign currency of about close to 3 billion dollars, which will have a very big detrimental effect on their development.

The item on the World Food Security has been the subject of discussion in nearly all important, competent, international bodies since 1973, namely at all three FAO Conferences, at the World Food Conference, at the IGA and the World Food Council, and also has been the subject of very long and thorough negotiations at the Geneva United Nations Conference on the new International Grains Arrangement which, unfortunately, after more than two-and with preparation more than three-years has failed to produce a positive result. As one of the participants at those negotiations in Geneva I would state that the developing countries have invested great efforts and shown great flexibility to enable a successful outcome of these negotiations. But the conditions and position of other participants did not enable these negotiations to be concluded successfully.

Yesterday the statement of the Executive Secretary of the International Wheat Council, Mr. Parotte, unfortunately does not encourage our hopes that the New Grains Arrangement would be concluded in the foreseeable future. This is really an unfortunate situation in which the world is found, and this is one reason to welcome all the more the initiative of the Director-General of FAO, immediately after the failure and breakdown of the Geneva talks, to propose the programme proposed in the so-called Five-Point Plan. This was really a timely, right and responsible reaction of the Director-General of FAO in the situation which arose after the breakdown of the talks. This initiative then, since early March, has passed through a very thorough process of consideration. First, it was endorsed in principle by the Committee of the General Assembly, and then later discussed in the Committee for World Food Security and approved by the FAO Council. So that now, at this Conference, we have already received the first report of the Director-General on the initial activity in this field, and for the Conference now it remains only to endorse the decision of the Council on the Five-Point Plan and to request all member countries to implement it. We would also request the Director-General to monitor the world food situation and react in a timely fashion, as envisaged in the plan, to the present situation and to the situation which might be likely to occur later, which might even have deteriorated. We would like to stress that we are very much aware of the fact that the five-point Plan does not contain any economic provisions concerning the level and manner of accumulation and release of stocks, level of trigger prices or special provisions for developing countries, which are supposed to be elements of a new international grain arrangement.

We would therefore like to stress that we should not forget, but should insist upon, the fact that all participants make their greatest efforts to come back to the negotiating table and try to conclude the new grain arrangements containing all important elements as soon as possible, because only on such an agreement, such an international instrument, should world food security be based.

As already stated by the delegate of Colombia at the beginning of this discussion, the Yugoslav delegation is one of the sponsors of a draft resolution on food security in Document C 79/Lim/34. I should like to stress that this draft resolution might be further improved and strengthened and the sponsors would welcome any proposal in that direction.

In conclusion, I should like to welcome the acceptance of the five-point Plan by the delegation of Canada and the lifting of the reservations on the Plan which that delegation expressed at the June Council Meeting. At the same time, I should like to express the hope that the Canadian Delegation will go along with the great majority of countries which have fully approved the five-point plan.

This concerns the very minor problems that the Canadian Delegation stated yesterday concerning the five-point Plan. I believe that Canada, as one of the most important countries in the production and world trade in grains and therefore one of the pillars of world food security, should go along with the other countries in this matter and accept the five-point plan without any reservations.

Concerning your proposal, Mr. Chairman, that we should state our positions on the necessity for nominating an advisory body or contact group-or whatever it might be called-to consider the draft resolution which is under discussion, we are inclined to agree with you; but at the same time I should like to express my delegation's assessment that among the previous twenty or more speakers there has been almost unanimity of position on all important subjects in the five-point Plan and in the proposed draft resolution, so it may not be necessary, if the discussion continues in this direction, to have such a body; but if you do find it useful and necessary we will agree with your judgement.

L. SMITH (Barbados): In the Plenary Meeting on Friday morning the Head of my delegation noted that the developing countries were being asked to pay higher prices for grain- something in the order of 30 to 40 percent for wheat and other grains-and that the importation of grains into developing countries was increasing at a phenomenal rate. He further noted that the yields and harvests in some of the developed countries over the past three years and the stocks held by a few of those countries was higher than it had been three or four years ago. He further noted that many underdeveloped countries had already depleted their foreign reserves because of the higher prices and were now faced with the additional burden of high grain prices along with the inaccessibility to markets in the industrialized countries and low outputs in the local production of exportable commodities. This implied, therefore, as our delegation would say, that many countries in the underdeveloped world would face serious balance-of-payments problems over the next two years, resulting from this increase in food prices.

I am sure that what will eventually happen is that, willy-nilly, most of these countries will fall into the clutches of the IMP. I do not know how the word "clutches" translates into the other languages, but I use it because this is our biggest misgiving about the five-point proposal made by the Director-General.

If I may quote from paragraph 25 on page 4 of Document C 79/23: ". . . . the Director-General has requested the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund to invite the IFK Board to consider within the context of its Financing Facilities, the feasibility of providing additional balance of payments support for meeting the rise in food import bills of low income -Food deficit countries. . . ."

It is precisely on this point that we find some difficulties. There are two possible outcomes implicit in that request. In the first case there could be a negative response, which would mean or imply that several underdeveloped countries would be left without any protective net for their food security problems and would then be in the double jeopardy of having serious balance-of-payments problems as well as insecurity in the area of food. In the second case the response could be a positive one, and here we have a few misgivings again. First, we foresee some difficulty in trying to negotiate acceptable terms with the IMF for further balance-of-payments support for several of those countries. Secondly, we are unsure as to what commitments several of those countries would have to make to be assured of the balance-of-payments support from the IMF. We foresee unfortunate situations arising where on the one hand one developing country facing balance-of-payments problems because of the increase in food costs would be subjected to the indignity of the stringent financial and fiscal regulations that the IMF might impose as part of the conditions for balance-of-payments support and, on the other hand, another underdeveloped country which had been receiving and was continuing to receive massive food aid, which might require a greater degree of fiscal reconstruction within the economy, would not be subjected to the same kind of stringent controls that might be imposed as a consequence of food security.

We would be grateful, therefore, if a few more delegations could examine this particular aspect of the whole proposal. We have no difficulty with the remaining four points of the proposal but over this one we would have some misgivings, and I think the other delegations could pay some attention to it, because, as we have pointed out, on the one hand there might be absolute security or no security at all and, on the other hand, if there was any type of security the conditions under which it was imposed might be unacceptable for most of the countries for which it was provided.

C. O. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): La delegación argentina tiene plena conciencia de la importancia de esta cuestión y la necesidad de que aquellos países con problemas críticos de producción y disponibilidad de alimentos puedan aspirar a una mayor seguridad alimentaria y en ese modo poder enfrentar el fantasma del hambre y la desnutrición con la mayor posibilidad de éxito y con los instrumentos adecuados para ello.

Se trata de una cuestión de importancia vital que es comprendida y aceptada por toda la colectividad internacional y es en ese sentido de solidaridad humana que la República Argentina considera el plan de acción presentado a nuestra consideración.

Ya en el pasado nuestro país, pese a sus dificultades y exigencias de orden nacional vinculadas a su desarrollo económico ineludibles para nuestra propia comunidad, ha mostrado su generosidad poniendo a disposición del Convenio de Ayuda Alimentaria más de 200 000 toneladas en concepto de ayuda a países necesitados.

La delegación argentina intervino activamente en las deliberaciones del Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial celebrado en Roma en abril último, así como en la oportunidad del 75º Consejo cuando considero el plan de acción sobre la seguridad alimentaria mundial; lo hizo en su carácter de ser uno de los pocos, tal vez el único país en desarrollo productor eficiente de alimentos y gran exportador de cereales, y con la plena conciencia de deber compatibilizar debidamente la necesidad de una mayor seguridad alimentaria mundial hasta que la conclusión de un nuevo acuerdo global garantice, mediante un instrumento jurídicamente vinculante, cláusulas válidas que aseguren la continuidad del incremento de la producción, precios estables equitativos para consumidores y retributivos para los productores, mecanismos claros para la constitución de reservas, así como procedimientos para su liberación y condiciones de comercialización que aseguren el aprovisionamiento continuo y creciente del mercado.

Como es del conocimiento de esta Conferencia, desde hace años se está tratando de institucionalizar este complejo y tan importante tema de los cereales, así como el de la seguridad alimentaria a través de un mecanismo que permita asegurar válidamente un incremento permanente y sostenido de la producción que neutralice la cada vez mayor necesidad de los pueblos a satisfacer sus necesidades mínimas y a disponer de la debida seguridad alimentaria.

Solo un incremento de producción dará seguridad alimentaria; y para asegurar el incremento de producción es necesario crear los estímulos necesarios para que el productor se sienta motivado y estimulado. Otras alternativas serán paliativos momentáneos destinados a enfrentar situaciones parciales, pero sin ir al fondo de la cuestión. Sin mayor producción no hay seguridad alimentaria.

En el curso de las diversas instancias que en el seno de la FAO consideraron el plan de acción, la delegación argentina expresó que cualquier iniciativa que contribuyera, aunque sea de modo parcial y temporal, a asegurar la seguridad alimentaria mundial tendrá la especial consideración por parte de nuestro gobierno. Fue así que compartimos plenamente el espíritu que animó al Director General de la FAO a procurar enfrentar con nuevas ideas y mayores recursos los momentos de crisis que puedan presentarse en los momentos de carencia o estrechez alimentarias; pero consideramos también, tal como lo señala debidamente el informe contenido en el documento CL 75/10 del Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria en su párrafo 23 donde se expresa la opinión de varias delegaciones, de que a la vez que apoyaban el propósito básico del plan y con ello ponían de relieve la actividad positiva y constructiva de sus gobiernos en favor de la seguridad alimentaria mundial indicaban que tenían algunas dificultades en aceptar determinados aspectos del plan en su formulación presente. En particular opinaban que el establecimiento de políticas nacionales de reservas y objetivos cuantitativos de reservas debían efectuarse en el contexto de un acuerdo internacional sobre cereales que sea jurídicamente obligatorio, con derechos y obligaciones claramente definidos y con un mecanismo convenido de precios para la acumulación y liberación de existencias.

La República Argentina cuenta con su producción de alimentos como único medio para sufragar su existencia como nación, encarar su desarrollo, pagar sus deudas y asegurar el progreso y bienestar de sus habitantes; por lo tanto, considera de un interés esencial que se concluya un instrumento global con cláusulas justas que abarquen todas las variables de la cuestión dentro de su ámbito natural y donde ha sido discutido hasta ahora.

Entendemos que las reservas tal como están propuestas en el punto 2 del plan sirven esencialmente para estabilizar los precios, de manera tal que ellos permitan el incremento de la producción agrícola y de esa manera asegurar el debido flujo permanente de los alimentos a las poblaciones necesitadas de la tierra.

Entendemos que el plan propuesto es lo suficientemente amplio y flexible como para asegurar que se preserve la soberanía de cada país en las modalidades de su implementación, y en especial en la forma de implementar sus reservas a nivel nacional.

Creemos también, y en esto coincidimos con otras delegaciones y con lo que ha sido reiteradamente manifestado en otras instancias, de que será necesario prever alguna cláusula de este instrumento en el caso de concertar un nuevo acuerdo internacional sobre cereales, que todos deseamos.

Tras tantos años de negociaciones para asegurar la seguridad alimentaria mundial y el abastecimiento continuo de toda la población de la tierra, con las observaciones que he mencionado anteriormente nuestra delegación ha participado del consenso que acogió esta iniciativa en instancias anteriores, pero desea se tenga en cuenta estos comentarios en el entendimiento de que se trata de un aporte constructivo y realista a la cuestión.

Señor Presidente, en cuanto al proyecto de la resolución mi delegación no tendría problema con ello, siempre que en el punto 4 de la parte dispositiva se agregue la palabra "desarrollados"; hay una gran diferencia entre los países exportadores con grandes recursos e infraestructura industrial y económica y los países en desarrollo.

Finalmente, señor Presidente, creo entender que usted había sugerido la posibilidad de constituir un grupo de contacto para considerar la resolución. Si bien creo firmemente en el gran esfuerzo que significa un grupo de contacto, con amplias experiencias en esta misma Conferencia donde usted nos ha llevado, tras muchas horas de trabajo, a un éxito, en el tema de profesionalismo, creo que si usted interpreta que hay suficiente consenso en torno a la resolución y es capaz de registrar las enmiendas que puedan proponerse en el curso del debate, pienso que el Comité de Redacción podría tratar directamente con el tema sin necesidad de establecer un grupo de contacto.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I would like to say that the delegations of Portugal and the United Arab Emirates have presented written statements instead of giving them from the floor. They will be inserted into the record.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): Before we venture to make any comments on this report we would like to say a few words on the context in which we suggest the Conference should consider this document. World food security is proving to be an elusive mirage. The international community has been dealing with this problem for some time now but with no concrete results.

The United Nations Negotiating Conference on a New International Grains Arrangement to replace the International Wheat Agreement 1971, as extended, stands adjourned indefinitely. Very bluntly and very briefly there is nothing standing between the world today and the catastrophe which nearly overtook it in the early 70's. The outlook is turning bleak. World production has declined and there will not be enough to feed the world's teeming millions unless we draw upon reserves. Prices are rising. It is in this context that we should view the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action. The Plan of Action commends itself on various scores.

Firstly, it is important to point out that this Plan is in fact a return to the concept and pledges of the International Undertaking on World Food Security. Most of what is suggested is to make it action oriented. Nearly all of us gathered here today have adopted the International Undertaking on World Food Security and if any government has adopted the Undertaking then it should have no difficulty in accepting the Plan of Action. The Committee of the Whole of the United Nations established under General Assembly Resolution 32/174 has already welcomed the initiatives of the Director-General of FAO in proposing this Plan and requested appropriate bodies to give it careful consideration. The 75th Session of the Council adopted the Plan of Action on World Food Security as formulated by the Fourth Session of the Committee on World Food Security. Since the existing International Wheat Agreement has been extended for two years, a gap is going to exist for a lengthy period, during which there will be no Arrangement with reserve stock provisions. In order to fill this void, at a time when the food situation remains uncertain and when many developing countries face a rising incidence of food insecurity, the Director-General's Plan of Action on Food Security needs to be implemented here and now by this Conference.

Another point, Sir, which we would particularly like to mention in order to allay any fears, is the link with the New International Wheat Agreement. This is well recognized by the Plan, which, in its operative paragraph 3, urges an early resumption and conclusion of the Wheat Negotiations. We too attach particular importance to the early resumption and conclusion of a New International Wheat Agreement, and urge all concerned to resume talks as soon as possible.

As regards the Director-General's proposals for implementation we fully support what is stated in paragraph 38 of document C 79/23. There is no alternative but to act now and on two fronts long-term measures to accelerate food production growth particularly in the developing countries and immediate steps to establish a world food security system. Regarding national stocks targets, we in Pakistan have already adopted a foodgrain stock policy and have decided to maintain 500, 000 tons of wheat as a working reserve at all times in the country. Although in the past we were not able to achieve the target of 500, 000 tons due to shortfall in wheat production, this year, in view of the fact that we have had a good wheat crop, we are confident that we will achieve this target. On the subject of adequacy of food stocks, (paragraph 44 of document C 79/23) the proposed exercise would be very helpful. There are a number of estimates which are being currently mentioned and an authoritative study would enable us to concentrate on one firm figure.

We fully agree with the views expressed in this document (C 79/23) regarding food aid. It is unfortunate but true that food aid always dwindles when it is most needed. Experience of the past confirms this impression and we would, therefore, advocate that food aid levels should be maintained and even increased if the need arises. Permit me to take this opportunity of congratulating the governments of the USA, Canada and Nordic Countries on de-linking the Food Aid Convention from the Wheat Trade Convention. We hope that Australia and the EEC, which have always been generous donors, will follow in their footsteps shortly. We would also be happy to see the increasing use of food aid in strengthening food security in developing countries. The Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes considered this matter at length and has generally supported the idea. We would, therefore, urge its implementation as soon as possible.

On the subject of sale of commodities, we have always supported this concept on a limited scale and in specific cases feel that funds thus generated could prove useful in creating an infrastructure for food security in developing countries. We believe in collective self-reliance and have already taken some steps in this direction.

As such, we would endorse the Director-General's proposal that Member Countries in sub-regions vulnerable to food shortages should take all possible initiatives to organize mutual assistance in time of crop shortfalls.

Lastly, a word about the coordinated approach which is mentioned in paragraph 53-54 (document C 79/23). This is extremely important if the Five Point Plan of Action is to become meaningful and effective. All actions on this front should contribute towards the agreed objectives of world food security.

Turning to the Draft Resolution which is under consideration, my delegation would like to propose an amendment to paragraph 5 (b). At present this reads "to enlarge substantially bilateral assistance. . . ". We would be grateful if this could be amended to read "to enlarge substantially bilateral and multilateral assistance to the food security programmes. . . .".

A word about our reaction to the proposals made by the Delegate of Canada. We are extremely encouraged to hear that the Delegate of Canada has now no reservations, but still continues to be worried on one or two points. We fully agree with the Delegate of India when he said that on the balance of payments all that is being asked is that the matter should be considered, that such support be financially exceptional for food imports of developing countries. This to our mind, in spite of what has just been pointed out by the delegate of Barbados, is an initial step and we should see how it develops instead of striking it out straight away. This is one point we would like to make.

Another point raised by the Canadian delegation was the sharing of the burden of long-term storage costs. It was suggested that it should be done more equitably. If we are to understand that by sharing this burden more equitably it should be partly borne by the developing countries, then all I have to say is as the man did who appeared before a rather ferocious king. The king condemned him to die. He was asked, "Now you are about to die you can make one last dying wish". And his reply was, "Let me die a natural death. " So if this question has been posed in this spirit we would request that we should also be allowed to die a natural death rather than contribute to this sharing of costs, because countries with balance of payments problems, who have to import food and other inputs, simply cannot help rich countries like Canada to share this burden. We appreciate that it is a burden but we would be grateful if Canada, as it has always done in the past, would continue to do so in the future also.

L. MARINUCCI (Communauté Economique Européenne): Au nom de la Communauté économique européenne je voudrais faire des commentaires au sujet du problème qui nous occupe concernant la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Je voudrais souligner encore une fois ici que la CEE est très sensible au problème de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et est prête à adhérer à toutes les initiatives qui ont été prises dans les enceintes internationales, afin d'apporter une solution dans la mesure du possible à la sécurité des approvisionnements, à la stabilité des prix et à la satisfaction d'un certain nombre de besoins par l'intermédiaire de l'aide alimentaire. Avec les références aux questions posées par le document C 79/23, concernant le rapport du Directeur général sur l'application du plan d'action sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, je voudrais réaffirmer le soutien de la CEE aux objectifs poursuivis par ces plans d'action. Pour ce qui concerne les points spécifiques qui sont traités dans ces plans, je crois devoir en préciser quelques aspects.

Pour ce qui concerne la politique de stockage, ainsi que la détermination d'objectifs en matière de stocks, je voudrais rappeler que (nous avons déjà eu l'occasion d'affirmer cela) la CEE dans sa politique agricole commune, pour le secteur des céréales notamment, dispose d'instruments nécessaires pour mener une politique de stockage qui soit compatible avec les besoins d'approvisionnement du marché intérieur, avec les exigences d'exportations ainsi que des besoins relatifs au programme d'aide alimentaire et de secours d'urgence.

Pour ce qui concerne le montant des stocks, je voudrais encore une fois attirer l'attention du Comité sur le fait que la Communauté, ces dernières années, a pratiquement doublé le montant des stocks. Le fait d'avoir des stocks plus importants se motive aussi pour des raisons de marché intérieur, d'exigences d'exportations, de situation générale sur le marché mondial; il se justifie et se motive notamment par la considération qui a été faite des nécessités et des besoins de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

La CEE par ailleurs tient à souligner le fait que cette politique de stockage, et cela est clair pour tout le monde, est menée sur une base autonome et volontaire tout en répondant aux exigences des objectifs du Plan. La CEE a déjà eu l'occasion d'affirmer dans d'autres enceintes et notamment dans les organes de la FAO qu'en principe une formulation plus précise, plus concrète de sa politique et des engagements en matière des stockages ne dépend que de la conclusion de la négociation en matière d'accord sur les céréales.

Eh d'autres termes, nous croyons que les différents pays, la CEE incluse, sont prêts à expliquer et sont en train de le faire, une action en matière de sécurité alimentaire mondiale, mais basée uniquement sur un fondement volontaire et autonome, c'est-à-dire qu'il existe ce sens de responsabilité qui entraîne la coopération internationale, mais on ne peut pas formuler dans ce cadre des engagements tels qu'ils pourraient résulter d'une négociation contractuelle.

Pour ce qui concerne l'aide alimentaire, là aussi la CEE a toujours respecté ses engagements en matière alimentaire et pour 1979 elle a augmenté les crédits budgétaires pour les approvisionnements en céréales et produits laitiers, de façon à maintenir le volume de l'aide alimentaire qu'elle se propose d'accorder.

A cet égard, à maintes reprises, il a été demandé aux différents pays de constituer des réserves pour assurer les engagements en matière d'aide alimentaire. Nous avons toujours dit et réaffirmons que dans notre cas nous ne voyons pas la nécessité d'avoir recours à cette forme d'action pour assurer nos engagements d'aide alimentaire. Par ailleurs, dans les documents de la FAO du Directeur général, il est dit que les pays devraient assurer leurs engagements en matière d'aide alimentaire par la constitution de réserves "ou par d'autres mesures".

La CEE se classe, dans la pratique, dans le deuxième aspect, à savoir, que c'est par d'autres mesures que nous assurons effectivement l'aide alimentaire.

Pour ce qui concerne l'action que la CEE mène directement au travers du renforcement de l'aide alimentaire, je voudrais rappeler que dans les différents projets de développement rural, la CEE met en oeuvre, dans le cadre de la coopération avec les pays ACP, à savoir les pays d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et du Pacifique associés à la Communauté, des actions tendant à l'augmentation de la production vivrière qui inclut aussi des actions d'amélioration de l'infrastructure de stockage et de commercialisation. Par conséquent, l'action que la CEE développe par l'intermédiaire de ces projets vise aussi directement à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale dans les pays en voie de développement bénéficiaires de ces projets.

Je dois encore faire allusion, dans le cadre du renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, au fait que les actions concrètes sont prévues également dans le cadre de la nouvelle convention ACP/CEE.

En ce qui concerne les pays non associés à la CEE, c'est-à-dire les pays qui ne bénéficient pas d'un traitement particulier et préférentiel, je voudrais attirer l'attention sur le fait que la CEE accorde une aide d'environ 5 millions de dollars par an et dont presque un quart est destiné au financement des infrastructures de stockage. Ainsi, la CEE mène aussi son action en dehors du groupe des pays qui lui sont directement associés.

Toujours concernant le renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, la CEE est prête, sous certaines conditions, à affecter une partie de son aide alimentaire sous forme de céréales à la constitution de stocks nationaux de réserves, accordant ainsi une contribution aux pays intéressés.

Il ne faut pas oublier non plus qu'au sujet de la Réserve d'urgence, la CEE contribue à de telles réserves et prévoit chaque année, dans ses programmes d'aide alimentaire, des quantités qui peuvent être utilisées pour les affecter à une telle Réserve.

Finalement, la CEE a accepté également les principes établis par le Comité de politique et de programme d'aide alimentaire concernant la programmation de l'aide, toute une série de principes dans le cadre de l'aide alimentaire.

L'ensemble de ces actions démontre que la CEE prend très au sérieux le problème de la sécurité et y apporte une contribution concrète dans toute la mesure du possible.

Je voudrais dire en ce qui concerne les actions futures que la CEE est toujours prête à coopérer dans les différentes enceintes internationales au renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et à apporter concrètement sa contribution sous des formes multiples.

Tels sont les quelques points que je voulais soumettre à votre attention. A l'égard du projet de résolution qui a été présenté et relatif à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, je ne voudrais pas entrer dans le détail de la rédaction de ce texte, mais tout en appréciant l'ensemble de cette résolution de façon relativement favorable, nous aurions quelques remarques à faire sur des passages qui ne nous conviennent pas tout à fait. Je voulais seulement vous l'annoncer, sauf à revenir plus concrètement et en détail lorsque l'on discutera du texte.

I. OZORAI, vice-Chairman of Commission I, took the Chair

I. OZORAI, Vice-Président de la Commission I, assure la présidence Ocupa la presidencia I. OZORAI, Vicepresidente de la Comisión T

L. COMANESCU (Romania): First of all, I would like to reiterate what the Head of my Delegation has already said in the Plenary: That Romania is deeply concerned with the fact that progress in implementing the recommendations of the World Food Conference and of the United Nations General Assembly and other UN fora, are very small, indeed no significant progress has been realized at all.

We know that these recommendations concerned also world food security, or as was pointed out in document C 79/23 and as mentioned here yesterday by His Excellency the Director-General of our Organization and many other delegates, the situation on world food security is not better now than before.

It goes without saying that if we want to change this situation we have to undertake urgent actions.

Mr. Chairman, as far as she is concerned and we stressed that on other occasions too, Romania is of the view that the basic condition to ensure long-term world food security is the substantial increase of food production, particularly in developing countries. We believe therefore that the main effort should be directed to the implementation of this objective. I am glad to see that almost all delegations have underlined this aspect too.

At the same time we are aware of the urgent need for other complementary actions such as the establishment of national stocks, international grain arrangements, aimed at providing a secure flow in the international grain trade, including reasonable prices of food and through these, world food security.

We are pleased to see that FAO and its Director-General is acting in this direction. We have in mind, first of all, the setting up of the so-called Five Point Plan of Action to which Romania is giving its full support.

Having said this I would like to comment shortly on the Draft Resolution submitted to us under document LIM/34.

Of course Romania is prepared to go along with and support this Resolution. Nevertheless, since we are to adopt a resolution on world food security it seems to us that we should not avoid making reference in this Resolution to the importance of increasing food production as a basic requirement for world food security so, Mr. Chairman since the Distinguished Delegates of Colombia and Yugoslavia, two of the sponsors of this Resolution told us yesterday and today, the draft submitted to us should not be considered as absolutely definite. I would suggest in line with what I have said, the insertion in preambulatory part of the Resolution of a new or even two new paragraphs and with your permission I will read them now.

After the third paragraph of the preambulatory part of this Draft Resolution I would suggest the introduction of the following: "Convinced that the basic condition for assuring long-term world food security is the substantial increase of food production, particularly in the developing countries; Aware at the same time of the need to take urgently other (complementary) measures aimed at providing world food security. "

So that would become the fourth paragraph. I would like to introduce the idea that we cannot in the longer term provide food security without increasing production in developing countries.

As regards the operative part of the Resolution I think that the point raised here by the Distinguished Delegate of Pakistan on paragraph 5 (b) is valid and I therefore support this amendment.

CHAIRMAN: Before proceeding with my list of speakers I would like to call on the Distinguished Observer for the EEC who is going to comment upon the Draft Resolution before us.

L. MARINUCCI (Communauté économique européenne): Ayant été invité à formuler directement les remarques que je désirais faire au sujet du projet de résolution, je voudrais préciser ce qui suit au nom de la CEE.

Pour ce qui concerne le paragraphe 3 qui se réfère à la reprise éventuelle des négociations en matière de céréales, je vous soumetts immédiatement un projet d'amendement.

Dans le texte, il est dit que les pays participant à la Conférence de négociations des Nations Unies relative à un nouvel accord international sur les céréales auraient à résoudre les questions en suspens etc. Nous nous posons la question: il n'est pas possible qu'avant la reprise des négociations on puisse régler toutes ces questions, sans cela la négociation ne serait plus nécessaire. A mon avis, les questions ne pourront être résolues que par la négociation.

Par conséquent, nous suggérons, au lieu de la phrase en question, le texte suivant: "les pays participant à la Conférence de négociations des Nations Unies relative à un nouvel accord international sur les céréales" et ici nous ajoutons ceci: "auront à réexaminer les questions en suspens en vue de faciliter la reprise des négociations et la conclusion aussi rapide que possible d'un nouvel accord sur les céréales. " Voilà le premier point concret sur lequel je me permets de proposer un amendement.

En ce qui concerne le paragraphe 4, nous avons des objections de fond. Il nous semble assez problématique, sinon impossible, de pouvoir surveiller ce que l'on demande dans ce paragraphe, les destinations des exportations, garantir les approvisionnements à des conditions de faveur, à des conditions particulières. Vous comprenez que tout cela implique une révision des moyens politiques dont on dispose. Nous sommes donc d'avis, en ce qui concerne ce paragraphe, de l'éliminer complètement et de trouver une formulation de portée beaucoup plus générale, beaucoup plus vague, qui permette cette insertion mais préciser exactement ce qui doit être fait dans la pratique.

Pour ce qui est du paragraphe 6, concernant l'établissement éventuel d'une convention d'aide alimentaire indépendamment de la conclusion d'un accord sur les céréales, nous aimerions que soit adopté un texte reprenant le paragraphe relatif à ces points, paragraphe déjà adopté par le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation d'Ottawa. En effet, on ne peut pas demander au Comité de l'aide alimentaire de conclure immédiatement la convention parce que des difficultés subsistent. Le Comité n'est pas une entité concrète mais quelque chose d'abstrait et on ne voit pas comment, dans ces conditions, on pourrait arriver à une solution. Il serait plus raisonnable à notre avis que les pays, comme il a été dit à Ottawa, puissent examiner à nouveau les propositions faites afin de parvenir rapidement à une nouvelle aide alimentaire indépendamment etc. avec un objectif accru. Et là il faudrait insérer également la notion de nouveaux pays donateurs telle qu'elle a été soulevée hier par le représentant du Conseil mondial du Blé. Il faudrait répéter l'invitation à de nouveaux donateurs pour qu'ils se joignent à la Convention afin de pouvoir atteindre l'objectif de 10 millions de tonnes.

Ce sont là les remarques de fond essentielles que nous avons cherché à limiter au maximum pour éviter d'entrer dans la discussion de l'ensemble de ce projet de résolution.

ZAINOL ABIDIN BIN JOHARI (Malaysia): Thank you Mr. Chairman, It is my pleasure to repeat here that Malaysia unequivocally supports the Plan of Action proposed by the Director-General of FAO in order to strengthen world food security. The leader of the Malaysian Delegation, Dr. Dato' Sharif Bin Ahmad has already indicated Malaysia's support for the Five Point Plan in his speech to Plenary on November 14.

Malaysia is a small country with a small population. Before we achieved our independence in 1957 we used to import at least 60 to 70 percent of our food requirements. Due to the foresight of our national leaders and with the active participation of the people, in particular the rice farmers, we have succeeded in reducing our food imports to only 15 percent by 1978. This was achieved through massive investment in the development of large irrigation schemes for the double cropping of our principal rice-growing areas. The Muda River Irrigation Scheme is one such scheme which has become so important that it now accounts for about 40 percent of the annual total domestic rice production. The success of the Muda project is directly instrumental to Malaysia becoming almost self-sufficient in her rice requirement. Funded by a World Bank loan the project has become a success model which the Bank hopes to repeat in other developing countries.

Although our food imports are small by comparison with other developing countries, Malaysia is conscious of the fact that dependence on imports to meet the domestic requirement for food would place her in a vulnerable position in times of shortages in supply.

Secondly, Malaysia has established a national rice stock pile in the country sufficient to meet the demand for food for a considerable period of time. The maintenance of this stock pile is the price which we are willing to bear for the peace of mind it provides to us, in terms of food availability, during periods of crisis such as that in 1973-74 when there was a world food shortage and in 1977 when the Muda project was so severely affected by drought that a second crop of rice could not be planted for lack of water.

Mr. Chairman, although we have been maintaining and operating food reserve stocks for a very long time, we still require technical advice on this subject. Essentially FAO implemented a project in Malaysia jointly with National Paddy and Rice Authority which aims at improving the design of modern warehouses for stockpile. Other objectives of the project are the control of the price of rice in storage and to find ways and means to slow down the rate of deterioration of rice during long periods of storage. In this context Malaysia would like to place on record her gratitude to FAO for providing the expertise for the project.

On the regional basis Malaysia has joined her other ASEAN partners in establishing an ASEAN rice stockpile of 50,000 tons to meet food shortages of member nations, because of other natural catastrophes or man-made disasters.

Furthermore national rice stockpiles existing in each country of ASEAN will constitute an ASEAN rice stockpile. This action on the part of Malaysia and its ASEAN partners is the regional contribution to the Five-Point Plan of Action to strengthen world food security.

Mr. Chairman, Malaysia's reasons for supporting the plan of action of the Director-General of FAO are as follows: we believe that there must be positive action to avoid the recurrence of the world food crisis of 1973/74 by the creation of national regional food stocks now. We believe the developing countries should become self-reliant in food requirement. One further point to note regarding this topic is the urgent necessity, with reference to food losses especially in developing countries, these losses are estimated to be so large on the global basis that if success is retained in reducing the losses this is tantamount to immediate and very substantial increase in the world food supply.

Mr. Chairman, Malaysia would like to see more emphasis given to this vitally important aspect of world food security in the next biennium. We hope that FAO will come forward with definite project proposals designed to reduce, if not eliminate, food losses.

POINT OF ORDER

POINT D'ORDRE

PUNTO DE ORDEN

J. R. COOPER, Jr. (Liberia): This delegation seeks clarification on the draft resolution. We have had a number of interventions on the draft resolutions in which changes have been made in the context of the draft resolution. To our understanding there has been no disagreement of the entire text of the draft resolution. Now, relative to the changes made on certain sections of the resolution we would like to know whether there will be a special forum to discuss the changes as proposed, because we are now of the impression that the changes as proposed by some delegations need the full concurrence of the Commission.

A. G. LEEKS (Director, Commodities and Trade Division): Well, Mr. Chairman, I think that the Chairman of the Commission this morning referred to this, and this plan, if I understood it correctly, is to invite all delegates to state the changes they would like to make in the resolution. And then, having heard all of this, he will decide at the end of the day whether it is necessary to convene a contact group. The decision on that will depend, as the delegate for Liberia has correctly pointed out, on whether the changes suggested are agreeable to all delegations. Now some of the proposals have been of a minor character, which it appears to the Secretariat would probably have been acceptable to all. Other changes might be of a major character, in which case I think it is up to the delegations here to indicate as the debate goes on that they do not agree with some of the changes being proposed. In which case the Chairman will take this into account in deciding whether or not to call a contact group.

G. HJLA HOYOS (Colombia): La Delegación de Colombia considera que ha sido muy pertinente la observación planteada por el colega de Liberia.

En nuestra condición de uno de los firmantes del proyecto de resolución queremos ofrecer nuestro apoyo a lo que ha dicho el señor Leeks. Pensamos que el colega de Argentina planteó muy bien la situación esta mañana.

Sería conveniente tomar nota de las enmiendas que se han propuesto al proyecto de resolución, pasarlas todas al Comité de Redacción, repito "Comité de Redacción", donde están representadas las diversas tendencias de los miembros de esta Comisión, y luego veremos el resultado cuando discutamos el proyecto de informe aquí en el seno de la Comisión. Consideramos que no sería conveniente crear un grupo de contacto que agrave ya la carga de trabajo que tiene nuestro Presidente y que, tal vez, haría innecesaria una discusión de este proyecto de resolución fuera del Comité de Redacción puesto que las enmiendas que se han presentado hasta ahora contribuyen a fortalecerlo, con excepción de lo que planteó el observador de la Comunidad Económica Europea; pero, repetimos, todo esto lo consideraremos en el Comité de Redacción y luego en la Plenaria de esta Comisión.

CHAIRMAN: I give the floor to the next speaker on my list, the delegate of Nigeria.

J. O. ALAKE (Nigeria): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief. We thank the Secretariat for the papers on this subject and the Director-General for his introduction.

We are unhappy that the opportunity the world had during the last few years, when we had good harvests, has not been utilized to strengthen food security. We are also unhappy that it has not been possible to conclude the new International Grains Arrangement. We urge an early conclusion of this Arrangement. We are encouraged by the optimism expressed yesterday by the Executive Director of the International Wheat Council that there would be a solution by the mid 1980s. We are aware that the best way to ensure food security is to grow food locally in countries where it is needed. While we appreciate that the responsibility for ensuring that there is adequate food lies with each national government, food deficit countries cannot do it alone and require assistance from donor countries. To ensure food security new administration in my country places much emphasis on food production. There is provision for the establishment of storage space of 500, 000 tons capacity and about 200, 000 tons of grain has been stored this year alone. Over 40, 000 tons of grains were bought and stored by the grain companies. The Government is now announcing its food security programmes at a cost of about 60 million dollars from our own resources. This programme has been based on the advice and the recommendations of the Food Security Assistance Scheme Mission mounted generally by FAO and Nigeria in 1975. The Scheme has helped us formulate projects for technical assistance for the management and operation of our strategy grain reserve. We thank FAO for providing advice on all aspects of our food security, including our grain production expansion programme, marketing, distribution and price policies and we are also grateful for assistance given us in our efforts to prevent food losses. We are happy to note the support given at various conferences and meetings to the Director-General's Five-Point Plan of Action to strengthen world food security.

We support the Plan of Action and we call upon the Conference to approve the Plan. We also support the draft resolution on world food security submitted by the delegations of Colombia, Guinea, India, Tunisia, Uruguay, Zaire and "Yugoslavia.

POINTOFORDER

POINTD'ORDRE

PUNTO DE ORDEN

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je me permets de prendre la parole à ce point du débat non pas pour traiter de la question au fond, mais simplement sur la suggestion de renvoyer les amendements au groupe de rédaction du Comité. Je pense préférable de rester à l'idée émise par le Président lui-même et de lui laisser la pleine liberté en la matière. Le groupe de rédaction n'est qu'un jgroupe de rédaction et jusqu'ici, m'a-t-on toujours dit, ce n'est pas un groupe de négociation. Laissons les choses comme le Président lui-même l'a décidé.

I. MOSKOVITS (Malta): Yes, of course, I fully agree with the delegate of France and in part, also, with the delegate of Colombia. I think, however, it is perhaps not the task of the Drafting Committee to deal with odd arrangements and odd additions. I would like to propose, therefore, that the Secretariat prepare a paper which would indicate also changes, additions and amendments proposed to the draft resolution. In view of the fact that two of the proposers of the draft resolution, Yugoslavia and Colombia stated that it is not a firm text, I think the Committee itself and the rest of the Commission should decide on the various proposals made in addition to the draft resolution, and only afterwards it could go to the Drafting Committee. I underline also, and fully agree with the delegate of France, the Drafting Committee is not a negotiating committee. It should draft but the Commission should decide first what should be drafted.

CHAIRMAN: I think that the Commission should stick to the ruling made by the Chairman this morning. That is that all views will be taken into consideration at the end of the afternoon's meeting, and I propose a procedure that we should go ahead with the next speaker on the list because we do not want to waste time on any procedural consideration. I think that all the interventions from the floor will be taken into consideration by the Chair in the afternoon's session. As we proposed at the opening of this meeting I am going ahead and giving the floor to the next speaker on my list -to Thailand.

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand): I have a long list of some of the things I would like to report to the Commission on what Thailand had been doing in connection with the five-point Plan of Action but, because the situation has changed, I shall concentrate more on the draft resolution.

We have mentioned before, in other forums, that besides what we have done through the ASEAN for the ASGAN for security reserves, another measure that could be helpful to the world food security drive would be that the food aid programme should also be on a triangular basis, because as a food exporting developing country we feel that such a basis would be very helpful to the world food security programme. As I read through the draft resolution I do not see anything about this, so I should like to propose that something be included about it in the draft resolution. The exact wording I think I will leave to the Drafting Committee, because English is difficult for us; it is not our language.

J. S. MTENGA (Tanzania): I can be brief here because the activities coming under this item are shown in paragraph 26 of Document C 79/23-supp. 2, but I would not want the occasion to pass without expressing our support for this item. The Tanzanian Delegation would like to associate itself with other delegations in supporting the Director-General's five-point Plan of Action and the attempts being made to strengthen world food security.

My delegation would like to stress how useful the FAO's Food Security Assistance Scheme has been for our country. It has been providing us with experts and programme advice on food security policies and programmes and has also helped to mobilize the resources required to implement the various projects under the food security programme of my country, including crop monitoring and the early

warning system, by providing useful data on crop yields and the over-all food security in my country. Secondly it has been providing programme assistance projects which have been doing very useful work in coordinating the various inputs into the Strategic Grain Reserve programme. It is therefore essential, in our view, that the scheme's resources be replenished to enable it to continue the very useful work it has been doing in this vitally important field.

We therefore strongly support the draft resolution on world food security, already sponsored by India, Zaire, Colombia, Yugoslavia and other countries.

M. A. KRIESBERG (United States of America): First let me comment on the draft resolution, since that has been much spoken of by speakers before us. We are largely in agreement with the draft resolution as we have seen it, but we do have some problems with the present wording; hence we support the Chairman's proposal for an informal group to work towards a resolution we could all fully support.

In connection with the FAO's five-point Plan of Action, the United States does support it as an appropriate response to the needs of world food security at this time. We spoke in support of the Plan at the FAO Council Meeting in June, when it was adopted.

The United States has also been following policies and programmes, as has already been indicated by Secretary Bergland, that meet the intent of the five-point Plan of Action in connection with food grain stocks, criteria for their management and release, and special measures to assist low-income food deficit countries to meet their import requirements and emergency needs. As Secretary Bergland indicated, United States policies of sustained high levels of production, together with a system of farmer and government held reserves, have provided adequate supplies and moderated prices in the face of rising world demand for food and feed grains.

Further, in connection with the five-point Plan, we also support the idea of special arrangements for food security assistance and collective self-reliance by groups of developing countries. In this context we would like to associate ourselves with the views expressed by the Delegate of Argentina, and others, that increased production is the foundation of food security, and there is need to provide producers with incentives to achieve high levels of production. I should add that our Government has provided a more detailed account of these policies and programmes to the FAO Secretariat, as was requested some months ago, but it may have arrived too late to be included in the supplement on food security prepared by the Secretariat for this meeting. We will resubmit the material, so that it may be in the record and in any updated report on what countries are doing in furtherance of the FAO's Plan of Action on World Food Security.

Rev. A. FONSECA (Holy See): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor. There are just a few points my delegation would like to make at this time.

The Delegation of the Holy See is pleased that the International Undertaking on World Food Security is now once again being taken into consideration in order to guarantee its greater efficiency and give it back its original meaning as an authentic "commitment" by Governments in a binding and more specific form.

The Delegation of the Holy See considers the Conventions realised by the International Wheat Council as exemplary for their efficiency, their precision and their typical binding force; therefore it hopes that the completion of the definitive texts of the New International Grains Arrangement and the New Food Convention will soon be achieved. This delegation feels that the recent difficulties with their renewal do not arise from a lack of political will on the part of the States but rather from the need to define precisely the clearly more binding clauses which have been proposed as additions.

The Delegation of the Holy See considers the Director-General's proposal to proceed interim with some concrete achievements according to the five-point Plan of Action as inspired by praiseworthy principles.

This Delegation would like to emphasise that some improvements should be made in the building, management and distribution of stocks.

It is desirable that all the States Members of the FAO endorse and effectively adopt cereal stock policies and practices in order to reach first of all the immediate goals of the annual minimum of food aid and of the fund for emergency food reserves.

It is not only a matter of achieving the adoption of national policies by all the States Members for the replenishment or the building-up of new stocks while keeping them on their own territory and subjecting them only to the decisions of their own Governments. Instead, the attainment of stocks placed preventively in neutral points would respond more to criteria of justice and disinterested solidarity.

Above all it is felt necessary that the stocks be placed at the disposal of a multilateral body, entrusting their management to the FAO bodies. In this sense the proposal should be accepted of building up stocks in every region or zone and of supporting regional plans.

The Delegation of the Holy See therefore expresses its appreciation for the continuity given to the FAO Intergovernmental Committee on World Food Security and the growing activity of its Food Security Assistance Scheme. Also in this case concerning official aid this Delegation considers as important the overcoming of the method of "gifts" which are only occasional, with "surplus disposal", and which were previously handled through solely or predominantly bilateral relations. Likewise important is the attainment of guarantees of international assistance, with special forms of support for low-income countries and those with a chronic food deficit.

The entire aid policy for food security should be inspired by principles of self-reliance which enable individual countries to achieve the self-development of their own community, with outside assistance which is respectful of their dignity and sovereignty, but also with group cooperation inspired by collective self-reliance.

The Delegation of the Holy See is happy to see the application of a guiding principle, uttered by John Paul II here in the Plenary Meeting, whereby the States Members work together for world food security by overcoming closed nationalistic interests and by truly committing themselves in an on-going and binding way.

In view of the fact that we have a draft resolution before us, we feel that what we have said is very much in line with the spirit of that draft resolution and we would like to suggest a possible addition, which, briefly summarised would be: 1. to give back to the International Undertaking on World Food Security its original meaning as a commitment by Governments to provide public contributions which are guaranteed in an on-going fashion and in a form which is truly binding; 2. to attain with more efficiency the building-up of not only national but intergovernmental stocks which are made available preventively for crisis in neutral points and regions to be managed by bodies which played a multilateral and disinterested role.

A. I. EL GULLA (Sudan): We appreciate very much the concise and comprehensive statement of the Director-General and we commend the document prepared by the Secretariat. We consider food security as very crucial to us, the developing countries.

Last year my country had 600, 000 acres under wheat, and this would have covered half our local demand; but then we had too much rain and floods and as a result we had meagre harvest, resulting in turn in a situation of insufficient seeds for this winter. We gratefully received 5, 000 tons of wheat with the help of FAO, and for some reason we could not procure enough seeds to cultivate over all-wheat areas; in fact the area was reduced by 200, 000 acres. Needless to say, we had great difficulty in procuring wheat this year. With a reduced area and escalating prices the situation will be serious next year.

We see the same situation in various developing countries. That is why we strongly support the Five Point Plan prepared by the Director-General, and support the Resolution put before us, as well as the practical steps outlined by the Director-General in his Statement.

Z. OWIRO (Kenya): The Kenyan Delegation would like to take this opportunity of expressing our full support for the Director-General's Report on the Implementation of the Plan of Action on World Food Security, as contained in document C/79/23. The Plan of Action is so far the only scheme on which there is international consensus, and it should therefore be implemented in the absence of an effective world agreement.

We would also like to express our support of the spirit behind the Draft Resolution on World Food Security, as contained in document C 79/LIM/34. In our view, the Draft Resolution summarizes very clearly the essential points discussed in various meetings within FAO, such as the Committee on Food Aid of the FAO Council.

In expressing our support of these documents, there are a few observations which we would like to make.

First of all, we fully realize, and subscribe to, the view that a long-term solution to the problem of world food security lies in developing countries producing enough food for themselves. This however is just not possible at present because of circumstances beyond the control of the developing countries. We have therefore to rely on the international community, and particularly the developed countries, to help us solve the problem.

It is in this context, we believe, that the Director-General has addressed himself to the problem. It is proposed that governments in regions or sub-regions which are vulnerable, to food shortages take initiatives to strengthen their collective self-reliance by organizing arrangements for mutual assistance in times of food shortfalls. We support this idea, and indeed note with great satisfaction that this principle of collective self-reliance has already been put in practice by some developing countries. We would only appeal to the donor countries to give full support in aid, as necessary, to enable other regions of developing countries to implement this proposal.

In conclusion, the Kenyan Delegation wishes to appeal to the world community through this Conference for greater practical cooperation in providing food security to all humanity, so that the scourge of hunger can be completely eliminated.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to announce that the Delegation of the Gambia would wish to submit a written statement on the Agenda before us. Their statement will be incorporated in the record of the meeting.

R. S. MA'ARUF (Iraq) (interpretation from Arabic): The scheme of World Food Security includes a number of measures, the most important of which is to call upon developing countries to depend on self-reliance, and also the provision of assistance for food security. My country's delegation supports the proposed Plan and we hope that we shall be able to implement it. However, we believe that this Plan depends in the first instance on the ability of developing countries to develop their agricultural resources, in particular crops.

The Government of Iraq has made every effort to implement the scheme of World Food Security. At the national level, our Government is providing huge funds to develop food security, through the slogans raised by our Revolutionary Authority that "the hungry cannot enjoy dignity at all", and that there can be no economic or social progress unless the Government provides the community with its needs. In order to provide the infrastructure for the huge progress for which we are aiming, which calls for the provision, of food security, vast surveys of land have been carried out in Iraq. We covered about one million dunums, and we reclaimed about ten thousand hectares, during the current year. In the field of storage, we have established about one hundred stores, and there are two hundred other stores, in order to accumulate reserves. Our capacity will exceed 150 000 tons by the end of 1980.

On the international and regional levels, Iraq has been very active in providing financial aid and aid in kind, and we shall pursue our assistance in this field despite the fact Iraq provides finance for joint regional and international assistance schemes. The Iraqi Government has given about \$5 million to the cooperation scheme between the organization and the countries in the region, and we also support five projects in the region in pursuance of our active role on the international level. This is in addition to the assistance given by Iraq through the fund of FAO. It is noteworthy here that Iraq has previously established a fund for external assistance with a view to providing non-commercial loans to developing countries to help them in their work of development. Assistance given by Iraq through this fund reached \$700 million.

Therefore, Iraq is actively assuming its role, and we support the international community in order to reach our lofty objectives and we are always ready to implement the targets set for food security.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): The proposed Plan of Action is based on the international undertaking on world food security. This is called, in brief, "Undertaking". This undertaking is based on the recognition that food can be secured in the long-term only by increasing food production and by maintaining sufficient stocks in those countries which suffer from food deficits. The recommendations are concentrated on that principle. At the same time, an international coordination of national stockholding measures is recommended, in order to stabilize markets and prices, and as a contribution towards ensuring food supply. My Government has supported these aims from the outset.

The present Plan of Action specifies in the first two Chapters the recommendations of the Undertaking to hold national stocks, taking into account the developments on the world markets. The stockholding measures within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Community, especially in the grains sector, fully correspond with the recommendations we have before us for the maintenance and management of stocks. The Representative of the European Community has already stated this in detail. Like the Representative of the Commission, my Government has always declared that the appropriate basis for an international coordination of national measures will be a new International Grains Arrangement.

As far as the further recommendations of the Plan of Action are concerned, I do not need to speak at length. The Minister for Food, Agriculture and Forestry of my country, in his statement to the Plenary Session here, said that the Federal Government, in cooperation with the developing countries, supports measures for a comprehensive food security. Prevention of famines, increase of agricultural production, and promotion of employment in rural areas, are priority aims of this programme. My Government welcomes the comprehensive activities on food security in developing countries which are described in paragraphs 27-37 of document C 7 9/23 dealing with the Plan of Action. What is also encouraging in particular is the increasing cooperation between developing countries in the important task of food security.

As far as food aid is concerned, my Government makes contributions. Within the framework of the existing Food Aid Convention, my Government makes 147 800 tons of grains available per year, and its contributions to the World Food Programme, especially since the World Food Conference, have constantly been increased from DM 38 million in 1973-74 to DM 75 million in 1979-80. Furthermore, my Government regularly supports, with about 35, 000 tons of grains, the international emergency reserve of 500 million tons of grains.

I would like to make a few further comments on the suggestions made for the implementation of the Action Plan in paragraphs 42-54 of the document.

In the view of my Government, the present mandate of the Committee on World Food Security is sufficient to cover this Plan of Action as well. A special additional mandate for review as laid down in paragraphs 43 and 44 should therefore not be necessary we feel. Furthermore, every state is free to decide what it is going to do according to its situation and to report on these measures. The Secretariat will also in future be in a position, on the basis of reports from governments and on the basis of other data, to provide the necessary documentation to the Committee in order to be able to review the present supply and stock situation.

The considerations in respect of food aid, and the use of aids of the World Food Programme in paragraphs 46 to 48 of the document, are dealt with by the competent Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes.

The work of FSAS deserves full appreciation. The cooperation between my Government and developing countries in the field of food security corresponds with the objectives of the FSAS and is coordinated with the FAO. There is a continuous exchange of experience and information between the FAO and the relevant government agencies of my country. My Government also supports FAO missions to individual countries and, furthermore, provides experts for such missions. This excellent cooperation should be strengthened even further. As in the past, my Government believes that the setting up of a new sub-committee of the Committee on World Food Security is not necessary.

Very important suggestions are made in paragraphs 50-52 concerning cooperation between developing Countries by means of common promotion of food production, expansion of trade, and mutual assistance in the case of crop failures. These two possibilities should be examined further in the various regions.

To end I should like to say a few words concerning the draft resolution. I too believe that this draft resolution should be examined in an informal group and, additional to the suggestions made by the representative of the European Economic Community, I would like to point to another item which my Government considers to be important, and this is paragraph 8 in document C 79/LIM/34. The invitation to the IMF is already contained in the Plan of Action itself, and we know that the International Monetary Fund at its meeting in December will be dealing with this question. Therefore, my Government feels that this paragraph should be deleted because it is redundant.

R. CARLIER (Belgique) Comme l'a déclaré le Directeur général, la Communauté internationale n'a pas d'autre choix qu'agir maintenant et cela sur deux fronts qui sont complémentaires: celui des mesures à moyen et long terme visant à accélérer la croissance de la production alimentaire dans les pays en développement, et celui des mesures immédiates visant à mettre sur pied un système mondial de sécurité alimentaire.

La sécurité alimentaire mondiale dépend pour une part essentielle des politiques nationales des pays en développement à déficit alimentaire, politiques visant à accroître leur autosuffisance alimentaire.

Cet enseignement qui nous est donné par la Conférence mondiale sur la Réforme agraire et le développement rural me paraît fondamental: un pays ne peut réussir à développer son agriculture que s'il a mis l'autosuffisance alimentaire au premier rang de ses objectifs et réserve à cette politique des moyens budgétaires et humains importants, allant jusqu'à se préoccuper du sort des petits agriculteurs.

Il est évident qu'une aide extérieure est nécessaire pour réaliser cet objectif et nous reconnaissons qu'elle devra être poursuivie et même augmentée.

Dans le cadre de la Convention alimentaire, la Belgique est prête à augmenter sa contribution et à la porter de 33 000 tonnes à 43 700 tonnes.

En se référant aux recommandations du système mondial de l'alimentation d'Ottawa, mon pays a aussi pris la décision de ne pas retarder la négociation de la nouvelle convention relative à l'aide alimentaire, en attendant les négociations sur l'accord du blé. Je puis annoncer que moyennant cette garantie juridique sur le lien entre la Convention sur le commerce des céréales et la convention relative à l'aide alimentaire, la Belgique prendra ses responsabilités au sein de la CEE.

L'aide alimentaire ne doit pas seulement être augmentée, elle devra être également située dans une stratégie. L'aide alimentaire doit se situer en étroite relation avec le développement de la production alimentaire, comme le délégué de la Suisse l'a expliqué hier après-midi dans cette Commission.

Je vous informe également que la Belgique, pour la première fois, à l'intention de contribuer pour 5000 tonnes à la Réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence pendant l'année 1980.

Nous félicitons la FAO pour son travail de préparation et de mise en oeuvre de programmes d'assistance pour la sécurité alimentaire.

La Belgique a mis des crédits à la disposition de la FAO pour que des projets complets de développement dans le Sahel et d'autres pays en développement puissent bientôt être financés. De même, les projets bilatéraux pour l'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire sont pris en considération. Des crédits sont aussi prévus en faveur du Programme d'action FAO pour la prévention des pertes de produits alimentaires; plusieurs projets sont à l'étude.

Pour conclure, je tiens à signaler que mon pays appuie pleinement le Plan d'action de la FAO sur la sécurité alimentaire. En ce qui concerne la résolution, je me réfère à la déclaration de la CEE.

NGA MA MAPELLA (Zaïre): Ma délégation voudrait s'associer aux très nombreux orateurs qui ont pris la parole avant nous pour appuyer sans réserve les propositions du Directeur général visant à accélérer la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. telles que ces propositions sont exposées au chapitre 4 du document C 79/23.

En ce qui concerne le Plan d'action proprement dit, ma délégation estime que son approbation par notre Conférence doit être considérée comme une simple question de procédure. En effet, ce plan d'action en cinq points a déjà été examiné et approuvé, notamment par le Comité de la sécurité alimentaire, par le Conseil de la FAD et par le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation.

En resumo, ma délégation pense que l'on ne devrait pas revenir ici sur les débats de l'ensemble de ce plan.

Quant au projet de résolution, ma délégation pense aussi comme d'autres que des propositions d'amendements que l'on pourrait faire éventuellement sur ce projet ne peuvent être approuvées que dans la mesure où elle tendent à en renforcer le texte original.

Sra. Dña G. SOTO CARRERO (Cuba): En casi todos los documentos analizados sobre este tema de la seguridad alimentaria, tanto en los proporcionados por la Secretaría de la FAO para ser analizados en esta Comisión como los discutidos en otros foros internacionales, instan a que se refuercen los programas de ayuda alimentaria para ayudar a los países en desarrollo a poner en práctica sus planes y proyectos de establecer reservas nacionales de alimentos como un paso para garantizar su seguridad alimentaria.

Hemos considerado, además, el hecho de que el aumento de la producción de alimentos en los países en desarrollo a ritmo acelerado constituye una base en la que ha de asentarse su seguridad alimentaria.

A pesar de los esfuerzos realizados en este sentido, los recursos totales de los programas de ayuda alimentaria, tanto bilaterales como multilaterales, no han alcanzado la recomendación hecha en 1974 por la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación.

Nuestra delegación considera varios aspectos como fundamentales para garantizar la seguridad alimentaria y que ya han sido analizados en otras reuniones: primero, fortalecimiento de la producción básica de alimentos en los países en desarrollo, así como sus políticas nacionales de reservas; segundo, garantía de alimentos básicos en el mercado internacional y una verdadera y justa situación de equilibrio entre la oferta y la demanda. Un tercer aspecto, muy vinculado al primero y dirigido fundamentalmente a los gobiernos a fin de que adopten las medidas nacionales internacionales necesarias a fin de lograr un desarrollo acelerado en la producción de alimentos.

El propio Consejo de la FAO ha convenido en la necesidad de que para establecer la seguridad alimentaria a largo plazo es preciso aumentar la producción de alimentos en los países en desarrollo.

Apoyamos la propuesta que en ese sentido ha hecho el delegado de Argentina.

Coincidimos plenamente con esta afirmación; sin embargo insistimos una vez más que el solo incremento de la producción de alimentos no resuelve el problema del hambre y de la desnutrición ya que la solución del problema se encuentra muy ligado a la situación de desigualdad en la distribución de los alimentos y a la prioridad general del desarrollo económico y social.

Este aspecto fue reconocido también en Ottawa en la Comisión Social de la Alimentación y señalado en el párrafo 9 del documento C 79/23, uno de los aspectos sobre los cuales el Director General llama la atención.

Mi delegación analiza este aspecto de una manera un poco más amplia. Consideramos que no se trata de distribución sólo en el aspecto logístico, transporte, almacenamiento, etc. ; se trata de un aspecto más profundo, a nuestro modo de ver, o sea distribución equitativa de todo lo que se produce, que disminuya cada vez más la brecha entre la opulencia de muchos y la miseria de otros.

Consideramos un esfuerzo extraordinario realizado por la FAO en pro de la seguridad alimentaria. El plan de cinco puntos presentado por el Director General ha contado siempre con nuestro apoyo; apreciamos sinceramente las disposiciones tomadas para llevar a efecto este plan de acción y nos parece muy práctico que cada vez esa ayuda se canalice más por la vía multilateral.

Muy interesante y digno de poner en práctica nos parecen los párrafos 51 y 52 que se refieren a la cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo, así como el planteamiento del párrafo 48 que se refiere fundamentalmente a la venta de alimentos en los propios países.

No quisiéramos extendernos más y sólo nos restaría proponerle a la Comisión, o quizá preguntarle a usted, señor Presidente, que son preocupaciones que nos asaltan, si tal vez algún órgano que se considere apropiado pudiera dar una información detallada de los beneficios que en términos económicos y sociales brinda a los países en desarrollo la ayuda alimentaria, lo cual tal vez ayudaría a que muchos países comprendieran que, efectivamente, los esfuerzos que realizan y los que son aún capaces de realizar no caen en un vacío.

Consideramos que es hora de que se cumpla definitivamente la resolución 18 de la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación, la cual recomendaba las directrices internacionales en situación de urgencia, se formulen como parte de ese compromiso de seguridad alimentaria propuestas para lograr una coordinación eficaz de estas reservas y conseguir que el socorro alimentario llegue a los grupos más necesitados y vulnerables de los países en desarrollo, teniendo siempre en cuenta que la seguridad alimentaria ha de abordarse desde varios ángulos, especialmente, como decíamos anteriormente, fortaleciendo la producción básica de alimentos en los países en desarrollo, una correcta y equitativa distribución de alimentos, aplicación de políticas nacionales de reservas y otras medidas que incluyen, como es lógico, acuerdos comerciales a largo plazo que sean beneficiosos también para los países en desarrollo.

Con relación a la resolución sobre seguridad alimentaria mi delegación considera que cuando en la misma se mencionan las necesidades crecientes de importación de los países en desarrollo debería mencionarse también el deterioro de las balanzas de pago en esos países; asimismo consideramos que debe mencionarse en la misma los nefastos resultados de la distribución no equitativa de la producción de alimentos.

Nuestra propuesta concreta es que en el segundo párrafo del preámbulo donde dice "la ausencia de un sistema de reservas coordinado internacionalmente" se agregue la frase: "la distribución no equitativa de la producción de alimentos".

Asimismo, al final del epígrafe (a) del párrafo 4 agregarle la frase: "teniendo en cuenta además la situación de sus balanzas de pago".

Señor Presidente, mi delegación considera que siempre y cuando las enmiendas que se presenten no constituyan cuestión de fondo, tal y como ha sido hasta estos momentos, podríamos apoyar las propuestas de algunas delegaciones en el sentido de que las mismas sean tomadas por la Secretaría y pasen al Comité de Redacción, aunque, por supuesto, el Presidente, la Mesa y la propia Comisión tienen toda la potestad para decidir la necesidad o no de crear un grupo de contacto.

A. PAPASOLOMONTOS (Cyprus): Mr. Chairman, the Director-General's introductory remarks yesterday as well as document C 79/23 have provided us with a good background on the present world food situation, on the implementation of the Plan of Action on World Food Security and on further steps that need to be taken to achieve the objectives on world food security. We note the current, that is the 1979, lower international agreements with all the possible consequences, as well as the fact that the margin of security which exists in the form of unused land in traditionally exporting countries is rapidly dwindling. This simply means that substantial future increases in production in these exporting countries would have to be achieved through vertical rather than through horizontal expansion, a task which might not be easy. This places more emphasis, indeed places a responsibility, on developing countries to increase their production either through horizontal or vertical expansion, preferably through a combination of both. We have noted with great satisfaction that all other delegations have brought out this point.

We have also noted carefully the steps already taken to implement the Plan of Action on World Food Security. Little progress has been made, certainly not as much and certainly not to the extent that many of us wished. But my delegation has been pleasantly surprised by the pioneering and important steps taken by developing countries themselves aiming at collective self-reliance as outlined in paragraphs 35-37 of our basic document. These countries involved are worthy of our wholehearted congratulations. They have provided us with concrete examples of mutual assistance between developing countries or nations. As a result we fully support the Director-General's recommendation that this aspect of mutual assistance should be further pursued at the Regional Conferences.

Turning now to future actions I wish to clarify that in my delegation's view food security basically revolves around the question of continuity of food supply for the poor and that food insecurity is substantially brought about by inherent annual variabilities in production. In our view food security at the national level needs to be tackled on both a long and short-term basis. On a long-term basis we should aim first at accelerating income growth, secondly at controlling rates of population growth; thirdly, expanding production and productivity through investment-oriented projects, including irrigation, research and extension; and finally by improving transportation facilities themselves.

On a short-term basis the following aspects warrant our firm support both at the national and international levels and revolve around optimizing or developing, as appropriate, the following aspects: reliable crop monitoring systems, grain reserves, strategically located investments in irrigation where applicable to reduce annual variability of production, trade policies including balance-of-payments support, additional storage facilities, training in storage and handling of grain buffer stocks as well as increased food aid.

We do share the Director-General's view that we have no alternative but to act now and fully support the proposals put forward by him and at paragraphs 38-53 in document C 79/23. However, my delegation strongly believes that it is the responsibility of each and everyone of our developing nations to take, to the extent that our human, financial and natural resources allow us, early, consistent and continuous steps towards ensuring food security at the national level. Such steps, which could include investments in all the areas I have mentioned earlier, will be capital-intensive but we have little doubt that international initiatives including substantially stronger financial support for the Food Security Assistance Scheme of FAD could substantially reduce the burden of the developing countries towards those objectives. And that the Plan of Action on World Food Security properly and wholeheartedly implemented by all of us could provide us with a coordinated approach to food security on both a short and a long-term basis.

Finally, I would like to refer to the Draft Resolution and to inform you that my delegations find no difficulty in accepting it as it is in the draft.

D. H. J. ABEY AGOONASEKERA (Sri Lanka): The purpose of this late intervention by Sri Lanka is to reaffirm once more our support for the analysis and the recommendations contained in the document under review. The discussions have focused attention on alternatives and options that face these national communities as a whole and the policy choices that should be made at the global level in order to stave off a gloomy future for the countries as a whole and secure a more favourable one. Under the circumstances that are likely to prevail in the decades to come all peoples and nations are destined to have a common future, namely the future of humanity itself.

We have had a reasonable discussion on the appropriate policies that all countries, both developed and developing alike, should adopt on this particular subject. The deliberations on the need to ensure world food security started during 1974 and continued through Ottawa, Tokyo, Lusaka, Havana, London and now in our own Organization here.

In very broad terms food security could be achieved in two ways: firstly, through greater production by continued and enhanced investment in agriculture with the countries' own resources as well as with external assistance; secondly, through assistance by those in a position to increase their surpluses to meet the food shortages of those in need. Although an International Grain Agreement has not been finalized as yet we do hope that when the time comes for its renewal late this year the responsible members of the international community will respond favourably.

As was rightly pointed out by some delegates the continued dependence on the surpluses of some countries, on the generosity of donors, is not the ultimate solution in combating recurrent food shortages. My delegation lays particular stress on the need for countries to be self-reliant as far as possible—self-reliance, notably in the sense of each country managing its own problems, making its own decisions and achieving what it wants.

Finally, we wish to reaffirm the stand we have already taken both at the last Council meeting and at the Plenary in supporting the Five Point Plan of Action enumerated by the Director-General and the Draft Resolution which has been proposed by the delegates of seven member countries here.

CHAIRMAN: Rwanda has submitted a written statement to be included in the record. The Botswana Delegation has also sent a written statement to be included in the record of this morning's meeting.

Mme L. DE AZEVEDO (Portugal): Nous avons lu avec beaucoup d'intérêt le rapport du Directeur Général sur l'application du plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Ce document, si important, m'a suggéré les remarques suivantes: comme nous le savons bien, l'homme est un être d'action et de réflexion. Dans ses rapports avec le monde qui l'entoure, et par l'action qu'il exerce sur lui, l'homme est marqué par les résultats de sa propre action. En agissant, il transforme; en transformant, il crée une réalité qui, à son tour, l'environne et conditionne sa manière d'agir.

Il n'est donc pas possible de séparer l'homme du monde où il vit, car ils ne peuvent exister l'un sans l'autre. L'individu, la famille et la communauté ne doivent jamais être envisagés isolément, car ils sont entièrement interdépendants et interliés dans le processus de transformation du monde auquel ils appartiennent, processus dont ils sont responsables à différents niveaux.

Pour diverses raisons, la qualité de vie de l'humanité s'est progressivement détériorée à tous les niveaux et, bien qu'à différents degrés d'intensité, dans tous les pays.

Chacun de nous a sa part de responsabilité dans cette situation et c'est pourquoi il appartient à chacun de nous de faire en sorte que soient mis à exécution le plus rapidement possible tous les moyens capables d'améliorer la vie de chacun.

Il est indispensable, en effet, de déterminer quels sont les besoins essentiels des individus et les véritables valeurs qui permettent de créer les conditions les plus favorables à la satisfaction de ces besoins, quel que soit le milieu où ils vivent et les ressources dont ils disposent.

L'objectif que l'on se propose ne doit pas être "tout pour un" ni "le même pour tous" mais bien "le meilleur pour chacun". Les nécessités fondamentales de l'individu se rattachent essentiellement, comme on le sait, à l'alimentation, à l'habitation et au vêtement. Chacun évalue ses nécessités, et d'autres, à la lumière de sa propre personnalité et des conditions déterminées par le milieu qui l'environne.

Compte tenu de ce que nous venons de dire, nous considérons absolument indispensable pour la mise en oeuvre d'un programme aussi vaste et basique que celui dont nous discutons, de n'oublier jamais les conditions de vie locales des populations qui, malheureusement, ont besoin de recevoir l'aide alimentaire d'autres populations qui ont eu la chance d'être nées dans les pays plus riches et plus développés.

Presque plus important que le fait de "donner des aliments" aux pays en développement devra être celui de leur apprendre à mieux les produire, à mieux les conserver, à y établir des stocks de denrées alimentaires pour leur propre sécurité alimentaire, c'est-à-dire à les aider à profiter et à développer, au maximum, leurs propres ressources, en vue de l'amélioration de leurs conditions de vie.

Le rôle de la FAO à ce sujet sera, certainement, très important.

L'intensification et l'élargissement de la coopération économique entre pays en développement dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture, nous les considérons, eux aussi, d'une importance vitale en vue de leur sécurité alimentaire, aux niveaux national et collectif.

L'autonomie collective des pays en développement devra être également encouragée, surtout en matière de sécurité alimentaire.

Il faut que tous les pays du monde, développés et en développement, fassent un grand effort coordonné afin de prendre, le plus vite possible, des mesures aux niveaux national, régional et international, en vue d'assurer à chaque individu, enfant, femme ou homme, la satisfaction, pour le moins, de leurs besoins nutritionnels basiques.

Il est évident qu'il y a des mesures qui devront être prises à court et à long terme: l'aide internationale directe des pays les plus développés du point de vue de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale; l'aide indirecte aux pays les moins développés, pour les amener à leur autonomie collective et à leur autosuffisance en matière d'alimentation. Les dernières mesures ne seront pas les moins importantes pour tous ceux qui désirent vraiment que l'amitié entre les peuples, basée sur la justice sociale, devienne une réalité pour tout le monde. 1/

M. A. A. MOHAMMED (United Arab Emirates) (translated from Arabic) The United Arab Emirates delegation supports the resolution submitted in Doc. LIM/34, and considers it the minimum required from this Conference.

The Director-General said that this item would be the most important item to be discussed in this Conference. He was right. The United Arab Emirates believes that the main problem is not production, as it appeared in most of the speeches, but as Bernard Shaw said, "The problem is in the unjust distribution". In the same country, food could be available in the shop next door, but the poor cannot afford to buy it; thus they will go to bed hungry. The case is also applicable in developing countries, especially the most seriously affected.

It is the duty of the negotiators, in food matters, to learn lessons from history.

The United Arab Emirates believes that establishing a new international economic order is the ideal solution to food security. 2/

A. M. B. JAQJĪ (The Gambia) Mr. Chairman, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the discussion on the implementation of the Plan of Action on World Food Security.

All the Sahel countries, of which The Gambia is a part, have given top priority to increasing food production in both their national development plans and the strategy for the Development of the Sahel adopted by the Inter-State Committee for the Control of Brought in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Club des Amis du Sahel. The attainment of food security is crucial for the overall development of the Sahel.

1/ Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès verbal.

2/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

Over the last ten years our countries have had to increase food imports considerably at tremendous cost to our national economies. The distinguished delegate of Mauritania informed the meeting yesterday that his country will have to import 130, 000 tons of food to offset shortfalls in production resulting from drought this year. In The Gambia the shortfall in production of crops resulting from the shortage of rainfall in September and October this year is likely to be 25, 000 tons. Scarce foreign exchange would have to be used to pay for the import of food.

While we appreciate the food assistance given to us to alleviate suffering in drought years, we believe that the long-term and only effective answer to the problem of drought and chronic food shortage is to develop our natural resources to increase food production to the level of self-sufficiency in basic food. Heavy investment in infrastructural projects is for The Gambia, and indeed for most of the Sahel countries, a prerequisite for the attainment of this basic food self-sufficiency objective.

The donor countries and agencies that have a sincere desire to help the countries prone to drought to increase food production should assist them to develop and exploit their natural resources, particularly surface and groundwater resources for irrigation purposes. Total reliance on rainfall for food production is precarious to say the least and makes for considerable uncertainty in food production and in food security from year to year. To achieve self-sufficiency in basic food crop production on a sustained basis, we need to develop our surface and groundwater resources; we need the assistance of the donor countries and agencies to meet the heavy investment necessary to tap these resources. The Gambian delegation believes that this point relating to the need for support of infrastructural projects to tap water resources for irrigation purposes to ensure food crop production on a sustained basis, should be underlined in our discussion of the Implementation of the Plan of Action on World Food Security. 1/

A. NDBGEYA (Rwanda): La question de la sécurité alimentaire est très importante et c'est à juste titre qu'elle a retenu longtemps l'attention de cette Commission.

Malgré des récoltes souvent abondantes dans les périodes normales, la plupart des pays en développement ne parviennent pas à constituer des réserves suffisantes pour surmonter les difficultés périodiques dues soit aux inondations, soit à la sécheresse.

Il y a quelques années, lors de la Conférence de la FAO de 1973, nous avons enregistré la volonté de certains pays développés d'aider les pays en développement dans le domaine de la constitution de stocks nationaux.

Ma délégation saisit l'occasion de remercier l'aide que mon pays a reçue pour l'aider dans la constitution de stocks qui ont permis de régulariser la situation alimentaire, surtout en ce qui concerne le haricot, denrée très importante pour mon pays.

Ces remerciements s'adressent spécialement au gouvernement des États-Unis.

D'autres pays, notamment ceux de la CEE, la Suisse, etc. nous ont apporté une aide très appréciée et nous espérons qu'ils continueront à nous aider.

Tout cela nous incite à soutenir le plan d'action en cinq points proposé par le Directeur général ainsi que le projet de résolution présenté par la Colombie, la Guinée, l'Inde, la Tunisie, l'Uruguay, le Zaïre et la Yougoslavie.

La sécurité alimentaire n'est évidemment pas possible sans augmentation de la production dans les différents pays. C'est la raison pour laquelle je me permets de revenir sur l'importance de certains facteurs qui handicapent les possibilités de stimuler la production; je me limite à citer le coût des engrais et leur transport particulièrement élevé pour les pays enclavés, tel que mon pays, le Rwanda.

Tous les éléments qui influencent donc la production doivent être tenus en considération. 2/

J. PILANE (Botswana): On behalf of the Botswana delegation I would like to congratulate you on being elected Chairman of this Commission.

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

2/ Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

Mr. Chairman, later this year Botswana will be launching her Fifth National Development Plan (1979/80-1984/85). The themes of the Plan are rural development, employment creation and self-sufficiency in staple food production in the mid 1980s. Detailed planning for a major arable lands development programme is already in an advanced stage. The programme's main objective is to increase employment opportunities in the rural areas not only by increasing acreage under cultivation but also by increasing the amounts of time spent on crop fields. It is estimated that 10, 000-12, 000 jobs can be created during the plan period by providing farmers with facilities that would enable them to increase time spent on crop fields. One of the major constraints to arable farming in Botswana is the perennial non-availability of water at the farming areas. The arable lands development programme will provide infrastructural facilities including water, market outlets, credit, inputs and implement supply services, access roads etc.

However, this programme will not be easy to implement due to a number of constraints including institutions needed to carry out the programme, finance, skilled manpower, just to mention a few.

Mr. Chairman, Botswana is not only food-deficit, it is also drought-prone, making the availability of food from domestic production very erratic and unpredictable. This does not, in any way, imply that any effort to attain self-sufficiency in basic food crops is a lost battle. Annual grain consumption is estimated at about 100, 000 tonnes. This level has twice been exceeded in the recent past; first in 1973/74 and secondly in 1976/77 when in both years grain production reached or exceeded 118, 000 tonnes.

During the next plan period, six strategic grain reserves with a capacity of 6, 000 tonnes will be built with USAID funding. However, this will only be a drop in the ocean, especially for a country which is a net importer of food.

Mr. Chairman, the success of developing countries in overcoming their food problems cannot be determined by their efforts alone or isolatedly. External assistance and collective self-reliance are necessary components to the solution of the problem. Nor can the problem be solved by reliance on food imports even if financial resources were made available for the purpose. It is for this reason that the delegation of Botswana finds consolation in the Five-Point Plan of Action on World Food Security. The Plan has most, if not all, of the components for a rational World Food Security scheme. This delegation, therefore, supports this Plan of Action as well as the draft resolution on World Food Security proposed by Colombia, Guinea, India, Tunisia, Uruguay, Zaire and Yugoslavia ^{1/}

The meeting rose at 12. 30 hours

La séance est levée à 12 h 30

Se levanta la sesión a las 12. 30 horas

^{1/}. Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

conference

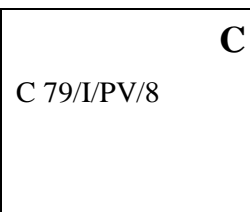
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

EIGHT MEETING
HUITIEME SEANCE
OCTAVA SESION

(20 November 1979)

The Eight Meeting was opened at 15. 00 hours

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La huitième séance est ouverte à 15 heures, sous la présidence de

Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I

Se abre la octava sesión a las 15. 00 horas, bajo la presidencia de

Mohamed Sidki, PresIdente de la. Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIÈRE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)
- 7. Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security (continued)
- 7. Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (suite)
- 7. Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (continuación)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I now call this meeting to order. We are discussing item 7, and I give the floor to the delegate of Cape Verde.

A. RODRIGES-PIRES (Cap-Vert): Permettez-moi de remercier le Directeur général de l'Organisation des États insulaires en développement venu personnellement à cette Commission pour nous exposer la situation et nous présenter le programme. Nous appuyons sans réserve le Plan d'action proposé par le Directeur général ainsi que le projet de résolution C JS/LIIM/34 proposé par la Guinée, l'Inde, l'Uruguay, la Yougoslavie, la Colombie, la Tunisie et le Zaïre.

Je voudrais saisir cette occasion pour attirer l'attention de la Commission sur la situation qui peut être qualifiée de désastreuse à laquelle le Cap Vert devra faire face en 1980. En effet, la sécheresse qui, pour la douzième année consécutive, a frappé les îles, a détruit la quasi-totalité de la récolte de maïs et les trois quarts de celle des haricots qui constituent la base alimentaire du peuple Cap vertien.

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 constater l'état des cultures et évaluer la production vivrière.

Je tiens à remercier au nom de mon gouvernement le Directeur général de la FAO pour la promptitude avec laquelle il a répondu à la requête pour l'envoi de cette mission. Parmi les conclusions de la mission qui seront publiées incessamment, figure la constatation que le déficit net de l'approvisionnement en maïs, en 1960, s'élèvera à 48 000 tonnes et nos besoins en haricots à 5 000 tonnes, tandis que nos besoins en blé seront de 4 000 tonnes et en riz de 5 000 tonnes.

Ceci vous donnera certes une idée du désastre qui a de nouveau frappé nos îles malgré les efforts faits par la population et le gouvernement, malgré des resemements après chaque pluie orageuse mais de trop courte durée pour permettre un développement normal des cultures.

En raison des énormes problèmes d'irrigation auxquels il faut faire face dans notre pays, nous pensons malheureusement que la culture irriguée, l'augmentation d'espaces irrigués restent encore très réduites et que la situation risque de demeurer la même pendant de nombreuses années, tant que les difficultés concernant l'entretien des surfaces irriguées n'auront pas été surmontées.

Mon gouvernement fait un effort considérable pour protéger les cultures et surtout pour protéger les récoltes, les denrées alimentaires dans les dépôts pour pouvoir faire face à la situation actuelle.

Encore une fois, nous tenons à remercier ici la Communauté internationale qui nous a toujours soutenus pour faire face à la situation. Nous tenons à dire également que nous comptons particulièrement sur les efforts laborieux du peuple Cap vertien.

C. SINNING (Sweden): Document C 79/23 in our view gives a true picture of the present precarious world food situation. Against this background the Swedish delegation once again would like to reiterate its endorsement of the Plan of Action on World Food Security which, properly implemented, would make an important contribution to closing the dangerous gap in world food security left by the suspension of negotiations for a new Grains Agreement. The Plan of Action would no doubt also have the important function to fill even if a new Agreement is concluded, as they are in many ways complementary. In this context I would like to underline the great importance which Sweden attaches to a new Grain Agreement, which in our view would constitute an absolutely essential element in a durable and effective world food security.

In paragraph 11 of the document it is inter alia stated that the differences which caused the "breakdown in the grains negotiations continue to exist. It is also stated that the type of agreement under negotiation could have provided more food security today if it had come into operation in July 1979, as stocks under the draft agreement could only be accumulated at times of ample supplies and low world market prices, and this opportunity has been lost. Thus, none of the provisions in the draft agreement could have slowed down the price rise resulting from the current increase in demand.

My delegation could in principle agree to this description of the proper functioning of the draft agreement should it have entered into force on the date mentioned. This should not however prevent us from making all possible efforts to overcome the differences of opinion now preventing the resumption of negotiations that would lead to a new and effective agreement, nor should such negotiations necessarily have to be confined to the type of agreement which has been under consideration hitherto. Also, other alternative solutions should be considered in this connexion.

In paragraph 43 of the document, it is proposed that the countries which have not already done so should be urged to adopt national stock targets, and the Committee on World Food Security requested to undertake a comprehensive review of different actions taken by governments to adopt national targets for cereal stocks and to follow criteria for their management and release consistent with the Plan of Action. These proposals are supported by my delegation. The somewhat vague formulation of targets and the voluntary character of the Plan would however lead to considerable variations in the measures taken by different countries to carry out these provisions. A comprehensive exchange of information concerning international and national steps taken to implement the Plan is therefore of great importance. A detailed coordination of the management of stocks is in our view only feasible in connexion with an agreement with market regulatory functions. In this respect, the provisions of the Plan of Action would seem to be too vaguely formulated to enable such coordination, which is the main reason for our strong support for an agreement containing, inter alia, internationally coordinated reserve stocks. The proposal contained in paragraph 44, that the Committee on World Food Security should be requested to carry out a special assessment of the levels, distribution, etc., of world cereal stocks and of their adequacy to meet the likely needs in 1980-81, is supported by my delegation. When carrying out this assessment, it is however important not to duplicate the work going on within the International Wheat Council. This organization has recently carried out a study concerning, inter alia, the stocking capacity of exporting countries.

As has been mentioned earlier by my delegation, the coordinational measures taken under the Plan of Action are a very important factor if the aims and purposes of the Plan are to be reached. My delegation therefore strongly supports the proposal in paragraph 54, that measures taken at national, regional and international levels under the Plan should be monitored by the Committee on World Food Security, to evaluate their overall impact on world food security.

Sweden has already on earlier occasions declared its willingness to raise its annual aid commitment under the Food Aid Convention by 5 000 tonnes to 40 000 tonnes of wheat. Sweden has also for a number of years made annual contributions of 40 000 tonnes of wheat to the International Emergency Food Reserve and has pledged to support the reserve with up to 40 000 tonnes during the present and the following two fiscal years. We are also giving bilateral assistance to projects that will improve cereal storage and handling facilities in developing countries.

Finally, my delegation would like to express some concern regarding the draft resolution and above all paragraph 4 (a) and (c). These sub-paragraphs seem to presuppose the introduction of some kind of two-tier price system which would be difficult to reconcile with the present trading system and practices of Sweden. Of course, it is up to you, Mr. Chairman, to decide whether a contact group is needed in order to produce a text which is acceptable to all delegations. However, judging from the interventions which have been made so far, my delegation would be inclined to recommend the setting up of a contact group but, as I said, we will comply with your ruling in this matter.

Aa. BOTHNER (Norway): The Norwegian delegation would like to make some brief comments on agenda item 7 on World Food Security. In his introductory remarks yesterday the Director-General referred to the fact that the question of world food security for a considerable time, right from the World Food Conference in 1974, has been discussed in important international meetings. Among the various fora which have taken up this matter in 1979, I would like to mention the Committee-of-the-Whole of the United Nations General Assembly. This Committee is at present chaired by the Norwegian Minister of Defence, Mr. Stoltenberg. I mention this in order to illustrate my Government's commitment to the fundamental global issues of nutrition, food production and food security.

In the Plenary of this Conference the Norwegian Minister of Agriculture stated that Norway supports the Director-General's Five-point Plan for World Food Security. Mydelegation would like to express its hope for a rapid implementation of the Plan. In document C 79/23-Sup. 2 are listed the various steps taken by national governments and other institutions in order to implement the Plan. In addition to what is mentioned there, I would like to state that the Norwegian contribution for 1980 to the Food Security Assistance Scheme, subject to parliamentary approval, will be in the region of N. kr. 2 million, that is approximately US \$ 0.4 million. As mentioned in point 5(a) of the draft resolution, the current level of contribution is US \$ 10 million which means that the Scheme has a rather narrow funding basis, and I take the liberty of urging other member nations also to contribute to this Scheme.

Like other delegations, I would like to express the earnest hope that the international negotiations for a new grains arrangement be resumed and completed as soon as possible. Pending this, my delegation favours the conclusion of a new Food Aid Convention.

Let me also say that I was glad to note the optimism expressed yesterday by the representative of the International Wheat Council.

Reverting more specifically for a moment to the world food security concept, it is my delegation's view that food security must be seen in a wider context. More specifically it should be an integrated element within more comprehensive food and nutrition policies and more stable and active agricultural policies.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that my delegation supports and endorses the Director-General's Five-point Plan of Action and its rapid implementation.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The delegation of Panama has submitted the text of its statement which will be included in the record.

I. MAHMJL (Bangladesh): For reasons which are now clearly recognized and appreciated by most of the delegates, the question of world food security is of vital concern for countries trying to undo the low level equilibrium trap. Bangladesh is one of them. We are indeed grateful to the Director-General for bringing the problem into sharp focus and designating world food security as the single most important agenda item in the Conference.

We would like to mention here that the President of Bangladesh has broached the subject in each and every meeting of Heads of Government held in recent times. Indeed, our statement in the Plenary dealt at length with this subject only. We therefore request the proposed contact group to refer to our statement. We consider that the Five-point Plan of Action envisages a return to the concepts and pledges of the International Undertaking on World Food Security. Like the Undertaking, the Plan of Action should be agreed to as a pledge based on mutual trust and faith.

We share the deep concern of the Director-General at the absence of wholehearted endorsement by some food-fortunate countries and the discouraging results of some of the preceding international gatherings where subjects related to world food security were mooted. For instance, we do not understand why even the modest target of 500,000 tons for the International Emergency Food Reserve cannot be reached.

The Director-General in his Report in document C 79/23, paragraph 36, has mentioned an example of mutual assistance to meet crop shortfalls among developing countries and has referred to cereal loans by India and Pakistan to other Asian countries. We would like to put on record here our deep appreciation to India and Pakistan for timely loans of 300,000 tons of cereal. Logistic constraints inherent in obtaining food aid from far off countries render such regional action plans most appropriate to tide over a crisis situation, the like of which my country experienced recently. This example by itself reflects the practicability and usefulness of the point referred to in paragraph V (iii) of the Plan of Action regarding which some developed countries seem to have some reservations.

My delegation believes that in order to derive full benefit from the food security plan we need to adopt a systems approach with parallel initiatives taken in production, storage, transportation and distribution sub-systems. We may mention in passing the need to take cognizance of the fact that technologies adopted while developing the various components of the system should be location-specific and culture-specific.

We should also like to mention here how useful the FAO Food Security Assistance Scheme has been for our country. It has provided advice on our food security policies and projects. It has helped to mobilize the funds required for implementing six projects related to our food security arrangement. In our view, it is essential that the Scheme's resources are replenished so that it can continue its essential work.

My delegation is strongly against the call made by the delegate of Canada regarding the sharing of costs for long-term food shortages by all and we share the views of the delegate of Pakistan in this regard. Therefore, appreciative as we are of the generous assistance by Canada, we urge our colleague from Canada kindly to reconsider his views on this.

We support the Director-General's request to the IMF to examine the feasibility of providing substantial assistance to meet high import costs of food in times of rising prices and domestic shortage. We consider this assistance supplementary to whatever food aid is available at times of emergency and we agree with the delegate of Barbados that this assistance should be under the most liberal terms and conditions in view of its emergency nature and independent of the usual criteria for balance of payments support to be made available from the IMF.

My delegation strongly supports the draft resolution and suggests that while adopting the Conference Resolution on World Food Security, we recognize and put on record the fact that by its very nature this Plan of Action is a necessary intermediate or short-term measure to remove the inherent instability of the low-level yet complex production environment in developing countries. Food security has to be viewed as a compelling precondition while launching a massive long-term food sector development plan. Without this, short-term difficulties will, at regular intervals, absorb all the efforts and resources of the developing countries. Without this, neither the donors nor the recipients will ever see the end of the tunnel.

T. D. C. PALMER (Sierra Leone): My delegation fully subscribes to the Director-General's Five-point Plan of Action. At present action oriented programmes are well under way in my country in this vein.

My delegation also fully supports the draft resolution under discussion as it contains vital demands which, if implemented, might go a great way to achieving food security, particularly in the developing countries.

As an illustration, Sierra Leone was importing annually about 20, 000 tonnes of rice, a staple food in the country. We even achieved self-sufficiency in 1975. Since 1976 the weather has not been so kind to us and the situation has deteriorated. This year for eight months alone we have imported about 80, 000 metric tonnes of rice, 400 percent of the normal amount annually, costing the country about US \$ 32 million. What did this mean? A virtual wiping away of vital foreign exchange which could have been used for other purposes, at the same time creating a very serious balance of payments deficit in the country.

In addition the International Monetary Fund restrictions have restricted the country from procuring loans which could offset the serious balance-of-payments deficits which the country is now experiencing, I am confident that this resolution in document C 79/LII/34 will receive unanimous support. My delegation however wishes to lay more stress on the follow-up of the resolution, otherwise we consider it to be only a bookshelf case. Therefore, we appeal to all countries, particularly the traditional donor countries, whose internal policies are now bordering on the fringes of giving loans or not giving loans or assistance to developing countries or to external sources. We also appeal to international organizations, including ICF and the World Bank, to relax some of their hard-line policies which greatly reflect political over-tones and contribute in a considerable way to the immediate problems of world food security. Otherwise the topic will, like most masked dancers, be given different masks and be allowed to perform on different platforms but still retain its original form.

While we support the Director-General's proposals for implementation, in particular paragraph 45 of document C 79/23, we wish to suggest that aid in kind be considered that is, inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc, as a programme even for short-term crops such as rice and other cereals so that needy countries will be assisted to make themselves self-sufficient rather than depending on external donors.

We also support the Director-General's invitation in paragraph 49 for new donors to contribute to the Food Security Assistance Scheme, particularly to oil-rich countries even in the Second and Third Worlds as it is an open secret that the oil crisis has contributed to serious balance-of-payments deficits in most seriously affected countries like mine.

Finally, my delegation fully realizes the importance of FAO's Early Warning System and urges that the Programme be strengthened to provide effective assistance to developing countries with chronic problems in reliable data collection.

M. MEKAA (Algérie): Je voudrais d'abord souligner que mon pays appuie et soutient le Plan d'action en cinq points du Directeur général de la FAO ainsi que le projet de résolution qui s'y rapporte. Il semble en effet indispensable de prendre les mesures tendant à garantir la sécurité alimentaire mondiale sans attendre les résultats des futures négociations sur un nouvel arrangement international sur les céréales, négociations que nous souhaitons d'ailleurs pouvoir reprendre le plus tôt possible.

A notre sens, la nécessité d'assurer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale est primordiale et à ce titre il serait indispensable d'abord que chaque pays en développement affecte le maximum de ses investissements agricoles aux cultures vivrières. Eh effet, la tendance actuelle étant à l'accroissement du déficit alimentaire des pays en développement, tous les efforts devraient être mis en oeuvre en vue de le résorber ou, à défaut, de le stabiliser à son niveau actuel. Ensuite, ce déficit ayant tendance à croître dans l'absolu, la sécurité alimentaire mondiale passe obligatoirement par la pleine utilisation de toutes les potentialités agricoles de la planète. Dans cet ordre d'idées, il faut que les pays développés, qui possèdent la technologie nécessaire, aient les moyens d'assurer le transport et le stockage adéquats, d'intensifier leur production agricole et d'accroître leur surface cultivée afin d'augmenter le volume de leurs exportations et d'influer favorablement sur les cours des produits rendant ces derniers davantage accessibles aux pays en développement.

Il est encourageant de voir certains pays abandonner leur politique malthusienne de restriction des surfaces, notamment céréalières, politique qui a jusqu'à maintenant contribué à soutenir des cours spéculatifs. Il faut espérer que ces mesures se généralisent et soient suivies d'autres, notamment en matière d'intensification de la production.

Le projet de résolution qui nous est soumis est intéressant à plus d'un titre. Malheureusement, il continue à susciter quelques réserves si l'on se réfère à certaines interventions. L'initiative du Directeur général de faire appel au Fonds monétaire international en vue d'obtenir son soutien à la concrétisation du Programme découlant du plan d'action est excellente. Elle est d'autant plus heureuse qu'elle contribue à la réduction d'éventuels états de dépendance des pays importateurs. L'intervention du FMI pourrait également amortir l'impact des variations des cours mondiaux et mettre ainsi à l'abri le niveau des stocks prévus en conformité avec les besoins, niveau exprimé, cela s'entend, en tonnages.

Enfin, je ne voudrais pas terminer sans louer les efforts déployés par le Programme alimentaire mondial dans le cadre de l'aide aux pays en développement qui accusent des déficits alimentaires parfois graves. Cependant, cette aide devrait revêtir maintenant une autre forme qui concoure directement à la constitution de réserves alimentaires nationales. Toutefois, cette aide, si elle doit exclure tout aspect charitable, doit être conçue comme une action favorisant le développement.

F KBSMIR (Turkey): First of all my delegation wishes to thank the Director-General for his very clear introduction of yesterday.

As we have already stated in the last Session of the Committee on Food Security Turkey, a grain-exporting developing country, which has effected and implemented national stock and reserve policies, endorses the Plan of Action proposed by the Director-General and believes that it should be implemented without delay in order to enable us to be prepared for future crises situations. In this report we would like to highlight the importance of collective self-reliance among developing countries for strengthening their food security. There are developing countries with a high but not fully utilized agricultural production potential. We believe that the implementation of the policies mentioned in paragraph 51 of document C 79/23 would result in activating this potential in a way to affect also other developing countries of a given region. We think that FAO should play an active role by encouraging the implementation of such policies and by providing special assistance to those developing countries which have the potential and the will to increase their agricultural production with this understanding.

Coming to the Draft Resolution, my delegation is in favour of its adoption. However, we have a small difficulty with paragraph 4. We think that the differences between grain-exporting developed and developing countries should be taken into consideration. The distinguished Delegate of Argentina clearly indicates the importance of this point. We support

his proposition to include in the first sentence of paragraph 4 the word "developed". It should then read "calls on grain exporting developed countries". This would resolve our only difficulty regarding the Draft Resolution which I repeat we endorse in its general lines.

M. DIB (Syria) (interpretation from Arabic): We have studied with great attention the document relating to the Plan of action proposed by the Director-General so as to strengthen world food security, and also the Draft Resolution on the subject. While we do appreciate what is contained in this document we consider that the proposals made in this regard will make it possible to cope with the food situation in the short and the medium-term but I agree with most of the delegates who spoke before who said that in order to solve the problem of food security in the long-term and in order to respond to the increasing needs which are increasing because of population increase or because of increased purchasing power, we need the following:

- (1) All the governments of the member states must establish development policies in the field of agriculture, seriously and efficiently, agricultural development plans should give priority to the projects which are likely to strengthen world food security through the use of land as well as water resources and all other natural resources as adequately as possible.
- (2) Secondly, they need to find the proper form for land consolidation so as to make better use of this land and to improve agricultural productivity by reducing production costs as well.
- (3) The establishment of agro-food complexes in developing countries so as to reduce the import cost for manufactured food items and also to limit the shift of populations from rural areas towards towns.
- (4) The need to resume negotiations so as to arrive at an international agreement in the field of food trade, particularly in the case of grain.
- (5) The conclusion of an agreement covering the volume of food aid for developing countries and the strengthening of the developing countries' capacity for reserve stocks.
- (6) An appeal has to be made to the international sources of financing so that these financing agencies participate in the financing of developing countries and finance projects aimed at reducing the dependence of developing countries in the field of food.
- (7) Developed countries that produce grain must make increasing effort in order to increase food production while waiting for the production in developing countries to increase.

The policy of my country aims at increasing the capacity for production and storage of food and food products. We also follow a policy of supporting farmers, but the challenge to be faced by my country as a developing country and the difficulties which arise because of the occupation of a part of our territory-in spite of the efforts we have made to arrive at a just and lasting peace; as I was saying these difficulties only increase the problems which confront us. We therefore need stronger support-wider and greater support-in order to help us get out of this difficulty.

Finally, my delegation would like here to support the Plan of Action submitted by the Director-General aimed at strengthening world food security. We also support the Draft Resolution on this subject.

L. N'DIAYS (Sénégal): Les autorités de mon pays, conscientes du déficit de notre balance des paiements, dû en grande partie aux importations de céréales, notamment le riz, ont eu l'heureuse initiative de réaliser à court terme des infrastructures de stockage avec une capacité de 230. 000 tonnes. Nous avons réalisé actuellement plus de 13 pour cent de cet objectif. Cette politique permet effectivement d'assurer une réserve suffisante de denrées de première nécessité pour faire face à l'incertitude qui prévaut sur le marché mondial eu égard à la pénurie de céréales et à l'inflation persistante, de garantir aux producteurs des prix suffisamment rémunérateurs, facteur déterminant pour stimuler la production et de limiter les importations de céréales génératrices d'une hémorragie de devises.

Pour augmenter davantage la production alimentaire, les autorités de mon pays ont pris d'autres mesures intégrées, singulièrement la réalisation d'aménagements hydro-agricoles touchant une maîtrise totale de l'eau eu égard aux aléas climatiques. C'est pour toutes ces raisons que

la délégation du Sénégal appuie fermement le Plan d'action en cinq points, document C 79/23 présenté par le Directeur général, ainsi que le projet de résolution C 79/LIM/34 relatif à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

H. S. BARSHAI (Israel): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Being an importer of over 80 percent of our cereal requirements, Israel is much worried by the current basic food supply and price situation, together with what happens to other basic commodities on top of energy problems, levies a great toll on developing countries, draining their scant resources. We therefore welcome all action designed to alleviate the shortage of food especially to the Directors-General's Plan of Action and, of course, the suggestions-the draft resolution.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that my Government has been acting in the spirit of the Director-General's plan. The import of most of the basic food in Israel is handled by the Government, that sees to it that adequate stocks are kept and that the food should reach the consumer at lowest possible prices. These activities are based on medium and long-term policies, taking into account physical, financial and other problems-what is called in our slang a balance of payments problem and which not always allow us to act as we should like. All this together with a sound agricultural policy in encouraging every farmer wherever he is to produce what is most profitable to him to grow is done by my Government to assure that every resident, again wherever he is, gets all the basic food he requires at prices within his reach.

We also, in principle, support the draft resolution of the seven developing countries. This draft resolution is in principle in line with the Director-General's Plan of Action and, indeed, much help is required from those who are in a position to do it, and as we who are big importers of staple foods know.

Along with this there is an urgent need to implement a long-term policy designed at substantially increasing the production of staple food and enabling the developing countries to be self-reliant as much as possible, and in this way gaining a maximum rate of food security. In this respect I would like to welcome the additional clauses proposed by the distinguished representative of Romania stressing the need. I would only prefer to say it in an operational forum, such a recommendation or a plan of action to encourage the production of more food in developing countries.

FAO, and every country which is in a position to do so, should assist other countries to locate and adjust lands and find suitable seeds and other modes of production in order to bring about a substantial increase in growing cereal and staple food. Everything should be done and no effort and assistance spared in assisting developing countries to become self-reliant. Israel, of course, will gladly offer from her know-how in those fields, as she has been doing all the time.

Concerning the setting up of grain reserves, you know that this is not a new idea-in ancient times Joseph was a councillor for an ancient Middle Eastern Kingdom assisting her to set up a huge reservoir of cereals in anticipation of a long drought. More recently in the first World Food Conference held in Rome in November 1975 the then Secretary of State of the United States called for a setting up of big world-wide reserves of food, and that for this purpose a cooperative multilateral system is essential for greater equity and efficiency. Among the elements necessary for such a system, Dr. Kissinger mentioned exchange of information on the levels of reserves and working stocks, crop prospects etc, sharing of responsibility for holding of reserves, preference for cooperating countries in the distribution of reserves. In other words, maximum coordination between countries towards ensuring freedom from hunger.

This cooperation is, of course, one of the more important features of the Director-General's Plan of Action in the draft resolution. We would, therefore, like to see countries in our and other regions set up the facilities and manage such reserves in the spirit of those suggestions, thus facilitating the supply and distribution of much required basic food to the area's nations, facilitating trade, reducing expenses involving transporting, storing and handling huge quantities, as required by the area, answering for every urgent necessity which may arise, as unfortunately we can see nearly anywhere nowadays, and, no less important, practicing cooperation and mutual assistance.

Again, Israel will gladly cooperate and give the know-how and assistance to such a project, thus contributing to the wellbeing and the flourishing of the whole area.

Finally. I would like to call upon the Governments to do everything they can to reduce the channels and expenses involved in the process of distribution of basic foods so as to ensure the lowest possible price to the consumer along with the highest possible income to the farmer. Much of the progress towards food security is in the hands of the farmer and we should do everything possible to enable him, the farmer, to devote himself to improving the state of human nutrition.

A. K. CBUBAN (Uganda): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Let me begin by thanking the Director-General for his introduction to this agenda item yesterday. The state of food and agriculture has been amply analysed and presented by the FAO Secretariat and shows how little the food situation has improved since the crisis years of 1973 and 1974.

The number of people suffering from hunger and malnutrition has substantially increased instead of declining.

More and more countries are importing grain, the prices for grain are continually increasing and grain reserve stocks are being consumed in the process and the result, with the limited foreign exchange available to most seriously affected countries, for the deficit import countries, will afford them less and less quantities of grain.

Mr. Chairman, this is a sad state of affairs. Instead of international communities easing the situation with its food security measures, the negotiating conferences on the new Grains Arrangement has broken down creating a vacuum in which market instability has been created, affecting further the poor developing grain importing countries and this in spite of the resumption of negotiations. This situation has been compounded by the failure of most member Governments to implement international undertakings on world food security for a variety of reasons. In these circumstances, Mr. Chairman, the Director-General proposed a Five-Point Plan. It is appropriate and timely to fill in the gap and we wish to congratulate him for his foresight in conceiving this Plan. The Uganda delegation has studied the proposed Plan of Action and finds it useful and helpful. We give it our full support. In the same way, Mr. Chairman, my delegation has studied the draft resolution on world food security and we find it embodies our expectations and aspirations. We would like to voice our full support of the draft resolution. We would like to appeal to all other countries to support the Director-General in his endeavours to avert a wider food security crisis by supporting the Plan of Action and the resolution. We further add our voice in urging those in a position to do so to increase their contribution to add to the resources of the Food Security Assistance Scheme. On our part, we are doing whatever is possible within our means at the moment to implement the Five-Point Plan of Action of the Director-General.

G. CONSTANT (France): Monsieur le Président, Monsieur le Directeur général adjoint, mes chers collègues, c'est avec gravité que nous avons écouté la présentation faite par le Directeur général et nous avons ressenti particulièrement l'émotion de l'ensemble, je puis dire, des délégués à cette Conférence, lorsqu'il nous a dépeint la situation telle qu'elle se présente à l'heure actuelle.

Il est bien vrai en effet que le problème de la sécurité alimentaire est certainement un des plus importants qu'a à traiter notre Conférence, et la délégation française est consciente du fait qu'il n'y aura pas d'amélioration de la situation alimentaire tant qu'il n'y aura pas d'amélioration de la sécurité alimentaire. Mais cette sécurité alimentaire ne pourra être réellement obtenue, nous semble-t-il, que d'abord par une augmentation réelle de la production alimentaire elle-même et, ensuite, par une amélioration de la distribution de la nourriture en faveur des plus mal nourris et une augmentation des ressources allouées aux paysans, ces paysans, ces agriculteurs, qui sont souvent les oubliés du développement.

J'interviens tardivement, si je puis dire, dans le débat et sur ce point essentiel de l'ordre du jour, aussi essaierai-je de ne pas répéter ce qui a été excellemment dit par un grand nombre de mes collègues qui m'ont précédé et je me bornerai à quelques observations.

Tout d'abord, je voudrais dire que mon pays accepte bien évidemment le plan d'action sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, suivant en cela la position unanime des membres de la CEE. Cependant, en l'absence pour le moment d'un accord international sur les céréales qui assurerait une véritable sécurité internationale, il nous paraît assez évident que c'est à chaque pays qu'il appartient volontairement de prendre des mesures qu'il juge nécessaires pour la mise en oeuvre concrète du Plan.

Je voudrais vous faire connaître quelques observations plus précises sur quelques points qui intéressent notre ordre du jour et d'abord en ce qui concerne la politique de stockage.

Comme on vous l'a rappelé, la CEE a mis sur pied une politique de stockage qu'on peut dire, je crois, cohérente et, bien évidemment, notre politique nationale s'inscrit dans le cadre de cette politique communautaire. Les mesures que nous sommes conduits à prendre n'ont donc pas un caractère à proprement parler particulier; nous agissons en conformité des principes définis par la CEE. C'est ce qui explique qu'il nous sera difficile de nous rallier à quelques paragraphes que je voudrais précisément énumérer et qui sont les paragraphes 42 et 43 au document déjà cité C 79/23, car nous ne pensons pas qu'il soit de la compétence du Comité de la sécurité alimentaire de "surveiller les mesures législatives et autres prises par les pays"; "surveiller" me paraît un terme plus que fort et dans la mesure où, je le rappelle, l'application du Plan résulte de mesures nationales volontaires, il ne saurait donc surveiller.

La deuxième observation que je voudrais faire porte sur le critère applicable au déblocage de stocks. Je tiens sur ce point à rappeler ce qui a été dit par l'observateur de la CEE: les mécanismes pratiques applicables à tous ne peuvent être définis que dans le cadre d'un nouvel accord sur les céréales et, en attendant cet accord, chaque pays demeure bien sûr libre de continuer à appliquer ses propres critères dans la mesure où il juge que ces critères lui permettent d'assurer les objectifs de la sécurité alimentaire.

La même observation est valable en ce qui concerne le niveau des stocks à détenir et la gestion internationalement coordonnée des stocks nationaux de réserves.

Tout ceci, je reviens à l'idée déjà exprimée, ne peut se régler définitivement que dans le cadre d'un nouvel accord sur les céréales.

Enfin, troisième point, en ce qui concerne l'augmentation des contributions à la convention sur l'aide alimentaire, je rappelle que notre Secrétaire d'Etat à l'Agriculture a fait à cet égard des déclarations-je n'y reviens pas spécialement et je vous invite à vous y reporter. J'indique cependant dès maintenant qu'avant de porter à 17 ou 18 millions de tonnes le montant de l'aide alimentaire, nous souhaitons que l'objectif de 10 millions de tonnes soit au préalable pleinement atteint et, surtout, nous souhaitons que de nouveaux donateurs participent à cet effort. Il est bien clair que plus les pays seront nombreux à participer à la convention d'aide alimentaire, plus nous aurons de chances de parvenir à un niveau supérieur à 10 millions de tonnes et, sur ce point, je crois qu'il faut mettre l'accent sur le fait qu'il est absolument nécessaire que de nouveaux donateurs participent à notre effort.

Puis-je me permettre de rappeler à ce moment que les pays de la CEE et la France ont toujours honoré leurs engagements en volume au titre de la convention. devant, pour ce faire, accroître les ressources budgétaires convenables.

En ce qui concerne l'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire, je voudrais présenter les observations suivantes: à nos yeux, la sécurité alimentaire passe d'abord par la production nationale, c'est évident, mais, à défaut de pouvoir produire suffisamment sur place la complémentarité régionale doit être instamment recherchée. Cette approche de solidarité nationale est d'ailleurs mise en exergue dans le cinquième point du Plan présenté par le Directeur général et qui s'intitule d'ailleurs "Autonomie collective des pays en développement". Nous y souscrivons pour notre part pleinement.

Pour revenir à la sécurité alimentaire, je voudrais rendre hommage à l'action du service concerné de l'organisation pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture et souligner auprès de nos collègues qu'une collaboration a commencé de s'instaurer entre la France et le Programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire, le PASA, notamment depuis un an à peu près, et je citerai à titre d'exemple quelques actions:

Nous venons de financer l'envoi à Madagascar d'un expert en stockage de notre Office national des céréales compétent, ceci afin d'élaborer au sein d'une équipe rassemblée par le PASA, un schéma de sécurité alimentaire pour Madagascar. Autre exemple: un expert français financé par notre Ministère de la coopération est en mission en Haute-Volta et au Niger afin de participer à la formulation d'un projet qui porte sur la formation d'un personnel national compétent, précisément pour la gestion des stocks et des activités connexes à cette gestion.

D'autres experts nationaux ont eu l'occasion de contribuer à l'effort d'assistance conduit par la FAO et nous fournissons également des assistances dans ce domaine par le biais, bien entendu, de l'aide bilatérale.

J'indique que nous sommes déterminés à augmenter notre assistance en ce domaine et à contribuer à la création de l'infrastructure nécessaire dans le cadre des projets dits de développement rural intégré.

Eh outre, la France se félicite d'avoir pu participer récemment à la décision de la Communauté économique européenne, s'agissant de l'un des projets du programme d'assistance alimentaire intéressant le Bangladesh pour une capacité de stockage de 50 000 tonnes.

Je ferai une dernière remarque à cet égard concernant l'aide du PAM à la sécurité alimentaire. Je dois dire que nous ne sommes pas favorables à ce que le PAM utilise l'aide alimentaire dont il dispose pour créer des stocks. L'aide alimentaire, à notre avis, est réservée aux cas d'urgence, et au programme de développement bien sûr. Eh revanche, les projets du FAM pourraient contribuer à la création de capacités de stockage. D'une façon plus générale, je note d'ailleurs que la construction de capacités de stockage, surtout par petites unités, ne met en oeuvre, en dehors de l'assistance technique, que des dépenses locales. Aussi, serait-il particulièrement indiqué, me semble-t-il, que donateurs et pays récipiendaires s'entendent, s'accordent, pour affecter une part des fonds en contrepartie de l'aide alimentaire à la réalisation d'unités de stockage de sécurité.

Enfin, je me permets de poser une question: comme mon collègue néerlandais, je souhaiterais que le secrétariat voulût bien nous éclairer sur les relations, sur les interactions entre les activités respectives de plusieurs organisations et services. Je pense au passage au programme d'assistance, je pense au service de la prévention des pertes après récolte et enfin au service du stockage, services qui traitent de matières techniques très voisines. Il serait donc utile que le secrétariat voulût bien nous faire connaître les modalités suivant lesquelles ces différentes unités de la AO coopèrent.

Enfin, j'en arrive au projet de résolution qui nous est proposé. Il va de soi que les observations et les amendements présentés par l'observateur de la CEE sur les paragraphes 3- 4 a,), 5 et 6 reçoivent pleinement l'appui de notre délégation; cela va sans dire, mais mieux encore en le disant. Je me permets de suggérer un amendement, mineur il est vrai, qui porterait sur le paragraphe 8. Nous sommes d'accord pour que le Ponds monétaire international apporte un soutien particulier aux pays les moins avancés qui ont des problèmes aigus de balance des paiements. Mais, à notre avis, cet effort peut être fait dans le cadre de ses mécanismes de financement, et nous souhaiterions que cela fût clairement précisé. La délégation française remettra par écrit au secrétariat le texte de cet amendement.

Telles sont les brèves observations que je voulais présenter, mais soyez sûrs qu'elles sont, si je puis dire, inversement proportionnelles à l'intérêt que nous portons au sujet.

K. F. KENEALLY (Australia): My Government supports, and was one of the earliest subscribers to, the International Undertaking on World Food Security. As a consequence we viewed very sympathetically the launching of a Plan of Action on World Food Security, following the negative outcome of the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a new international grains arrangement. At the Committee on World Food Security and at the 75th Session of the Council we expressed our thoughts on the principles and practices involved in the five-point Plan of Action. Our thoughts included views on the feasibility of establishing an effective system of national grain reserves, the crucial role as we see it of an international grains agreement : and the importance of equitable burden-sharing in any accepted international arrangement for reserve stock holding.

With these views, to which we strongly adhere, having been made known, Australia declared that it was prepared to endorse the five-point Plan of Action. In conformity with our institutional and constitutional requirements, as provided for in the Plan of Action, we will do our best to implement the Plan, and we wish to explain something of the approach we shall take in this regard.

First, with regard to wheat stocks policy, the Australian Wheat Board, the organization which has sole responsibility for the marketing of wheat within Australia and overseas, has always taken into consideration the following factors:(1) the importance of continuity of supply to regular customers: (2) to the extent that it is compatible with responsible marketing policy, providing for the requirements of countries, including developing countries, experiencing difficulties in obtaining supplies;(3) provision to meet the Government's commitments for food aid, including an unallocated quantity for emergencies in developing countries.

Towards the pursuance of these considerations, the Wheat Board has always aimed to have end-of-season stocks of at least half a million tons-a substantial reserve I think all will agree. Present stocks are very much in excess of this level, and we foresee the maintenance of an adequate stocks position, with no restrictions on production of wheat. At present however we are not in a position to adopt more quantity-specific stock targets. My Government nevertheless considers that it has achieved a more than adequate level of wheat stocks meeting the basic intent of the stock policy measure.

As regards the criteria for management and release of national stocks, it could be said that Australia has consistently taken the view that the conditions under which an internationally coordinated system of national grain reserves can be established and operated on an efficient and equitable basis can be

negotiated only in the context of a formal inter-governmental grain arrangement with economic provisions. Australia will therefore continue to work actively towards the conclusion of such an agreement.

As regard special measures to assist lowincome developing countries to meet current import requirements and emergency needs, Australia has consistently increased its volume of food aid and has generally kept well in advance of its obligations under the Food Aid Convention. It has a record of exceeding its Food Aid Convention commitments, even in poor harvest years. Over \$A. 58 million (equivalent to US\$ 64 million) has been allocated for our food aid programme in 1979-80, estimated delivery being 326 500 tons of wheat or equivalent. All is given on a grant basis.

We have contributed, and will continue to contribute, to the International Emergency Food Reserve within the context of a total allocation of 30 000 tons per year, plus freight costs, for emergency assistance.

On the conclusion of a new and separate Food Aid Convention, Australia has traditionally favoured the "link" between negotiations and entry into force of a new Wheat Trade Convention and a new Food Aid Convention. However, since there appears to be little prospect of an early resumption of substantive negotiations on a new Wheat Trade Convention we undertook at the World Food Council Meeting in Ottawa, together with a number of other countries, to reconsider our position on the Food Aid Convention. I can assure delegates that this commitment is being honoured and that the matter is under active consideration within my Government. I am not in a position to foreshadow what the outcome of that consideration will be.

Like several other delegations, we believe that some new donors must subscribe to any new Food Aid Convention, if we are to achieve the 10 million ton target level.

As regards special arrangements for food security assistance, my Government encourages developing countries to give high priority to the formulation and implementation of national food security programmes. It extends bilateral aid for purposes associated with food security, and is contributing to multilateral bodies which are devoting part of their budget to such purposes. We agree with the need for developing countries to build up their national reserves and all developing country recipients of Australian food aid are permitted at their discretion to earmark food aid donations for food reserves rather than for immediate consumption.

Australia supports also the proposal for an on-going monitoring of FAO's Food Security Assistance Scheme.

As regards point 5 of the Plan of Action, we support in principle the concept of collective self-reliance of developing countries, in line with our attitude towards ECDE and TCDC.

Finally, we have studied carefully the draft resolution submitted by a number of countries and have listened attentively to many interventions in support of or qualifying it. We understand the desire for this Charter, although we fail to see that it will add substantially to the implementation of the Five Point Plan, which Members have now unanimously accepted for implementation. In its substantive paragraphs, we do have a number of difficulties.

First of all, the draft in our view is unbalanced in that it largely fails to recognize that the policies and practices adopted by developing countries in respect of food production are crucial to the elimination or minimization of production shortfalls; they cannot be realistically excluded from any resolution on food security. We noted the Romanian amendment, which seems to recognize this, and we will study it with a view to supporting its inclusion or building on it.

The delegate of Pakistan stated cogently this morning that world food production is proving an elusive mirage. The constantly changing dynamics of food, population, weather, and other equations which we are struggling with, together with the problems of increasing production and distribution of food, mean that without Herculean efforts the desired security will remain a mirage. Success and real food security can only come from intensive, sustained and properly targeted rural development policies in developing countries themselves, assisted, naturally, by the developed countries. We consider that food security does not, cannot, and should not, be sidetracked as the responsibility of the few.

This concept is essential to our perceptions, and bears heavily on operative paragraph 4 of the Resolution, which caused us very grave problems. It imposes an unfair share of responsibility on grain exporters. This fails completely to recognize that food security is a global question, involving many additional countries. It is unreasonable to expect exporters, who depend on their exports for their livelihood, to shoulder the elements of subvention in providing food grains in ways which do not affect the developing countries' development prospects. At the same time, I am sure that grain exporters are happy to join with oil exporting and industrialized high-income countries to lessen the burden of food imports on the developing countries.

We have some reservations also about some preambular assumptions, about the adoption of targets elsewhere in the draft, and about operative paragraph 8. The International Monetary Fund is required to lend balance of payments support to all countries, and cannot be limited to low-income countries. The concept of balance of payments support in relation to a country's overall balance of payments situation seems to us more relevant than focussing on specific products or product groups.

I think that in the light of these views it would be clear that we feel that a discussion group technique might be a constructive way to approach the more difficult conceptual elements of the Resolution.

A. HAMAAMBA (Zambia): My delegation wishes to register its support for the proposed Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security. We wish to comment on three points.

Firstly, we feel that the basis for any World Food Security Plan must be national food sufficiency and self-reliance in the developing countries which have a potential for increasing their food production. We therefore support the Food Security Assistance Scheme, which aims at strengthening national food security. More resources should be made available for the implementation of this Scheme. We therefore urge donor countries to give more assistance to those countries which have undertaken to implement projects on food security. My country has recently approved a number of projects connected with food security which we are anxious to implement.

Secondly, in order to maximize resources to affect food circulatory programmes, my delegation strongly supports the idea of collective self-reliance. There are a number of activities in which developing countries can pool their resources together, such as joint functions in food production, storage facilities, and transport facilities. Inadequate transport facilities, especially for land-locked countries, are a great limiting factor in implementing food circulatory programmes, and in the distribution of food. Increased trade between developing countries, which is very desirable, will largely depend on improved transport facilities in developing countries.

Thirdly, we support the suggestion that consideration be given to relaxing, where appropriate, the rule which does not permit the sale of World Food Programme emergency aid. We think that the funds accruing from the sale of aid food can be utilized to offer incentives to farmers in the form of higher prices or credit to farmers in affected areas. In this way, food aid will not only be used to relieve hunger, but also to increase self-sufficiency of recipient countries.

Lastly, I wish to state that my delegation has no hesitation in supporting the Draft Resolution on World Food Security.

A. B. CAWTHORN (United Kingdom): I want to make just two or three brief comments. First of all, I would like to place on record that the United Kingdom is actively cooperating with the FAO Food Security Assistance Scheme. As the Secretariat is aware, bilateral projects in the field of food security have been mounted in association with FSAS. A United Kingdom Liaison Officer to FSAS has been appointed and information is being provided on United Kingdom activities on food security assistance. The services of our Tropical Products Institute, and in particular the Stored Products Centre, are at the disposal of developing countries under technical cooperation arrangements, and training facilities at the Stored Products Centre have recently been expanded.

The United Kingdom accepts the Five-point Plan of Action, as an interim measure, since it is within the bounds of the International Undertaking to which we are already committed, and because it has been recognized that this is not a substitute for a new International Grains Agreement which may be negotiated in the future. We are in line with the Community on this and we shall continue to play our part as a member of the EEC in negotiations for an agreement which will benefit the LDCs and enhance world food security.

We sincerely hope that the optimism expressed by the Executive Secretary of the International Wheat Council will prove to be well founded and we hope that all participants will reflect on their previous attitudes and enter any re-convened negotiations with open and flexible minds.

As the representative of the EEC and other member states have said, as far as stock is concerned the Community does operate a storage policy for cereals through the Common Agricultural Policy and as such its cereal stocks are generally adequate, not only to meet internal demand but also to continue its programme of exports to the world market and for food aid. However, any specific commitment to hold stocks for the benefit of the international community will have to be seen in the context of a new International Grains Agreement.

As far as aid measures are concerned, the Community and its member states have continued to make generous contributions to the Food Aid Convention and elsewhere, but I must point out that of the 35 million tonnes of wheat purchased annually by developing countries some 30 millions tonnes are acquired on commercial terms. Thus, a Food Aid Convention, while undoubtedly important to the LDCs, can of itself make only a limited contribution to world food security.

As far as the draft resolution is concerned, the United Kingdom had and still has some reservations on the initial document. In the light of the numerous amendments already proposed and in view of the substantial body of opinion expressed in favour of making use of an informal group, we consider that the only means of making efficient and effective progress is through the offices of such a contact group.

P. C DE OLIVEIRA CAMPOS (Brazil): Several times Brazil has expressed some reservations concerning the way that the food security concept has been implemented. Brazil believes that food security should mean an increase in food production in the developing countries. In this respect we agree in general with the ideas presented by Argentina.

My delegation confirms the Brazilian position concerning the Five-point Plan as already indicated at the Seventy-fifth Session of the Council: "The Plan consists of a series of measures which are necessary to implement the International Undertaking on World Food Security". Brazil has not yet signed that Undertaking and as a consequence is not in a position to express its approval or disapproval of the Five-point Plan proposed by FAO as well as any other proposal related to it. We believe that the task of approving or disapproving the Plan belongs to those countries which have signed the said Undertaking.

On the other hand my country has always favoured all measures that in conjunction with food security concept are linked directly to the increase of food production in the developing countries and the stabilization of grain markets. Brazil has in a practical manner contributed towards food security. We have made hard efforts to increase our food production. In addition we have taken measures to accentuate production, to improve rural infrastructure, to recover irrigated areas and to research in rural extension, and in this sense I would like to indicate, for instance, that our storage capacity has grown more than 100 percent in less than five years.

I. TAKI (Japan): First, concerning the International Undertaking on World Food Security I would like to make a brief report on the situation in Japan. Since acceptance of the Undertaking Japan has been implementing an adequate stock holding policy and at present has appropriate national stocks of major grains except rice. As for rice, frankly speaking, stock continues to increase to a level which is more than appropriate. On the other hand, in order to enhance the developing countries food security, my Government has concentrated its efforts in helping them on the grant basis to build storage facilities and warehouses. We have learned from experience in giving assistance that however modern the facilities may be, they will not operate well without well-trained staff and proper management.

Regarding the Plan of Action on World Food Security, my delegation as one of the major grain importing countries, shares the view of other delegations that the Plan of Action is especially important because of the precariousness of the present world food security situation, and also because of the precariousness of the present world food security situation, and also because of the postponement of the conclusion of the negotiations on the International Grains Agreement.

The nucleus of the Director-General's Plan of Action is, I understand, the implementation of stock policies and especially the strengthening of food security in developing countries.

At the seven-nation Economic Summit in Tokyo in June my Government emphasized that it is urgent to help developing countries to develop effective food sector strategies and to build up storage capacity for strong food reserves.

With these points in mind, I would like to comment very briefly on the Director-General's proposal on world food security in document C 79/23. Concerning the national stock target, my Government is following adequate stock policies, as I have mentioned. I would like to make some comments on the special assessment of the levels and distribution of world cereal stocks by CWFS.

My Government is of the view that the level of national stocks should be established in accordance with the specific circumstances of each country. However, we think that the safety stock level to be set by CWFS will be utilized by each country to establish its appropriate level of stock as one of the useful indications.

Concerning FAO's FSAS, we think that it plays an important role in ensuring food security of developing countries and Japan would like to study its future assistance to FSAS.

Regarding the collective self-reliance among developing countries and the action programme at national and regional levels, my Government has supported and will support especially TCDC and ECDC, because it is essential to aid self-reliant efforts by developing countries in order to solve the food problem in developing countries. Japan is of the view that FAO's activities in these fields are especially important and necessary.

Turning to the draft resolution, my delegation has some difficulties in accepting it as it is. For instance, concerning the levels of resources which are referred to in paragraph 5 (a), my delegation does not think that these target figures are appropriate from the realistic standpoint. In addition, for instance, my delegation believes that a new Food Aid Convention referred to in paragraph 6 should be negotiated and concluded by being linked to the Wheat Trade Convention. In this connection, if a working group or a contact group is established on the initiative of the Chairman in order to reach a good conclusion of these problems, my delegation will be happy to be allowed to participate in that group.

F. MARTINEZ GOMEZ (México): La delegación mexicana, como lo expreso su jefe en la Plenaria, desea intervenir para manifestar su apoyo al Plan de Acción de Cinco Puntos propuesto por el Director General de la Organización, el cual cuenta ya con el apoyo del Comité Plenario de las Naciones Unidas, del Consejo de la FAO y del Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación.

Estamos de acuerdo con el señor Director General cuando señala en su exposición introductoria ante esta Comisión que la seguridad alimentaria es el tema más importante del Programa de esta Conferencia, que la pérdida periódica de cosechas ha ocasionado que aumente considerablemente la demanda y los precios del trigo, reduciendo la disponibilidad de ayuda alimentaria, encareciendo sus importaciones, por lo que es evidentemente necesario que los países en desarrollo redoblen sus esfuerzos para alcanzar su finalidad colectiva.

Apoyamos también el Proyecto de Resolución sobre Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial presentado por las delegaciones de Colombia, Guinea, India, Túnez, Uruguay, Zaire y Yugoslavia, particularmente cuando pone de relieve que la seguridad alimentaria mundial constituye un elemento esencial del progreso hacia el Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional y ruega a los gobiernos que faciliten asistencia técnica, financiera y alimentaria necesaria para reforzar la seguridad alimentaria mundial en los países en desarrollo y recomienda a las regiones más expuestas a la falta de alimentos que los gobiernos tomen iniciativas para lograr una mayor autosuficiencia colectiva.

Sin embargo, en apoyo al Plan de Cinco Puntos, particularmente el punto cuarto "Disposición especial de asistencia para la seguridad alimentaria" y el quinto "Autosuficiencia colectiva de los países en desarrollo", nuestra delegación desea intervenir para recalcar la necesidad de que la producción y comercialización de los productos básicos agrícolas en los países en proceso de desarrollo sea redefinida a través de la elaboración, definición y ejecución de una política que, avalada y recomendada por FAO, establezca procedimientos correctivos en la materia; es conocida la situación que priva en la mayoría de los países en desarrollo en el sentido de que las mejores tierras disponibles se destinan a producir artículos alimenticios orientados a la exportación y no a la producción de bienes básicos que satisfagan el consumo interno.

Esta distorsión de la estructura productiva agrícola ocasiona la acumulación del ingreso en capas reducidas de la población que históricamente han manifestado su incapacidad para canalizar el excedente económico que obtienen vía exportación de productos agrícolas hacia la creación de agroindustrias de propiedad social y tecnología adecuadas que permitan la prolongación del valor agregado campesino.

En realidad la estructura productiva está siendo determinada por las transnacionales de productos alimentarios condenando a nuestros productores agrícolas al papel de exportadores de frutas, hortalizas y materias primas y enfrentándolos a una relación de términos de intercambio desfavorables, a barreras arancelarias, a controles de calidad, a cuotas diferenciales y a todas aquellas medidas que integran la política comercial proteccionista de los países industrializados.

Las divisas que obtienen nuestros países no son justificativas a nivel de los intereses mayoritarios de la población, de la distorsionada estructura productiva agrícola que sufren, toda vez que se abandona la responsabilidad de procurar alimentación del pueblo a los productores de temporal, quienes por no disponer de adecuados recursos naturales, técnicos y capacidad suficiente no tienen la seguridad de abastecer suficientemente los recubrimientos alimenticios internos. Esto nos convierte en importadores de granos básicos.

El beneficio que el agricultor nacional obtiene con el diferencial de precios entre productos para exportación y productos básicos ha resultado hasta ahora definitivo para establecer el intercambio en función del apoyo que presta a la balanza comercial y técnicamente en cuanto a la sustentación de las llamadas ventajas comparativas; empero, los reclamos son cada vez mayores por parte de nuestras poblaciones crecientes en las que lo único que crece más aceleradamente que sí mismas es su hambre ancestral y sus carencias de todo tipo y los precios diferenciales y ventajas comparativas no significan, ni significarán, el camino de la solución.

Es imperativo que los países tradicionalmente exportadores de primarios adopten políticas de producción agrícola y pecuaria que corrijan su deformada estructura productiva orientada a la satisfacción de mercados selectivos del exterior y dispongan de sus mejores recursos productivos; las áreas de riego en la magnitud que sea necesaria hasta asegurar la producción suficiente de bienes básicos para la alimentación.

En el curso de esta Conferencia algunos países han manifestado que sus gobiernos están adoptando políticas en este sentido para lograr la autosuficiencia. A este respecto, México ha iniciado hace tres años una política de apoyo franco a los cultivos en tierras de temporal o secano proveyéndolas de organización, asistencia técnica, fertilizantes, semillas mejoradas, maquinaria, almacenes, esto es, capitalizándolas para obtener en ellas una productividad más elevada en el corto plazo y asegurar la producción de básicos alimenticios.

En este tenor la delegación mexicana propone: primero, que la FAO apoye y recomiende a los países en desarrollo la transformación de su estructura productiva agrícola; es decir, sustituir la actual política agrícola basada en las ventajas comparativas y los precios diferenciales por otra basada en el interés nacional que asegure la producción de básicos alimenticios en un volumen suficiente para el consumo interno. Segundo, que cada país establezca, según su particular problemática y nivel de desarrollo, los convenios, acuerdos o medidas que estime convenientes para que los productores de áreas de riego destinen parte del área al aseguramiento de producción de básicos alimenticios y sólo el excedente a la producción de bienes exportables.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The Delegation of Bahrein has sent a written statement with the wish to be included in the records of the Commission and so it will be done.

I. Ozorai, Vice-Chairman of Commission I, took the chair.

I. Ozorai, Vice-Président de la Commission I, assume la présidence.

I. Ocupa la presidencia I. Ozorai, Vicepresidente de la Comisión.

D. R. SHARMA (Nepal): Since the delegation from Nepal is taking the floor for the first time I shall be failing in my duty if I do not take this opportunity to congratulate the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman for being elected for this Commission.

When we talk of food security in my country the problem so far is very different from in many other countries. In Nepal some areas are surplus in food production whereas other areas, especially in the mountains, are deficit in food production. The movement of grain from surplus areas to deficit areas is hampered due to the restricted infrastructural development. A need for an accelerated development of these deficit areas is felt and an all-out effort is being made to bring those areas to the level of self-sufficiency.

Agriculture is the mainstay of our economy which again is fully dependent on monsoon. One monsoon failure always bring a chain reaction in our production process. This year there was a failure of monsoon in my country and as a result we are afraid that we shall have to face a heavy deficit of food grain.

We for our part are trying our best to overcome this situation. Not only to solve such immediate problems but to avoid the permanent threat of hunger, concrete action has to be taken and in this context we see that the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action is very very important.

My country, Nepal, has taken the opportunity of this Plan and is very thankful to the Director-General for providing assistance from FAO in strengthening Nepal's foods security plan, which however needs more capital investment. His Majesty's Government of Nepal has already approved in principle the Nepal Food Security Plan which envisages keeping an emergency stock and a separate minimum operation

level stock starting with 5, 000 metric tons and 10, 000 metric tons respectively. This amount of food grain is besides the regular food distribution plan of about 40, 000-45, 000 metric tons each year by the Nepal Food Corporation in the deficit areas.

My delegation strongly feels that there should be collective self-reliance in the matter of food security. The delegation from Nepal shares the view with other distinguished Delegates and strongly endorses the Director-General's Five Point Plan of Action on World Food Security which appears in document C 79/23. While examining the document all the practical and pragmatic approaches and actions suggested by the Director-General are of vital importance for the developing nations.

Any step towards strengthening of world food security is welcome to our delegation.

Before I conclude, I would like to appeal to all the member nations through their distinguished delegates to assist organizations like IMF to come forward and provide their assistance in the World Security Programme as well at this period of international need.

L. LAPEBY (Gabon): Pour comprendre, il est parfois nécessaire et utile de commencer par se méprendre car la méprise engendre la réflexion qui seule peut conduire à de nouvelles bases, à de nouveaux rapports ou à la découverte de nouveaux facteurs plus déterminants.

Depuis que le problème de la faim existe, donc celui des bilans alimentaires et partant celui de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, les bases et les rapports qui ont été étudiés n'ont presque pas changé et sont devenus plutôt des corollaires malgré deux congrès et une conférence mondiale sur l'alimentation qui n'ont pas permis de trouver des solutions valables.

Le temps était peut-être venu de réaliser la méprise pour comprendre le problème et rechercher de nouvelles voies sans lesquelles la Communauté internationale, loin de se rapprocher, continuerait de se disloquer.

Je voudrais revenir un instant sur simplement ce problème du Plan d'action et dire ceci: des politiques nationales, régionales, internationales de stockage ne me paraissent pas suffisantes pour venir à bout du problème de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale tant qu'il sera seulement question de céréales.

Deuxièmement, le temps n'est-il pas venu de se rendre compte que la puissance de demain, comme le disait le Ministre d'Etat égyptien Ismaël Sabri Abdallah, appartiendra à celui qui détiendra les sources de l'énergie fondamentale de l'homme, c'est-à-dire la nourriture, plus que celles du nucléaire et les hydrocarbures.

Enfin, troisièmement, les pays développés pourront-ils subvenir aux besoins des pays en voie de développement si la situation des échanges continue à se dégrader, c'est-à-dire si les pays en développement ne réalisent plus de recettes et ne peuvent plus acheter leur nourriture aux pays développés?

C'est pourquoi je voudrais demander à mes collègues de réfléchir fondamentalement sur le problème de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et d'être persuadés que ce ne seront pas les stockages et les moyens qui permettront de résoudre le problème parce qu'en zone tropicale humide, nous ne pouvons pas nous permettre de mettre dans nos budgets des lignes uniquement pour les frais nécessaires à déshydrater les céréales, ce n'est pas possible, cela reviendrait trop cher, nous ne pouvons donc pas réaliser les unités de stockage.

Nous avons d'autres ressources et ces ressources, malheureusement, dans les rapports de la FAO, on n'en fait jamais état. Alors, il serait peut-être temps de se rendre compte que le monde est divisé en un certain nombre de parties qui n'ont pas les mêmes conditions climatiques et qui peuvent pourtant produire des produits pouvant servir à d'autres pays et de prendre en considération cette divergence naturelle pour essayer de créer des complémentarités et en faire un tout, plutôt que de se servir seulement d'une denrée ou d'une catégorie, les céréales.

M. PANJSHERI (Afghanistan): Thank you Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor. I don't want to consume time. As you know, Afghanistan is a land-locked and predominantly agricultural country. However, food production in the country is highly sensitive to weather conditions, particularly the amount of precipitation caused by snow and rainfall, (inaudible) crop accounting for three-quarters of their total cereal production. A large amount of production was damaged or wasted by weather fluctuation, or from the poor transportation and lack of storage facilities because the past

feudalistic regime kept the country very backward. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has taken important steps on food production, food security and food losses and it has included a Five-Year Plan of the country. Mr. Chairman, we are speaking of the construction of road improvement, transportation and storage facilities. Therefore we need financial assistance. For this our Government is fully aware of the need for stabilization and a deal for 19 million dollars for this purpose is being negotiated. My delegation supports the Plan of Action on world food security and commends nations for its adoption and it is our hope the IMF and developed countries will honour their obligations and their plans. Also my delegation joins with those delegations which support the Five-Point Plan of Action proposed by the Director-General.

F. ZENNY (Jamaica) : Mr. Chairman, I must apologise for not being here but I had a meeting with the Director-General and I am sure you will forgive me and allow me to make my intervention now.

Mr. Chairman, the Jamaican delegation wishes to take this opportunity to make its position on food security quite clear. We are in the position of sharing the views of FAO in considering the situation is rather grim. That we seem not to have learned sufficiently from the past food crisis and we are, therefore, like FAO of the view that it is extremely necessary, despite the failure to arrive at an international wheat agreement, to continue with the practical and realistic measures which constitute the Five-Point Plan. We share the view that one of the main pillars of food security is the need for developing countries to secure in as short a time as possible that they become as self-sufficient as possible in food production. We agree that food security begins at home. We therefore applaud those countries, like India, who have shown us the example. We applaud an extension of that principle, namely the one related to collective security. Here again we applaud the efforts of India and Pakistan in assisting Bangladesh. The efforts of ASEAN countries and, nearer home, we are very impressed and very supportive of the steps taken by Trinidad to establish a particular fund to help brother Caribbean countries whose production has been set back by natural disasters. As you know, the Caribbean region, Dominica and Jamaica, has had its fair share of disaster in 1979. We are, therefore, very much aware of the need to make quite sure that through realistic rural integrated programmes the re-ordering of our priorities to make agriculture the uppermost priority, that we need to guarantee that we make this positive contribution to food security.

We are, in particular, grateful to the Director-General in taking the leadership in this matter and in providing under the Programme of Work and Budget opportunity for special arrangements for Food Security Assistance. I am talking in particular of the Food Security Assistance Scheme, and we would hope that the increased funding is available for this very worthwhile scheme, aimed at the countries that need it most.

One particular scheme that Jamaica is particularly interested in, Mr. Chairman, is the one related to prevention of food losses. We suffer from a considerable amount of food losses through our marketing and distribution system. And we would hope that FAO goes some way away from what the scheme seems to be, a rather restrictive interpretation of food security. Prevention of food losses being tied only to storage facilities and to countries needing to handle imports and production of cereals. We have a particular problem, but it is closely related to the question of improving our production by cutting back on our serious rate of post-harvest losses, which are calculated at present to be as high as 40 percent of total production.

Mr. Chairman, we would like to speak particularly on what appears to some delegates to be a controversial point, namely the approach to the IMF to seek arrangements, or to seek to investigate the possibility of establishing a facility for food deficit countries. We are strongly in support of this, being a country which is suffering from a serious balance of payments problem which manifests itself with a very significant deficit in foreign exchange resources.

The question of major disasters and the assistance of the World Food Programme, not only in this area but also in assisting countries in establishing food reserves, also seems to have provoked some doubts in the minds of certain delegations. Jamaica would like to make its position very clear on this and to state that it agrees and approves the approach that has been set out in document C 79/23.

For the rest, Mr. Chairman, we are in support of the resolution that is put before us by a group of countries. And we would hope that the majority of countries, if not all, will be in a position to endorse this resolution. We are particularly in agreement with the need for the Director-General and the Committee for Food Aid to continue monitoring projects to make quite sure that the Five-Point Plan of Action is made operational, and that those countries in a position to increase their support to food security measures and to the food aid target of one billion, which is required by WFP, the ten million per annum which is required by the Food Security Assistance Scheme, and the food aid requirement which we agreed should be supported up to 17-18 million tons by 1985, we hope that donor countries and those countries in a position to bring effective support to this proposal will do so.

M. BEL HADJ AHOR (Tunisie) : je sais qu'après les nombreux orateurs qui ont parlé de ce sujet aujourd'hui je ne serai pas du tout original. Je sais également que les nombreux aspects intéressants de mon pays figurent tant au plan proposé par le Directeur général que dans la résolution concernant la sécurité alimentaire dont nous sommes l'un des co-auteurs. Cependant, je voudrais faire quelques remarques d'ordre général.

Vous savez qu'aujourd'hui la nécessité de constituer des réserves alimentaires en prévision de pénuries possibles est urgente, car une répétition d'une crise alimentaire mondiale est toujours possible, et elle pourrait provoquer de grandes souffrances compte tenu des populations de plus en plus nombreuses des pays pauvres. Une pareille crise serait difficile à surmonter quand on sait que la plupart des réserves alimentaires sont détenues actuellement par quelques pays et il serait ainsi malaisé de les mobiliser rapidement en cas de pénurie générale.

De même, si les stocks alimentaires ne sont pas actuellement à un niveau alarmant, ils ne font néanmoins l'objet d'aucune coordination internationale et ils pourraient être rapidement épuisés en cas de mauvaise récolte généralisée. En outre, nous constatons que les recommandations de l'engagement international sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale ne sont guère mises en œuvre d'une manière satisfaisante, et les quelques mesures prises restent très insuffisantes. La production alimentaire continue à être inférieure à la croissance démographique et aux besoins nutritionnels, ce qui oblige les pays en développement à importer sans cesse davantage les produits alimentaires, notamment les céréales, et à dépendre de plus en plus des récoltes de l'année, exposés aux aléas du temps et autres incertitudes.

Les politiques de stockage adoptées par certains pays en développement n'ont pas atteint leur objectif, et le nombre des pays exportateurs de céréales ayant adopté ces politiques reste très limité; les réserves alimentaires demeurent extrêmement basses dans la plupart des pays en développement. L'interruption des négociations pour un nouvel accord sur le blé en février dernier n'ajoute guère une note de réconfort à ce sombre tableau, même si tout récemment on a commencé à entrevoir une lueur d'espoir grâce à la disponibilité de certains pays exportateurs de céréales de négocier une nouvelle convention de l'aide alimentaire indépendamment d'une convention sur le commerce du blé.

Eh attendant, il nous faudra agir pour combler le vide dans le domaine de la sécurité alimentaire et faire appel à la bonne volonté des gouvernements pour partager les stocks et stabiliser les approvisionnements. D'ores et déjà la FAO déploie des efforts en ce sens. Je voudrais tout d'abord souligner à cet égard l'importance des activités entreprises par notre Organisation relatives à la sécurité alimentaire et apporter l'appui de ma délégation à la haute priorité que le Directeur général continuera à accorder au cours du prochain biennium à la préparation de projets dans le cadre du Programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire.

Nous demandons à tous les Etats Membres d'aider l'Organisation à renforcer son travail en matière de sécurité alimentaire. Ensuite, il nous semble que le Plan d'action en cinq points proposé par le Directeur général, Plan que ma délégation appuie, pourrait combler les lacunes du système mondial actuel de sécurité alimentaire et répondre à certaines des priorités les plus urgentes dans les pays à bas revenus souffrant de déficit alimentaire.

Certes, Ce Plan ne saurait résoudre tous les problèmes posés par la sécurité alimentaire mondiale ni se substituer à un accord international sur les céréales avec des clauses contraignantes quant aux stocks et aux prix. Mais, si les propositions d'action étaient mises en œuvre par la communauté internationale, on pourrait instituer un système de stocks alimentaires constitués par les différents pays et coordonnés sur le plan international, en vue de permettre aux populations de se nourrir pendant les périodes de disette généralisée. Dans cette œuvre, les pays riches aideraient les pays pauvres à se constituer des réserves alimentaires et à les financer.

Ehfin, je voudrais souligner dans ce cadre l'importance du rôle de l'aide alimentaire dans la promotion de la sécurité alimentaire dans le monde et lancer un appel aux pays donateurs pour l'accroissement de l'aide alimentaire aux pays en développement et de leur contribution au PAM.

Pour conclure, je rappelle que mon pays a apporté tout son soutien aux recommandations concernant la mise en œuvre du plan du Comité de la sécurité alimentaire, du Conseil de la FAO et du Conseil mondial de l'alimentation.

S. Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, took the chair

S. Zehni, Président de la Commission, assume la présidence

Ocupa la presidencia S. Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión

CHAIRMAN: First of all I should like to thank Mr. Ozorai, for taking the Chair at short notice, which must have been inconvenient to him. I am certainly grateful to him. In view of the fact that we have just finished a very long and most interesting debate, which was very enriching, I should like to call upon Dr. Islam to answer the various questions which have been put.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): On behalf of the Director-General I should like to convey to delegates his appreciation for the unanimous support given by the Commission to the five-point Plan of Action. We welcome the fact that some countries which earlier had reservations on the plan have been able to withdraw those reservations. However, we recognize that there are still differences of opinion on the text of the draft resolution on world food security and we hope that in the contact group which you, Mr. Chairman, are proposing to establish it will be possible for the members of that group, through consultation and discussion, to resolve those differences of opinion.

We welcome the contribution which has been announced by some donor countries to the Food Security Assistance Scheme and we hope it will stimulate others to follow suit. We gratefully accept that all delegates have supported the FSAS of FAO and recognize its value and importance in promoting world food security at the country level.

Questions have been asked as to the degree or method of coordination between the various special action programmes of FAO along with the PSAS. I may mention here that the Director-General has already made several arrangements to ensure that these related programmes work closely together. First, there are frequent meetings of the special coordinating group of the managers in charge of these programmes so that they can ensure that the requests are coordinated and missions and follow-up actions are fully harmonized. Secondly, where appropriate, we organize joint missions of the Food Security and Food Losses Programmes, sometimes with the Special Programme Office of Special Relief. Thirdly, we use the resources of the Technical Cooperation Programme for implementing projects where appropriate. In short, there is close working coordination both at Headquarters and at country level in the administration of these different special programmes.

I may offer some clarification here regarding the request of the Director-General to the International Monetary Fund to consider the feasibility of providing additional balance-of-payments support. This request has already been transmitted, as is apparent from the draft resolution, to the IMP. Indeed, we have discussed the possibility of this assistance, this facility, with IMF staff members, before and after the formulation of the five-point Action Plan. We have now agreed to prepare a paper, in cooperation with the World Food Council, since it was also discussed at the Ottawa Meeting of the World Food Council, in which we intend to examine-we are already in the last stages of preparation of this document-various criteria of this balance-of-payments support assistance which IMF might consider. We are examining various criteria, various types of conditionality, which may be relevant in this connection. This has special reference to the question raised by the delegate of Barbados, where he mentioned that the usual balance-of-payments support by the IMF is associated with a number of sometimes stringent conditionalities;but, as delegates know, there are various types which have various degrees of conditionality, various types of criteria, so we are examining these within the context of our request.

In fact, I might mention here that this concept of special financing facility or assistance from IMP to offset a rise in prices of food is not new as far as IMF is concerned. It has been considered earlier by the IMP in the context of expanding the coverage or the components of the existing facility for compensatory finance facilities for short-fall export earnings. I hope this information will help in the deliberations of the contact group.

Questions have also been raised about World Food Programme assistance for National Reserves of food stocks. I would like to refer here to the deliberations of the last meeting of the Committee on Food Aid on this subject. In fact, it might be useful if I quoted one or two paragraphs from the report of that meeting.

"Regarding WFP assistance"-this is in terms of food aid for food reserves-. . . the Committee reconfirmed the current priorities, as set out in the guidelines and criteria for food aid, for the allocation of the Programme's resources. It agreed, however, that within those priorities and the constraints of its limited resources:

(a) higher consideration should be given to requests to WFP for assistance for national food reserves when it is clearly demonstrated that such reserves could have a positive effect on food security, production and supplies in the recipient country;

(b) WFP-assisted projects should be formulated in such a way that mutually supportive links would be established between current priority objectives of the Programmed aid and food security measures; and

(c) WFP should, where appropriate, support and encourage national reserve programmes, in close cooperation with FAO's Food Security Assistance Scheme, particularly by helping in small or medium sized reserve schemes or with small contributions to large reserves and in improving storage and other essential food security infrastructure. "-of the MSA countries and LDCs.

I thought it necessary to bring this information to the attention of the Commission to assist in their deliberation. Referring to the discussions in the Commission on the long-term importance of increased production of food as the foundation of a durable world food security assistance, we entirely agree with this. In fact, emphasis on increased production is one of the major thrusts of FAO's programme of activities. We also believe that the international negotiations on the International Wheat Agreement are crucial for the promotion of food security, and we hope that outstanding differences will soon be resolved. But in the meantime, as we go along implementing the Five Point Plan, it will pave the way for the conclusions reached and its speedy implementation as and when agreement is reached.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic) : Are there any further comments or questions? I see no reaction on the part of the delegations. I would like to remind you all that today we have heard 66 speakers which, together with the five statements which have been handed in to the Secretariat, makes a total of 71 statements-which is proof of the importance of the subject you have just been discussing.

You have also seen the reactions and responses to what Dr. Islam has said and I do not think, in view of the late hour, that there is any need to sum up this very considerable and lengthy debate. What one can say is, that in respect of the Five Point Plan of Action and the Draft Resolution, it would seem that there is considerable support from most speakers. Some delegations, however, expressed their views and said that they had some difficulty in respect of one or other paragraph, and in particular certain paragraphs, of the Draft Resolution. Others have proposed some drafting amendments and yet others have proposed some minor amendments or additions.

All the delegations have expressed their gratitude to the Director-General, above all for taking up the matter to our Commission himself. As to the Director-General's Report on the Implementation of the Plan of Action and the ensuing debate, we will of course follow the usual procedure: the Drafting Committee will be entrusted with the task of preparing a specific report which will reflect the discussion which occurred here.

Regarding the Draft Resolution you may remember that I have already referred to the possibility of setting up a Contact Group-obviously, an informal Contact Group-which would be asked to bring together the viewpoint in respect of the Draft Resolution. They do not enormously differ anyway, and as far as I know, no delegation has expressed any reservations or opposed this idea of setting up a Contact Group. Most delegations supported the idea, but some delegations, at least at the beginning of the debate, said that although the idea was an excellent one it might not perhaps be necessary at all, and the Resolutions Committee might be able to remove any existing difficulties and play the part which the Contact Group was expected to play.

But after having listened to the reaction of delegates and having a clearer picture now of this very important matter, it is my belief that it remains necessary to set up this informal Contact Group so that it might discuss the Draft Resolution and questions pertaining to it. If this were left to the Drafting Committee, it might delay the actual work of the Drafting Committee, and at the same time difficulties might arise in closing these consultations as soon as possible. So the idea of setting up such a Contact Group was accepted by everybody, even by those who had at the beginning felt there

was no need for it. I have been in touch with many of the former opponents of this idea, who now say that they agree with the setting up of such an informal Contact Group. Because of this we have undertaken to sound out people, and have been in touch with colleagues of the Regional Group Coordinators as well as with other delegates, and at first sight it would appear that there is agreement as to the manner in which the Contact Group should be set up.

The following are the countries which will constitute this Contact Group: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, India, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Malta, Sweden, Tunisia, United States of America, Yugoslavia, Zambia. This gives us 15 members in the Contact Group.

It would appear that there is also consensus that Tunisia be requested to call the members of this Contact Group together and head its consultations, and to prepare the report which will be put forward to the Chairman of the Commission. Obviously, this report will be handed to you later. This is the agreement which we have reached on the Contact Group, and if this meets with your approval, I will consider that the Commission as a whole accepts the procedure which I have just outlined.

J. S. CAMARA (Guinée): Je n'ai pas bien compris, quels sont les pays africains qui ont été choisis ? J'ai entendu le nom de la Tunisie, mais je voudrais savoir quels sont les pays africains qui ont été mentionnés.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I think that this is a most legitimate request, but I must tell you that we have some difficulty with the interpretation and that is perhaps the reason why we have tried to avoid interpretation.

J. S. CAMARA (Guinée): Vous n'avez aucun pays francophone dans ce groupe et nous souhaiterions être représentés; comme pays francophone, nous sommes intéressés par ce groupe de contact, au moins sur le plan linguistique afin de ne pas avoir ensuite de difficultés.

I. EOSKOVITS (Malta) : As this Contact Group is to meet immediately, may I ask whether a written text of the amendments has been prepared ?

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I was about to mention this. My hasty answer now is that yes, this text is ready. May I ask the delegate from Guinea if he still insists on his proposal or has he been convinced by the point of view which I have submitted ?

G. CONSTANT (France): Vous ne serez sans doute pas surpris de mon intervention mais, alors que j'ai apprécié tout au long de ces heures passées ensemble votre élégante présidence, je dois dire que je suis surpris de l'argument que vous opposez à notre collègue de la Guinée, argument pseudo-technique qui consiste à dire qu'il y aurait des difficultés de traduction en langue française et que, pour cette raison, on écarterait la demande de la Guinée. Je dois dire que je ne peux pas -je le fais avec un certain sourire et pas du tout crispé- admettre ce genre d'arguments et je vous serais très reconnaissant de faire en sorte que l'organisation des services d'interprétation soit telle que nous ne rencontrions pas ce genre de difficultés à l'avenir et que je n'aie pas à faire cette désagréable intervention.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I understand perfectly well the spirit in which you have made this proposal. Now, the proposal has been made but I would like to add also that from where I sit I can see all the country cards which have been raised.

C. O. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Simplemente quiero recordar que en el Grupo de contacto, en el cual hemos trabajado sobre la Resolución sobre proteccionismo, hemos trabajado durante más de 20 horas probablemente, y la mayor parte de ese tiempo no se ha dispuesto de trabajos de interpretación. Todos hemos hecho un esfuerzo grande y cada uno ha tratado de brindar lo mejor que ha podido en aras de una situación existente que era la falta de traducción; por lo tanto, yo me permito hacer un llamamiento a los países que, así como nosotros hemos renunciado a hacer uso de nuestro idioma en español en un grupo de contacto en aras de encontrar una posibilidad de arreglo y posibilidad de acuerdo, creo que deberíamos tratar de mantener un espíritu de cooperación, si no es posible encontrar traductores, tal vez incluso aquellos representantes que no dominan la lengua en la cual la mayoría se puede expresar en el grupo de contacto, puedan concurrir con traductores especiales. Esto se ha hecho en otras oportunidades y creo que sería una solución, sobre todo, Señor Presidente, si es que no podemos contar con traductores regulares y permanentes.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia) : La delegación de Colombia está de acuerdo con usted, Señor Presidente, en que esta discusión debe mantenerse dentro de la mayor cordialidad. No dudamos de que usted y los miembros de esta Comisión facilitarán el ingreso de Guinea a nuestro Grupo de Trabajo y de acuerdo con lo que expresó el colega de Malta, quisiéramos pedir muy respetuosamente a usted que pidiera al colega de Túnez que mañana a primera hora nos indicara la hora de reunión, en vez de hacerlo al final de esta tarde, a fin de que se pueda preparar mejor el ambiente y los medios para trabajar ese Grupo así como la posibilidad de interpretación.

J. S. CAMARA (Guinée): Je m'excuse de reprendre la parole, je ne veux nullement créer un incident ou envenimer ce débat qui a été jusqu'ici assez serein. Je pense cependant que tel a été également mon comportement mais je ne crois pas que, pour des questions linguistiques, on puisse écarter une délégation d'un groupe aussi important pour l'Organisation. Et c'est parce que c'est un groupe assez important que j'ai demandé que ma délégation y participe. Je ne dis pas que c'est un plaisir pour moi de faire partie d'un groupe de contact, mais j'avais souhaité y participer afin d'y apporter ma contribution.

Je ne peux pas accepter que pour des questions linguistiques une délégation soit écartée d'un groupe de travail de la FAO quel qu'il soit. Le groupe de contact est une réunion intergouvernementale, ce n'est pas une réunion de techniciens et je pense que le Secrétariat doit prendre toutes les dispositions nécessaires pour que tous les pays utilisant une langue officielle puissent y participer. Cela est un principe sacré pour toutes les délégations et j'estime que cela doit être mentionné dans le procès-verbal. Je tiens à réitérer qu'aucun pays ne peut être écarté quelle qu'en soit sa langue si celle-ci est officielle dans cette Organisation.

J'appuie fermement ce qu'a dit le délégué de la France qui lui-même a bien voulu appuyer mon intervention. Le français est une langue officielle au même titre que l'anglais et l'espagnol et j'ai des collègues de langue espagnole qui ont été choisis pour faire partie de ce groupe de contact. On ne les en a pas écartés. Je parle anglais moi aussi et j'aurais pu comprendre les débats si ma proposition avait été accueillie, mais je répète qu'on ne peut écarter un pays pour une question de langue. Ceci dit, tout en vous remerciant, je retire la proposition que j'ai faite mais la Guinée se réserve de faire ses amendements et ses propositions lorsque le groupe de contact fera son rapport à la Commission.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie) : Vous savez que je suis très coopératif et je ne voudrais pas compliquer votre tâche. Cependant, je suis obligé de donner raison au délégué de la Guinée. Je dois préciser que normalement on a toujours essayé dans les groupes de contact d'inclure tous les pays qui prennent un vif intérêt aux sujets soumis à la discussion.

C'est pourquoi je voudrais vous faire la suggestion suivante, et je crois que je réponds indirectement d'ailleurs au délégué de la Colombie : remettre la réunion du Groupe de contact à demain matin et je vous demanderai également, si c'est possible, de voir la question qui a été soulevée par le délégué de la Guinée avec le Secrétariat, car je crois, étant donné qu'il s'agit d'une conférence, que normalement le Secrétariat a pris toutes les dispositions nécessaires pour que tous les services d'interprétariat soient fournis.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): It would therefore seem that the idea is that this contact group should meet tomorrow and that is accepted by everybody. I think that will help to do the work in a fraternal and relaxed atmosphere. But I should also like to tell you that there is certainly no idea in my mind to prevent any particular country from taking part in the work of such a contact group, or any other consultation, for any reason or because the interpretation services might not be available. But it was a practical proposal and the Secretariat had told me that this evening there would be difficulties in getting interpretation.

Furthermore, there is another problem which we encountered with regard to the group on commodities for instance, interpretation was available only for three hours and you have the rules in the house that we had to continue without interpretation. And even where interpretation service is available, contact groups must expect there to be difficulties in expecting to get interpretation for more than three hours, particularly since this is not an official meeting-it is a meeting of an unofficial contact group.

Anyway, personally, if you agree, I certainly have no objection in seeing Guinea added to the list of members but I shall not be able to guarantee that the interpretation service will always be there for that contact group. In any case this contact group will probably have to do the same as other contact groups and get used to the idea that they will not have interpretation there all the time. I do not think I can add anything new on this subject and that is why I should like to go to the second point I wanted to tell you about.

Regarding the work of this contact group I should like to raise one matter which was already raised by the Delegate of Malta, namely that all the amendments and all the proposals which have been brought forward during the discussion have been recorded and will be available to the members of the contact group.

The second point, coming to the Draft Resolution, when the contact group has agreed on it, we shall decide on its adoption later.

There is a third point, namely I should like to draw your attention to the fact that the contact group, without wishing to prejudge the work of the contact group, this contact group will have to seek agreement in the light of the discussion that has taken place here. Any attempt to reopen debate on any of these aspects has to be discarded as far as possible because you must remember that we have very little time and that it is not possible to continue the discussion at the contact group level because in any there is a consensus regarding the Plan of Action and also regarding the Draft Resolution. That is to say this contact group will have to bear in mind what been said here in Commission I.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Una consideración general sobre el tema en discusión-la seguridad alimentaria mundial-nos lleva a expresar que este serio problema mundial debe abordarse desde dos ángulos o puntos de vista, que se complementan. El primero de los cuales es la toma de una serie de medidas de orden interno que se materialicen en políticas, planes, programas y proyectos que tiendan a aumentar la producción y productividad nacional agropecuaria.

Estas series de medidas deben de arrancar con una correcta planificación agropecuaria concebida como una actividad sistemática destinada a seleccionar objetivos para el desarrollo económico del sector y formular las estrategias, programas y políticas para alcanzarlos, pretendiendo con esto un sistema racional de administración, conducción y regulación de la política de desarrollo agropecuario para mejorar la utilización y asignación de los recursos productivos agropecuarios del país y ejercer plenamente la capacidad de dirección del gobierno sobre las actividades del sector.

En segundo lugar, están las acciones que se logren a nivel internacional para que estos esfuerzos nacionales no sean estériles o, como bien lo expresara el Director General en su discurso ante el último período de sesiones del Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos (CPPB), no se caiga en el cinismo de fomentar las producciones nacionales para luego no saber qué hacer con ellas.

Dentro de este contexto está la situación real y concreta por la que atraviesa la producción mundial de alimentos, y en especial la de cereales-trigo, y cereales secundarios- como lo expone el documento C 79/23 en el capítulo "Consecuencias de la evolución reciente de la situación alimentaria mundial" y en el que se señalan entre otros, los siguientes hechos:

- a) Después de una serie de buenas cosechas mundiales, 1979 será un año relativamente malo en el que se recogerán menores cosechas en la URSS, partes de Europa Oriental, Africa y América del Norte.
- b) La previsión de que la producción mundial de trigo y cereales secundarios disminuirá probablemente en 75 millones de toneladas, lo que viene a representar un descenso del 6 por ciento respecto a la buena cosecha de 1978. En 1979 el mundo consumirá, pues, mucho más de lo que producirá.
- c) Que las necesidades de importación alcanzarán la cifra sin precedentes de 170 millones de toneladas o sea, 12 millones de toneladas más que en la campaña precedente.

Frente a este hecho concreto cabe, pues, la toma de medidas de índoles internacionales promovidas por organizaciones como la FAO en su plan de acción de cinco puntos; por lo que esta Delegación apoya la aplicación de este plan de acción y en especial las propuestas hechas por el Director General, tanto en el documento C 79/23 como en su exposición introductoria sobre el tema (documento C 79/LIM/12).

Igualmente, señor Presidente, esta Delegación apoya la Resolución presentada por las delegaciones de Colombia, Guinea, India, Túnez, Uruguay, Zaire y Yugoslaviay que aborda y desarrolla medidas que deben tomarse sobre la seguridad alimentaria mundial. ^{1/}

E. TOSSOU-DANH DUSSI (Bénin): Intervenent après tant d'autres, la délégation béninoise voudrait joindre sa voix aux leurs pour vous féliciter pour votre élection à la présidence de la Commission I chargée de discuter de la politique générale et de la politique d'orientation de la FAO pour le biennium 1980/81.

La déclaration du Directeur général à la vingtième session de la Conférence de la FAO, à laquelle se sont jointes celles des délégations des pays membres de l'Organisation, indique que le monde se trouve aujourd'hui devant le plus grand défi de son histoire: celui de trouver de la nourriture à une population en pleine expansion.

Le tableau d'ensemble est si peu encourageant que la question qui vient à l'esprit est: que faire ?

Parmi les nombreuses solutions à proposer pour désamorcer la situation, le Plan d'action en cinq points visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale constitue une solution en attendant la renégociation de l'accord de Genève.

C'est pourquoi ma délégation appuie sans réserve le Plan d'action en cinq points proposé par le Directeur général de la FAO. Il est porteur d'espoir pour des millions d'êtres aujourd'hui embarqués sur un radeau pour la nuit des temps.

Ce faisant, nous voudrions attirer l'attention de la Commission sur un point que certaines délégations ont soulevé avant nous, pour sortir de la vision apocalyptique que d'aucuns peuvent avoir de la situation qui prévaut aujourd'hui dans le monde au plan de l'alimentation des peuples.

A l'heure actuelle, des millions de bras valides sont arrachés au front de la lutte pour la production en faveur du front de la lutte pour la défense des souverainetés nationales constamment menacées par des agressions et des conflits armés.

Le dilemme qui consiste à contraindre les peuples à être de façon simultanée sur deux fronts de lutte qui s'excluent mutuellement ne serait surmonté qu'en comptant sur la volonté politique des pays développés.

En 1979, les dépenses d'armement se chiffrent à 500 milliards de dollars. Voilà qui se passe de commentaire et qui situe chacun de nous dans la mouvance des grandes préoccupations des pays développés.

L'arme alimentaire est une arme redoutable. Elle est utilisée par les pays développés comme moyen de pression politique et économique pour remettre à genoux les pays en développement.

Sur la base de cette analyse, il devient aisé de comprendre la réticence de certains pays développés à appuyer le Plan d'action proposé par le Directeur général de la FAO.

Certains d'entre eux tentent de bloquer les efforts de la FAO en soulevant des concepts qui n'ont aucune relation avec la situation précaire que vivent les trois quarts de l'humanité. Un de ces concepts a pour nom : évaluation indépendante des projets financés par la FAO.

^{1/} Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.

L'ont-ils déjà fait pour les énormes crédits à l'éftttéttent consentis aux Etats pour s'agresser les uns les autres ?
A la croisée des chemins où nous nous trouvons aujourd'hui, chacun devrait faire son examen de conscience et se poser la question de savoir" ce qu'il a fait pour faire progresser l'humanité.

Mon pays, la République populaire du Bénin, Soutient aussi le projet de résolution annexé à ce Plan d'action, qui ouvre aux pays en développement de nouvelles perspectives.*

The meeting rose at 18. 0 hours

La séance est levée à 18 hours

Se levanta la sesión a las 16. 00 hores

* Texte reçu aveo demande d'insertion au proche-verbal.

conference

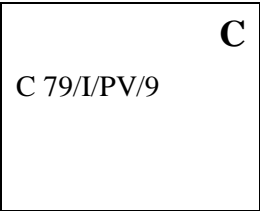
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

NINTH MEETING
NEUVIEME SEANCE
NOVENA SESION

(21 November 1979)

The Ninth Meeting was opened at 10. 00 hoursMohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La neuvième séance est ouverte à 10 heures, sous la présidence deMohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I

Se abre la novena sesión a las 10. 00 horas, bajo la presenciadeMohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)
PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE
D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA
ALIMENTACION (continuación)

CHAIRMAN : (interpretation from Arabic) : This meeting-the 9th session-is now called to order. Before proceeding with discussion of items on our agenda, I would like to announce that last evening at the end of the session, when we spoke about the setting up of a Contact Group, some delegates had raised a point about the representivity of various countries, and also about the working languages within this Contact Group. I fully understand the points of view expressed on this matter, and also the views expressed on the need of various languages to be represented, but I would like to say once again that I had no intention of excluding any country, be it for linguistic reasons. My proposals were made bearing in mind problems of working conditions, particularly in the matter of preparation of documents, since we were not in a position to offer all the documentation in all of the working languages in all sessions. Nevertheless, an effort was made yesterday and today to have translation of as many documents as possible, and there will be documents available this morning in all working languages for the Contact Group. This Contact Group may begin its work now.

As you know, yesterday the delegate of Guinea expressed a wish to attend the session of this Contact Group, and you may also recall that we agreed last evening that Guinea should attend this Contact Group. It now seems that the delegate from France has also asked to attend the work of this Contact Group, and I do not foresee any difficulty in this. The Group has now of course become larger, but I am sure that the members of this Group will make all possible efforts to conclude their work as soon as possible.

I would now like to announce the definitive list of members of this Contact Group: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, France, Guinea, India, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Malta, Sweden, Tunisia, United States of America, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

As I said, I would request that this Contact Group commence its work immediately. The meeting of the Contact Group will be held in the Sudan Room.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Laissez-moi tout d'abord vous remercier, Monsieur le President, d'avoir bien voulu tenir compte de nos remarques d'hier soir. Je voudrais vous demander une précision et peut-être une possibilité. Vous nous dites que le Groupe de contact va se réunir dès à présent dans la Salle du Soudan. Néanmoins, nous allons ici, en Commission I, aborder le point 8. Vous n'avez pas encore ouvert les débats mais comme je devrais me rendre au Groupe de contact, je voudrais vous adresser une demande. Ce point de l'ordre du jour porte sur deux questions: le 8. 1 concerne l'évaluation des progrès pour le Nouvel ordre économique, notamment l'ajustement, et le point 8. 2 a trait à l'Horizon 2000. Je souhaiterais, si vous en êtes d'accord, que la discussion soit nettement séparée sur les deux points parce que ce ne seront sans doute pas les mêmes délégués qui interviendront, et d'autre part, si vous abordez le 8. 1 ce matin, je vous demanderai peut-être, au nom de la délégation française qui a l'intention d'intervenir, qu'elle puisse le faire éventuellement cet après-midi puisque je dois me trouver ce matin au Groupe de contact.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): As a matter of fact I was thinking, of course, of discussing items 8. 1 and 8. 2 on a separate basis. Since we only have three sessions for this discussion I was thinking of concluding the discussion of item 8. 1 this morning so as to have the two remaining sessions for item 8. 2, that is "Agriculture: Toward 2000". I think that the French delegation is numerous and perhaps another delegate can make comments on this.

Before beginning the discussion of this item the Rapporteur of the Commission will give delegates some idea of the general debate in the Plenary.

H. MENDS (Rapporteur from Plenary to Commission I): As the Commission is aware, the general debate was concluded in the Plenary yesterday afternoon. Many Heads of Delegations continued to complain that the food aid commitment was still well below 10 million tonnes agreed upon by the international community. They were of the opinion that in the coming years the food aid commitment would have to go beyond the level agreed upon by the countries at the World Food Conference, 1974.

There was total support for the Five-Point Plan of Action of the Director-General for world food security. Drought, locusts, tsetse flies and floods were identified as important factors which contribute to food insecurity specifically on the African continent. However, these natural factors were exacerbated by the political factors which resulted from the production in protectionist trade policies of the developing countries. All of the speakers were unhappy with the present international economic relations and therefore wanted speedier changes between the new international economic order. They were of the view that if a new international economic order was to succeed the agricultural potential of the developing countries should also increase. Therefore FAO was called upon to play a more important role with regard to improving an increase in agricultural production, developing agrarian industries and improving international trade. Only one developed country cautioned against the discussion of such issues at the FAO Conference.

The Heads of Delegations considered the FAO study "Agriculture: Toward 2000", an important document which should give a useful perspective and guideline for the countries to follow in formulating their strategies and policies. According to the Netherlands, emphasis should also be placed on a country basis and infrastructure aspects should be given more attention, but there was also the need to continuously update the study and that FAO should obtain the assistance and collaboration of other consent agencies.

Finally it was suggested by Jamaica that the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly to be convened in 1980 should have food and agricultural problems constituting the central basis in the New International Development Strategy.

The Hungarian proposal that the birthday of FAO be celebrated annually as World Food Day was also supported by many speakers.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I thank Mr. Mends for his report. I think that the delegate of Hungary would like to say something.

I. OZORAI (Hungary): In compliance with the rules of the Organization, I have the pleasure to announce that a draft resolution will be submitted for the consideration of this Commission on the foundation of a World Food Day. The draft resolution will be sponsored by Hungary and the following countries: Czechoslovakia, Colombia, Denmark, France, Ghana, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Poland, Sweden, United States of America, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

7. Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security (continued)

7. Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (suite)

7. Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Before calling on the next speaker, I would like so say that India has given in a written statement to be included in the minutes of this Commission. I think this is a very wise decision that we would like to encourage because, as I said this morning, we only have one session to cover item 8. 1. I am sorry. This statement of the Indian Delegation does not concern this item but World Food Security. I apologize to India.

R. C. SOOD (India) :With regard to national stock targets, the Indian Delegation urges the twenty-six countries which have not already done so, to adopt national targets It would further be necessary for the Committee on World Food Security to undertake a comprehensive review of legislative and other actions taken by all Governments, particularly of developed countries to adopt national targets for cereal stocks and to follow criteria for their management and releases which are consistent with the plan of action.

We would also stress the need for provision of financial aid to developing countries for construction of adequate storage capacity of the requisite standard to enable adoption of national stock policies and then assist in making World Food Security a reality.

India has already built a national stock of 20 million tons of foodgrains to deal with its internal demands. These stocks are managed and released on the basis of national policy. India is also willing to participate fully in the scheme for international coordination of national stocks as recommended in the Undertaking on Food Security. When a suitable arrangement is worked out, India will be in a position to indicate the size of stock it would hold under the international scheme. In the context of the urgent need to adopt national stock policies, the Indian Delegation would like to renew its offer to share our experience and knowledge in the building up and management of buffer stocks with other countries, especially developing countries.

In view of the possibility of world food grain stocks being reduced in the course of 1979-1980, and being insufficient for 1980-1981 if world crops should again be below average, we feel that the Conference should consider requesting the Committee on World Food Security to carry out a special assessment of the levels, distribution and accessibility of world cereal stocks and of their adequacy to meet the likely needs in 1980-1981, bearing in mind the secretariats' estimate of 17-18% of annual consumption of cereals as a desirable minimum safe level of stocks to meet the objectives of world food security.

The Indian Delegation is further of the view that in the context of high world market prices, measures to assist low income, food deficit-countries to meet current import requirements and emergency needs acquire importance. We therefore urge food aid donors to maintain continuity of food aid in real terms in accordance with Point III of the Plan and expect that donor countries will increase their food aid commitments to the levels envisaged in the draft Food Aid Convention. We are concerned over the non-attainment of the annual food aid target of 10 million tons and hope that non-traditional donors will join the Food Aid Convention. In addition, we strongly support the suggestion for additional food aid of 3 million tons to offset the effect of higher prices on the import bill of MSAC's and LDC's if grain prices continue to rule at mid-July 1979 levels.

In so far as the Food Security Assistance Scheme is concerned, though India is not a recipient, it supports the proposal put forward in the Secretariat papers.

India endorses the proposal on collective self-reliance and hopes that the Conference will recommend that member countries in sub-regions vulnerable to food shortages should take all possible initiatives to organize arrangements for assistance in times of crop shortfalls drawing on the technical reports of FAO and other appropriate international organizations, in which India would be willing to participate and contribute to the success of any regional or sub-regional food security programme. We feel that such programmes, to be viable, would be dependant primarily on the provision of adequate resources.

The establishment of viable regional stock is dependant primarily on the provision of adequate resources. The FAO might take the initiative in fostering such schemes and securing the requisite financial assistance for the participating countries. For most developing countries, participation in a Coordinated System of Reserve Stocks would entail diversion of resources from more urgent development programmes including the programmes for increasing food production. Very few developing countries can afford to do so. Since the constraints of resources in the developing countries are by no means temporary or short-lived, the success of a Coordinated Reserve Scheme would depend on the provision of adequate technical, financial and food resources to the developing countries. Technical know-how is available in many countries and can be provided to others through the FAO's Food Security Assistance Scheme. Additional food reserves, over and above those pledged under the Food Aid Convention need to be provided for building up of stocks in developing countries. Financial resources are needed for construction of storage facilities as well as acquisition of stocks. This can be best arranged through the creation of a Special Fund.

Finally, we suggest that in order to pursue a coordinated approach, the Conference may wish to request the Committee on World Food Security to monitor measures taken at national, regional and international levels under the Plan of Action to evaluate their overall impact on World Food Security and to advise the Council on further action that may be requested ^{1/}.

^{1/} Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

8. Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy.
8. Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement.
8. Preparativos para el período extraordinario sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980 y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo.
8. 1 Assessment of Progress Towards the New International Economic Order, including Progress in International Agricultural Adjustment
8. 1 Evaluation des progrès accomplis en ce qui concerne le Nouvel ordre économique international et notamment l'Ajustement agricole
8. 1 Evaluación del progreso alcanzado respecto al Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, incluidos los progresos realizados en el reajuste agrícola internacional.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I would now like to begin discussion of item 8 of the agenda, concerning preparations for the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and the New International Development Strategy. It will be seen that there are two sub-items under this item, 8. 1 and 8. 2. 8. 1 concerns the assessment of progress towards the New International Economic Order, including the progress in International Agricultural Adjustment, As I have just said, we envisage discussing the two points on a separate basis. We shall begin with item 8. 1 and I would like to remind the delegates that there are three documents: C 79/33 concerning the FAO role in the New International Economic Order, C 79/20, International Agricultural Adjustment: Second Progress Report, and the third document is C 79/20-Sup. 1.

Before giving the floor to Dr. Nurul Islam for the introduction of this item, I should like to say once again that we have three sessions for item 8, two today and one tomorrow morning. Therefore I propose that the discussion on item 8, 1 should be concluded by the end of this morning's session, thus leaving this afternoon's session and tomorrow morning's for the discussion of item 8. 2.

I think that the Commission will agree on this procedure and also that a number of points concerning agricultural adjustment have already arisen in previous sessions, but of course there are other important points in this item, especially concerning a revision of the guidelines for International Agricultural Adjustment. I think this is a very important point. I would like to draw attention to this item and also to ask delegates to make very clear comments on it.

There is also another document concerning the difficulties of the Organization in this specific field but I do not think that this will take too much time. These are the points to be discussed this morning and before calling on Dr. Nurul Islam, I would like to remind the members of the Contact Group that they are going to meet now in the Sudan Room.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): As you have decided I will confine my introduction to agenda item 8, 1. There are two papers on this sub-item one is the "International Adjustment: Second Progress Report", the other is "FAO in the New International Economic Order". This item provides for consideration of activities leading up to the formulation of a new International Development Strategy for which the Conference as the Governing Body of this Organization has been invited to present its views to the General Assembly, The documents which I have cited are therefore intended to provide delegates with an analysis of major developments bearing on food and agriculture in the new International Development Strategy. The Conference is also asked to give its views on proposals by the Director-General for the up-dating and revision of policy guidelines for the international agricultural adjustment which were endorsed by the Conference two Sessions ago in 1975. The existing eleven policy guidelines for international agricultural adjustment perform a dual role. The first is to provide guidelines, both national and international, which reflect the consensus of the Member Governments on the issues covered by the guidelines. The second is to provide a conceptually comprehensive framework for monitoring and assessing policies and progress in the implementation of policies in the field of food and agriculture on which consensus has already been reached.

With respect to the first set of guidelines relating to production and investment, the report has the following to say: "Even though an increase in food production in developing countries in recent years has shown a distinct improvement over the first few years of the decade, the rate of growth during the last two years, that is 1976/78, was about 2.7 percent per annum which represents a decline on the corresponding rates in the previous two years which are about 4 percent. This falls far short of the goal of 4 percent annual rate as adopted in DD2".

Insofar as investment in agriculture is concerned there is some evidence that agricultural investment as a proportion of public investment has in many cases been higher in recent years. Evidence on investment in agriculture is too fragmentary and I have already referred to this in my remarks on the State of Food and Agriculture and mentioned our ongoing efforts to collect more information on public Expenditure in agriculture in particular. Undoubtedly past performance in respect of investment in agriculture has to be considerably improved upon. Agricultural productivity and output growth depends not only on capital investment but also on expenditure in current inputs. Available data on these as well are severely restricted. However, whatever evidence is available indicates that there is a rising trend in current expenditures on inputs and this trend must be sustained.

International expenditures on research in agriculture have been on the increase but this needs to be paralleled by an increase in national expenditures in agricultural research. In respect of national policies of developing countries to provide appropriate incentives for farmers, data to monitor and analyse this subject is very limited. Limited or fragmentary evidence indicates that price incentives may have improved a little in the second half of the decade. Insofar as national policies of developed countries are concerned we continue our effort following the matter initiated in our first progress report at quantification of the effects of policy interventions on production, consumption and hence trade of a limited number of commodities. The results of these policies have had some destabilizing effect on international trade and in some cases possible adverse effect on the export trade of developing countries.

In respect of progress in the implementation of integrated nutrition policies many governments have been adopting an integrated nutrition programme. The number of countries requesting such assistance from the United Nations Organizations and Agencies continues to increase and the efforts of concerned UN Agencies are being expanded in this area. Insofar as efforts to improve nutritional status of the poor and the vulnerable groups are concerned, there are an increasing number of requests to FAO for support of special programmes. This is an indication of a greater awareness of the problem.

Assistance to member countries involves strengthening the capabilities of national institutions in this programme. In respect of guideline 6 which stresses the importance of promotion of locally produced, originally produced food, the present state of availability of data on the absence of a further refinement of the guideline itself does not allow a clear answer. However, imports of food of the type which seem capable of being produced economically within a number of countries continue to mount. Insofar as trends in the volume of agricultural exports is concerned, the volume of exports of developing countries has increased at a rate lower than that of developed countries since 1975, while the import volume of the developing countries has risen rapidly.

The balance of trade in terms of volume of trade for developing countries has been changing steadily in the direction of smaller surpluses and larger deficits. Insofar as export value of export earnings are concerned, the developing countries have very nearly recovered their share in the value of total world exports in agricultural products to the 1969/71 level. This improvement is mainly due to an improvement in prices rather than volume and for that reason may be very vulnerable to short-term changes. Progress in world food security has already been a subject of extensive discussion in this Commission in the last two days, therefore I will not speak on this subject at all.

In respect of guidelines 10 and 11, that is international assistance for agricultural development, it is well known that the flow of external resources for agricultural development has fallen short of estimated requirements. Though there has been an increase in food aid in recent years the total level of food aid still falls short of the target and there is a need for increase in food aid to a higher figure in the mid-1980s. The Committee on Food Aid has recently adopted guidelines and criteria for food aid which should help to integrate food aid with other forms of external assistance for food and agricultural development.

To summarize the progress report, I can only quote the Committee on Commodity Problems which had occasion to examine this report and which commented that there has been some progress in the direction envisaged by the guidelines but that on the whole the extent of this progress has been extremely limited and its pace slow.

I would like to say a few words on the subject of revision of the guidelines. The need for revision is felt for several reasons: first, in some cases difficulties are encountered in respect of availability of objective indicators or progress. They are illustrated in the document. Second, there are certain issues on which new consensus has emerged such as criteria guidelines for food aid and on problems of world food security. Again, the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development's programme of action also includes provisions which are relevant to the guidelines. In fact the 1977 FAO Conference in its report referred to suggestions regarding elaborations or revisions of guidelines 9, 10 and 11.

Thirdly, the guidelines need to incorporate the components of international development strategy for the third development decade relating to food and agriculture. The new development strategy is expected to be completed before the guidelines are revised.

The addendum to this paper sets out in section 3 a possible schedule for revisions of the guidelines. In brief the Secretariat's draft revisions, prepared with the assistance of independent experts, would be circulated to governments around the end of next year. Following the precedent of the original formulation of the guidelines these draft revisions would be examined by an ad hoc working party of government representatives in the Spring of 1981 with the results presented to the Conference at the end of that year. While we would welcome the views of delegates on substantive aspects of revision of the guidelines, at this moment we rather seek your decision on the proposal that they should be revised, and if so, the procedures and the timetable which is envisaged.

As I mentioned earlier there is a second document for this agenda item. This supplements the analysis of substantive progress towards the New International Economic Order given in the Agricultural Adjustment Report with an account of some of the main FAO activities contributing to the New International Economic Order. There is no need for me to summarize these activities since they will already be familiar to the distinguished delegates. The FAO activities in promoting the New International Economic Order cover a wide range following its new orientation of activities since 1976. Prominent among these is the strengthening of FAO's work in the field of investment through assistance in the identification and preparation of projects as well as its Technical Cooperation Programme designed to meet small-scale requests for assistance with its attendant multiplier effect on investment in food and agricultural development. The recently concluded WCARRD made an important contribution by adopting an action programme to promote inter-linked changes in rural institutions, national development policies and in the international economic system. FAO's Action Programme and Special Purpose Programmes also contribute to the implementation of the NIEO. They cover among others management and development of exclusive economic zones for fisheries, food security assistance programmes, seed development, prevention of post-harvest losses, control of animal disease, support to UNCTAD and work on economic cooperation among developing countries and technical cooperation among developing countries. These activities lie at the heart of the NIEO. As Resolution 33/198 of the United Nations General Assembly invites FAO, the Conference may therefore wish to request the Director-General to transmit its report on this item to the General Assembly for consideration at its Special Session and for possible use in connexion with any other global negotiations on international economic cooperation which the General Assembly may decide to launch.

The Conference may also decide to request FAO to present the two documents C 79/20 and C 79/33 before you. CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Now, Gentlemen, you have heard Dr. Islam's introduction on item 8. 1. I would like to open the list of speakers and remind you that we can only spend one session on this particular item of the agenda and I would like to draw your attention to the different elements of the Secretariat's paper.

MS. M. LOSEBY-VENZI (Italy) : I am grateful, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity you have given me to express appreciation of the Italian delegation for a well-balanced assessment of progress in international agriculture adjustment contained in document C 79/20. The systematic analysis of recent achievement in the directions indicated by the Guidelines is admirable, especially so when one considers the difficulties inherent in establishing appropriate statistical indicators for the estimation of certain trends, and the necessity at times for judicious and informed qualitative interpretation.

The Italian delegation would welcome specific proposals for reformulation of some of the Guidelines which facilitate objective monitoring, and is particularly concerned that ambiguity in interpretation should be reduced to a minimum.

The problem of increasing food production remains, but although we share the general disappointment that the overall target of 4 percent annual average increase in production has not been met, we are glad to note the accelerated rate of increase in low-income countries from 1974 onwards.

This achievement should and must further the attempts being made to increase standards of nutrition among the poorer sections of the population. In this respect the suggestions put forward in the Appendix to document C 79/20 regarding the revision of Guideline 4 appear interesting. We welcome the suggestions for taking into account a range of deviations from national average per caput consumption. At the same time, however, we should like to learn more from the Secretariat about the feasibility of obtaining data at a level of accuracy sufficient to allow the monitoring of quantities of quantified targets for food intake.

We are also in agreement with the proposal specifically to include children amongst vulnerable groups in Guideline 5.

The inadequate flow of investment resources to agriculture has been a recurring theme in FAO documents. We appreciate the difficulties in collecting accurate and standardized information about levels of agricultural investment, and we should be interested in seeing the results of the recent initiatives to improve the availability of such data.

We also feel that it is not sufficient simply to measure the overall total of agricultural investment. The effectiveness in terms of greater production or productivity does not necessarily depend on the magnitude of the financial outlay, but rather on the appropriateness of the particular type of investment selected for a different environment.

At the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development the importance of adapting technology to improve rather than to overthrow traditional forms of cultivation was recognized. Experience in certain sectors of Italian agriculture has shown that minor and relative low-cost innovations applied to traditional methods of farming have greatly improved productivity. We feel that it may be useful to bear in mind this principle in presenting a breakdown of the overall figures for agricultural investment. It may also be informative to examine the correlation between increased productivity and the level of investment in agriculture at different levels of disaggregation—with due regard, of course, for the time lag to be expected in the realization of benefits deriving from major as opposed to marginal investments.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I should like to assure you of the continuing support of the Italian Government for the efforts being made to overcome the problems of poverty and malnutrition.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): To begin with I would like to congratulate the Secretariat on the very clear Second Progress Report on the strategy of International Agricultural Adjustment. The Report concentrates on the main developments and problems.

With respect to Guidelines 1 to 6 I can be brief, because we have already discussed under item 6 of the Agenda important subjects which these Guidelines are dealing with. The recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development as well as of the World Food Council should be an incentive to further efforts to give the necessary priority to agriculture within the framework of the overall planning in developing countries.

With respect to Guidelines 7 to 9 I should like to state the following: the development during this past decade has led to a substantial expansion of trade in agricultural products. Sufficient quantities were available on a world-wide basis. Developing countries have been able to cover their import requirements. They have also been able to increase their export earnings and also to expand substantially the export volume at least for processed products. My country belongs to the greatest importers of agricultural commodities in the world. The imports of the Federal Republic of Germany from developing countries have continuously increased and to an overproportional extent. Developing countries meanwhile supply more than half of our agricultural commodities imported from outside the European Economic Community. An assessment of the situation in the trade sector must also take account of aspects to which other Conference documents refer where it is said that developing countries increasingly need their agricultural production for their own supply or need increasing imports to cover requirements. The importance of trade between developing countries is emphasized as well as the need to expand that trade. My Government fully share this view.

With respect to the multilateral trade negotiations I think that we can assess the results as a matter of principle in a positive way. The measures negotiated to facilitate trade in the tariff and non-

tariff sector will effectively promote trade. Also in the agricultural sector the results cannot be described only as modest as stated in document C 79/33. The interests of developing countries are considered above all by the preferential treatment of tropical products, by exemption provisions in some arrangements as well as by the renouncement to a large extent of reciprocal commitments. The instruments created with the agreements on milk products and beef, improve international cooperation and underline the common responsibility of importing and exporting countries for a better functioning of world markets. Within the framework of the Generalized System of Preferences the European Economic Community is continuously improving the unilateral tariff facilities for processed agricultural products from developing countries. As from 1979 custom duties on these agricultural products have been entirely suspended in favour of the least developed countries. The steady improvement of this system alone has led to the fact that the value of imports to the Federal Republic of Germany from developing countries of agricultural products favoured by this System rose from DM 234 million in 1974 to DM 700 million in 1977 or 300 percent. The decisions taken by UNCTAD 5 on trade and commodities have successfully promoted the negotiations for individual products of the integrated commodity programme. Negotiations concerning details of the common fund will presumably be completed by the end of this year.

With respect to Guidelines 7 to 9 I think that we can say the balance sheet for the past few years is positive as a whole. Not all the developing countries are satisfied with the development. Some wish that industrialized countries would import more of their agricultural commodities. My country, a member of the EEC, is taking active steps within the common agricultural policy that the special interests of developing countries are taken into account and that access to the Community Market is improved for these countries. Quite a lot of progress has already been made and more progress will be made, if all countries are prepared to cooperate and to recognize the special situation of their partners. Therefore, the statement in paragraph 108 of the document, does not seem fair to me that developed countries are unable to react to the needs of food security or the interests of developing countries. I feel that the actual development and what I have just said prove the contrary.

I should also like to add two remarks on Guideline 10. I have already mentioned under agenda item 6 the measures of my Government to increase cooperation with developing countries. Paragraph 88 of the document quite rightly also underlines private investment. The private capital transfer plays an increasingly important role in covering the external financial requirements of developing countries.

As already stated at the 19th Session of the Conference, I feel obliged to draw attention again to an imprecise statement in paragraphs 86 and 87 of document C 79/20. The World Food Council has not agreed to a specific target for external assistance.

With respect to the progress report I should like to support the clear statement in paragraph 109 of the document that agricultural adjustment must not be considered in an isolated way but as an integrated part of political, economic and social development, at the national as well as the international level.

I should like to make a few more comments about possible amendments to the Guidelines. My Government was a little surprised that proposals for amendments had already been submitted to the Committee on Commodity Problems. I think we should not consider amendments until we have looked at the results of the debate on this progress report in this Conference. The existing guidelines reflect a comprehensive consensus of all FAO Member States reached after thorough discussions in various bodies of FAO. They contain statements of principle with respect to the promotion of agriculture and nutrition as well as international cooperation. Any amendments, therefore, should be examined very closely indeed so that the balance in the statements is not shifted. My Government from the very beginning had doubts to burden these guidelines with concrete targets and quantifications changing in the course of development. They should rather provide a permanent and long-term basis for development assessment. That does not at all exclude the possibility of progress reports being oriented by targets and quantifications on which agreement has been reached in FAO or another forum. This is true, for example, for possible new targets in the international strategy for the next development decade.

My delegation feels that it would not be advisable to further differentiate the guidelines, for example, by country groups and certain subject matters or to include further targets and quantifications in the guidelines. I am thinking in particular of the proposals made regarding Guidelines 4 and 7. I think there is no reliable basis for this. The Committee on Agriculture at its last session has thoroughly dealt with nutrition and food consumption and made important recommendations. It did not, however, see any need and possibility to set specific targets.

On the trade side, too, global targets would be of no great help. It is rather more important to analyse the development to find the reasons and causes in order to be able to take subsequent action.

The document suggests that thought should be given to the formulation of further guidelines. The subjects mentioned in this respect are already covered in substance by the existing 11 guidelines so that I see no need for drawing up new guidelines.

My delegation feels that the guidelines that we have before us continue to be a solid basis and should be amended only if, after thorough examination, fundamentally new developments require this. Improvements in the formulations might, however, be appropriate; for example, we could amend the wording in Guideline 3 so as to explain the target set a little more clearly.

H. FARAJ (Maroc): L'analyse des progrès de l'ajustement agricole international a suscité l'intérêt de la délégation de mon pays. Quelques observations semblent cependant devoir être exprimées sur le diagnostic ainsi formulé tant sur le plan de la méthodologie que sur celui du contenu même du diagnostic.

En ce qui concerne le premier point, la méthodologie, de manière générale, il semble qu'il y aurait intérêt chaque fois que c'est possible à caractériser les progrès réalisés dans chaque ligne d'orientation par une évaluation chiffrée. Dans le cas où une ligne d'orientation recouvre des objectifs multiples, des groupes d'indicateurs secondaires pourraient être définis afin de préciser l'évolution de la ligne.

Je prendrais comme exemple la ligne 2 concernant le flux total des ressources financières à la production agricole; s'il paraît difficile actuellement de chiffrer de manière précise et comparable le taux global d'investissements en agriculture, il semble par contre possible d'estimer le flux d'intrants intervenant directement dans les exploitations agricoles: engrais, crédits, semences, matériels agricoles. On disposerait ainsi d'indicateurs qui donneraient de manière précise et fidèle les progrès de l'intensification agricole.

Par ailleurs, il serait peut-être possible de rapporter ces indicateurs à des normes de références, ce qui alors permettrait d'apprécier le niveau des progrès réalisés dans chaque ligne d'orientation. Pour reprendre l'exemple de la ligne 2, il serait bon de rapporter la valeur globale d'input dont bénéficient directement les exploitations agricoles à une valeur de référence qui serait celle que l'on juge nécessaire pour atteindre et pour optimiser la production agricole.

Le deuxième point qui concerne le contenu du diagnostic: la lecture attentive du document incite à se poser des questions, par exemple celle de savoir s'il n'est pas souhaitable d'apprécier ou d'évaluer d'autres composantes de l'ajustement agricole international, en particulier celle qui permettrait de juger des raisons qui font que l'ajustement international ne progresse pas au rythme voulu.

Afin de tenir compte des recommandations de la Conférence sur la Réforme agraire et le Développement rural, une attention particulière devrait être accordée aux questions relatives aux structures d'exploitations, à leur degré d'organisation, aux infrastructures de type social intéressant la santé et l'éducation, et ce, parce qu'en définitive, le principal moteur du développement agricole est, , comme il est dit dans les documents généraux, les agriculteurs eux-mêmes.

D. R. SHARMA (Nepal): This is not the first time that we have discussed the problems of and the needs for establishing a new international economic order and this is not the only forum where the topic has been discussed. In the United Nations there has been lengthy discussion, as also in the Conference of Non-Aligned Nations and in UNCTAD. Despite these deliberations, the outcome so far remains far from satisfactory. We heard about it the other day from the President of Zambia, H. E. Kenneth Kaunda, who very candidly analyzed the situation of developed and developing countries and the way in which the spirit of a new international economic order could be well established. He even mentioned that instead of an arms limitation treaty there should be a global hunger elimination treaty, thereby fulfilling the aspirations of a new international economic order in a true sense.

We also believe that unless and until serious efforts are made to accept the realities, the vast differences that exist between rich and poor countries will be detrimental for world peace and the concept of "live and let live." The world has witnessed the problems associated with and the need for the judicious use and sharing of natural resources. Nepal has a tremendous amount of water as a natural resource. We are ready to share this major resource for the mutual benefit of the countries around the area.

We have also seen that no country possesses an inviolable right, and the strength, to deny a rightful share of international wealth. The developing countries, which are mainly the producers of raw materials and other primary goods, should not be denied their legitimate share of international trade. Here again we heard the Zambian President, expressing concern about the problems of international trade causing a pitiful situation for the developing countries.

Existing trade barriers and the dominance of multinationals in international trade are in our view some of the major stumbling blocks of achieving the goals of the New International Economic Order.

R. MYNIEC (Poland): Yesterday and the day before we discussed in a very profound way the Plan of Action to strengthen world food security. With deep concern the Director-General made the introductory statement and delegates expressed views on this item of fundamental significance. It was quite clear at the conclusion of the debate that without a higher rate of growth in food production in the world, and in developing countries especially, those countries which suffer the largest deficits of food supplies, there would be no chance of any progress whatsoever. It is therefore very appropriate and fortunate that as the next item on the agenda we are discussing the New International Development Strategy, the New International Economic Order and International Agricultural Adjustment. Without satisfactory progress in the objectives contained within the framework of the documents under consideration during the session, one can hardly think about the strengthening of world food security. There is therefore no doubt at all that all efforts must be concentrated on the elaboration of constructive proposals, which should be implemented in the least possible complicated way and in the shortest possible time.

It must be remembered, however, that FAO, like other international organizations, can only offer advice, cooperation and help. In the end it is up to the government whether it will remain a dead letter. It has to be remembered also that help from outside, both multilateral and bilateral, can only supplement national resources and can never replace them. Such at least is the strong conviction of my delegation.

Permit me to now make reference to some of the guidelines of the analyzed document (C 79/20). I do not intend to repeat the contents of previous statements, including the address of my Minister to the Plenary session. I shall try to introduce as well some aspects, especially those already implemented by my country.

Guideline 7 (tables 14 and 15 on pages 20 and 21) indicates that the share of developing countries in world agricultural exports has continued to decline. On the other hand imports of agricultural products show the opposite tendency. Bearing in mind that agricultural products are the main source of foreign exchange for many developing countries, the above-mentioned trend indicates a growing dependence on the part of developing countries on the markets of developed countries. This fact indicates the necessity for determined measures to be taken. Improvement of this situation must be sought, taking into account a wide scale of different factors. One of them, certainly of great importance, is the market access for products originating from developing countries. One must admit that a great obstacle against international trade is the protectionist policy of some of the developed countries. Unfortunately, in spite of widespread criticism of this policy, there are no indications that the existing protectionist barriers will be at least alleviated. Hence the important role played by UNCTAD and GATT in endeavouring to facilitate access to world markets for agricultural products.

My country keeps close contact with international organizations, and actively participates in their work tending to change this abnormal situation from the point of view of the international division of labour. It seems worth mentioning nevertheless that the developing countries themselves should also contribute more by strengthening their endeavours to improve the quality of goods, better phytosanitary conditions and to secure more efficient marketing methods.

In Guideline 8, the figures presented indicate that much is to be done in respect of world food security, stability of markets, and the assuring of prices which are remunerative to producers and fair to consumers. In this respect, multilateral commodity agreements, the progress of negotiations in which is unfortunately very slow, could play a very important role. I can assure you that Poland participates in almost all these negotiations, and intends to join these agreements, subject to just and satisfactory conditions for all partners. Furthermore, Poland is a member of 15 international organizations and associations on agricultural commodities, which contribute to the stabilization and better organization of those markets.

I must also mention here the other forms of cooperation in which my country participates, and which certainly bring the required progress to the markets concerned, contributing to better stability in the agricultural sector. Poland maintains direct official trade relations with over 70 developing countries. With about 20 of these countries we base our cooperation on long term trade agreements. Such agreements specify the lists of commodities to be traded in the determined period of time. In the framework of our trade agreements, we often conclude long-term commercial contracts. We are of the opinion that such a policy of direct trade and long term contracts is the best stabilizing factor on commodity markets, and we would recommend wider popularization of this form of cooperation. It is also a way of eliminating unnecessary intermediaries who often take quite substantial margins of profit, and introduce disorder to markets by speculative manipulation.

My delegation agrees with the conclusions of Guideline 10, dealing with the transfer to developing countries of resources and technology required for the expansion of their production of food and other agricultural commodities. We however emphasize the importance of closer bilateral and intergovernmental cooperation. As I mentioned before, Poland is participating in direct cooperation with many countries, offering and securing the services of experts and technology. This activity is based on the principle of mutual cooperation, benefitting all partners concerned.

A. FERNANDEZ GONZALEZ (España) : Deseo agradecer a la Secretaría, y al Dr. Islam en particular, el esfuerzo de síntesis efectuado en el documento 79/20, que presenta el segundo Informe sobre los progresos en el proceso de reajuste agrícola internacional. No se trata, ciertamente, de un Informe optimista, puesto que hasta la fecha todos los intentos para organizar un nuevo orden económico internacional, como resultado de una insatisfacción general con el orden antiguo, están progresando solo lentamente, y el caso es que mi delegación sigue estando de acuerdo con el espíritu general de las 11 orientaciones para el reajuste agrícola internacional.

Con respecto a las orientaciones primera y segunda, aunque hay indicios de que en determinados países en desarrollo se está dando una mayor importancia a las inversiones agroalimentarias, no parece que ésta haya sido la tónica general de los países del Grupo, como lo prueban sus crecientes dependencias alimentarias. Esta creciente dependencia exterior representa un problema crítico para el equilibrio de las balanzas de pagos de muchos países en desarrollo no exportadores de petróleo, que en conjunto necesitan dos tercios de las importaciones de alimentos del mundo en desarrollo y se están viendo obligados a acumular cifras de endeudamiento sin precedentes.

Con respecto a las orientaciones 8 y 9, el acuerdo sobre los elementos fundamentales del Fondo Común del Programa Integrado de Productos Básicos debería marcar una etapa política en el diálogo Norte-Sur en lo que se refiere a la serie de productos agrarios en él contemplados. Aunque no es una solución en sí mismo, la existencia del Fondo refleja la voluntad internacional de instrumentar políticas y medios para una mayor estabilización de los mercados y precios agrarios internacionales.

Por parte de los países en desarrollo, parece observarse también una tendencia a reorientar sus exportaciones hacia productos que no sean directamente similares a los exportados por los países industrializados, siendo cada vez mayor la proporción de productos agrarios elaborados en la composición de las exportaciones totales, lo cual es, a mi juicio, también una forma de reajuste en los procesos de intercambio.

El propósito, señor Presidente, del marco normativo del reajuste agrícola internacional, que no sería propiamente un programa de acción, debería consistir principalmente en moderar las fuertes oscilaciones en las actitudes y en los programas nacionales de producción e intercambios agrarios, que resultarían de no tener en cuenta el hecho incuestionable de la interdependencia global. Cada vez se abre más camino la idea de que para alcanzar los objetivos del reajuste agrícola, es menester modificar también, como sea preciso, las políticas conexas en otros sectores. Por ejemplo, tanto los países desarrollados, como los países en desarrollo, se verán obligados a crear nuevos empleos en sectores no agrarios si sus propios sectores tienen que plegarse a las exigencias de un reajuste productivo agrícola para permitir que se produzcan mejoras en el comercio agrario y sectores afines como las industrias alimentarias, transportes, industrias de insumos, etc.

Es preciso, por consiguiente, que el reajuste agrícola no se programe aisladamente, sino que debe incluir un consenso sobre la introducción de mejoras en las relaciones económicas y políticas internacionales.

Señor Presidente, en los preparativos para la nueva Estrategia Internacional de Desarrollo no podemos seguir pensando que lo único oportuno hoy día es hacer frente, con medidas coyunturales de urgencia, a una grave problemática mundial asentada sobre el trípode de la inflación, el desempleo y la carestía energética. Porque creo que sólo mediante unas políticas concertadas de reajustes estructurales, más positivos que hasta ahora, y orientadas a medio y largo plazo, podrá contrarrestarse el efecto nocivo que aquellas cuestiones puedan estar teniendo sobre nuestras posibilidades de desarrollo nacional. Me parece evidente que tales modificaciones han de comenzar a producirse cuanto antes en las estructuras productivas, económicas, sociales e institucionales del mundo rural, teniendo en cuenta de modo particular los criterios y el programa de acción definidos por la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

Entiendo que sólo así podremos formular una serie de orientaciones válidas para el próximo decenio, que permitan conseguir ese giro progresivo hacia políticas más eficaces para el fomento del desarrollo rural, generando más ingresos y creando más puestos de trabajo. Porque durante los años ochenta sigue siendo verdad que se precisa un considerable esfuerzo financiero y de cooperación técnica para ampliar y diversificar la producción agraria de los países menos desarrollados, y fomentar también el consumo de las producciones locales que sean aptas para su adecuada nutrición.

La delegación de España, señor Presidente, ha mantenido en la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas, la tesis de que en lugar de un largo texto de nueva Estrategia con objetivos concretos como los que se aprobaron con motivo de la primera y segunda Estrategia, deberá redactarse para esta tercera un texto más conciso, pero con orientaciones generales.

Consideramos que la Asamblea General extraordinaria de 1980 debe lanzar una negociación global sobre puntos concretos en el campo de la agricultura, de la industrialización, de la energía, de la financiación del desarrollo, etc. Y las orientaciones de la Estrategia para el tercer decenio servirían de guía para tales negociaciones concretas. En consecuencia, estimamos, que la FAO debería presentar, en la esfera de su competencia, las correspondientes propuestas y directrices de reajuste agrario internacional, tanto al Comité Preparatorio, como a los Comités que se establezcan para la preparación de las negociaciones globales.

Como ya expresó en la Plenaria el jefe de la delegación española, cabe pensar que una buena aportación de la FAO durante el próximo decenio, sería que ésta efectuara de modo sistemático un ejercicio de seguimiento y de evaluación de los progresos realizados sobre agricultura y alimentación, en relación con los objetivos que defina la nueva Estrategia, elaborando para ello la serie de indicadores cuantitativos y cualitativos más pertinentes.

A. B. CAWTHORN (United Kingdom) : It is the opinion of the United Kingdom Delegation that the exercise of reviewing progress on International Agricultural Adjustment is somewhat inconclusive for two reasons. First, many of the guidelines are too vague and imprecise for any real assessment of progress to be made. In our opinion this is notably so for guidelines 3, 4, 5 and 6. Secondly, the time period examined is too short in most instances to distinguish longer term trends from cyclical fluctuations.

For example, the report notes that food production increases, although they have not reached the 4 percent per annum target, are significantly greater than in the early years of this decade. It cannot be shown by a report of this nature whether this is as a result of improved agricultural policies or whether it is a result of consecutive years of good weather. Similarly, the food aid target of 10 million tons is being approached but it remains to be seen whether it would be maintained at this level in the event of a repeat of the food crisis of 1974.

The report also notes the fairly slow progress in the field of adjustment as, for instance, in the reduction of protectionism in developed countries or greater investment in agriculture in developing countries. There has been only limited progress in the establishment of stocks under the International Undertaking on World Food Security and stabilization measures have been set back by the breakdown of negotiations for a new International Grains Arrangement.

The United Kingdom accepts that a revision of guidelines is an acceptable principle: some of them require to be made less vague in order to become more meaningful without, at the same time, committing to paper too many quantitative targets which might obscure the wood for the trees. At the same time, we have reservations about the need to review, and the value of reviewing, the guidelines at the present time. We recognize that they may contain some weaknesses, but we consider that it would not be profitable to undertake an extensive review so early in their lifetime. We consider it would be advisable to delay any precipitate action until the effects of the present guidelines have been considered in the light of the latest report, and at the same time until we have had an opportunity to give careful consideration to the Secretariat's view on the possible nature of, and proposed schedule for revisions as recorded in Document C 79/20-Sup. 1.

As there has already been some discussions on the detail of the individual guidelines in Document C 79/20, I would like to make one or two specific points.

In Guideline 1 in paragraph 19 some disaggregation of this target rate of growth in agricultural production is desirable, bearing in mind the difference between developing countries in general and their agricultural sectors in particular. There could also be some link between the target rate of growth, suitably disaggregated, and nutritional requirements, or perhaps more general determinants of food demand in the groups of countries in question. I appreciate, however, that this might lead to some overlap with guidelines 4 and 5. But on guideline 4 in paragraph 44 we feel that the present guideline is a short, succinct statement, applicable to all countries and comprehensible to politicians and to policy makers. Any attempt to introduce a target figure relating to a rate at which extra dietary energy should be made available per caput is likely to lead to a confusion and resistance to the political commitment implied by such a guideline, and the political consequences of any failure to meet the set target. It is our opinion that as it stands guideline 4 is too important to be made controversial.

Guidelines 7 to 8 in paragraphs 59 to 71 deal with access to imports from developing countries and to the control and the disposal of surplus production. The United Kingdom recognizes the effects on world trade of large-scale exports of surpluses and of excessively protectionist policies, and within the

Community we recognize our commitments to, for example, New Zealand; we are opposed to excessive protectionism against imports of commodities which the Community cannot itself produce or produce in sufficient quantity, such as hard wheat; we are committed to oppose over-production leading to surpluses which can be disposed of only on the world market, but we recognize that such disposal will be necessary while over-production persists. A more explicit description of what "adequate measures" might encompass might be desirable, and clear definitions of "prices remunerative to producers and fair to consumers" in the original guideline would be equally useful.

On Guideline 11 in paragraph 91, if any attempt to revise this guideline is made, we would point out that it is not for the FAO Conference to decide on a target figure. This should be done by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes.

The table on page 14 of Document C 79/20, showing estimated national effects of policy intervention measures of major developed market economies is an interesting table, but it would be useful to know how it has been constructed. It might also be worthwhile, however, to include in the table some measure of the level of world trade in the commodities in question to gain an idea of the relative importance on world trade of the intervention measures for each commodity.

One final point: in the second sentence of Document C 79/20, paragraph 78, the drafting is a little ambiguous as no agreement exists at present for bananas.

In closing, in spite of my making reference to possible changes to certain guidelines, I would like to reiterate the view which I expressed at the beginning of this intervention. The United Kingdom considers that it would not be advisable for the Secretariat to embark on a revision of the guidelines at this early stage of their life.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic) : It might be appropriate and useful to remind delegates once more that I have asked them that when they come to comment on any item, particularly the item today, to pay attention to giving their views on any amendments to the guidelines for Agricultural Adjustment.

The second point is that they should clarify their views on the measures and on the timing for the reconsideration of the guidelines. Naturally, delegates are not being asked, particularly at this stage, to comment on the quality of the amendment required but they should comment from an objective point of view and mention their views in this regard, as it would help a great deal in identifying different viewpoints when summarizing views on this item.

M VANDEPUTTE (Belgique): Ma délégation a examiné avec attention le rapport sur les progrès de l'ajustement agricole ainsi que les propositions de révision des lignes d'orientation. Nous pensons qu'il est prématuré d'entamer une procédure de révision des lignes d'orientation elles-mêmes.

Dans les propositions du document C 79/20, il y a trois choses: il y a d'une part la redéfinition ou la précision de certains critères objectifs; la sélection ou l'amélioration des indicateurs; il y a d'autre part une possibilité d'ajuster l'une ou l'autre des nouvelles lignes d'orientation pour des problèmes ou des domaines non couverts au moment où la Conférence a adopté les lignes actuelles. Il y a enfin la révision éventuelle des lignes d'orientation elles-mêmes.

Or, si nous considérons que le présent document C 79/20 est centré sur une courte période et que d'autre part l'objectif de la stratégie du développement de la sécurité alimentaire est une opération intégrée et à long terme, alors améliorons les indicateurs, précisons entre nous les critères d'appréciation, tout cela nous aidera pour l'avenir. Mais ne commençons pas à modifier les lignes elles-mêmes et, avec elles, les objectifs sur lesquels nous nous étions mis d'accord laborieusement. Ajoutons même une nouvelle ligne sur les relations entre le développement rural, la sécurité alimentaire et les conclusions de la Conférence sur la réforme agraire. Cela complétera notre examen et enrichira notre jugement; mais ne bouleversons pas les données actuelles avant de les avoir réellement utilisées.

MRS. SAODAH SYAHRUDDIN (Indonesia): Mr. Chairman, my delegation observed with appreciation document C 79/20 prepared by the Secretariat, presenting the Second Progress Report on International Agricultural Adjustment.

My delegation is very concerned to learn that evidence from monitoring of the individual guidelines, which define the strategy for international agricultural adjustment suggests, that since the last report there has been some limited progress in the areas of external assistance to agriculture, the level of food security stocks and the flow of food aid which still falls notably short of the target. The rate of growth of agricultural production in developing countries has in the last two years been above the average for the decade as a whole, but has also been insufficient to meet the objectives of the strategy. Little has occurred in the field of trade that has contributed directly to the process of adjustment.

Adjustment in agriculture cannot take place in isolation from other developments. Improvements in economic and political relationships at the international level together with the stimulus of growth and development at the national level are essential for the process to continue. The broader problems of the lack of employment growth and the continuation of high levels of inflation hinder agricultural developments. The perpetuation of poverty and the maldistribution of incomes put limits on the influences of agricultural and nutritional programmes. The failure of countries to define and agree on adequate steps towards a new world order pervades international discourse in agricultural matters. In this respect agricultural adjustment is conditioned by progress in other fields; such progress is essential in the future if the agricultural strategy is to be successful.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to support the thoughts suggested in document C 79/20, to reformulate the guidelines to focus on more clearly defined policy goals or objectives.

R. IBARGUREN (Argentina): En primer lugar desearla destacar que, si bien debido a la carencia de algunos documentos respectivos al tema 8, no hemos podido proceder al análisis total de los mismos; mi delegación reitera, en lo que se refiere a los preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo, lo manifestado por la representación argentina ante las Naciones Unidas en la reunión del Comité Preparatorio de la Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo, que se llevó a cabo en el mes de abril del corriente año, y que se puede resumir en los siguientes enunciados: La Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo debe contribuir a alcanzar los objetivos de un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional y, no solamente, a lograr el crecimiento económico. Se realiza al igual que el conjunto de los países latinoamericanos la estrategia y necesidades básicas y el concepto de graduación, debido a que no es aceptable que a los justos reclamos de los países en desarrollo con respecto a lograr cambios estructurales en la economía mundial, se responda con recetas de política interna tendientes a satisfacer las necesidades de nuestros propios pueblos.

Con respecto al subtema 8. 1, debo analizar el contenido del documento C 79/20 y mi Gobierno felicita a la FAO por la valiosa información que aporta en relación a sus distintas orientaciones, y manifiesto en su nombre nuestra conformidad con el mismo en lo que atañe al informe sobre la situación del reajuste agrícola internacional.

S. A. PARVEZ (Pakistan): First of all, my delegation would like to thank Dr. Nurul Islam for his able introduction. We have read document C 79/33 and C 79/20 with great interest and are appreciative of all that The Director-General and FAO are doing in the effort to make the attainment of the New International Economic Order a reality. We would in this context specially like to mention FAO's Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium which includes FAO's Action Programmes and Special Action Programmes and the Declaration of Principles, and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We look forward to the follow-up action and hope that the envisaged results are achieved. There is no doubt that it will take a concerted and a mutual and joint effort of both the developed and developing countries to achieve the desired goal. We have also noted the steps taken by FAO to gear itself better to meet the needs of the developing countries and the challenge of the world food crisis. We feel that FAO is today better equipped and well poised to meet the challenges of the future within the frame-work of the New International Economic Order.

We commend and fully support in this regard the Technical Cooperation Programme of FAO. We also have closely studied the new orientations of FAO's work and the changes of emphasis in activities to bring about greater responsiveness to the needs of Member Countries in the context of the concepts underlying the New International Economic Order.

There is no doubt that FAD has a vital role to play in the development strategy of the 1980s and the attainment of the NIEO. The importance of international agricultural adjustment in this contest cannot be overemphasized as the world's food and agriculture system must meet the challenge of providing for the expanding food needs and for the requirements of other sectors in the face of rapidly changing economic conditions.

The delegations which have spoken so far have covered various aspects of these issues and we would not like to repeat them. We would however like to say that the New International Economic Order calls for fundamental changes in the structure of the world economy with a view to removing the imbalance and inequalities in the economic relations between the developed and developing countries. No meaningful international action has unfortunately been taken so far to alleviate the consequences of the international economic crisis for the developing countries, especially the poorest, and most seriously affected amongst them Aid levels have remained stagnant or even declined and nothing has been done to resolve the problem of their massive and growing debt burden. The brunt of the world economic crisis has been borne by the non-oil-producing developing countries especially the poorest amongst them. They face chronic and large balance of payments deficits and increasing debt problems. Ensuring food needs and eradicating all the problems of poverty, hunger and malnutrition are indeed fundamental objectives of the NIEP and need to be examined in this context. Despite the fact that a lot has been done over the past two decades at both the national as well as the international level to improve the food and nutrition situation, yet no real break-through has so far been achieved. While we feel certain that developing countries within their resource constraints are trying to do as best they can at the national level, there is tremendous need and scope for the FAO, donor agencies and the developed countries to augment this effort through assistance to the MSA countries and LDCs. We can suggest the following fields for assistance in this regard! firstly, financing of research programmes aimed at evolving high-yielding varieties and especially the legume crops; secondly, assistance for the provision of food storage, cold storage and fruit and vegetable processing facilities so that food losses can be avoided at thirdly, help in stimulating the fuller utilization of fisheries through the application of modern technology? fourthly, the provision of superior genetic strains of livestock in order to increase the availability of animal protein; fifthly, the extension of technical assistance for training to agriculturalists, nutritionists and scientists so that nutrition-related problems could be solved and sixthly, assistance for conducting detailed surveys based on nutrition and socio-economic aspects to depict household food consumption and budgetary expenditure which will help in overall planning and especially nutrition planning in the countries concerned.

In conclusion, we would like to say that we share the concern at the lack of progress towards the attainment of the NIEO and would like to emphasise that there is immediate need for something tangible and concrete to be done. While FAO is bracing itself to measure up to the task and meet the challenge, it will be called upon to play a leading as well as an increasing role in this regard. Already it is involved in important activity and there is need for it to continuously extend and intensify its efforts. It needs also to be stressed that agriculture must receive high priority in the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade. In this context also FAO's contribution of the Study of Agriculture Toward 2000 needs to be commended.

M. S. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): To begin with I would like to congratulate Mr. Nurul Islam on his excellent document that he has introduced and for the very considerable efforts which have been made by the people who prepared document C 79/20. I would like to remind the Commission of the number of resolutions which were adopted by the Second Committee of the General Assembly. It was Resolution 33 and 193 in February 1979. In that Resolution they talked about setting up a preparatory committee for the 1980 development strategy. My delegation shares the concern of the Second Committee. I am thinking of Annex B of that Resolution and I shall quote from it, "The Committee notes that the World Food Conference and subsequently the World Food Council estimated that to achieve 4 percent annual increases in agricultural production in developing countries, annual investments in agriculture, both from external and internal sources, would have to be considerably augmented. In order to achieve this target, it has been estimated that the annual level of resource flows needed are about US\$ 25 billion, at 1975 prices, two thirds of which would come from internal financing by the concerned countries and one third from external financing. Despite the recent increase in external assistance for food and agricultural production in developing countries, there is a shortfall from the estimated need of US\$ 8.3 billion, at 1975 prices, and in the degree of concessionality, which is a matter of great concern to the international community as a whole. " I was saying the flow of resources necessary for the achievement of this came to over 25 billion American dollars. Two-thirds would come from internal resources contributed by the members concerned and the rest would come from external sources. In spite of what has been happening just lately the increase in resources and aid to agriculture in developing countries, there have been a number of gaps with respect to the objective \$180 000 million ever since 1975.

I think that as a result the whole international community has been worried about this, in a later paragraph concern is expressed at the objective set of 1 million tonnes of fertilizers. We have only got about 169 000 tonnes, we have not yet reached the \$ 20 million set for the Special Fund in order to fight food losses. We have only received about \$ 12 million of it.

Now after this preamble I would like to move straight on to Guideline 10 and paragraph 87, and I would say that the Twentieth Session, the last Session of this decade, is most important. Consequently, our recommendations should be clear. They must be useful for the preparatory committee in the General Assembly for the coming decade. We have seen that we have not been able to reach our target for the last decade. Consequently, our delegation feels that we must amend paragraph 87 and Guideline 10 must be amended too in this document, C 79/20. In this paragraph we shall have to set an amount, or a percentage, of the income of industrialized countries, so that we will be able fully to help developing countries, whether it be 1 or 2 percent. 50 percent of aid should be devoted to agriculture and rural development. Rural development represents 90 percent of the inhabitants of the developing countries and I think that this is of fundamental importance, so the figure of 4 percent should not just remain a dead letter as happened in the last decade. We must take well defined steps in order to set up the new international economic order.

P. A MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): Quiero, en primer lugar, agradecer la información y el análisis que nos ha hecho el señor Islam, que lo consideramos sumamente positivo y estimamos, además, que nos ayuda mucho a sintetizar nuestro trabajo y nuestra intervención en particular. Tanto en los temas que hemos discutido en esta Comisión como en las exposiciones hechas en el Plenario por muchas delegaciones, se ha llegado a la conclusión de que la actual crisis alimentaria por la que atravesamos no tendría solución si no se acepta que la misma es una consecuencia inherente al modelo actual de desarrollo y de las relaciones económicas internacionales existentes y que la solución de la misma no puede alcanzarse partiendo de elementos aislados, sino sólo puede conseguirse con el reconocimiento y la aceptación de la necesidad de adoptar medidas a largo plazo.

En este sentido, desde la 18^o Conferencia General de la FAO en 1975 en que se aprobó la resolución 3/75 sobre la aplicación del nuevo orden económico internacional dentro del ámbito de la FAO, esta Organización ha venido trabajando por esos caminos.

El tema que estamos tratando forma parte de un aspecto muy importante referido a los preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas el próximo año y la nueva estrategia internacional para el desarrollo.

Nuestra delegación considera que el primer aspecto que la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas debería estudiar en su período extraordinario de 1980 es precisamente la puesta en práctica del nuevo orden económico internacional y adoptar medidas para su establecimiento; de manera muy particular deberían concluirse las negociaciones y soluciones a las cuestiones pendientes de la estrategia internacional del desarrollo para el tercer decenio de las Naciones Unidas, de manera que pudiera adoptarse ésta en ese período de sesiones.

Es lamentable tener que reconocer que la mayoría de los objetivos de la segunda estrategia han quedado incumplidos y las medidas de políticas dirigidas a los países subdesarrollados quedarán sin aplicar.

Esta situación tiene su base en la índole de la actual crisis económica mundial y a la persistente negativa de la mayoría de los países desarrollados de aceptar el imperativo de reestructurar el actual orden económico mundial. Volviendo al papel de la FAO, consideramos que su labor ha sido meritoria desde los pasos dados para el cumplimiento de las once directrices para el Reajuste Agrícola Internacional, hasta programas de acción y programas especiales en los cuales ha puesto tanto entusiasmo y dedicación.

Sin lugar a dudas, el Programa de Cooperación Técnica ha significado una decisión de importancia trascendental en la historia de nuestra Organización, pues por primera vez le brindo la posibilidad de ofrecer ayuda real y concreta a los países en desarrollo. Debemos ser justos en este reconocimiento, pero también seamos objetivos puesto que el Programa de Cooperación Técnica debe considerarse solamente como una diminuta fuerza financiera que dista mucho de lo que realmente necesitan nuestros países.

Digamos también, señor Presidente, que la FAO, en la aplicación del modesto nivel de Programa de Cooperación Técnica ha demostrado que es capaz y está preparada para enfrentar empresas mayores con enfoques semejantes. Digamos que la FAO está lista para emprender programas de acción de una dimensión mucho mayor.

Con relación a la prevención de las pérdidas de alimentos, mi delegación considera que es, sin lugar a dudas, otra de las importantes acciones tomadas por la FAO recientemente. El estudio presentado al Comité de Agricultura en 1977 demostró de manera clara y convincente la necesidad de evitar las enormes pérdidas de alimentos que sufrimos en todos los países en desarrollo por falta de recursos, conocimientos técnicos, tecnología, etc.

Pero si bien todos los países aceptaron los resultados del informe presentado y comprendieron la necesidad de abordar con toda urgencia un programa para reducir los miles y miles de toneladas de alimentos que cada año se pierden, no es menos cierto que la meta de 20 millones para el programa no se ha cumplido y que tendremos que informar al período de sesiones extraordinario que ni siquiera hemos podido obtener esa cifra irrisoria que dista mucho de ser suficiente para un programa tan importante y necesario.

Semejante destino ha tenido la propuesta de crear un fondo especial de 20 millones de dólares para el programa de Mejoramiento de Desarrollo de Semillas.

A pesar de la apelación del Comité Plenario de las Naciones Unidas al aprobar sus conclusiones sobre algunos aspectos concernientes a la agricultura y alimentación, en que exhortaba al incremento de las aportaciones a este Plan, hasta la fecha, según se plantea en el párrafo 37 del documento C 79/33 que analizamos, cuenta solamente con 3 millones de dólares para capacitación y 3 millones para proyectos de semillas.

Con relación al programa de lucha contra la tripanosomiasis africana de los animales, consideramos que los países afectados y los dispuestos a contribuir deben ponerse de inmediato en contacto con el Director General para ultimar los detalles del programa y participar en él.

Con relación a la cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo, si bien la misma avanza a pasos lentos consideramos que son dignos de mención los esfuerzos realizados en Africa por el grupo de países de la ASEAN en beneficio de la seguridad alimentaria.

Nuestro país, con la ayuda de la FAO, presta asistencia a los países de nuestra área en la erradicación de la fiebre porcina africana, Como un modesto aporte a la cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo.

Con relación al segundo informe sobre reajuste agrícola internacional, consideramos que nuevamente la Secretaría ha hecho un gran esfuerzo; y han llegado a la conclusión de que para alcanzar los objetivos de producción propuestos es necesario aumentar considerablemente la corriente de recursos dirigida hacia la agricultura de los países en desarrollo para mejorar la capacidad productiva de la producción rural.

Respecto a las cuestiones relativas al comercio internacional y a la seguridad alimentaria no nos hemos de extender puesto que nuestra delegación ha hecho ya sus comentarios cuando se trataron dichos temas específicos.

Señor Presidente, se nos pregunta si estaríamos de acuerdo en revisar las orientaciones normativas. Mi delegación está de acuerdo en ello, pero también lo vemos como un asunto de contenido y análisis de los hechos y de profundizar, porque no se han alcanzado y cumplido los objetivos propuestos.

Nosotros estamos de acuerdo igualmente con el calendario que se nos propone para el trabajo respecto a la revisión de las mismas.

Finalmente, queremos expresar que estamos también de acuerdo en que los documentos C 79/33 y C 79/20 se envíen a la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas.

Mlle Mireille MUSSO (France): Nous avons pris connaissance avec un très grand intérêt des documents qui nous ont été présentés par le Secrétariat. Ces documents analysent les résultats de la situation de l'agriculture, particulièrement depuis 1975, date à laquelle, à la dix-huitième session de la Conférence, a été adopté un document intitulé: " Les lignes d'orientation politique concernant l'ajustement agricole international".

En principe, les Etats Membres devaient prendre en considération ces lignes d'orientation lorsqu'ils élaboreraient des politiques agricoles au niveau national, étant entendu que les politiques nationales n'étaient pas obligatoirement subordonnées à un schéma global.

Un premier rapport avait été présenté à la dix-neuvième session de la Conférence qui était chargé de suivre les réalisations obtenues en fonction de ces lignes d'orientation. Le document C 79/20 constitue le second rapport, mais il se situe dans une perspective plus politique puisqu'il intègre les "lignes d'orientation" dans la mise en oeuvre du Nouvel ordre économique international. Ce document passe en revue les résultats obtenus par chacune des lignes d'orientation, La plupart des sujets que couvrent les principales lignes d'orientation ont déjà été longuement discutés sur d'autres points de l'ordre du jour, qu'il s'agisse de la ligne d'orientation Mo 1 sur l'augmentation de la production agricole, de la ligne No. 2 sur le flux des ressources financières dans la production agricole, de la ligne No. 3 sur les modifications des politiques nationales des pays développés, des lignes No. 7 et 9 sur l'accès aux marchés, de la ligne No. 8 sur la sécurité alimentaire et de la ligne No. 11 sur l'aide alimentaire. Aussi ne souhaiterais-je pas m'étendre sur ces points puisque le temps qui nous est imparti est court, comme vous nous l'avez rappelé.

Nous sommes totalement d'accord avec le Secrétariat pour regretter que les résultats n'aient pas été meilleurs, mais il faut reconnaître que certaines améliorations ont cependant été obtenues. Nous regrettons toutefois que pour chaque insuffisance le document du Secrétariat ne porte pas un jugement objectif et équilibré sur ce point, et mette essentiellement en cause la responsabilité des pays développés, en critiquant exclusivement l'insuffisance de leurs efforts. C'est ainsi, d'après le Secrétariat, que si l'objectif de croissance de la production alimentaire fixé à 4 pour cent pour les pays en développement n'a pas été atteint, la responsabilité principale en est due à la stagnation ou à la baisse de volume des échanges de produits alimentaires. A notre avis, il serait plus efficace d'admettre que certains pays en développement ne reconnaissent pas encore à la production vivrière la priorité qu'il serait indispensable d'y consacrer et cela est aussi une des causes fondamentales de l'insuffisance de l'augmentation de la production.

Il nous semble regrettable que le jugement final sur les progrès réalisés dans le cadre de l'ajustement agricole se traduise dans les paragraphes 96 à 109 par un ensemble de critiques formulées à l'égard des pays développés, critiques déjà exposées dans d'autres points de l'ordre du jour. Je n'insisterai pas, mais je pourrais citer par exemple le problème du résultat de l'insuffisance des N. C. M. pour les pays en développement, le renforcement du protectionnisme agricole, les résultats décevants de la cinquième CNUCED, la critique des politiques de soutien et, pour les pays développés, une meilleure remise en forme de leur politique intérieure pour l'harmoniser avec les exigences de la sécurité alimentaire. Notre délégation est préoccupée par le fait que les critiques nous semblent souvent formulées de façon excessive et que l'appréciation des facteurs économiques et sociaux, qui constituent des impératifs pour les responsables politiques des pays développés, soit parfois théorique et teintée d'irréalisme.

Il me semble que chacun doit reconnaître la situation de l'autre et qu'il ne faut pas ignorer, comme semble le faire le document, la situation économique mondiale, la récession, le taux élevé du chômage dans de nombreux pays développés, les difficultés rencontrées par les pays développés dans le redéploiement de certaines de leurs activités et la nécessité pour les pays développés de maintenir une agriculture efficace et importante.

Il faudrait se rappeler que pour nombre de grands produits agricoles, céréales, produits laitiers, viandes, une libéralisation accrue des échanges et une réduction des politiques de soutien profiteraient moins au commerce des pays en développement qu'à d'autres pays développés.

D'autre part, il semble paradoxal que l'on demande aux pays développés un accroissement substantiel de leur aide alimentaire, ce qui suppose pour le moins le maintien d'un niveau élevé de production, et qu'en même temps on invite ces mêmes pays développés à la réduire.

Enfin, même avec beaucoup de bonne volonté, nous ne pouvons accroître indéfiniment les charges financières directes ou indirectes, surtout dans la période actuelle de ralentissement de l'activité économique et de hausse constante des coûts de l'énergie.

En ce qui concerne la révision des lignes d'orientation, nous ne pensons pas non plus, comme l'ont indiqué les éminents représentants de la R. F. A. , du Royaume-Uni et de la Belgique, qu'il soit opportun de procéder maintenant à cette révision. En effet, ces lignes ont été instituées depuis peu de temps et il nous paraît difficile de tirer dès maintenant des conclusions qui justifient leur modification. Il nous semble plus opportun d'attendre que soit définie la prochaine stratégie pour le développement avant de songer à modifier éventuellement les lignes d'orientation.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): As many speakers before me have done, I should like to thank Prof. Islam for giving us a very comprehensive and clear picture of the present situation in the food and agriculture field and also of the level of implementation of the guidelines for international agricultural adjustment. This shows, just to mention a few elements, that the rate of increase of agricultural production, instead of reaching 4 percent as agreed for the Second Development Decade, has been only 2.9 percent, very much lower than was envisaged and recommended; that the number of people suffering from malnutrition, instead of decreasing, has increased substantially during the Decade; that the trade for developing countries and results of international trade has been less favourable than previously; that the gap between the developed and developing countries in general has very much widened, as can be seen especially from the very much increased gap in GNP; that, as our discussion yesterday very clearly concluded, nothing serious has been done in the field of world food security—in theory, yes, but not in practice; and that the flow of external resources from developed to developing countries has achieved just half of the estimated needs \$4.3 billion instead of \$8.3 billion at 1975 prices. The only certain practical improvement achieved is in food aid, where this year the target established for 1975 will be reached—four years late.

Although an extremely dark picture, this is also a very clear picture of the present situation in this field. It is not necessary to go further into a detailed analysis of the implementation of the eleven guidelines accepted four years ago, because it is already very clear that they have not been followed by adequate policy measures to ensure their implementation. Certain improvements in some of the developing countries were made possible, due mainly to self-reliance efforts of those countries and also owing to the assistance of a very limited number of developed countries which have respected their international obligations. Unfortunately, among those developed countries, the biggest, the richest and the most able are not included, and that is one of the chief reasons why there has been no significant progress so far. Let us express the hope that those countries will follow the example of the few small developed countries which have already proved an unselfish approach towards the developing countries and have in practice accepted the basic policies in the Declaration and Programme of Action for the New International Economic Order.

One of the reasons that we are even now not able to monitor and measure progress in the implementation of the previous development strategy, as well as the implementation of the guidelines for international agricultural adjustment, is the total lack of quantitative, qualitative and time-determined objectives. That was one of the failures of the work of FAO and our failure at that time which we should not repeat.

In the last Development Decade strategy there was practically only one quantitative target concerning food and agriculture and that was the famous 4 percent average rate of increase in agricultural production, but it was not followed by supporting sector targets or with other elements such as flow of resources, local and international; agricultural inputs; distribution; international trade; nutrition and other elements. My delegation is therefore of the firm opinion that FAO should do its utmost to ensure that the place of food and agriculture in the strategy for the Third Development Decade should be adequately represented, with all the essential elements which I mentioned; and I would also stress that these elements and targets should be in very clear quantitative and qualitative terms and should fall within specific time frames. That could only be in line with the already-agreed decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolutions 193-33 on the new International development strategy, approved at its last session. Operative paragraph 10 reads:

[The General Assembly]

"Also decides that, for the purpose of achieving the objectives set out in paragraphs 1 to 9 above, the new international development strategy should, within the framework of viable, consistent, specific, quantitative and qualitative goals and objectives—both over-all and sectoral—define the role of, and, where appropriate, contain, agreed commitments of all countries, expressed in quantified terms or in a time framework, or in both, for the adoption and implementation of policy measures to achieve the above goals and objectives."

Further, concerning the question of the need for a revision of the guidelines for international agricultural adjustment, I am very sorry to express my deep disagreement with those delegations which have already opposed, or which may in the future oppose, the need for revision of the guidelines. We are of the opinion that revision is a necessity if we think at all seriously to follow the policy we approved at the World Food Conference, at the last General Conference of FAO, at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, in various decisions of the General Assembly, and so on. The revision of the guidelines should go in two directions. First, the guidelines should be revised in general policy matters so as to bring them more into line with the already-approved policy direction towards the establishment of the New International Economic Order, in so far as internationally approved documents of

the various international forums I mentioned before are concerned.

Secondly, the Guidelines should be realized so that they provide in all essential elements, wherever possible, the quantified targets within a definite time framework. Only this could enable FAO and intergovernmental bodies like this Conference in a few years to really ensure the implementation of the approved policies.

We will not now go into concrete proposals on how to revise these Guidelines, but we will actively participate in the proposed scenario and timetable for the revision of the Guidelines which we support in principle, as well as the time schedule for future work by the next FAO Conference.

M. YOKOYAMA (Japan): My delegation would like to express its appreciation of the comprehensive report of the FAO Secretariat on Progress in International Agricultural Adjustment. On comparing it with the first Report, I recognise progress in objective analysis in the second Report. We have given it careful study and learned much from it. I hope, at the same time, that analysis such as the Report on Guidelines 4 and 5 will be improved in the future. This might be difficult, because of the lack of necessary data in some developing countries. In this connexion too, I hope that FAO will contribute to the improvement in data systems in developing countries.

With regard to International Agricultural Adjustment, the view of my delegation is that agriculture is a vital essential sector of national economy, and that without its healthy development there is no healthy development of the national economy. Japan, as one of the industrialized countries, has always been aware of the importance of agriculture. It plays an important role, not only in the stabilization of food supply, but also in social stability and employment. Furthermore, it is indispensable to the maintenance of environment in a favourable condition. I would also like to draw your attention to the specific nature of agriculture, which varies from country to country, and to the fact that we must take into account the specific situation of each country when we try to carry out international agricultural adjustment. In this connexion, as with the review of the Guidelines, we are of the view that review of the Guidelines should be carried out with careful consideration.

A. RENAUD (Canada): Le Canada souhaite lui aussi les modifications nécessaires pour l'avènement d'un ordre économique équitable pour tous les pays, aussi prend-il part activement aux différentes négociations actuellement en cours sous divers auspices et aux initiatives des nouvelles institutions internationales. Plusieurs de ces négociations et initiatives touchent de plus en plus directement les lignes d'orientation stratégiques de l'ajustement agricole international.

Le Canada reconnaît une valeur constante au travail de surveillance des progrès réalisés dans ce domaine, travail de surveillance accompli avec compétence par l'OAA et nous tenons donc à remercier le Directeur général pour un rapport documenté dans la mesure du possible et succinct.

Le Canada a toujours reconnu l'importance et les difficultés de l'ajustement agricole, tant sur le plan national- puisque nous sommes un Etat fédéral-qu'international. Aussi sommes-nous convaincus que tout en continuant les négociations et initiatives sur le plan international, chaque pays doit accorder la priorité à ces politiques et lignes d'orientation agricole à l'intérieur de ses frontières politiques et programmes nationaux portant sur l'agriculture et la nutrition doivent être développés et renforcés en priorité sur les autres programmes.

C'est dans ce but précis que le Canada a pris l'initiative, à l'occasion de la dernière conférence ministérielle du Conseil mondial sur l'Alimentation, d'allouer pour l'année 1980 la somme de deux millions de dollars canadiens pour aider à l'élaboration de cette stratégie nationale intégrée dans le secteur agro-alimentaire par le truchement d'accords bilatéraux avec les pays en développement intéressés.

Nous sommes également prêts à reprendre, aussitôt que jugé opportun, les négociations en vue d'un nouvel accord international sur le blé.

En terminant, et pour répondre à votre question concernant la révision des lignes d'orientation, nous reconnaissons qu'éventuellement pareille révision devra être faite, mais qu'il est encore trop tôt pour l'entreprendre. La simple lecture du rapport suffit pour constater, à la pauvreté de l'information fournie par les pays membres, que les lignes d'orientation actuelles n'ont pas encore été suffisamment digérées.

Ms. W. BARTH EIDE (Norway): The comments of my delegation are limited to document C 79/33, on FAO and the New International Economic Order. We have read this document with interest, and we would like to commend FAO for having sought to shift the emphasis of its work towards the central issues of the New International Economic Order. The excellent preparation for WCARRD and the subsequent plans for its follow up within the Organization, is a major event in FAO's re-orientation towards the implementation of a New International Economic Order.

My delegation wishes to draw attention to the special responsibilities and opportunities which FAO has within the UN to ensure that the qualitative aspects of the New International Economic Order will be properly reflected in the new International Strategy for the Third Development Decade, as well as in the strategies of individual member countries. We would also like to take this opportunity to highlight two or three areas which we find of particular importance in this regard.

Firstly, the work on the formulation of Social indicators is a prerequisite for decisions on effective strategies for development policies within the New International Economic Order, and indeed for the assessment of their effectiveness. My delegation has noted with satisfaction the effort currently under way in FAO to carry this work forward, both as part of FAO's regular work and in its cooperation with other agencies.

Secondly, as a logical extension of the international dimensions of a New International economic Order to that of individual countries, we would point out that the situation of women in all societies offers sensitive indicators for changes in economic and social development. Bearing in mind that, according to UN statistics, women in developing countries account for more than 50 percent of food production and provide for 40-80 percent of agricultural labour, women should no longer be considered as just a welfare problem, but as social and economic actors within the development process. Hence, we would draw attention to the Programme of Action of WCARRD which strongly emphasizes the need for women and men to have equal access to agricultural inputs and opportunities, and to participate in the decision making process for food and agricultural policies.

Thirdly, FAO's role in promoting science and technology for development should be given increased emphasis, in the efforts to implement the New International Economic Order. In this context, one must be aware of the need to differentiate between various technological alternatives in relation to prevailing social and economic conditions, in order to generate the most harmonized and qualitative development, and to ensure serious reductions in the number of hungry and malnourished. Such differentiation may also be a safety valve to avoid unintended adverse consequences of various choices of technology, as has already been stated in the Programme of Action adopted by the UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development recently held in Vienna.

A. BEN-RAMADAN (Libya): In the Name of Allah: I would like first of all to thank the Secretariat for the report presented to us concerning the International Agricultural Adjustment, and also to thank Dr. Nurul Islam for his very clear and precise introduction of this report.

We feel a little bitter at the fact that the targets for an International Agricultural Adjustment have not been met. Challenges also have not been met. We would also like to say that since 1975 guidelines have been defined, but no progress has really been achieved. We can also see that the situation in developed countries is more favourable, and we feel that a change in this evolution must take place.

We also see that increases in investments in the agricultural sectors of developing countries are lower than expected and thus the developing countries do not have the capacity to meet the requirements of the food situation quickly. We also see that slow progress has been achieved in food aid to agriculture at the world level. This food aid is one of the objectives of the developing countries.

We also think that increased agricultural food production in developing countries is a milestone from which to begin to achieve developing goals as a whole and in general. Nevertheless we do understand the problems and obstacles met by developing countries in achieving these goals. Some countries have been able to achieve a development rate higher than the average rate of growth. It is quite clear that many developing countries are still a long way from the required rate of growth. Furthermore, I would like to say that my country is among the small number of countries which have been able to achieve a five percent rate of growth in food production. We are proud of this achievement but, nevertheless, we would like to add that this has not been an easy thing to achieve in the light of the difficult ecological situation and also because of the very scarce water resources in Libya.

Libya is in a better position as regards other resources but we would like to add that resources by themselves are not a determining factor in achieving economic development because the political will, and the will of the people are also necessary in order to have real economic development, and to guide financial resources towards the agricultural sector, which must have priority.

There is also an urgent need to establish policies in order to improve the living conditions of farmers, and especially small farmers, in the small and distant areas. This, of course, goes along with the majority of the guidelines which were set up in 1975.

I would now like to speak about the proposal presented to us for the eventual revision of these guidelines and also to say something about the proposed timetable to which reference is made in Document C 79/20-sup. 1.

My delegation finds no difficulty in making some amendments or revisions to the current guidelines in order to improve them so as to make them more clear and precise. But we feel that two conditions should prevail before doing this. The first is that the guidelines must not lose any strength, that is, we do not agree at all on any revision which would reduce the importance, strength and scope of them because we feel that they should be strengthened in order to help in achieving this international strategy for agricultural adjustment and also so as to give practical application to resolutions adopted by various conferences, such as the resolutions of UNCTAD V. Secondly, this revision should not be an opportunity for anyone to reopen discussion on guidelines as such, on the need to have and on their effectiveness, because we feel that the guidelines should be left to the competence of the State. Concerning the timetable for such revision, even if there is some complexity in this, we can accept them and take into account the discussion taking place at this Conference. We also feel that note should be taken of the discussions in Commission I and concerning the preparation for the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Finally, I would like to make comments on the report concerning agricultural adjustment. As the Commission knows, the guidelines cover four main points: the increase of food aid and agricultural production, food aid and improvement in international trade. We feel that the report should have indicated the progress made in well-defined topics and under well-defined headings to show the improvement that might have been produced in these four specific fields.

Of course we agree that each guideline should be discussed on a separate basis but, nevertheless, we also believe that if the report had been prepared as we suggest, this would facilitate our task to better assimilate it. From paragraphs 18 to 60 there are no sub-titles to help in reading this report. Nevertheless I would not like my comments to be interpreted as a criticism of this report, which we feel is a perfect one.

M. R. LEAH (New Zealand): This year, 1979 has been a watershed in terms of the international community's efforts to come to grips with the practicalities of global economic decision making. UNCTAD V in Manila and the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations, the major events in the north-south dialogue calendar, have ended inconclusively.

Regrettably the prospects for constructive progress on the range of issues which make up the new international economic order does not appear especially promising. As a consequence of fairly unyielding approaches adopted by both north and south, new international economic order negotiations appear to have reached a virtual impasse. This mood has been reflected most recently in the work of the Preparatory Committees on the New International Development Strategy for the 1980s. Clearly a perpetuation of the present climate is not conducive to the kind of decision making required to provide workable global solution to the pressing economic problems which confront the international community.

One of the main inhibitions to progress, it seems to us, is the rigid bloc approach: the division of the international community into developed and developing countries. New Zealand, like many other countries, does not fit easily or readily into either of these camps. To us it seems apparent that in order to develop meaningful global economic strategies the international community will have to accept that within the developing and developed country blocs there are countries with differing economic structures and at different stages of development. Current economic prospects are sufficiently gloomy to convince us that the posturing and inflexibility which has so far characterized much of the north-south dialogue, for example, the refusal to discuss and acknowledge the profound and continuing impact of the rising cost of energy and oil in particular, this inflexibility must as a matter of urgency give way to economic pragmatism and political realism. We would note that one practical method of making progress in the north-south dialogue is to place greater emphasis on regional and sub-regional machinery for dialogue. These

groups such as the Commonwealth Regional meeting and in our area the South Pacific forum and their respective institutions help cut across the usual economic and political lines of the block and group system of the United Nations. Further development of the regional approach is therefore worth fostering.

As a trading nation whose comparative advantage in agriculture has increasingly been denied by the major economies, New Zealand is well placed to appreciate developing countries' frustrations concerning the existing economic order. We can therefore support to a certain extent the view that solutions to the problems of world trade, whether in agriculture or in industry, require not merely adjustments to import systems but also domestic structural adjustment measures.

However, it does not follow that New Zealand would support the wholesale re-alignment of the existing machinery for world trade. The fact is that the present open multilateral trading system embodied in GATT did not prevent the push of a number of developing countries, particularly the newly industrializing countries towards economic take-off. Change through market forces is growing and should be acknowledged. But what we do believe is essential is the more determined extension of market forces and mechanisms to the agricultural sector.

Furthermore, we would note that changes in attitude are taking place. A number of developed countries, including New Zealand, have expressed the view that the newly industrialising countries and by extension the third world are an engine for international economic growth. If they are to remain promising markets for the products of the developed countries it is essential that they are able to maintain their own export-led economic growth.

The activities being undertaken by FAO which contribute to the establishment of the NIEO are summarised in document C 79/33. Most of these activities are practical and concrete and are making a positive contribution to the NIEO. They are a manifestation of FAO's welcome and commendable determination to make an impact within the limit of its resources at the field level.

Regarding the International Agricultural Adjustment document we would like to compliment the Secretariat on the preparation of this study. In our view it is a useful and objective study which also has the merit of being reasonably brief, given the scope and magnitude of its coverage. It is disappointing and regrettable that progress towards international Agricultural Adjustment has been slow, although some progress has been achieved and it is recorded in the document. It is a matter of special disappointment that the rate of increase of food production in developing countries has not reached target levels, and we agree with others that the developing countries themselves need to make more strenuous efforts through, for example, giving higher priority in their development plans to investment in agriculture, to increase their food production. It is also disappointing to New Zealand that progress in the trade sector has been inadequate. As paragraph 96 records, "Little has occurred in the field of trade that has contributed to the process of adjustment" and in paragraph 100 that "In developed countries the period since the last Conference has seen no reduction in agricultural protectionism."

The analysis under Guidelines 7 and 9 provide more detail on the meagreness of progress towards liberalised trade and agriculture. It notes the disappointing outcome of the MTN negotiations as far as agricultural trade was concerned. While some progress was made, the basic problems of agricultural protectionism remain as intractable as ever. This contrasted with the substantial progress made on further liberalizing industrial trade which is already subject to far fewer restrictions than agricultural trade.

When the International Agricultural Adjustment guidelines are revised we would like to urge that these particular guidelines on trade should be tightened up and rationalized to make their thrust and performance clearer and their measurement easier. The suggestions made by the Secretariat on these particular guidelines seem to us to be along the right lines. Also, on guideline 3 we support the Secretariat's suggestion to split the guideline into two separate guidelines. It is important in our view to retain a guideline emphasising the need for a more rational use of resources in the agricultural sector, especially in developed industrialised countries. The overview on agricultural adjustment at the end of the document in paragraph 96-109 is of particular interest to us. We welcome the emphasis on the importance of liberalized agricultural trade made in this section. As the overview notes trade is a good mechanism for achieving greater food production and long-term stable world food security. Liberalized trade encourages food production both because the improved opportunities and access that follow trade liberalisation stimulates production and because it enables developing countries and other agricultural producers to earn sufficient foreign exchange to pay for the inputs-fertilizer, machinery, fuel and suchlike necessary to increase food production. Following on from this, given that the stimulation to greater food production is the key requirement for the achievement of soundly based world food security, the importance of liberalized trade is self-evident. As the overview notes, reliance on the production of high-cost food in industrialized countries distributed on surplus disposal terms is a fragile and uncertain underpinning for world food security.

L. COMANESCU (Roumanie): En m'inspirant de ce que son Excellence M. le Directeur général disait avant-hier quand il a ouvert les débats sur le Plan d'action pour la sécurité alimentaire, je dirai que le problème que nous sommes en train de discuter, à savoir les progrès, le nouvel ordre économique international et la nouvelle stratégie de développement, constitue aussi, à notre avis, l'un des sujets clés de cette vingtième conférence.

Quand bien même nous aurions préféré que les deux aspects prévus au point 8 de l'ordre du jour soient discutés ensemble, parce qu'il y a en effet une étroite liaison entre les deux points, je me bornerai à faire maintenant quelques commentaires sur le point 8. 1 en me réservant le droit d'intervenir sur l'autre point plus tard.

Comme cela ressort du document en discussion ainsi que des nombreuses interventions au cours de cette conférence, les progrès du nouvel ordre économique international sont très faibles, bien que nous nous trouvions à plus de cinq années après l'adoption par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies du Plan d'action.

La situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture est malheureusement très significative à cet égard. En effet, on peut constater également dans le document C 79/20 dont nous remercions sincèrement le Secrétariat ainsi que dans l'intervention de M. ISLAM, que les objectifs fixés entre autres pour l'accroissement de la production agro-alimentaire dans les pays en voie de développement, pour le commerce international des produits agricoles, et pour l'assistance au développement agricole tels qu'ils sont mentionnés dans les lignes d'orientation pour l'ajustement agricole international adoptées en 1975, n'ont pas été réalisés. Cela nous préoccupe beaucoup, d'autant plus que nous avons vu dans l'adoption de ces lignes et surtout dans leur mise en application, un instrument pour réaliser les objectifs du nouvel ordre économique international dans le domaine agricole.

Comme le distingué délégué de la Yougoslavie le disait, le tableau est très clair et nous montre les directions dans lesquelles nous devrions agir dans l'avenir si nous voulons changer cette situation. Je ne voudrais pas répéter quelles sont, à notre avis, ces directions, le Chef de ma délégation l'a déjà fait en plénière. Mais ce qui me paraît extrêmement important est que dans la révision des lignes d'orientation pour l'ajustement agricole international, révision avec laquelle nous sommes d'accord, on tienne compte d'une part de la nécessité de considérer et je suis d'accord avec M. Islam l'ajustement agricole international comme partie intégrante de la nouvelle stratégie internationale de développement. C'est pourquoi nous considérons comme pertinentes, les suggestions formulées dans l'Annexe 1, page 5 du document C 79/20, visant à l'introduction de nouvelles lignes d'orientation.

D'autre part, il nous paraît nécessaire d'examiner l'ajustement agricole international dans le contexte des négociations globales qui vont s'ouvrir dans le cadre des Nations Unies.

En nous référant maintenant au document C 79/33, à savoir, la FAO et le nouvel ordre économique international, nous voudrions exprimer notre satisfaction profonde des efforts entrepris par l'Organisation pour répondre le mieux possible aux nécessités du nouvel ordre économique international.

Nous pensons en premier lieu aux programmes d'action qui ont été initiés par la FAO tels que les programmes de coopération technique et de coopération pour l'élimination des pertes alimentaires, pour les semences, ainsi que les programmes nouvellement proposés comme celui pour les zones économiques exclusives.

Nous sommes en même temps d'avis que ce début prometteur devrait être poursuivi et renforcé par de nouvelles actions, y compris par l'élargissement de la coopération de la FAO avec les autres organisations internationales, dont les préoccupations relèvent du domaine de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation. L'élargissement de cette coopération visant au développement agricole des pays en voie de développement constitue d'ailleurs l'une des conclusions principales auxquelles le Comité plénier des Nations Unies a abouti au cours de ces débats sur le problème alimentaire.

C'est dans cet esprit que la Roumanie considère qu'il serait souhaitable d'établir dans le cadre d'une nouvelle stratégie de développement une action mieux coordonnée sous l'égide des Nations Unies ou encore, un programme spécial de coopération à long terme entre la FAO et les autres organisations internationales telles que la Banque mondiale, le Fonds international pour le développement agricole et d'autres organisations pour le développement agricole des pays en voie de développement.

Mais sur cet aspect, je reviendrai plus en détail quand nous aborderons le point 8. 2 de l'ordre du jour.

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand):The Thai delegation wishes to congratulate the Secretariat for the comprehensive preparation of the Guidelines as appeared in document 79/20 and its supplement.

We feel, however, that additional material resources, technology, as well as incentives are not the only important inputs in the process of increasing agricultural production. In our opinion, the ways which those inputs can be efficiently and effectively transferred to the farmers are of equal importance. We also believe that strengthening of farmers education and the role of extension services could fulfill the missing link in agricultural development. In this respect we would like to propose that additional guidelines emphasizing the aforementioned measures be included.^V

The meeting rose at 13. 00 hours.

La séance est levée a 13 heures.

Se levanta la sesión a las 13. 00 horas.

^V Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

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

C
C 79/I/PV/10

Twentieth Session
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

TENTH MEETING
DIXIEME SÉANCE
DECIMA SESIÓN

(21 November 1979)

The Tenth Meeting was opened at 15. 00 hours Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La dixième seance est ouverte à 15 heures, sous la présidence de Mohamed Sidkî Zehni, President de Ta
Commission I
Se abre la décima sesión a las 15. 00 horas, bajo la presidencia de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidentê de la
Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACIÓN (continuación)
- 8. Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy (continued)
- 8. Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement(suite)
- 8. Preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Extrategía Internacional para el Desarrollo (continuación)
- 8. 1 Assessment of Progress Towards the New International Economic Order, including Progress in International Agricultural Adjustment (continued)
- 8. 1 Evaluation des progrès accomplis en ce qui concerne le Nouvel ordre économique international et notamment l'Ajustement agricole (suite)
- 8. 1 Evaluación del progreso alcanzado respecto al Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, incluidos los progresos realizados en el reajuste agrícola internacional (continuación)

A. NORMAN (Angola): Ma délégation ne prétend pas présenter une analyse exhaustive du thème que nous examinons ni non plus de solutions nouvelles dans le domaine de l'agriculture. Nous tenons essentiellement à souligner l'importance que la République populaire d'Angola attache au secteur agricole en tant que facteur dominant dans toute la problématique du Nouvel ordre économique international. A cet égard, nous saluons les efforts accomplis par la FAO dans l'analyse de la situation alimentaire et agricole mondiale et son attachement à la recherche de solutions en vue de l'ajustement agricole international. Je tiens à souligner l'étude très utile qui nous sert de base de travail intitulée "Progrès de l'ajustement agricole international". Je disais que notre délégation ne s'attacherait pas à démonter tout le mécanisme qui est à la base de la situation de dénuement où nous nous trouvons à l'heure actuelle. Nous nous tournons résolument vers l'avenir que nous ne voulons pas subir mais façonner de concert avec toutes les nations du globe afin de le rendre plus accueillant pour tous les peuples de la planète.

A maintes reprises dans les différents forums internationaux fut émise et approuvée l'idée selon laquelle le Gouvernement et le peuple seront les principaux artisans du développement et qu'ils devaient être prêts à consentir les efforts et les sacrifices que cela exige.

En ce sens, nous estimons que le développement de l'agriculture devrait être inscrit dans les plans socio-économiques nationaux comme domaine prioritaire et comme base de toute industrialisation. Eu égard au principe de la souveraineté nationale, il serait souhaitable que le transfert de ressources dans le cadre de l'aide au développement se concentre surtout dans le domaine agricole de façon prioritaire en faveur des pays qui s'engagent de façon conséquente dans cette voie.

En défendant ce point de vue, nous nous rangeons du côté de ceux qui proposent que la prochaine décennie soit proclamée "Décennie des Nations Unies pour l'agriculture". L'adoption de cette solution devrait exprimer de la part des pays en développement une volonté de changement qui se traduirait dans l'adoption de mesures appropriées, notamment la transformation des structures économiques et sociales requise pour rendre effectives les mesures préconisées à la Conférence des Nations Unies sur la réforme agraire. Nous attendons que, comme cela a été fait pour la Décennie des transports en Afrique, des projets au niveau national et régional soient élaborés conjointement par la FAO, les organismes spécialisés concernés et les organes régionaux des Nations Unies, de façon à concrétiser ce qui n'est aujourd'hui qu'une déclaration d'intention. Il pourrait s'agir de projets simples, mais d'envergure, mettant l'accent sur l'amélioration de l'environnement agricole de chacune des régions du globe avec une particulière attention au problème de la désertification et à celui de l'eau.

I. MAHMUL (Bangladesh): My delegation would like to refer to the intervention by the delegate from France, who opined that the document shifts the entire responsibility of agricultural development on to developed countries alone. My delegation would like to refer to paragraphs 106 and 107 on page 34 of document C 79/20. In paragraph 106 it is clearly stated: "Although international action can help, it cannot replace action at a national level. " Again, in paragraph 107: "While developing countries have direct influence"-I would like to underline the words "direct influence"- "on their own agricultural destinies through their investment priorities and producer incentives . .

Further, my delegation feels that the need for readjusting national priorities with regard to investment in agriculture has been well recognized, and may not require further extensive elaboration in this particular forum. Also, the document alluded to "international adjustments", not national. adjustments.

Secondly, regarding the policy guidelines, my delegation feels that there is no need to consider them sacred: on the contrary, there is a need to review them in a dynamic situation, particularly in view of the new developments which have taken place since the 1975 FAO Conference.

A. I. MENENDEZ (México): Cuando la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas aprobó en 1974 con el voto de la enorme mayoría de los países, con las reservas tradicionales de los países industrializados de economía de mercado, un nuevo instrumental jurídico y normativo donde se enmarcaban las legítimas aspiraciones de los pueblos al desarrollo para lograr el establecimiento del nuevo orden económico internacional, a ello vino a sumarse la carta de los deberes y derechos económicos de los Estados con el mismo espíritu innovador de las viejas y nuevas estructuras de dominación colonial y neocolonial. Desde entonces el tema del nuevo orden es sujeto de controversia en todos los foros internacionales.

Nuestra delegación considera que el establecimiento del nuevo orden económico internacional requiere de medidas concretas tangibles, y no sólo de buenos deseos, ya que casi todo se ha dicho y muy poco se ha hecho en esa materia. En ese sentido, con este espíritu mencionaremos algunas medidas que pueden contribuir a clarificar los temas que nos ocupan.

Primero, el establecimiento del nuevo orden económico internacional es un compromiso colectivo y no hay manera decorosa de eludirlo.

Segundo, si el nuevo orden está orientado prioritariamente al sector agrícola de los países del tercer mundo, de los llamados países en desarrollo, consideramos que el reajuste agrícola internacional es una de las principales columnas del nuevo orden.

Tercero, como ha mencionado el Director General, los avances en la esfera del comercio internacional no han contribuido directamente al proceso del reajuste en los avances cuantificables y no declarativos; son más modestos, aunque si bien es cierto que en el sistema generalizado de preferencias y de suministro de ayuda alimentaria se hayan observado algunas mejoras, lo que renueva la necesidad de exhortar y aplicar objetivos claros.

Las directrices señaladas en los documentos C 79/20 y su suplemento elaborados por la Secretaría de FAO obligatoriamente deben ser sometidos a una revisión meticulosa y detallada; reforzar y clarificar la esencia de su texto y, en todo caso, darle un seguimiento cuantitativo y cualitativo que permita medir el nivel de cumplimiento del compromiso contraído por los países miembros de esta Conferencia, si honesta y auténticamente se aspira a contribuir a que esta generación contemple un mundo más justo. Estamos ciertos de que no hay manera decorosa de eludir este compromiso.

Cuarto, si bien estas directrices no constituyen un contrato, su aplicación y revisión constituyen un pre-requisito para seguir adelante por los países y grupos de países en lo individual y en lo colectivo.

Quinto, México apoya la propuesta formulada por la Secretaría a través del doctor Islam que revisa sus directrices y orientaciones, por lo que ofrecemos todo el apoyo y colaboración de nuestro país a esa tarea que juzgamos indispensable. O sea, señor Presidente, esto constituye un pre-requisito; de otra manera no entendemos el reajuste agrícola internacional.

Nuestra delegación apoya los cuatro factores mencionados en el documento C 79/20 en lo referente a la estrategia del desarrollo y que han sido reconocidos por todos los gobiernos. Para nosotros ellos han sido preocupación constante en la aplicación de nuestra política agrícola. El aumento de los básicos alimentarios, el mejoramiento de la calidad y distribución de los alimentos disponibles, el mejoramiento del costoso aparato comercial estabilizando el mercado, y la ayuda externa complementaria son postulados con los que coincidimos. México quiere coincidir con varios países que se han manifestado anteriormente. Con un país pequeño como Nepal cuando señala que las barreras arancelarias, que son otra expresión del proteccionismo, y las corporaciones transnacionales son obstáculos tangibles para el establecimiento del nuevo orden económico internacional. Con Polonia al afirmar que los países en desarrollo requieren mejorar las condiciones de sus exportaciones en materia de sanidad y técnicas de mercadeo, y nosotros agregaríamos "en la integración sistemática de su oferta, así como con la necesidad de establecer convenios a largo plazo con el objeto de estabilizar y planificar en lo posible el mercado internacional". Y con España al afirmar que la crisis, que es profunda y estructural, no podrá resolverse con medidas coyunturales, sino estableciendo y cumpliendo, subrayo "y cumpliendo" líneas generales de desarrollo agrícola con justicia social para el tercer decenio para el desarrollo.

Por último, México considera que FAO debe sumar esfuerzos con la UNCTAD y con la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas, instancia que debe recibir e incorporar en sus conclusiones las resoluciones que aquí preparamos en materia del nuevo orden económico internacional y reajuste agrícola. Por ello

reiteramos nuestro apoyo activo a la revisión de las orientaciones propuestas por la Secretaría. Nos extraña mucho que los representantes de las economías industriales más afluentes se opongan a esta revisión indispensable.

Estamos ciertos que la solución somos todos para los complejos problemas del desarrollo agrícola. No es posible mirar el futuro con un espejo que refleje una historia colonial y de dominación.

M. KRIËSBERG (United States of America): My intervention will be brief. The United States Delegation commends the FAO Secretariat on the report that it issued: the Second Progress Report on International Agricultural Adjustments. We should note, however, that contrary to some language in the Secretariat document, we do believe that the multilateral trade negotiations have brought trade benefits for all exporting countries and that work is continuing within the GATT to expand benefit for the developing countries. Of course there are many complex issues that must be weighed in formulating national agricultural policies, but we firmly feel that further progress can be made for developing countries by their active participation in negotiating sessions within the GATT framework.

We are pleased too that the Secretariat has provided us with updated figures on development assistance and we note that those updated figures indicate that the commitments for 1978 by multilateral organizations alone were approximately 4.2 billion dollars, or almost 30 percent over the 1977 figures.

We should also point out that much of the multilateral funding comes from the same countries as the larger bilateral programme activities, hence the increased development bank funding for agricultural projects reflects the higher priorities for this sector which the United States Government and other like-minded countries have set in these international development institutions.

We would like to commend the Secretariat for its statements in the report on the importance of external private investment in the developing countries agricultural sector, and on the need for food priority countries themselves to accord high priority and greater resources for food and agricultural development.

Finally, our delegation associates itself with previous speakers that revisions of the guidelines for international agricultural adjustment should be considered carefully and after there is ample experience with the present guidelines. In this connection we support the Secretariat suggested timetable of having some draft revisions considered at the FAO Conference in 1981.

P. C. DE OLIVEIRA CAMPOS (Brazil): Brazil believes that the Special Session of the General Assembly that will take place next year should try to establish a strategy for the implementation of concrete measures towards the New International Economic Order.

All the developing countries are trying to do their best to achieve the necessary basic structural changes in international relations so that their needs can be fulfilled. However, this effort has not been sufficient to result in real progress in the agricultural sector. This progress will only be achieved if all countries act together in close cooperation, increasing the flow of financial resources for the increase of food production in the developing countries. There is still a lack of political will which is needed to implement international agricultural adjustment. . . :id the new International Economic Order.

The Secretariat has prepared a very useful document entitled "International Agricultural Adjustment: Second Progress Report". As the document clearly shows, the adjustment has been no more than a declaration of principles for those countries which are in a condition to take concrete measures towards the liberalization of international food markets and the increase of financial resources directed to agriculture in the developing countries. The little and very limited progress achieved proves the lack of international will for the implementation of the New International Economic Order, of which that adjustment is a very important instrument.

We agree with the Secretariat that the adjustment needs some reformulation so that it can include precise and clear policy goals and objectives in accordance with the present framework of the adjustment.

Brazil believes that the changes needed should strengthen the present guidelines of the adjustment so that the goals can be achieved in a short term, particularly in relation to the increase of food production in the developing countries and to the liberalization of international food markets.

S. A. PAVEZ (Pakistan): I will be very brief, keeping in view the limitations of time. While this morning we did give our views on this item I have taken the liberty of requesting the floor again at this stage just to add here with reference to International Agricultural Adjustment document C 79/20-Sup. 1 that in my delegations view there is need for the Policy Guidelines to be reviewed, it is essential in view of the changing circumstances and the number of developments that have since taken place that need to be reflected in these Guidelines. We also agree with the time schedule and perspective that the Secretariat have suggested for the proposed report. We feel that such an exercise is both desirable and necessary.

B. SUSSMILCH (European Economic Community): I will try to be as brief as possible but first I would like to thank the Secretariat of FAO for repeating document C 79/20 which we appreciated very much. This document reminds us of the conclusions of the Conference in 1977 that it could examine in this year the preparation of the Policy Guidelines for International Agricultural Adjustment and the Secretariat have given their views on the nature of eventual revisions and procedures to be followed. Before embarking on such a task consideration should be given to the following points: agreement on these guidelines was reached not so long ago-only in 1973-after a full year of discussion in Groups and FAO Committees.

Second, agricultural adjustment is a long-term continuing operation.

Third, the process of monitoring has only just begun and it has reached only broad conclusions as to what extent countries follow the agreed Guidelines.

Fourth, there is no agreement yet on the general outline of the Strategy for the Third Development Decade and of course these Guidelines should fit in more general principles of international cooperation for development.

For these reasons it would seem to the Community and its Member States that the Conference should take a decision on the appropriateness of an examination and the procedures to be followed. Nevertheless! taking into account that many delegations already agreed with the review of the Guidelines, the Community is willing to withdraw its reserve on the condition that the Guidelines are reviewed before taking decisions on revisions at a Working Party to be called in the course of the next year.

E. SHERSHNEV (United Nations): It is both an honour and a privilege for me to address this Committee on behalf of the United Nations Department for International Economic and Social Affairs. I would like to use this opportunity first of all in order to say a few words about the present situation with regard to the preparation of the New International Development Strategy. Unfortunately the context in which such preparations take place is not the most favourable. There is a consensus that the overall economic situation in the world has many adverse features and carries a number of alarming trends. It is enough to say that the income gap between the developed and the developing countries has not been reduced, that economic growth of food production has not kept pace with population increase in a number of countries, that the present slowing down in economic progress in the effectiveness of public production in some developed countries may not be a temporary phenomenon. Above all there are still strong imbalances in world economic relations and in the international institutional framework which regulates these relations. In other words, six years after the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations of a Programme of Action to implement a New International Economic Order, economic, financial and monetary issues and relations are still marked by features not only negative for developing countries but in the world as a whole. Of course this is not to say that progress has not been made during this decade in a number of areas. In terms of growth of exports of manufactures, of agricultural production, of health, education and other measures a number of developing countries have achieved significant results. New policies have been implemented, new ideas have been debated, new institutions on a national and international level have emerged and responded to various needs. Nevertheless what I wish to stress is that the economic conditions, the intellectual atmosphere, the political situation of the day, are significantly different from those which prevailed at the beginning of the 1970s when the International Development Strategy for this decade was discussed and adopted by General Assembly.

The present context of international economic negotiations with all its alarming trends and positive changes is a great challenge. All countries, at different levels of development and with different economic and social systems, are equally concerned by this challenge. A year ago when the preparation of a New International Development Strategy was initiated, the General Assembly decided that this new Strategy should address itself to eight major objectives including the objective and I quote

"increasing substantially food and agricultural production in the developing countries and facilitate effectively the access of their agricultural exports to international markets on a stable and more practicable basis and at fair remunerative prices. !. The purpose of the new Strategy, its goals and objectives, the types of target and policy recommendations have already been examined in the Preparatory Committee specially established for this purpose. This Preparatory Committee had three sessions in 1979 and adopted a draft preamble for the new Strategy. The text of this preamble, which still comprises a number of so-called "gray areas" where an agreement could not be reached, is now before the General Assembly together with the overall report of the Preparatory Committee on its deliberations during 1979. The same Committee is scheduled to meet again next January.

Parallel to the work of the Preparatory Committee for the New Strategy the Committee for the Whole, established by the General Assembly in 1978, started to work. This Committee was specifically established in the context of the preparation for the Special Session of the General Assembly which is planned for 1980 and which will assess the progress made in the various forums of the United Nations system in the establishment of the New International Economic Order, and on the basis of this assessment take appropriate action for the promotion of the development of developing countries and international economic cooperation, including the adoption of the New International Development Strategy for the 1980s It is known today that the Committee of the Whole should also act as a Preparatory Committee for global negotiations. The procedures, timetable and detailed agenda of such negotiations have to be decided at the Special Session of the General Assembly. The Group of 77 proposes that global negotiations include major issues in the field of raw materials, energy, trade, development money and finance, and take place within the United Nations with the full participation of all States.

I believe there is no need to emphasise further the importance of decisions that the General Assembly is now facing on the related issues of a New International Development Strategy and global negotiations on international economic cooperation. Many problems have to be solved, different perspectives and interests have to be reconciled before the adoption of a meaningful strategy for the coming decade. The issues before the international community are closely inter-related. This is one of the reasons why close collaboration between the various parts of the United Nations systems is so important today. We have such collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization. Particularly the provisional results and conclusions of the FAO Study of Agricultural toward 2000 which are on the agenda of this Session have been progressively utilized by the Preparatory Committee on the International Development Strategy as well as by the United Nations Secretariat. We are convinced that our collaboration with FAO will develop further.

M. QADI (Palestine Liberation Organization) (interpretation from Arabic): Mr. Chairman, in the first document before us and in particular Guidline 3, reference is made to social development and of course this is the objective we are all trying to pursue. But we think it is impossible to bring about social justice as long as Israel continues to occupy Arab territories by force and as long as it continues to expand its colonies in occupied zones, all of which is contrary to the interests of the subject we are discussing now. I do not want to go into details concerning the lands which have been taken away from Arab farmers by force, nor do I wish to enter into the number of colonies which have been established in Gaza or on the West bank of the Jordan. I merely wish to draw your attention to the expansionist and aggressive policy of Israel and the development of these policies. The Israeli Cabinet decided to create an increase of 19 Israeli colonies and the number of these colonies will now increase to 19 this year. The number of inhabitants in these colonies will be double what it is today.

This is a challenge to the international community and to all the resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly as well as by its agencies. The continuation of these policies is also a pursuance of the policy of poverty against the Arab Palestinian population, all of which is contrary to the objectives we are pursuing, the ideals to which we are working. This is why I would like all this to be taken into consideration when this Commission adopts its recommendations even though Israel has never attributed any importance to any resolution adopted by the United Nations system. But we think Israel would not be able to continue indefinitely to hold this attitude and to challenge and defy international opinion as a whole if it could not obtain financial or political support from the USA.

CHAIRMAN; We have now completed our list of speakers on this item 8. 1 of the agenda and I now call on Dr. Nurul Islam to reply to all the questions addressed to him.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): In view of the shortage of time I will be very "brief or I would not cover all the points raised during the discussion.

Mr. Chairman, we thank the delegates for their many helpful comments and positions made during the debate. We are happy that the delegates are in general agreement with the report on the progress and implementation of International Agricultural Adjustment. However, a number of queries have been made in the course of the debate on which I would like to comment. We agree that we must continue firstly to develop indicators, more appropriate indicators, which are for the purpose of monitoring the Guidelines. Secondly, continue our efforts improve the collection of data to suit the indicators. But as the delegates would appreciate and many of them pointed out the development of indicators are not independent, or unrelated to, the nature of the Guidelines themselves. In other words how precise the Guidelines are is irrelevant to the task of developing indicators. In the course of monitoring our experience has been, as we have pointed out in the Report, that some of the Guidelines are vague and imprecise.

As the delegate from the United Kingdom has emphasized questions have been asked about the mode of disaggregated data of investment programmes. As I explained in the course of my introduction, as well as in the debate on the State of Food and Agriculture, we are continuing our work on investment in agriculture. The first stage relates to public expenditure on agriculture and I have already informed the delegates of the problems we are facing in the collection of data on investment in agriculture and the analysis and relationship between investment and production, on growth in productivity, is certainly a worthwhile exercise and is particularly critically dependent upon the availability of comparable data on both investment and growth in productivity. Questions have also been raised for the need of analysis of differences among countries in times of greater growth in output.

In Table 3 on page 7 we have attempted to describe differences among countries in terms of low trade and production, and we were also asked as to whether we could not produce data on food intake by different groups of population, by different target groups for example. The major source of such data by groups of population regarding the relation to their food intake or nutritional status, the food consumption surveys some of which give both data and expenditure and quantities of food consumption.

Oliere is an increasing flow of such surveys which provide this kind of data and we would continue our work in analysing them and provide more comprehensive data to the extent that it is available of food intake by income groups. But there will be a limitation in this exercise as there are seldom available for a number of years such surveys to monitor progress over time. We will do whatever we can in this respect.

The delegate from the United Kingdom asked for further explanation and elaboration of the methodology followed in the preparation of the table 9 on page 14. In the methodology referred to in the footnote I on page 13, the previous page, this relates to quantification of policies of intervention in developed countries on production, consumption and trade. This paper was distributed for information at the time of the last Conference describing the methodology used making these estimates.

A question was raised in the course of discussion as to whether the report was balanced in terms of analysis of national and international policy measures. The delegates will recall the Guidelines are indeed divided between these two sets of measures.

Guidelines 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 do refer to national policies regarding production investment, national policies, nutritional policies, etc. We feel that the report does discuss the progress in national policies in the developing countries, particularly paragraph 106 in the summary section. It does point out that to improve the situation within the framework offered by the Guidelines requires renewed determination by all governments. We agree with the suggestions made by the delegate of Libya that the report in future should indicate progress under each of the four groups of Guidelines, in addition to monitoring the progress under each of the Guidelines separately. Undoubtedly this will improve both the quality of analysis and presentation.

In view of the discussions under revision of policy guidelines I would like to suggest an amendment in the timetable suggested for the revision of the guidelines as presented in the document, we suggested that the circulation of the Secretariat's draft proposals for the revision of the Guidelines to all member governments take place in November/December 1980. We are proposing a modification of this to February 1981, rather than November/December 1980. Consequently the next step, which is the organization by the Director-General of an ad hoc working party to meet at the originally proposed date February/March 1981 we now suggest it should be April or May 1981, to examine the Secretariat's draft proposals.

This, Mr. Chairman, appears to be more appropriate in view of the discussion especially in view of the need to wait until the new International Development Strategy is formally adopted by the General Assembly.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. We have listened today to more than 28 speakers and with regard to the second report on agricultural adjustment there was a consensus that the document has dealt with the topic in a good manner and that there is a consensus in regard to its general conclusions. Some of you have expressed the view that there is not sufficient progress while others have expressed some optimism that there is some progress in some other fields. With regard to this part of the report I think that what has been recorded, I mean the observations made by the Secretariat, that should be treated within the framework of the Drafting Committee, I do not think there should be any necessity for dealing with this part because the Drafting Committee will be dealing with it with honesty and efficiency. There still remains the revision of the Guidelines of International Agricultural Adjustment and the timetable. In this respect you might remember that the Committee on Commodity Problems has dealt with this topic and discussed it in detail to a large extent, and in this Committee, therefore, many viewpoints have been expressed so there is the necessity of revising such Guidelines and to agree on the timetable suggested by the Secretariat, while other groups have expressed their opinion mainly that revision of such Guidelines would be premature. Either because these Guidelines had not been clarified in terms of time or because we should not review such Guidelines without knowing the conclusions of the International New Strategy. Anyway, the Committee on Commodity Problems agreed on the proposals and the necessity of revision and timetables and then the Council, the PAD Council, studied the Report of this Committee as being one of the Committees to the Council. The Council agreed on this Report and transferred it to the Conference with the recommendation to adopt such a Report.

Now when this issue was submitted to us in the morning session, and in the afternoon as well, the main discussion was repeated as happened in the Committee on Commodity Problems and in the Council. We find that many delegates have asserted their agreement on the topic of revising such Guidelines and timetables, while some other groups of countries found that it is difficult to revise such Guidelines though they regard such difficulties as mainly in the timing, because they consider that this is premature to review such guidelines. Some others have expressed their concern over the nature of the changes proposed with regard to such Guidelines, despite the fact that some of the delegates have thought that there might be a necessity of changing one word here or there.

I do not know whether I am expressing the feelings of the Committee when I say that there are no differences of opinion that the Guidelines are in need of such review as long as we deem it appropriate in the light of the international development in terms of agriculture, trade and industry, and taking into consideration the objective of the new strategy that would be decided, of course, by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and to take into consideration the conclusions that have been realized by the other agencies. Particularly that the timetable as adjusted gives an ample chance that such review should be made in accordance with the development I referred to and this would be confirmed after listening to Dr. Nurul Islam, that there is an extension of about three months for introducing some changes. That means that we still have ample time, and the whole picture with regard to the new international strategy and other conclusions will be clearer.

After having listened to some of the speakers this afternoon I think I can say that there is a consensus, first, on the necessity of reviewing and amending the guidelines of agricultural adjustment and, secondly, that this could be done in accordance with the timetable and the steps suggested, as amended by the Secretariat.

If the Commission feels that to be an accurate summary of what has been discussed, I think we might stop there. However, I should like to add one thing. I should like to thank all those who have made it possible to reach such a consensus of opinion.

It seems there is agreement on what I have said, so, having discussed this matter in detail, I think we should now move to the second point on our agenda today.

8. 2 "Agriculture: Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture up to the end of the century)
8. 2 "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" (Etude FAD des perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle)
8. 2 "La agricultura hacia el año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines del siglo)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic):Item 8. 2, on "Agriculture: Toward 2000", gives us the opportunity to leave the past as well as the present and to look forward to the future, hoping that the whole picture in the future will be brighter than it has been in the past. The documents under discussion will be C 79/20, C 79/20 Supp. 1, C 79/24 and C 79/33.

Before opening the discussion I call upon Dr. Islam, who will introduce this important document.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Department):In view of the very bulky size of this report and the very wide range of issues covered, I hope the Commission will forgive me if my introduction tends to be rather long.

At the outset I should like to mention that the report, Agriculture: Toward 2000 which has been submitted to the Conference is a provisional report. We intend to revise it in the light of suggestions and comments made by the Conference. We would also have consultations on this report at the regional level next year on the implications of it for various regions and we hope that these consultations will also help us revise the report.

The study, Agriculture: Toward 2000, is not a forecast, and I should like to emphasize that. It is not a statement of what is likely to happen, nor of what is most probable. It is an analysis of the possibilities for the future in the field of world food and agriculture, provided certain measures are adopted, provided certain changes in institutions take place, provided the resources, as indicated in the report, are available. It deals with issues and questions which are relevant to the formulation of the New International Development Strategy and for the ongoing North/South negotiations on such aspects as trade, investment, international assistance and so on.

Examples of questions which the study asks are as follows:

What are the prospects of acceleration in the rate of growth of agricultural production in the developing countries?

What are the overall rates of economic growth which are consistent with a considerable acceleration in agricultural growth?

What are the prospects of self-sufficiency in the developing countries in respect of food production?

What are the requirements in terms of expansion of arable land, as well as increase in yield per hectare, to achieve the assumed rate of growth in agriculture?

What is the increase in requirements of current inputs, such as fertilizers, pesticides, and so on? What are the implications for capital investment, for food assistance, for trade? What are the prospects for the alleviation of hunger and under nutrition?

What is the role of distributive measures as against measures for accelerating growth as an instrument for the alleviation of poverty?

To each of these questions the study attempts to provide quantitative answers, as well as an analysis of changes in policies and institutions required to achieve such results.

The results of this report have been presented in the various inter-agency forums of the United Nations system to interphase with other sectoral studies, as well as with those relating to macro-economic analysis of world economic growth. This interphasing is not as yet over. The assumptions we have made relating to the rate of overall growth of both developed and developing countries are derived from the present state of these deliberations.

The scenario within the context of which the implications of an accelerated agricultural growth are worked out involves a rate of growth in overall income in the developing countries of 7.7 percent until the end of the century. Within the overall rate of growth of 7.7 percent assumed for the developing world as a whole, in so far as the low income countries are concerned it is assumed that their per capita income would double by the end of the century. In view of their level of poverty at the present moment, this seems to be a minimum desirable target. The overall rate of growth of the developing countries at 7.7 percent until the end of the century implies an acceleration to about 7.3 percent during the 1980s and

8 percent during the 1990s. I may hasten to mention here that in our revised report we intend to work out an additional, less optimistic scenario, with a lower rate of overall growth of income in the developing countries as well as in the developed countries.

Within the context of this overall rate of growth, the rate of acceleration in agricultural production postulated is an average 3.8 percent until the end of the century, rising to 4 percent during the 1980s and going down in the 1990s. This compares with 2.8-2.9 percent in the last decade. This implies a doubling of agricultural and food output by the end of the century in the developing world.

Given the optimistic assumption regarding the growth of income, demand for cereals goes up, not only for food but also for feed for sustaining increased production of live stock products, especially in the middle income and oil exporting countries.

This high rate of growth in agriculture is envisaged in the context of sustained efforts to increase, or at least maintain, the self-sufficiency of developing countries in food, having regard to possibilities of raw materials exports. If this high rate of growth is not achieved and the past trend rate of agricultural growth is maintained, there will be a large increase in import demand for food.

The cereal imports of food deficit countries under the high income growth assumption will go up to 80 million tons in 1990 and 134 million tons by the end of the century, that is almost double and three times respectively the average imports in 1974-76, whereas if the trend continues food imports will go up to 114 million tons and 177 million tons respectively at 2000.

The consequences of the continuation of past trends will indeed be aggravation of under nutrition, especially if the larger imports assumed under the trend scenario are not met.

The trend scenario also implies a decline in the trade balance from \$12 billion of surplus in 1974-76 (average) to an almost equivalent amount of deficit in 1990 and a three times larger deficit in 2000. The ability of the developing countries to secure higher imports of food under the trend scenario will therefore be severely restricted.

What are the implications of this accelerated growth in agricultural production? The physical resources, land and water resources, in the developing countries and the presently known technology, if vigorously implemented, are more than sufficient for agriculture to achieve this rate of growth in agricultural production by the end of the century.

What does it imply in terms of investment? Investment must go up to \$57 billion in 1990 and \$78 billion in 2000 in crop and livestock production, including storage and marketing. Taking investment in transport and first-stage processing as also included, the needed amount would go up to \$78 billion in 1990 and \$107 billion in 2000. The most important thing to note here is that a large part of this investment, almost between 35 and 40 percent, is in replacement investment for depreciation of capital stock.

The preliminary estimates of net investment, including processing, in the fishery sector work out at an annual average of \$35 billion between 1990 and 2000; in the forestry sector, the annual average of net investment works out between \$12-\$18 billion during the same period.

Required annual expenditures on current inputs such as fertilizers, seeds and pesticides, would also have to increase substantially to about the amounts mentioned for capital investment.

These estimates emphasize that agricultural development requires massive investment, and that it cannot be achieved on the cheap. The alleviation of poverty and hunger is a very expensive undertaking in terms of resource mobilization required both within the developing world and in terms of external assistance.

In spite of the intensification of the mobilization of domestic resources, there will be need for considerable external assistance. Foreign assistance requirements for capital investment, current inputs and technical assistance would be about \$13 billion in 1990 and \$17 billion in the year 2000.

The implications for changes in policies and institutions are also very considerable.

The role of incentives to farmers and agricultural producers is critical. The maintenance of a favourable term of trade, at least the avoidance of an adverse term of trade, for agriculture is important. An appropriate pricing policy which reconciles the need for incentives for producers and low prices for consumers can hardly be overemphasized. The lack of purchasing power or effective demand has to be mitigated by expansion of employment and income for the poor. In the long-run advances in agricultural productivity would moderate a rise in food prices. Great improvements are needed in education, extension, provision of inputs, credits and services to the agricultural sector, including development of efficient institutional arrangements for delivery, and implementation-delivery of inputs and implementation of agricultural development programmes.

What would be the state of undernourishment by the end of the century as a result of this large increase in investment and food production?

If the high rate of increase in income and effective demand postulated under the optimistic scenario is realized, and if the supplies to match this demand are available from both domestic production and imports as envisaged in the optimistic scenario, the proportion of population undernourished would fall from the prevailing 22 percent to 12 percent by 1990 and 7 percent by 2000 in the developing countries as a whole. The absolute number involved would still remain substantial at about 325 million in 1990 and 240 million in the year 2000. The situation could turn out to be much worse if the optimistic assumption of the high rate growth of income and demand and matching supplies are not realized. Even if food imports of the order indicated under the trend scenario could be financed, the estimate of undernourished population under the trend scenario could at best be stabilized in the area of 400 million people by the end of the century.

This is a sobering conclusion derived from the study: that is, in spite of high rates of growth of income and in spite of increased supplies at a rate much higher than in the past, a large percentage of the population would remain undernourished unless redistributed measures are adopted. Increase in employment and income of the poor and undernourished is an essential condition for alleviating hunger and under nutrition. Income and effective demand of the poorer sections of the population have to rise faster than that of the rest of the community. This would imply redirection of investment expenditures towards the poor as well as increased expenditures on health, education, and other social services which have a bearing both direct and indirect on the state of under nutrition. No less important are the policies relating to the distribution and marketing of food, as well as pricing policies, especially in respect of availability of food for the vulnerable groups.

The relationship between agricultural growth and rural poverty is a complex one and has been the subject of recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development Programme of Action. The programme emphasizes that national progress based on growth with equity and participation requires a redistribution of the economic and political power; it requires more equitable access to land, water and other productive resources.

No less important is the expansion of non-agricultural employment and income in both rural and urban areas. The problem of rural poverty cannot be sought in agriculture alone. The non-agricultural sector would become increasingly important as a source of income and employment.

What are the implications for trade and external assistance in this kind of scenario? Even under the most optimistic assumptions, food imports for all developing countries, as I stated earlier, go up to 85 million tons in 1990 and 150 million tons in 2000. This is for all developing countries; but if we consider only the food deficit countries, it will go up to 80 million tons and 134 million tons respectively in 1990 and 2000. In spite of such a high rate of growth of domestic output, food imports continue to rise. This is primarily because demand also goes up fast, given the assumed rate of growth of income and demand. 35 percent of the total increase in import demand for cereals originates in the most vulnerable group of countries; the larger part of course originates in the middle income and higher income countries.

An analysis has been made of the export prospects of the developed countries to meet the growing food import needs and other import requirements. The agricultural sector needs to provide its share in increasing the export earnings of the developing countries to finance their growing import needs. The production of agricultural raw materials for exports could be substantially increased, in spite of priority given to domestic food production. Agricultural exports could grow at 4.3 percent and 5 percent respectively during the 1980s and 1990s. The share of agricultural exports of developing countries

could thus grow to 50 percent of the world trade in agriculture, from the past share of about 35-38 percent. The net positive trade balance in terms of agricultural commodities could treble from \$10 billion to \$30 billion by 2000. To the extent that a proportion of this increase in exports will be in the processed form, the total value of exports could be even higher.

This level of export performance on the part of the developing countries would depend upon three preconditions, given the assumed rate of increase and demand growth in the developed countries.

1. Trade liberalization in the developed countries;
2. Expansion of trade amongst developing countries in agricultural commodities;
3. No fall in the prices of export commodities as the volume of exports expands.

The study does analyse how the developed countries can respond to the trade implications of the growth in the developing countries. There is need for their large food imports, on the one hand, and expansion of exports of agricultural raw materials, on the other. The developed countries would need to absorb a considerably larger quantity of imports of raw materials from developing countries, and in turn would be able to export a considerably larger quantity of food.

The food production capacity in the developed countries is adequate to meet the needs of world trade as well as to adjust to the expansion of imports from the developing countries.

This all the more emphasizes the need for early action on the part of the developed countries in initiating the process of domestic adjustment.

I would add a few words on forestry and fisheries. In both these sectors, potential demand exceeds supply. Even with a drastic reduction of fishery going into fish meal and assuming that such fish could be made acceptable as food, demand exceeds supply, even if past trends continue. The main requirement in fishing is for increased investment infrastructure for better handling of fishing and improving market opportunities. Related to this is the problem of research on and utilization and management of exclusive local zones.

Both in the trend and normative scenarios, there is an increasing shortage of fuel wood. Moreover, an increasing demand for industrial wood on supply would lead to a pressure on prices. Village level extensive planting is suggested and investment requirements for logging and primary transportation alone are expected to be at \$1 billion annually.

We would be looking forward to the comments and suggestions of the distinguished delegates on the report. I would like to mention here that in order to facilitate the discussions in the UN Preparatory Committee on the new International Development Strategy, the Conference may like to request the Director-General to transmit to the United Nations General Assembly and its Preparatory Committee the report of the FAO Conference on this subject and, in particular, the salient features of the study, as summarised earlier.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I thank Dr. Nurul Islam for his very comprehensive introductory statement on this vast subject. I do not at this juncture want to add any comments to what Dr. Nurul Islam has just said, except to point out that this document and its subject in fact fall, as you may well be aware, within the eighth item, which deals with the Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly and for the New International Development Strategy. Therefore, it will I think be useful if, while discussing this document, we can refer clearly to the very nature or quality of the aids or participation that this Conference and this Committee could provide in the preparations for this forthcoming conference. It is a simple proposal which I am making: that we should not only comment on the adequacy, fruitfulness, or accuracy of the figures of the document, but that we should at the same time try to come up with some form of document or statement which would be our own contribution to the Preparatory Committee and to the work of this Special Session of the General Assembly that is to say, as part of the preparations being undertaken for this New International Strategy.

H. MENDS (Ghana): I must first of all pay tribute to Dr. Nurul Islam for the very excellent and comprehensive introduction he has given on this particular item.

My delegation would like to express its appreciation for the considerable amount of work that has gone into the preparation of "Agriculture: Toward 2000" and for the timely completion of the provisional report. We are also heartened by the assurance given by Professor Islam that the study will be kept under constant review. We hope that the updating materials will be brought to our notice in the appropriate forum in our Organization.

We note that the main message of this study is that the developing countries could make substantial progress in their agriculture: consider, for example, the possibility of doubling the total output between 1980 and the year 2000 or the increase in cereals output by over 400 million tons. In terms of growth rates, this would mean an acceleration of gross output growth of 4 percent during the 1980s and 3.7 percent during the 1990s.

The study makes the point that for improvements in production performance to materialize, the pace of modernization of agriculture must be speeded up. But accelerated growth in agricultural production must necessarily be accompanied by massive doses of investment in irrigation and in the use of modern inputs. For irrigation, the study indicates a needed addition of about 55 million to 100 million hectares of the existing land. The investment estimates of the study give an idea of the magnitude of the efforts required to bring developing country agriculture on the path to accelerated growth. Annual gross agriculture investment would need to double over the 20 year period from \$39 billion in 1980 to \$57 billion in 1990 and \$78 billion by the year 2000; if one were to include supporting investments in transport and first stage processing the requirements would be even higher, as we have been told by Dr. Islam, and these would be \$52, \$78 and \$107 billion respectively. The study rightly emphasizes that by far the major part of the efforts should be borne by developing countries. Foreign assistance requirements for investment financing purposes would be \$10.3 billion in 1990 and \$13.3 billion in 2000. For the purposes of our debate in this Commission, Professor Islam divides the study into two scenarios the normative and the trend, and I think that is quite appropriate.

Foreign assistance for investment financing is not the only area in which continued and intensified international cooperation would be needed. We note with alarm, though with appreciation for its realism, that the developing countries would continue to be increasingly dependent on cereal imports from the developed countries. Cereal import requirements of the net deficit among the 90 countries of the study would grow from 47 million tons in the mid 70s. to 79 million tons in 1990 and 134 million tons by 2000, even under the normative scenario. The situation would be much worse under the trend scenario, the corresponding numbers being 114 million tons and 177 million tons for 1990 and 2000 respectively.

It is in this spirit that my delegation would review the assessment of the report that an increasing volume of agricultural exports could be forthcoming from the developing countries at growth rates of 4.3 percent and 5.0 percent per annum over the 1980s. ; and 1990s respectively. But for such potential to materialize as actual exports, substantial liberalization in imports and agricultural protection regimes will be necessary, particularly in the developed countries. Such exports, and also exports of manufacture should be viewed as a means of payment for increasing imports of cereals. Otherwise the foreign debt burden of the developing countries would continue to mount at an alarming rate. Unless substantial progress is made in this area, the developing countries could very well see their positive net agricultural trade balance turn into a deficit in the not too distant future. This point has been greatly emphasized by numerous Heads of Delegations in the general discussion in the Plenary.

We note also with alarm that even under the accelerated overall and agricultural growth of the normative scenario the problem of hunger and under nutrition in the countries studied is not going to disappear even by the end of the century. Although the problem could be reduced significantly in relative terms (the proportion of population under-nourished falling from 22 percent to 12 percent in 1990 and to 7 percent in 2000), the absolute numbers involved could still remain substantial at nearly a quarter of a billion people by the end of the century. Naturally, the situation could turn out to be much worse if the optimistic assessments of the normative scenario failed to materialize, and this I think, was the main concern of the French Delegation in its intervention in the Plenary. The study rightly emphasizes that access of the poor and under-nourished to food supplies is an indispensable condition for effectively dealing with this problem. As has been pointed out by many Heads of Delegations, and as the recent World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development Programme of Action emphasizes, growth is not enough; we must pursue policies for institutional change and more equal distribution of assets and income. Moreover, we need to be aware that the

solution of the problem of rural poverty is not to be sought in agriculture alone. Non-agricultural activities in the rural areas would need to play an increasingly important role in this respect.

In the context of the above estimates of food deficits and numbers of under-nourished, the food aid estimates of this study are rather modest: a doubling of cereals aid to 20 million tons by 1990 under the normative scenario, as described by the study, and an increase by a factor of just over 3 over the same period under the trend scenario. In the opinion of my delegation, provision of food aid at the above rates would not unduly strain the capabilities of the donor countries.

In the light of this brief analysis, my Delegation would like to propose that the Conference should request the Director-General of FAO to transmit to the UN General Assembly and the Preparatory Committee for the formulation of the New International Development Strategy the salient findings of this study as follows and I do this because, as the Rapporteur, fortunately I have had a bird's eye view of the various interventions of the Heads of Delegations.

Adequate prominence should be given to food and agriculture in the development of the New International Development Strategy for the 1980's.

FAO has examined the implications of a 4 percent a year gross agricultural production target (3.6 percent value added) and of a continuation of trends (2.7 to 2.9 percent production growth, depending on the period chosen) for the developing countries. The continuation of past trends results in acceptable consequences for levels of living and nutrition. Provided necessary measures are adopted, it is feasible to accelerate the rate of growth in agriculture to an average of 4 percent during the 1980's and to a slightly lower rate in the 1990's so that average growth to the end of the century works out at 3.8 percent per year.

Self-sufficiency in food, nationally and collectively on the part of developing countries, is conditional upon an accelerated domestic production as envisaged above.

An acceleration in the rate of growth to the extent indicated above would require sustained and concerted efforts, national and international. It would necessitate greatly increased investment in agriculture and far-reaching changes in rural institutions, fiscal and pricing policies and incentives for farmers.

Under the normative scenario described by Professor Islam, in FAO's study of Agriculture: Toward 2000, about 330 million people in the developing market economies would still be under-nourished in 1990, and about 240 million in the year 2000, if income distribution remains unchanged. By this there would be a commitment to undertake the necessary nutritional and income redistribution measures for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition at the earliest possible date and certainly by the end of the century.

Annual investment in agriculture, excluding transport and processing, in the developing countries should rise by 1990 to \$57 billion in 1975 prices, in order to meet the production target, and then \$78 billion by 2000.

This target would require an increase in external assistance from the \$4.3 billion committed in 1977 to a minimum of \$12.7 billion at 1975 prices by 1990 and \$16.8 billion by the year 2000.

Annual expenditures on off-farm current inputs as fertilizers, improved seeds and pesticides in the developing countries should rise by 1990 to \$53 billion at 1975 prices, in order to meet the 4 percent gross production target, and then to \$93 billion in the year 2000.

The achievement of equity and reduction in poverty requires equitable access to land and other production resources, efficient and equitable delivery of inputs and services to rural people, and the full mobilization of rural people, including women, through organizations of their own, and the decentralization of decision-making. Where necessary, governments will need to show enough political will to consider institutional and policy changes, including land reform.

As agreed at the recent World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Development, governments should set monitorable targets for rural development including income and employment opportunities, especially for the landless, and minimum levels of public utilities and services. In addition increased agricultural employment, a rapid growth of non-agricultural rural employment opportunities is required, especially through the expansion of rural industries and infrastructures.

Growth of 4.3 percent per annum in the area of agricultural development for export for the developing countries during the 1980's is considered quite feasible by the PAD Study. This could rise to 5 percent even in the 1990's. However, it is necessary for protectionism in the developed countries to be greatly reduced for this production potential actually to materialize as exports.

The recently declining share of the world total of agriculture provided by developing countries should be revised with a target share of 50 percent by the end of the century and at least 40 percent by the year 1990. Continued aid will continue to be necessary and the requirements of food aid are estimated to be a minimum of 20 million tons by 1990.

My delegation sincerely believes that if these things I have enumerated are done, then and only then shall we have taken the important steps to move from the talking stage to action in implementation that will remove the scourge of hunger, malnutrition, rural unproductiveness and rank poverty. I therefore urge the Conference to adopt these proposals.

Salmon Padmanagara, Vice Chairman of Commission I. took the Chair

Salmon Padmanagara, Vice Président de la Commission I assume la Présidence

Ocupa la presidencia Salmon Padmanagara. Vicepresidente de la Comisión I

M. TRKÛLJA (Yugoslavia): We are also very grateful to Dr. Islam who excellently presented the Study "Agriculture: Toward 2000". As the head of my delegation, the Minister of Agriculture, already indicated in Plenary, my delegation attaches great importance to AT 2000 and indeed we are inclined to see it as one of the most prominent amongst many important items before the Conference. We have always given full support to this project. I am glad to state our feelings that the Study is worthy of the funds spent on it. AT 2000 is an able successor to the 196. 9 Provisional Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development which contributed to and indeed made possible the success of the World Food Conference. I could not but stress that AT 2000 compares in our view very favourably indeed not only with its predecessor but also with a real flood of global food studies that appeared in recent years apparently as a consequence of the food crisis during the early 1970's. The Study has in our view demonstrated again the FAO's authority and indeed its irreplaceable role in providing global food assessment and long-term strategy. Therefore, our compliments to the Director-General, Dr. Islam, and the authors of the Study.

For us AT 2000 is much more, to say the least, than a professionally good work. We feel that it fully serves its original purpose and comes at a very critical moment on the eve of a new decade, a decade with a very grave inheritance of unjustified hopes and indeed frustrations from the one which is just expiring. AT 2000 helps us understand better, as we stated in Plenary, the challenges ahead and the magnitude of the task confronting all of us, nationally and internationally, between now and the turn of the century, if we seriously want to solve the world food problem and eradicate, as we declared solemnly a couple of years ago, hunger from this planet. One of the unique features of the AT 2000 is its overall frame. Methodologically it was undoubtedly a justified choice to investigate on the one hand the consequences of the continuation of the tendencies prevailing in the past, and by implication continuation of the past policies, and on the other hand to search meticulously all vital prerequisites for attaining the food production objective of developing countries to which we have all agreed long ago. In this connexion I might add that it will be rational to discuss the realism of the scenario except of course from the purely professional point of view. Politically speaking to question the realism of the scenario again, by very obvious implication, would mean nothing but questioning the objective that we have I hope all adhered to long ago as I mentioned, and that would amount to the same questioning, the policy changes or reorientations required for its attainment.

As the Director-General underlined in his introduction to the Study, the basic purpose of AT 2000 is to show what the establishment of the NIBO in food and agriculture means, not in rhetoric, but in very concrete terms. In this respect AT 2000 in our view deserves a very high mark indeed. The Study has answered with high professional skill and honesty all essentially relevant questions. In view of the time I cannot go into details. However, you will certainly allow me to comment briefly on some of the most important features and findings of the Study.

Firstly, AT 2000 has only corroborated our long-standing views to the effect that the basic precondition for solving food problems of the developing countries, of course, probably the least developed and most seriously affected among them, is accelerated economic development-fast enough as we again stated in Plenary to reverse the long-term tendency of widening the already huge gap between them and the developed world. Here again, we see clearly that there is no point in striving for an isolated NIBO in agriculture along. In this context it seems pertinent to raise an issue which has, we feel, substantial importance. Namely, it seems to us that the trend variant of AT 2000 is unduly optimistic as compared, for example, with some other global studies of a similar nature. I might only, for the sake of illustration, mention perhaps the recent Free university study which certainly reveals a much more gloomy future picture if past trends continue. It is indeed difficult to see how it was

possible to achieve growth of agricultural production in developing countries and between now and the year 2000 slightly above the past performance under the "continuation" assumption, especially in the light of the unfortunately very apparent tendency towards the slowing down of agricultural growth rate in the late 1960's and early 1970's. On the basis of what Dr. Islam indicated in his presentation we can only suppose that the trend alternative is not a trend alternative in the real sense but one purely based on the extrapolation of prevailing trends in the past. It seems that a number of corrective assumptions must have been introduced but unfortunately not explained in the text. If this is so, the results of the trend alternative would be very misleading. But in any case we would certainly welcome very much some additional explanations with regard to what I have said.

Now about the heart of the Study: the normative scenario. We have very little to say with regard to the general assumptions on OIF or population growth. The choice seems to us not only realistic but the only possible. Generally speaking, the technological path assumed looks realistic. We can call it a "very intensified traditional technological path" with land increase supposed to contribute moderately only 1 percentage point, or about 28 percent to the production growth and of course intensification being the predominant source. In this context, irrigation is one of the key issues. AT 2000 assumes a modest increase in irrigated land and even a comparable improvement in irrigation systems. We feel some uneasiness with the fact that the future increase and improvement in irrigated area, according to AT 2000, would be slightly lower than in the past. Here again if possible we would certainly appreciate some further justification from the Secretariat—probably Dr. Islam.

A couple of brief comments on other vital prerequisites for 4 percent production growth in the next decade. I must say again that AT 2000 only corroborated my own earlier numerous findings to the effect that investment will be the most critical factor, despite the fact, as the Study pointed out, that "the strategy underlying agricultural production growth relies more heavily on growth of modern input and technology than on investment". In the light of this, the investment estimate could be taken in our view only as the minimum really necessary as a basic and most vital prerequisite for obtaining the 4 percent objective. It is worth noting that the Study reassessment of the 1975 level of investment, that is \$41 billion, is substantially above the previously supposed level of investment.

The future investment needs estimate on the basis of physical dimensions as it is called in the Study, is undoubtedly the most reliable approach. However, despite the very cautious, if not conservative, estimate, the level of investment has to be substantially increased and should be highly above the level previously supposed, and almost more or less agreed. The external assistance component in investment required, covering 80 percent of the future foreign exchange requirements, as against about 95 percent now, also seemed moderate. With regard to current inputs from AT 2000, we also very clearly see how enormous tasks are facing developing countries in the years ahead. I will certainly not continue to review all the essential components, fertilizers, pesticides, research—agricultural research—which is extremely essential and a prerequisite for future developments, and all others I would certainly wish before I end only to touch upon some of the basic policy changes which are in our minds necessary and essential for triggering up the very complex process of rural and agricultural development, leading eventually to a 4 percent objective.

Here, Mr. Chairman, AT 2000 clearly demonstrates the need for radical changes in all respects, first of all the need for rationalization of internal agricultural patterns in most of the developing countries and for radical change in international trade, of course, meaning that protectionism in this field should be very substantially decreased. Then massive increase in investments, in its external components, in particular transitory but still very substantial increase in trade, technical assistance, etc.

Really, Mr. Chairman, AT 2000 has not only shown clearly the magnitude of the task ahead in the 1980s and 1990s, but at the same time it should be seen as a very wide basis for setting up the new standards for measuring national and international actions, aimed at reaching the objective to which I have so many times referred. Thus making possible the alleviation of hunger and malnutrition as soon as possible as the Study states, but certainly not later than by the year 2000.

Mr. Chairman, I am just about to end my statement and since one of the basic objectives of the AT 2000 is, of course, to provide substantial input in relation to the International Development Strategy for the 1980's, I want to support fully the set of recommendations, the salient features, or findings of the AT 2000 as proposed by my Ghanaian colleague, the Rapporteur, as he himself indicated. He has I think spoken not only on behalf of this delegation but also largely transmitted the prevailing theme from Plenary.

H. KR. SEIP (Norway): Thank you Mr Chairman. The Nordic countries, namely Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway regard this document as a very important one in the UN context because of its long-term perspective, the Study provides in our opinion valuable background material which will be useful both

to the FAO and to member nations for their future agricultural policy planning We hope it will contribute to an increased allocation of resources to the agricultural, fishery and forestry sectors within the overall development strategy.

The Study is not a set of prophecies or predictions, as the Director-General has already pointed out, it is more an analysis of the implication derived from certain given assumptions about demographic and economic development rates and patterns.

These assumptions and the method of analysis used raise some questions for further clarification. The Study examines two various scenarios of agricultural development for the future. Given its rather conventional point of departure, the Study provides a valuable over-view of the options for the reduction of hunger by conventional methods. Here, the message of the document is that even with the ambitious or normative rate of growth of production an unacceptably high number of people, 240 millions, will still suffer from malnutrition and hunger by the year 2000.

The Nordic countries want to mention some issues which should be considered in the revision of the content and presentation of the Study.

The number of hungry and malnourished people by the year 2000 as today, necessarily depends on the policies of distribution within the individual countries. For FAO to publish the results of its analysis[^] based on strategy which does not include changes in the socio-economic system in general and distribution in particular seems to us ill advised and potentially misleading.

A major task for the revision of AT 2000 will be, in the opinion of the Nordic countries, to relate it much more closely to the WCARRD recommendations which urge member countries to consider and implement policies of agrarian reform.

Being a Study carried out, or at least presented at a highly aggregated level, the Study lacks a differentiated analysis of the problems of the various segments of the rural population, including the special problems of the female food producers.

The Study largely ignores the energy problems created by agricultural expansion at the rate and of the patterns stipulated in AT 2000,

The Study does not treat ecological aspects of development, for instance the problem created by deforestation. Thus it is explicitly stated in the Study that the world is going through shortages in the supply of wood. It also seems clear that large scale investments are needed to overcome this problem. The problem of how to create funds for this activity is, however, not discussed in the Study

The Study is only to a small degree concerned with relations between agricultural and other sectors of the economy.

The Study generalizes too much the conditions in developing countries; the insight gained of differences between countries is as valuable as the traits of similarity.

The Study does not include China. We urge that available data from China be included in the revision of the Study.

In this forum, Mr. Chairman, it may be commonplace to emphasize that the fight against hunger and poverty in rural areas is the most important task of the agricultural sector towards the year 2000. The Study shows that the main food deficit will be in low-income countries, which have climatic, institutional and demographic constraint, that cannot be rapidly moved and whose export earnings are too small to pay for major food imports.

The most important task for FAO must, therefore, be to aid these food-deficit countries in their efforts to fight hunger through increased production in agriculture, fishery and forestry, and by devising institutions and policies for equitable distribution of the food produced. This is important with the message of WCARRD, and it must be reflected in the formulation of the Organization's Medium Term Objectives.

The Nordic countries have found that the message conveyed by AT 2000 is different from that of WCARRD, In AT 2000 increased production through the use of modern technology is launched as the most important aspect. The Nordic countries would like to point out that this in itself does not guarantee an improvement in the conditions of the poor.

Furthermore, the question has to be raised whether it is possible to apply sophisticated technology on a global scale without getting into serious problems of energy and ecology. We are today aware that such technology has its weaknesses, particularly by its impact on the environment, and all countries should critically consider avoiding unintended consequences of their various technological choices. Large-scale mechanized farming has its place in certain circumstances, but it is our considered judgement that the key to solving hunger problems lies in mobilizing the rural masses. We must have in mind that mankind constitutes an enormous resource in many poor regions, and appropriate equipment in their hands, together with training, education and use of local experience, will obviously result in a considerable augmentation of the food production.

AT 2000 demonstrates too little confidence in the ability of the affected people in the developing countries to do anything themselves about their situation. In our view in AT 2000 the question about enough food is, to a large extent, turned into a question of transfer of knowledge and resources from rich to poor countries. Such transfer is evidently important and we are prepared to do our utmost. WCARRD, however, emphasized that structural obstacles in the rural areas are more important to the food problem. This again points to the question of political will and ability.

The future may, perhaps, bring about even more variety than today in national development strategies. More international strategies

In the past agriculture has often been neglected by many governments with serious economic and human consequences. They have regarded industrialization as the primary root to higher growth and modernization of their economies. In many instances they have adopted investment, or pricing policies, which were actively biased against agriculture. There has been far too little awareness of the critical role of agriculture as a dynamic sector for the supply of food for the rapidly expanding populations, and for the supply of raw materials for industry and for resources for the development of social infrastructure.

The economic consequences have been low growth in agricultural productivity, limited capital accumulation in agriculture and agro-industries and inadequate growth in rural incomes. With this in mind, we agree with the view expressed in the Study that a more active agricultural and food policy is needed. In this connexion the Study suggests as appropriate means that the developing countries should establish minimum import prices, government support for the purchase of farm inputs and remunerative producer prices to promote higher production. The Nordic countries welcome such suggestions. We would stress that this would require active government intervention programmes in order to secure, over time, a fair income to the farmers and living wages to farm labourers, as well as to achieve a type of production that could meet the national needs.

The anticipated rates of economic growth shown in AT 2000 seem to be rather optimistic. However, more realistic levels must not lead to a pessimistic attitude towards the problems. By a redistribution of land and other resources and by having a more equitable level of income it is realistic to look forward to a situation in which fewer people suffer from hunger.

In general we believe that the study stresses too much the link between rates of growth and the eradication of hunger. Some countries have shown that at a certain stage in their development they can effectively fight their hunger problems even though their rates of growth may be rather low. Fighting hunger and poverty might well be a prerequisite for higher rates of growth in many of the most affected countries.

Having in mind the insufficient world food production and the insecure food supply, there are valid reasons for the developed countries to maintain their domestic food production. This is also in accordance with the conclusions of the World Food Conference in 1974 recommending all countries to increase food production. The Nordic countries will, however, when designing their trade policy, pay due regard to the interests of the developing countries, in full accord with their commitments to the New International Economic Order. We would, however, like to express the opinion that it will be necessary in the revision of the study to differentiate between the trade aspects of agricultural commodities and those of foodstuffs. Since agricultural commodities account for a far greater share of the export earnings of developing countries than do foodstuffs, the Nordic countries believe that more emphasis should be placed on the problems and prospects of commodities as contributors to the development process in the Third World. This should be seen in relationship with the prospects for arriving at a new global trading regime, as envisaged in the New International Economic Order, which could bring about stable and remunerative prices to the producers and access to supply and fair prices for the consumers. This should also encompass a set of guidelines for the transnational corporations to ensure that they do not function to the detriment of the international community's efforts to combat world hunger.

The Nordic countries are of the opinion that a basic prerequisite for development is "people participation", as well as the political will of each country to let people have influence and the means of changing their own situation. This requires a more flexible approach than is demonstrated by AT 2000.

FAO might consider undertaking specific regional and country studies in order to show the variability within and between countries. Inevitably, global studies will have limitations.

The Nordic countries, however, appreciate the initiative taken by FAO in the development of AT 2000 and will follow its further work in this area with great interest., AT 2000 clearly demonstrates that FAO possesses both the manpower and the data base necessary for an improved and revised study.

W. WOLDEYES (Ethiopia): First and foremost the Ethiopian Delegation would like to congratulate Dr. Islam and his staff on preparing and presenting the valuable document, 'Agriculture : Toward 2000? The document is the main source of information on the world's past, present and future in agriculture, which constitutes the most important single sector of the world's economy.

As indicated, the study presents a long-term perspective in aggregate terms, with reference to some principal indicators of development in the field of agriculture at the global level. The policy issues indicated in the study are quite important and are applicable even at country level. Those policy issues relate to abolishing hunger, restructuring for a new international economic order, external assistance, agriculture and industrialization and safeguarding the environment.

The analysis and methodology applied in the study are very useful and could be used for making similar analyses at country level as well. AT 2000 is a study of perspectives and policy issues of world agriculture up to the year 2000, with particular attention to developing countries, which are 90 in number. However, in this connexion, it is important to note that the type, quality and level of the data that are available should be considered. This study deals mainly with developing countries, and the development of agricultural statistics in these countries is very low. In some cases, some of the relevant data needed for making such studies are not reliable, or even not available; therefore FAO should give serious consideration to helping developing countries develop and improve their statistical data in general and their agricultural statistics data in particular.

The economy of most developing countries is based mainly on agriculture; therefore the development and improvement of national statistics is of primary importance for the efficient formulation and assessment of economic and social development plans and for planning economic integration, nutrition policies and land reform. Moreover, the development and improvement of statistics in these countries could help FAO in refining this study. The study can therefore be adjusted or improved as soon as FAO starts receiving more reliable data.

The type of data used for making this study are aggregates-i. e. , totals, averages. Even though this type of data can be used to make general analyses and conclusions, their limitations should be considered. For refined analysis, frequency distributions give a better view of the situation and thus one can reach better conclusions. To speed up the development of statistical data in developing countries, the possibility of using remote sensing should be considered.

To guide planners and policy makers, the possibility of developing a food accounting matrix should also be considered. The most important variables used for this study are population, income and consumption. In developing countries it might be easy to collect data on population, but it is very difficult to conduct surveys on income and consumption and very few developing countries have done it; therefore the quality of the data available on those characteristics are very deficient. Efforts should be made and priorities should be set in collecting and improving data on income and consumption for developing countries.

A. M. OSENI (Nigeria): Document C 79/24, "Agriculture : Toward 2000? is a very impressive and useful perspective for agriculture and the Secretariat as a whole is to be commended on this effort. I should like also to congratulate Dr. Islam on his excellent introduction.

After the detailed comments of the Delegate of Ghana, with which my delegation agrees, and also some of the comments, particularly on the sociological aspects, of the Delegate of Norway, I shall confine my comments to Chapter 7, which deals with prospects for world forestry.

This Chapter seems an admirably well-balanced projection of the state of the global forestry sector in the year 2000. It includes a proper emphasis on the use of firewood, which makes up 85 percent of the non-commercial energy in developing countries. It is estimated that 90 percent of Nigeria's wood consumption at present is for firewood. The situation of wood-poor countries and regions will be serious and even more stress might be laid on using wood fuel more efficiently, as stated in paragraph 52. This is related to the lack of data and plans, paragraph 23, and more emphasis might have been laid on this. The projections presented here would have been more reliable with a better data basis.

Conservation aspects are dealt with in paragraphs 43 to 50, but no attempt is made to quantify the areas required for plantations, for protection and rehabilitation. Even more emphasis might have been laid on the need for training and the constraint that the lack of skilled manpower could impose on achieving plantation targets.

G. CAMELARIS (Cyprus): The Conference document C 79/24, "Agriculture: Toward 2000", is indeed an outstanding contribution to the study of the perspective, potential, and policy issues of world agriculture towards the end of the century. A considerable amount of work and labour must undoubtedly have gone into its preparation, and the FAO Secretariat deserves our highest appreciation and sincerest congratulations. We look forward to its finalization on the basis of the discussions now in progress, and its publication in final form.

We sincerely believe that a comprehensive study of this nature, provisional though it may be in its present form, constitutes a basic foundation on which targets can be set, and orientations and policies pursued. A study of the world's potential in agriculture, its prospects and requirements is indeed a very required element from which we can build our efforts for the establishment of a New International Economic Order and for the formulation of a new International Development Strategy for the decades to come.

I shall not take up the Commission's time repeating statistics, rates and figures which are so well exposed and included in the document. Nevertheless I would like to note that those figures at least indicate that the potential exists for the developing world to more than double its agricultural and food production by the year 2000. This is indeed the most significant and encouraging message to emerge from this study to the world community as a whole, and should give us the strength to continue to work on the realization of this potential, primarily for the benefit of the unprivileged amongst us, who look upon this document as the beginning of the end of their sufferings.

We also note that the world's agricultural potential can be achieved, not only through an expansion of cultivated land, but primarily through an increase of yields from already cultivated land. Indeed, the low land and labour productivity of developing countries, although a real and unpleasant situation, constitutes an immense untapped capital resource for them, on which high targets can be set. But we should not forget for a single moment that the realization of the targets through increasing yields requires massive investments in such fields as land improvements, irrigation, fertilizers, pesticides, high-yield crops and animals, agricultural education, farm machinery, and the like. Happily enough for the world, both the knowledge and technology exist amongst us, and the issue remains of how these resources and technologies can reach the people who need them. It is indeed a striking contradiction, if not a shame, for humanity to possess this mass of knowledge and technology which alone could nearly double the world's food and agriculture production, and at the same time to see hundreds of millions of men, women and children around us dying because of the lack of a piece of bread or a plate of rice.

As this study reveals, annual gross agricultural investment would have to double over the next two decades, and even triple, if investments in supporting infrastructure such as transport, storage and processing is taken into account. The developing countries, though by no means unaware of their own responsibilities, have neither the amount of financial resources required, nor the necessary knowledge; and to wait for them to accumulate the resources required or to develop themselves all the necessary technologies would undoubtedly be too late. It is in this context that international cooperation and assistance acquires an extreme, unique dimension, and becomes a moral obligation for those who can extend a cooperative and helpful hand. Further still, the improvement of the international economic and trade environment becomes more urgent than ever before. Unhappily, expressions such as "the development of a New International Economic Order", "increase of international aid", "development of World Food Security", and "North-South dialogue", and the like mean more than what they really are.

It is frustrating to note that progress achieved in these fields is less and lower than the rate at which human beings are dying because of inadequacies in food production and development. For how long shall we witness and allow to continue this lamentable situation? The world has both the resources and the knowledge to reverse this situation and to create a happy world for the millions and millions of people who look upon us with hope for a true word of comfort.

The realization of the developing world's agricultural potential is revealed in this study, C 79/24. It puts a real and heavy responsibility on each one of us, both developing and developed countries. The developing countries must design and implement without delay those national policies and strategies which will make possible the realization of their considerable national potential in agricultural production and food production in particular. At the same time, with full respect to their national sovereignty, they should proceed to those institutional and social reforms which were agreed upon at

WCARRD last July, with a view to creating access to food and employment for the poor, the unemployed and the hungry, because simple increase of food production alone cannot eradicate hunger and malnutrition unless those who need it either participate in its production and have an equitable share in it, or other access to it through remunerative and stable employment-and of course increased incomes.

In the same context, the developed countries with high economic and technicological potential should genuinely and substantially join in this effort and provide all possible financial and technical assistance to the developing countries, There is no time to wait for developing countries themselves to accumulate alone all the financial resources required, or to develop alone all the know-how and technology required. Furthermore, the developed countries-in deed, in their interest as well, need to act quickly so that the international environment in the areas of trade and general economic relationships is improved.

I would suggest that both of these issues-the national and the international-be dealt with more extensively and exposed in greater detail in the revised version of document. "Agriculture: Toward 2000", provisional though it may be, shows us the immense world possibilities, and points out to us directions for immediate action. Our willingness or reluctance to respond quickly and positively is exclusively our own choice: our success or failure to realize this potential is exclusively our own responsibility, developing and developed countries alike. Our success will definitely constitute the most viable and long-lasting birthday present for our children in both hemispheres. Our possible failure or reluctance to handle this issue with realism and determination to succeed will unavoidably hurt them irreversibly, both in the developing countries and the developed world. The right time for action is now-the option is ours.

R. IBARBUREN (Argentina): Señor Presidente: Nuestro Gobierno reconoce a la FAO la labor densa e importante contenida en el documento C 79/24 y al Dr. Islam la síntesis introductiva.

Deseamos efectuar solamente algunas observaciones que tienen como objeto colaborar y tratar de conseguir una aclaración sobre aspectos metodológicos que hacen al mencionado documento.

El documento prevé un aumento significativo de la producción agrícola entre 1975 y el año 2000, incremento que en la hipótesis máxima es de alrededor de ciento treinta por ciento, en gran parte fundado en un aumento en la productividad.

Para ello se efectuó una estimación de incrementos en el uso de insumos, por cultivo y países, calculándose un crecimiento de 5, 4 por ciento anual.

Para el logro de los objetivos previstos se consideraron 28 cultivos tratados individualmente y 24 técnicas opcionales con seis situaciones de tierra-agua.

Se fijan las pautas de crecimiento máximas del sector agropecuario en función del crecimiento del PBI que la FAO cree puede alcanzarse en un contexto de equilibrio de macrocrecimiento. Para ello deberían darse situaciones de competencia con eliminación de barreras comerciales, de ventajas cooperativas de producción con una mejor distribución mundial de los recursos agrícolas y, en consecuencia, una mayor participación en el comercio mundial de los países en desarrollo. Asimismo la agricultura de estos países deberá recibir una mayor asistencia a fin de que constituya la base de una correcta industrialización y garantice la compra de alimentos a los sectores de menores ingresos.

Con esta hipótesis los resultados de este trabajo se ven necesariamente limitados. En cambio, partiendo de la base de un crecimiento real potencial de la producción agropecuaria para cada uno de los 90 países, se podría estimar, partiendo de los volúmenes de producción resultantes, el nivel de alimentación y subalimentación hombre/año que se alcanzaría en el período examinado.

Por otra parte, cabe indicar que con el trabajo no se hacen conocer las hipótesis de estimación por país, tanto del crecimiento tendencial de la producción agropecuaria como del crecimiento normativo (máximo). Resulta indispensable conocer los datos tomados al respecto, a fin de poder evaluar la bondad de los mismos, por ejemplo, de las 24 técnicas consideradas por cultivo distinguiendo seis situaciones tierra-agua, se ignora las que fueron consideradas en el caso de la Argentina y las tasas de crecimiento que se adoptaron para los productos agropecuarios de nuestro país, así como para la evolución de sus exportaciones.

En particular, con respecto al comercio internacional de productos agrícolas de los países en desarrollo, a que se refiere la parte IV, mi delegación estima que el informe constituye un gran esfuerzo de la Organización y un valioso aporte a la Conferencia al ilustrar sobre perspectivas del comercio agrícola a largo plazo.

No obstante, señalamos la incertidumbre de sus conclusiones, dado que fundamentalmente en el resultado de su hipótesis normativa, cual es el aumento de los suministros exportables agrícolas de los países en desarrollo, se funda en supuestos dependientes de múltiples variables, de cuya factibilidad de concurrencia simultánea no existe certeza.

Además, tampoco puede dejar de reconocerse que al no considerar el informe a productores y exportadores de productos agrícolas de amplia trascendencia en los mercados mundiales, como son la China y la Unión Soviética, no trasluce la real identidad de la eventual y futura evolución del comportamiento del comercio agrícola internacional.

Finalmente, señor Presidente, quiero destacar que la República Argentina ha dado cumplimiento a lo requerido en cuanto se refiere a los incrementos de la producción y a las exportaciones agrícolas, como ha quedado demostrado en el punto 2 de las presentes instrucciones.

Con ello, ha dado plena satisfacción a las Resoluciones números 2/73 y 9/75 de los 17° y 18° períodos de la Conferencia de la FAO, respectivamente.

WU TIAN-XI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): It is with great interest that we have studied the document entitled "Agriculture: Toward 2000" and carefully listened to the introduction given by Dr. Islam. The document accords with the needs and potentialities of the people and in the light of the progress made in international agricultural adjustment, the document sums up recent trends in world agricultural development and presents, so to speak, a blueprint for the remaining decades of the current century. The document stresses that world agriculture will be confronted with the same challenges that have persisted through the years. It therefore suggests that developing countries should accelerate their agricultural development, so as to narrow the gap between developed and developing countries in agricultural development step by step. This is in line with what we expect to be one of the basic objectives of the New International Economic Order. Therefore we are of the opinion that the document may serve as a basis for discussion and revision, in the course of which suggestions on the document by governments will be considered and incorporated where feasible, before it is submitted to the forthcoming Special Session of the UN General Assembly. Now I would like to offer a few comments on this question from our own experience.

First, in view of the great influence which the dramatic advance in science and technology has exerted on human civilization since the Second World War, we feel that in looking ahead to agriculture in the last decades of the century, it is necessary to sum up once again the development and trends of science and technology in different countries so as to collect scientific data for planning future agricultural development. We have always held that achievements in science and technology are the common wealth of mankind. The advanced agricultural technology and management skills of various countries are, in the final analysis, the product of the assiduous labour of the working people and scientific workers of these countries, and should be shared by all mankind to an ever-increasing extent. It is our hope that in future international technical exchanges, all irrational and unequal policies and practices will be abolished step by step so that science and technology can make a greater contribution to agricultural development in the remaining decades of the 20th century.

Rural employment is a pressing question confronting many developing countries in their agricultural development. There is a contradiction between the ever-growing manpower provided by population growth and the number of persons replaced by the development of modernized agriculture. Since we gradually became aware of this problem in the early 70s we have adopted various measures to increase rural employment. One major measure is the development of commune- and brigade-run industrial enterprises. Our principle is that small rural industrial enterprises should above all be geared to agricultural production and at the same time serve the needs of the people's life as well as the requirements of large-scale industry and of exports. Over 1, 5 million industrial enterprises have been set up by communes and production brigades across the country in line with the local conditions employing nearly 30 million workers, or about one-tenth of the total rural work force. These small rural industrial enterprises not only give support to agriculture by providing large quantities of the means of production and daily necessities, but also help to accumulate capital for agricultural development. In addition, they provide "on-site" employment to the rural work force thereby preventing the otherwise unavoidable flow of rural inhabitants into cities, and contributing towards elimination of the differences between industry and agriculture.

He would like to suggest that the Secretariat should, in revising the document, include an assessment of trends in the development of small rural industrial enterprises and of the positive and negative lessons of different countries in this respect.

We feel that in order to achieve the objectives laid down in "Agriculture: Toward 2000", apart from measures directly related to agriculture, further ways and means should be explored and necessary socio-economic measures adopted. These may include, for example, reform of agricultural systems in the light of the specific conditions of different countries, as suggested by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development; promotion of family planning on a voluntary basis in densely populated rural areas with a view to checking population growth. Measures such as these will be conducive to agricultural development.

Moreover, with reference to Document C 79/33, we are also pleased to note that FAO has linked all its major activities to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. We consider this a correct orientation which is conducive to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. Therefore we commend this document and agree to have it submitted to the forthcoming Special Session of the UN General Assembly for reference.

The meeting rose at 18. 00 hours

La séance est levée à 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

C
C 79/I/PV/11

Twentieth Session
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

ELEVENTH MEETING
ONZIEME SEANCE
11ª SESIÓN
(22 November 1979)

The Eleventh Meeting was opened at 10. 10 hours Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La onzième seance est ouverte à 10 h 10, sous la présidence de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la
Commission I

Se abre la 11ª sesión a las 10. 10 horas, bajo la Presidencia de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión
I

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I apologise for the delay in opening the meeting: it was necessary as there were very many matters concerning the work of the Committee to be considered. We will now resume our discussion on the topic Agriculture: Toward 2000.

I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)

I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)

I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACIÓN (continuación)

8. Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy (continued)

8. Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement (suite)

8. Preparativos para el período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo (continuación)

8. 2 "Agriculture: Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture up to the end of the century) (continued)

8. 2 "Agriculture-Horizon 2000" (Etude FAO des perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle) (suite)

8. 2 "La Agricultura hacia el año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines del siglo) (continuación)

G. BIRAUD (France): L'importance de l'étude que nous avons sous les yeux et sa densité, tant au sens propre qu'au sens figuré, m'obligent d'abord à vous demander votre indulgence pour la longueur un peu inhabituelle de mon intervention.

En commençant je voudrais d'abord féliciter le Dr. Islam et ses collaborateurs de l'effort considérable que représente cette tentative de synthèse approfondie. Nous sommes d'ailleurs bien conscients du caractère complexe et périlleux de toute étude prospective au niveau mondial. Le Directeur général lui-même a pris soin de nous dire, à l'alinéa 4 de l'introduction de ce projet d'étude, que nulle tentative n'y est faite pour prévoir ou prédire la tournure probable des événements d'ici à la fin du siècle, mais ne nous cachons pas toutefois que nombreux seront ceux qui interpréteront comme une prévision les données de cette étude. La délégation française regrette d'ailleurs un peu ce choix, ce parti-pris initial car l'étude définitive de la FAO, comme d'autres études en préparation dans d'autres instances spécialisées, servira de matériaux à une nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement qui ne saurait constituer un simple exercice intellectuel pour experts, mais bien nous donner la vision d'un avenir que nous voulons tous améliorer en profondeur. Mais nous n'avons pas à perdre de vue que cette vision, pour être mobilisatrice, devra demeurer crédible, et dans cet esprit, pour accroître la crédibilité de l'étude "Agriculture, Horizon 2000", ma délégation voudrait maintenant présenter un certain nombre de remarques et de suggestions.

Le projet d'étude révèle au lecteur attentif deux composantes. D'une part un modèle global de projection quantitative constitué essentiellement par les premier et dernier chapitres, d'autre part des chapitres d'observations et de réflexions plus spécialisés pour chaque aspect du développement agricole national.

Nous tenons à féliciter particulièrement le Secrétariat de la qualité et de l'intérêt des chapitres 4 à 12, visiblement inspirés par une réflexion de qualité s'appuyant sur une large expérience. Ces chapitres mettent bien en lumière les possibilités et les choix offerts aux gouvernements des Etats Membres dans leur politique économique et sociale. Il en est ainsi par exemple des choix stratégiques à faire entre l'accroissement des superficies cultivées et l'utilisation plus intensive des terres, entre agriculture pluviale et agriculture irriguée, entre diverses spéculations, cultures vivrières ou non vivrières, entre diverses technologies existantes avec les dosages de facteurs de production qui leur sont associés.

Nous voulons, en nous associant à tout ce qu'a dit hier le représentant de la Norvège au nom des pays nordiques, souligner avec une insistance particulière l'excellence des chapitres 11 et 12 de cette étude consacrés respectivement aux politiques de prix agricoles et aux changements institutionnels dont les orientations rejoignent l'expérience propre des experts français, ainsi que les conclusions pertinentes de la dernière Conférence internationale du travail à Genève et de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Ces chapitres mettent en évidence l'influence décisive que peut avoir sur la production rurale et sur le développement en général une plus grande participation des petits exploitants agricoles aux revenus dérivés de leurs efforts de production et de productivité ainsi qu'aux décisions les concernant localement, la responsabilité de chacun des gouvernements des pays en développement est engagée à cet égard et les auteurs de l'étude soulignent eux-mêmes en plusieurs endroits qu'on ne saurait entendre la réalisation du schéma normatif en termes de nutrition, de production, de productivité, d'emploi, en l'absence d'une vigoureuse action de redistribution des revenus, notamment entre ruraux et urbains, par le biais en particulier d'une meilleure organisation de la commercialisation interne et de politique de prix incitative pour les petits producteurs.

La solution des graves problèmes d'emploi dans le monde en développement dépend elle aussi, nous dit-on, et nous voulons bien le croire, de telle stratégie gouvernementale. Ma délégation tire donc de la lecture de l'étude la conclusion que la réalisation du scénario normatif présenté, même en supposant les conditions les plus favorables aux pays en développement sur le plan du commerce international, n'a aucune chance de se réaliser sans une modification très profonde, pour ne pas dire radicale, de la stratégie globale de développement de la plupart des gouvernements des pays en développement, ne serait-ce que pour assurer aux agriculteurs l'essentiel des bénéfices nés de l'exportation de leurs produits et aux masses rurales une part des ressources publiques mieux proportionnée à leur importance dans la population de chaque pays.

Dans ces conditions, ma délégation demeure un peu surprise devant le caractère, malgré tout sommaire, d'autres orateurs ont dit hier mécanique, du modèle macro-économique qui nous a été présenté. En particulier, nous ne pouvons que déplorer l'absence de toute variante permettant de traduire ce que je viens de dire, à savoir la prise en compte ou, au contraire, l'absence de prise en compte des propositions contenues dans les chapitres 4 à 12 de l'étude par les politiques économique et sociale des pays en développement. En effet, les seules variantes quantitatives présentées concernent les échanges internationaux et mettent en cause essentiellement la politique commerciale des pays développés, aspect privilégié à l'évidence par le modèle.

Cette sophistication sélective du modèle nous apparaît d'autant plus étonnante que les 90 pays en développement considérés dans cette étude consacrent eux-mêmes la majeure partie de leur production agricole (88 pour cent en 1975) et que l'on raisonne donc à propos de leurs exportations nettes sur des soldes, donc sur des grandeurs ultra-sensibles à toute espèce d'erreur d'estimations ou de prévisions.

Or, les auteurs remarquent d'eux-mêmes, à la page 52, paragraphe 68, que leurs données sur les flux commerciaux ne permettent guère d'examiner à part les rôles passés et futurs des différents marchés extérieurs dans le développement de l'agriculture du tiers monde. Si donc on centre à juste titre l'analyse sur l'agriculture des pays en développement eux-mêmes, l'impression que donne le bilan des tendances passées, contenu dans le premier chapitre, est que la différence de performances entre pays à croissance agricole rapide et pays à croissance agricole lente s'expliquerait par une différence de rendement et de productivité. Mais c'est prendre la mesure d'un phénomène pour sa cause. Or, les causes d'une croissance aussi différenciée doivent être recherchées aussi bien du côté de la demande que du côté de l'offre. En effet, des débouchés commerciaux et des revenus plus élevés et des conditions de vie meilleures incitent fort les agriculteurs à produire plus et mieux en les mettant en mesure de le faire en utilisant des facteurs de production nouveaux.

Il nous semble que les auteurs de l'étude pourraient donc privilégier, moins qu'ils ne le font dans les trois premiers chapitres, ce qu'ils appellent les paramètres de croissance de la production qui sont tous situés du côté de l'offre et entrent seuls dans le fonctionnement du modèle: superficie cultivable, irrigation, inputs, technologie. En particulier, le choix explicitement fait en faveur de l'irrigation aux dépens des cultures pluviales pourrait être reconsidéré. Un des orateurs d'hier avait déjà soulevé ce point. De même pourrait être reconsidéré le choix qui, lui, n'est pas explicité en faveur des cultures non alimentaires et de l'élevage aux dépens des cultures alimentaires. En outre, une meilleure prise en compte des effets de revenus permettrait aux auteurs de réconcilier le modèle avec les excellentes observations faites dans le texte à propos de la redistribution du revenu, comme l'ont demandé avant moi d'autres orateurs, ma délégation souhaiterait que l'on abandonne l'hypothèse d'une répartition de revenus inchangés de 1975 à l'an 2000.

Pour toutes ces raisons, la délégation française souhaite que dans la présentation définitive de l'étude, la notion de valeur soit dynamisée et qu'en particulier soit abandonnée l'hypothèse irréaliste de la constance de tous les prix relatifs intérieurs au niveau de 1975 jusqu'à la fin du siècle, hypothèse paradoxale après que le rôle crucial des prix ait été souligné dans plusieurs chapitres.

L'expérience a d'ailleurs montré, par exemple dans la première moitié des années 70, combien le marché mondial des céréales est sensible à des variations quantitatives relativement modestes en regard de la production. Sans prétendre prévoir de fluctuations de prix, nous souhaitons donc que le modèle permette, pour la demande de chacun des produits sur le marché, de trouver sa traduction en valeur en fonction des élasticités observées sur chaque marché et ceci de façon aussi simple que possible.

En matière de produits alimentaires, les indications du scénario proposé sous le terme de tangentiel indique clairement le risque, par exemple, d'une tendance lourde à la pénurie relative de céréales dans le tiers monde. Celles-ci, tout comme l'énergie aujourd'hui, auront donc tendance à s'apprécier, en particulier vis-à-vis des cultures non alimentaires, et il faudrait que le modèle puisse permettre d'en tenir compte. Une telle amélioration, par l'introduction de l'élasticité des prix, permettrait d'améliorer les deux scénarios proposés, surtout si elle était étendue au marché interne des Etats, car elle permettrait alors de prévoir les réactions des producteurs aux incitations d'une politique gouvernementale que le modèle actuel suppose par définition presque inchangé dans le scénario tangentiel et, au contraire, optimal dans le scénario normatif. Du même coup, serait éliminée une ambiguïté fondamentale de l'étude concernant la nature même de la demande, celle-ci est tantôt confondue avec les besoins physiques, nous semble-t-il, dérivés des normes nutritionnelles et des prévisions démographiques, et tantôt considérée comme une véritable demande économique solvable, c'est-à-dire liée au pouvoir d'achat des consommateurs, ce qui nous paraît être la conception la plus juste, du moins la plus exacte. Le fait de ne pas distinguer parmi les consommateurs les populations urbaines des populations rurales occulte aussi un grand nombre de facteurs fondamentaux, tant du point de vue de l'offre que de la demande, et interdit en particulier de prendre en compte les conséquences du phénomène majeur qu'est l'urbanisation accélérée nourrie par l'exode rural. Sans doute, la valorisation dynamique du modèle permettrait-elle aussi de mieux mettre en lumière les différences de stratégie économique souhaitables, tant au nord qu'au sud, entre pays à vocation affirmée, soit pour l'agriculture d'alimentation, soit pour les cultures industrielles, soit pour un composé de deux types, ou encore sans vocation agricole. Je rejoins ainsi les orateurs qui, hier, souhaitaient que le modèle soit plus affiné. De même, des complémentarités au niveau sous-régional ou régional devraient être prises en compte et les modèles sous-régionaux de production et d'échanges qui en résulteraient seraient certainement d'un intérêt plus immédiat que le modèle nord-sud global présenté au chapitre 13.

En outre, il serait commode de régionaliser le modèle sous sa présentation en regroupant toutes les caractéristiques de chaque continent actuellement éparses dans l'étude, en annexe par région. Dans ce type de calcul, on ne perdra pas de vue que tous les pays voudront légitimement s'assurer un degré minimum d'autosuffisance alimentaire, même à prix élevés, pour des raisons évidentes d'indépendance. Ceci n'est plus vrai pour les cultures non alimentaires ou d'exportation où régnait davantage la loi des avantages comparatifs.

Ma suggestion suivante consistera à souhaiter que le scénario tendanciel soit véritablement tendanciel et soit plus élaboré. Il est excellent d'utiliser comme une sorte de référence la projection des tendances passées sur une longue période car elle permet de bien faire apparaître les contraintes et les problèmes de toutes sortes qui risquent d'affecter la production et les échanges agricoles ainsi que la consommation alimentaire. Mais, pour qu'un exercice revête toute son utilité et notamment pour la sensibilisation des responsables, des décideurs, il doit être conduit à la fois de façon plus rigoureuse et plus élaborée qu'il ne l'a été dans le projet actuel d'étude. En particulier, c'est sans complaisance qu'il devrait prolonger les tendances passées, fussent-elles très médiocres, en termes de taux de croissance, quitte à faire apparaître pour l'avenir des contradictions insupportables.

Or, le modèle présenté comme tendanciel implique déjà globalement une accélération sensible des taux de croissance observés pour le PIB, pour le produit intérieur brut par habitant et les dépenses de consommation privée par habitant.

Si l'on prend l'exemple de l'Afrique, rien pourtant ne permet d'assurer que dès les premiers mois de l'an prochain, la croissance du PIB va, sur sa lancée tendancielle, augmenter de 23 pour cent, celle du produit intérieur brut par habitant de 38 pour cent, celle de la production agricole brute de 40 pour cent par rapport au "trend" 1963/1975, même si l'on tient compte de la sécheresse qui a affecté cette région pendant cette période.

Nous souhaiterions en outre qu'un scénario véritablement tendanciel soit présenté avec autant de soin que le scénario normatif dans la version définitive de l'étude.

Ma dernière série de suggestions, qui rejoint tout à fait les propos déjà évoqués par certains des orateurs qui m'ont précédé, est relative à la prise en compte d'hypothèses de croissance plus réalistes, et je pense que le Secrétariat ne sera pas étonné de notre réaction. Le scénario normatif prend en effet pour point de départ et pour modèle à travers la demande, des taux de croissance du PIB qui lui sont complètement exogènes. Ceci constitue déjà une difficulté d'ordre logique pour les pays où l'agriculture constitue une grande part de l'économie totale. Mais surtout, les taux de croissance du PIB sur lesquels est construit le scénario normatif sont extraordinairement élevés et éloignés des performances passées, pour ne pas dire irréalistes; ce que d'ailleurs les auteurs reconnaissent eux-mêmes puisqu'ils soulignent qu'ils constituent une rupture radicale avec le passé-je cite la page 30, paragraphe 16. Ils ajoutent d'ailleurs, "ce qui est certain c'est que le volume des exportations agricoles des pays en développement ne saurait connaître une expansion en quelque point comparable à celle du PIB total et partant des besoins d'importation"-c'est le paragraphe 34.

Les taux qui sont pris en compte ici nous apparaissent comme des taux souhaités, des taux essentiellement politiques pourrais-je dire, mais ils nous apparaissent irréalistes dans la mesure où ils supposent le maintien des tendances passées pour la croissance des pays développés, ce qui est manifestement optimiste par rapport aux perspectives de l'OCDE par exemple, ainsi qu'une accélération brutale de la croissance des pays en développement, et notamment des pays à faibles revenus, dès les premiers mois de l'année 1980 et pendant vingt ans.

L'exemple de la région africaine marque bien, là encore, le caractère plus qu'optimiste du scénario normatif: taux de croissance du PIB accru de 44 pour cent, taux de croissance du PIB par habitant accru de 81 pour cent, taux de croissance de la production agricole brute plus que doublé. Pour l'ensemble des pays en développement, ce dernier taux serait près de moitié plus élevé que celui réalisé entre 1963 et 1975.

Ce que nous craignons, c'est que ces hypothèses extrêmes nuisent à la crédibilité de l'étude de la FAO dans le cadre de la préparation de la stratégie internationale de développement et préparent des désillusions cruelles. Nous en demandons donc la révision à la lumière de quelques arguments, quelques références.

En ce qui concerne les taux de croissance du PIB, nous notons que des projections les plus récentes réalisées dans d'autres instances, comme par exemple celles que contenait le dernier rapport de la Banque mondiale sur le développement dans le monde, étaient nettement inférieures aux prévisions et aux chiffres indiqués dans l'étude de la FAO. La Banque mondiale prévoit par exemple, pour l'ensemble des pays en développement, une croissance globale de 5, 2 pour cent pour la période 1975 à 1985, 5, 6 pour cent sur la période 1985 à 1990. Pour l'Afrique, ces taux annuels moyens seraient respectivement 3, 7 et 3, 8 pour cent contre 6, 9 pour cent selon l'étude de la FAO de 1980 à 2000.

Enfin, un certain nombre de faits nous font envisager, et croyez bien que nous en sommes les premiers au regret, que plus qu'une augmentation massive, une stagnation, pour ne pas dire, dans certains cas, une diminution du taux de croissance agricole, pourraient être prévues en l'absence de politique résolument nouvelle concernant la demande et les revenus.

Je veux parler par exemple des futures extensions des cultures pluviales qui devraient se faire sur des terres de qualités inférieures à celles qui sont déjà cultivées, ou encore dans les zones à pluviométrie plus faible.

D'autre part, les mesures prises contre la dégradation des sols ne paraissent pas jusqu'à maintenant avoir été à la mesure de ce phénomène.

En outre, la diffusion des semences à haut rendement qui entre pour une bonne part dans les récents progrès constatés en Asie, repose sur une percée scientifique déjà ancienne qui ne semble pas devoir être immédiatement suivie de progrès aussi considérables dans d'autres domaines de la recherche. Cette révolution verte poursuivra sans doute ses progrès de façon plus lente au fur et à mesure qu'elle gagnera des zones moins favorables à sa mise en oeuvre.

En conclusion, je voudrais dire que c'est dans un esprit extrêmement constructif que nous avons fait un peu longuement un certain nombre de propositions de modifications assez profondes en vue de rendre l'étude 11 Agriculture: Horizon 2000 aussi utile que possible à chacun des Etats Membres et à l'élaboration de la stratégie internationale du développement.

Nous avons conscience tout à fait du surcroît de travail que représenteront des améliorations que nous proposons, mais nous croyons que la crédibilité et l'utilité réelles de cette étude sont à ce prix.

Pour terminer, en ce qui concerne votre proposition relative à la procédure, il nous faut répondre que compte tenu des améliorations notables que nous suggérons, il nous paraîtrait prématuré de transmettre dès aujourd'hui des conclusions de cette étude à l'Organisation des Nations Unies; il nous semble que la nouvelle version devra être revue au Secrétariat de la FAO, et par une instance appropriée de la FAO avant de faire l'objet d'une telle transmission, car elle n'est encore qu'un projet, comme l'a rappelé hier le Docteur Nory Islam. Mais nous sommes convaincus que de cette étude et de ce débat peut sortir une excellente contribution à la stratégie internationale du développement.

L. SMITH (Barbados): I intend to be very brief on this subject. I would first like to congratulate Dr. Islam and his staff for a reasonably good and interesting document. This delegation realizes that in a document such as this there is a lot of information which must necessarily be left out if it is to be reasonably concise, and we will agree that some of the projections and some of the assessments which have to be made in arriving at the long-term projections can be questioned in some respects.

One of the points that we want to raise on this document is that some of the projections are based on the increased use of fertilizers in the under-developed countries as well as the developed countries. On page 82, paragraphs 72 and 73, there is an allusion to the use of phosphates in the manufacture of complete fertilizers. I think it would be helpful to our delegation if some more information could be added as to the raw materials' availability and the long-term supply projection of what is really available in the long term. In other words it is possible that the phosphates and potassium may be a diminishing resource and if we are going to project an increased use of these materials, I think it would be helpful if we had some idea of what the residual resources are and what the resources would be in the year 2000. I think this type of data would be extremely helpful, as well as the distribution of these raw materials between the developed and developing countries in the world.

The other aspect of the report that I would like to see a little more information on is the area of fisheries. I don't have the reference, but in the management aspect of fisheries we would like to have some more information on the levels to which we can increase our harvest of the various species of fish for human consumption, to be sure that these can be sustained over a long-term period, preferably in the form of a map which shows the distribution and the levels by region and various sub-regions. I think this is our main concern and, as I said, it is very difficult for a report like this to have all the details people will want and to make all the assumptions that we necessarily can agree upon. Overall, we feel it is a reasonably good document and interesting.

J. ROWINSKI (Poland): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are glad that FAO has made an important contribution to the preparation of the new International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. Among others through its study "Agriculture: Toward 2000", the provisional findings of which have been submitted to the Conference. One of the guiding principles of the study is, or should be, to assist all governments in the elaboration of their development plans and programmes. The second, to give broad ideas of changes in the world agriculture and international agriculture trade, which are necessary if we really have the political will to establish the New International Economic Order and to develop international economic cooperation advantageous for all the countries.

In our opinion this study is a good FAO's contribution to the preparation of the New International Development Strategy. But it seems to us that in such a study due attention should be given to the analysis of agriculture in all the regions of the world. In the other case its usefulness is limited. It is very easy to make a mistake, considering the possibilities of development of some regions without paying the necessary attention to the problems of other regions.

That is why, in the opinion of the Polish Delegation, the final version of this study should cover all the countries and all their regions. Such a study would be good evidence that FAO remains a universal organization that serves all countries.

The second point of my intervention is connected with the problem of how many scenarios should be presented in the final version of this study. We share the opinion that the multiplication of scenarios is not very useful. However, the basic assumptions of normative scenario differ so much from the assumptions of trend scenario that it seems appropriate to include in the final version the third scenario that can be called "intermediate". I think the word "intermediate" fully explains our idea.

Mr. Chairman, we fully share the opinion expressed in the summary that it is necessary to rewrite the chapter concerning institutional changes in the light of the results of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. In our view this Conference is one of the most important contributions to the New International Economic Order. The Implementation of the Programme of Action approved by the Conference can be one of the decisive steps towards the world of social justice. One additional argument gives us the study under discussion. According to its provisional results, even in the year 2000, the level of agricultural production will be in line with normative scenario-which is a rather optimistic assumption-the level of nutrition of a substantial group of the population in the developing countries will be under the required minimum. The implementation of the Programme of Action, and especially all the actions connected with the more equitable redistribution of national income, can reduce this nutritional gap.

D. C. P. EVANS (United Kingdom): We welcome the publication of C 79/24, as others have already said, and found the introduction by Dr. Islam both valuable and constructive. Our compliments, however, should also go to the authors of this very good report. It is certainly a big improvement as the distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia said yesterday, on the Indicative World Plan of the early 1970's, although some very optimistic assumptions have been made.

We suggest, sir, that some consideration should be given to energy factors, and that this should be included in the revised version. The exact methodology of the report is not set out in any detail, and it is thus difficult to judge whether some of the projections are indeed realistic. For instance, it is not clear whether the investment implication of the proposed agricultural strategy are compatible with those of simultaneously increased industrial growth. Nor is it clear whether the increase in agricultural growth rates relative to industrial growth rates is compatible with the overall capability of the economy in terms of agricultural relationship between different sectors. In particular, employment growth in agriculture implies that relative income gaps between industry and agriculture will be increased. It is possible that income gaps will be less, that employment growth will be smaller and that migration from rural to urban areas will continue unabated. There is need, therefore, to go further into the soundness of the methodology.

As the Head of my Delegation said in Plenary the United Kingdom would very much like to see AT 2000 considered in greater detail by the FAO's various technological committees in order that they can draw the experts from various parts of the world together to discuss it. constructively.

We agree entirely with the emphasis placed on plant protection in this document. Indeed the losses inflicted on crops by pests, diseases and weeds are fully recognized as one of the most serious obstacles to rapid development of crop yield, especially in the developing world.

It is in recognition of this fact, Mr. Chairman, that the United Kingdom has contributed substantially to FAO's special fund on the reduction of food losses, and we are gratified to learn in another context that much work has already been done in this field.

It is known generally that losses are serious but the question must arise as to just how seriously the various important crops are affected. And on this point the present information is not sufficient, or sufficiently up to date. Little is known of the relative economic importance and reduction of pests, diseases and weeds, and this information is needed in order to make decisions in crop protection, particularly in developing countries. Basically we need comparable quantitative information on such crop losses defined the preventable reduction in the maximum potential yield due to known attack levels of pests, diseases and weeds are of the utmost importance on both national and international levels.

And in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, if the Secretariat so wishes we can give detailed written comment to them on the document C 79/24.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I believe that the Secretariat will certainly welcome the comment of the Delegate of the United Kingdom.

H. WILLER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of)(interpretation from German): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, the study before us has been examined very thoroughly by my Government. Despite some serious deficiencies we consider this study to be a valuable contribution towards showing at global level and analyzing as a forecast alternative possibilities of agricultural development. The study shows ways and means of improving the food supply throughout the world. And we consider that this is a very special merit of this study. In this connection my delegation would like, above all, to support the following statements of principle and recommendations.

First, the food problems can be solved in the long term only by increasing food production in a sustained way in the developing countries themselves. We consider that it is quite right to say that it is the small farmer that should be given special consideration. The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development recently confirmed that above all it is a matter of motivating farmers and

agricultural workers and of giving them the possibility of fully developing their abilities. Therefore, it is important to improve the working conditions in agriculture to promote education and extension, to create the necessary jobs, and to give, through an adequate price level, the necessary incentive to increasing production.

Second, I would like to endorse also the statement of principle in the study stating that in the case of measures to promote agriculture in developing countries labour intensive production methods should be preferred to capital intensive methods.

Third, lastly, my delegation endorses the request that in future greater importance than in the past should be attached to the maintenance of the ecological balance and to the natural productive capacity. This request is becoming more and more urgent the more intensively the existing means of production are used and the more new land is being used.

My Government assesses this study as being a first useful basis for discussion, as I stated earlier. On the one hand the comprehensive quantification of the most important economic data within the scenarios and the consideration of a great number of interdependences produces a maximum of transparency, but on the other hand certain doubts can be expressed as to whether these scenarios are sufficient to be able to develop so far reaching political consequences and strategies as has sometimes been the case in the document.

The assumptions used in the study for the projections we feel are far too optimistic and a number of uncertainties are attached to them. The calculations and conclusions cannot therefore, be said to be generally valid and binding.

I should like now to go into details and make a few critical comments.

It would have been very informative to have first an analysis of the causes which were responsible for the fact that production in many developing countries could not be increased to the extent aimed at. I merely mention the aims of the World Indicative Plan of 1970. Such an assessment would have contributed towards making more realistic estimates for many countries and groups of countries.

As far as the formulation of a new and realistic strategy is concerned, it would be very useful to know which region and country specific influences and bottlenecks are primarily the cause for the lagging behind of agricultural production in certain parts of the world. Above all one should find an answer to the question of whether the causes were mainly the negative consequences of war, crop failures, insufficient adaptability and the general shortage of resources which have led to the partly unsatisfactory agricultural development of many third world countries.

A further lack of this study is that the new world political and economic policy challenges have not been taken sufficiently into account. Here I am thinking of the limitations of the general economic development, which arise: for both developed and developing countries because of a shortage of fossil energy and other important raw materials as well as from the protection of our natural resources. Last but not least, for this reason the development hypothesis of the normative scenario is based too much on wishful thinking rather than on realistic assessment.

This statement is true of the too highly set growth rates of GDP and also of the too high assessment of food demand and the too ambitious aims with regard to increasing food production.

The World Bank in its latest report of 1979 is its forecast on the next decade comes to substantially lower general growth rates than the growth rates we have in this study.

Since the changed general economic conditions have such a great importance for the further development process of world agriculture special attention should be paid to them. In the eyes of my delegation the following items should be looked at in greater detail: First, the consequences of a long-term rise in prices of fossil energy sources on economic growth and food production in various groups of developing countries.

Secondly, the repercussions of a lower economic growth in industrialized countries on the requested integration of developing countries into the world economy.

Thirdly, the consequences of an increase in the differences in the standard of living between developing countries on the general development strategy.

The hypothetical calculations of this Study concerning the expansion of world trade in agricultural products are undoubtedly very instructive. We are glad that the Study also points out clearly that developing countries have responsibilities of their own in their export policies. Furthermore, it is quite right that the request with regard to improving the market access for developing countries is addressed not only to Western industrialized countries but also to all other states. I believe that the reciprocal

relationship between liberal world trade and aid to developing countries is worth being studied in greater detail within the framework of AT 2000. I believe also that the figures given in connexion with the external aid calculated to be necessary require further scrutiny and more explanation.

In order to avoid any misunderstanding in the light of these critical comments, I should like in conclusion to say the following: my Government shares the views expressed in the conclusions of the document, stating that the only way to solve the threatening food deficits lies in improving the general infrastructure, the agricultural structure and production technology.

My Government is naturally aware of the fact that not all the problems of developing countries related to agriculture can be solved through a faster production growth rate alone. It is equally important to improve education and training, to create jobs and to promote purchasing power in developing countries.

Finally, I should like to make a statement in connexion with further proceedings.

My delegation agrees with the recommendation put forward by the French delegation, that the study should be thoroughly revised in "the light of the critical comments made here.

That is why the report before us should not lead one to draw any hasty conclusions.

The study should not be transmitted to other, international, organizations in its present form.

MRS. S. SYAHRUDDIN (Indonesia): Mr. Chairman, before I begin my statement may I greet you, Dr. Islam and all Moslem delegates in this room with a belated "Happy New Year". Yesterday was the first of Muharram 1400 H.

My delegation would like to congratulate the Director-General and the staff on producing such a comprehensive report on the provisional results of a study of perspectives and policy issues of world agriculture up to the year 2000, with particular reference to developing countries (C 79/24). In general we support the major findings and recommendations contained in the report.

My delegation would like to underline the grave problems of hunger facing towards the year 2000. The agricultural sector must raise investments substantially to accelerate production in order to solve world hunger problems. The agriculture of the future in the developing countries must become more scientific, as has been the case with the agriculture of the developed countries.

The clear message of the quantitative analysis of AT 2000 is that a significant acceleration in agricultural output will not be achieved without a huge increase in the use of material inputs from outside the agricultural sector, both capital and current. Part of the requirement must come in the form of external assistance. The report estimates that annual requirements, as compared with the actual 1977 commitments of \$4.3 billion, will rise to \$12.7 billion in 1999 and \$16.8 billion in 2000.

My delegation would like to submit that AT 2000 should be subjected to expert assessment in regional workshops, my delegation would like to propose that the document be adopted as an official document for background to advisory deliberations on the New International Development Strategy.

Before concluding my statement I should like to express appreciation and thanks for the brief introduction of this report made by Dr. Islam.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): I wish to thank the representative of Indonesia for her greetings to me, to the other Moslem participants and to all the world on the occasion of the new Hijra year.

R.,C. SOOD (India): "Agriculture: Toward 2000" is a quantitative model of world economy conducted by the United Nations for an important sector. AT 2000 takes growth targets for the developing countries as given broadly by the International Development Strategy and works out the implications of the Strategy for the agricultural sector. We would like to congratulate FAO on the very good work it has done. AT 2000 has brought out that agricultural growth rates of around 2.8 percent compound per annum in the period 1980 to 2000, as against 2.6 percent compound per annum in 1963-1975, are a necessary precondition of non-inflationary development in the developing world.

Such agricultural growth will require gross investment in agriculture rising at a substantial rate to US \$57 billion in 1990 and \$78 billion by 2000 in the developing countries. External assistance to the agricultural sector will have to rise at a much higher rate than in the past from the level of commitments of \$4.3 billion in 1977 to \$12.7 billion in 1990 and \$16.5 billion in 2000, and, in the short run, food aid on a substantial basis will also have to be provided.

The Indian delegation is in broad agreement with the Report and its conclusions but would like to make a few comments in this regard.

The main message of Agriculture; Toward 2000 that agriculture has to be given priority, is one that is accepted in India's own development plans, and is unexceptionable. It may be mentioned that we are following an analogous methodology for agricultural productions, crop by crop, in our own plans. The Indian development strategy gives great priority to rural development policies. This implies that in addition to crop husbandry, emphasis is laid on development of other rural based sectors, for example, livestock, fisheries and forestries, as well as institutional matters like credit, development of cooperative institutions in input supply, marketing, credit distribution, etc. and also special machineries for development of small farmers and landless labourers.

It is suggested that these aspects should be covered more fully in the final report through evaluation of qualitative material available and through special case studies which may be conducted for this purpose.

The Indian delegation would like to endorse the general FAO stand that agricultural development is not a costless affair and that it involves significant investments within the poor countries, more foreign resources, and also adjustments on the trade side. We on the other hand feel that the FAO projections are on the conservative side and are in fact much lower than the targets which have been set in the Indian development plans in perspective.

We cannot accept the target that the growth rate for the cereal sector should be 2.9 percent for the Far East for the period 1980 to 2000. This target is much lower than the requirements of the Indian colony, given its objectives of economic development and poverty removal. We feel that the input targets in the FAO report for the Far East region are also on the low side. In the period 1980 to 2000, the area equipped for irrigation is projected to go up only by 2 million hectares for the region as a whole, while the Indian development plans are already postulating a growth higher than this magnitude in a ten year period. In addition, fertilizer, pesticides and extension targets of the FAO are considered under estimates. In most cases, they imply lower growth rates than those recorded in the Indian agricultural economy in the past.

We would like to press the FAO to work out more realistically the production potential in the Far Eastern region, to provide for higher growth rates and as a consequence of this both the investment requirements and the foreign aid requirements which have been indicated should be higher than those given in the report.

We hope that these suggestions will be taken into account in finalizing the report. The Indian delegation considers the FAO exercise in regard to extremely valuable effort and is in broad agreement with it. We would like to propose that the Conference should request the Director-General of FAO to transmit to the United Nations General Assembly and the Preparatory Committee for the formulation of the New International Development Strategy its report on this item and the salient findings of this Study. It should be emphasized in particular that adequate prominence should be given to food and agriculture in the development of the New International Development Strategy for the 1980's and, provided necessary measures are adopted, it should be feasible to accelerate the rate of growth in agriculture to an average of 4 percent during the 1980's and to a slightly lower rate in the 1990's so that average growth to the end of the Century works out at 3.8 percent per year. Self-sufficiency in food, nationally and collectively on the part of developing countries, is conditional upon an accelerated domestic production on those lines. An acceleration in the rate of growth to the extent indicated above would require sustained and concerted effort, both national and international. It would necessitate greatly increased investment in agriculture and far reaching changes in rural institutions, fiscal and pricing policies, and incentives for farmers.

It should be brought out that as projected in the report annual investment in agriculture, excluding transport and processing, in the developing countries, would have to rise by 1990 to \$57 billion in 1975 prices, in order to meet the production target and then \$78 billion by 2000. This target would require an increase in external assistance from the \$4.3 billion committed in 1977 to a minimum of

\$12.7 billion at 1975 prices by 1990, and \$16.8 billion by the year 2000.

A growth of 4.3 percent a year in the volume of agricultural production for export of the developing countries during the 1980's is considered feasible by FAO. This could rise to 5 percent in the 1990's. However, it is necessary for protectionism in the developed countries to be greatly reduced for this production potential actually to materialize as exports.

While agreeing with the overall findings of "Agriculture: Towards 2000" we would like to conclude by expressing our deep concern that, as per these findings, the countries less endowed with agricultural resources would still have to import agricultural products, which may have to rise from 50 million tons in the mid 1970's to 115 million tons even by the year 2000. These are realistic findings based on normal periods or more ambitious, normative projections. And yet it appears difficult to accept that even after another twenty years, there will be no hope for the hungry world.

We would like to submit that it would be unreasonable on our part to accept the proposition that eradication of hunger will not be possible even after twenty years. Another United Nations body, the World Health Organization, has successfully implemented campaigns for the eradication of scourges like malaria and smallpox. Eradication of hunger with all the potential which the good earth has to offer, is perhaps not a bigger challenge in any way.

Agricultural production will in the ultimate analysis depend on the effort that millions of small farmers can make in better utilization of their little patches of land, and a key requirement for a successful strategy for eradication of hunger is an effective mechanism for transfer of know-how to the millions of farmers. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany has broadly referred to this. We have made a brief reference to this in a different context in Commission II.

We would like to make a very specific suggestion for consideration by the House that, as in India's own Five Year Plan, at least 40 percent of all development investments should be earmarked for agriculture and allied programmes and at least 50 percent of the funds available for the development of agriculture should, at least in the next ten to twenty years, be earmarked for strengthening of extension organizations, especially in the most seriously affected countries. Earmarking of funds at these levels should apply to all sources, including the budgets of the nations concerned, the FAO budget for regular and field programmes UNDP funds, multilateral institutional finances from organizations like the World Bank and the regional banks and other multilateral as well as bilateral sources.

We have already suggested in another context that it would be desirable in particular that FAO should launch a special action programme for this purpose. FAO's own Investment Centre should serve as a catalyst for these investments.

We feel fully confident that this kind of effort would add a wholly different dimension to agriculture in the year 2000 or even very much earlier.

Exhortations, appeals and resolutions are all very well. There is in the ultimate analysis only one effective way in which we can win the battle against hunger—we can start digging. Investments made in digging better will be our best bet.

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand): I join with other delegations in congratulating Dr. Nural Islam and his staff for the very comprehensive work that appears in document C 79. 4. I agree with some earlier speakers that there are several points in the Study which are vulnerable to criticism and require improvement. This is a problem common to all studies of similar nature.

We however, believe that with better information and cooperation from all countries concerned, the Study can be improved to a level worthy of it.

We in Thailand are also dealing very seriously with this line of analytical work mainly for the benefit of the overall national agricultural development planning. At the international level and under the support of FAO and UNDP, we are now working closely with our ASEAN brothers in the regional study on the Supply and Demand for Food and Other Strategic Agricultural Productions. Besides, the ASEAN countries are also in the process of setting up the ASEAN Agricultural Development Planning Centre to

be stationed in Thailand. This Centre will in the future serve as the key institution paying ways for joint agricultural development planning for the ASEAN region as a whole. We believe that the undertaking of such a comprehensive agricultural development planning study is vital to all agricultural based nations. Studies at national level, when consolidated into regional and finally global levels, would shed more light on how conflicts in agricultural policies of different countries could be slackened. With such a belief in mind, we would again like to compliment the Secretariat for their great effort in producing such a valuable study. We would also like to urge FAO to seek ways and means of strengthening the role of such analytical study where it has not yet received enough concern.

Q. WEST (United States of America): In spite of many problems throughout the world, there is much to be thankful for, and it is in that spirit that the United States is celebrating its national holiday of Thanksgiving today. I just wanted to mention that fact.

We also might say that we are thankful for the fine work that Professor Islam and his staff have done on this Agriculture: Toward 2000. I appreciate being able to join other delegations in making comments today on that study.

The discussion takes me back some ten years ago, when we were discussing a similar programme, FAO's Indicative World Plan. I noted just a minute ago that Mr. Ed. West was there. I am the other Fr. West. Mr. Ed. West also participated in those discussions ten years ago, but from a little different basis. I am sure that he has more good words to say about Agriculture: Toward 2000 than he had as the United Kingdom Representative, during the time we were discussing the Indicative World Plan.

I was a supporter of the Indicative World Plan. I am a firm believer in the value of these exercises when done properly. I have been closely involved in long-term projection of world demand, supply and trade of food, done by USDA for almost two decades, going back to our own World Food Budget of the early 1960s.

We worked closely with FAO on the Indicative World Plan and the projections for the 1974 World Food Conference.

Such projection activities as AT 2000 enable us to marshall all the information available to look ahead at what may happen in the future if certain assumptions are realized, or what must happen if certain goals are to be met. We must, in analyzing AT 2000, reflect carefully on the purpose of this effort. As the Director-General has pointed out in his foreward statement, AT 2000 is built around the desired rates of growth of overall income, in keeping with the aspirations of a New International Economic Order. Therefore it implies the necessary increase in domestic agricultural production, in keeping with the goal of substantially increased national and collective self-reliance in the developing world. In our discussions, particularly of the normative scenario, we must keep in mind what the purpose of this effort was.

Also, as Dr. Islam emphasized in the introduction to the study, the findings are indicative, as repeated by other delegations. It is stated in the introduction to the study that I am reading from the 4th paragraph of the introduction:

"...no attempt has been made to forecast or to predict what is likely to happen by the end of the century. What is undertaken in the study is an analysis of the implications for agriculture if it is to meet the demands arising from a desirable and relatively high rate of overall growth of income as is postulated in the normative scenario. ...The possibility of their realisation depends on appropriate changes in national policies and institutions as well as on increased investments which have been analyzed in the report

I will not try to analyze the methodology nor the quantitative outcome of the study. This should be the role of a panel of experts who are currently working on similar studies. I will mention a few concerns we have. These concerns would not affect the general conclusion of the study is generally in the direction, if not in the magnitude, of those studies made by the USDA and other organisations, such as the International Policy Research Institute. Basically, the conclusion is that if the food situation is to be substantially improved by the end of the century, action must be taken both to accelerate production and to raise demand. The possibility of these actions being effected depends on appropriate changes in national policies and institutions, as well as increased investment.

As I said, I will just touch on a few points. Only two scenarios are given in the study. The trend scenario is supposedly what would happen if recent trends continue. I am going to emphasize this because, supposedly in any scenario in which you give assumptions, it depends on the validity of the assumption as to the outcome of the projections. With a trends projection, supposedly if past trends were not changed this would be the outcome. However, there were some changes in the trends projections that give us some concern. These have been indicated by Yugoslavia and France. Information is available to FAO which gives the trend from 1363 to 1975 but it was adjusted upward to give a base of 1980 to reflect "more recent performance". If we look at the annual increase in per caput GIDP it would move upward from a 3.2 annual increase to 4.1 or a 28 percent increase. If we express the demand as in total agricultural demand it would move up from 2.0 to 3.2 percent annually, or a 10 percent increase. The agricultural production trend was only adjusted upwards from 2.6 to 2.7 percent, or an increase of 3.8 percent. So we had a difference of adjustment upwards of 10 percent of the demand compared to less than 4 percent in the supply. This would give an expected imbalance in the supply and demand so that it would automatically be expected to come up with an imbalance. For example, cereal imports by developing countries of 180 million tons by the end of the century; meat imports up 10 times to 14 million tons; and the commodity trade balance going from a positive 86 billion to a negative 36 billion.

This judgment adjustment in trends does give an unrealistic picture of the recent trend scenario. We need to know more of the basis for that adjustment.

On another point there is no climatic variability introduced into the study. While climatologists differ among themselves as to whether the earth may be entering a warming or a cooling cycle, they are largely in agreement that the last 30 years or so were abnormally stable in terms of climate and hence were unusually favourable to agriculture. There could be greater variability in the years ahead than reflected in recent trends. A poor weather scenario would be useful to identify problems resulting from serious production shortfalls due to weather.

A third point is that projections are based on constant prices so there is no built-in price responsiveness. This brings difficulty in adjusting supply and demand and requires such statements as that found at the bottom of page 20 of the report. The last part of paragraph 22 states:

"Naturally, there is no reason why in this scenario production extrapolations should correspond with demand projects, especially where in determining projected 1 trend' production levels the growth of demand was not taken into account. Confronting independent demand and production projections, therefore, will reveal inconsistencies and problems. Apart from being a 'gaps identifying' exercise, the trend scenario serves as a point of departure for the main scenario of the study, the normative scenario. "

I think-and I am sure that many of the delegations agree-that this trend scenario should be more than just an identification of gaps and a point of departure for the normative because it is supposed to be what would happen if things continue as in the past.

There is another statement on page 18 which indicates the problem of not being able to introduce price:

"Some downward demand adjustments were introduced explicitly for livestock products, where the constant price assumption or other elements of the projection methodology implied import magnitudes in some developing countries which were obviously unrealistic. "

Now with the normative scenario which is, of course, the significant scenario for this study, the assumptions are very optimistic, as many delegations have pointed out. We share some of the concern, in particular some expressed by France, Norway and others on the assumptions and conclusions.

Other points that have been mentioned include the lack of proper energy considerations raised by the United Kingdom; the point raised by Germany on the problem of not taking into account fully the environmental considerations. But in connexion with the high growth rates which are assumed, we do welcome Professor Islam's suggestion that an intermediate demand scenario could be introduced, a proposal which was also strongly endorsed by Poland.

But, however, as I said at the beginning, the study is designed to indicate the needed changes which must take place if we are to achieve freedom from hunger and we should compliment FAO on the effort it has made in that direction. I want to point out that of particular value is the initiative of more detailed work on the quantification of agricultural investments and inputs needed to meet the production targets of the year 2000.

We believe that AT 2000 can become a useful work. It does need more work and we believe that more work should be done on it before it is submitted to the General Assembly, and we support France and Germany on that point.

In conclusion, I believe that AT 2000 needs a global-production-consumption-trade-constraints model to ensure some consistency in the projections, to introduce price responsiveness into the system, and to allow for the performance of policy impact analyses. All these represent a serious weakness in the present exercise. The AT 2000 volute is provisional and it is stated that it is subject to revisions after this Conference. However, without a formal global model with a qui ok reply capability, such revisions are likely to be rather chaotic, inconsistent, and incomplete and, therefore, subject to some doubts. The World Food, Agriculture Resources model at present being developed in USDA, built on the experience acquired in our World Grain model which we are developing could easily be adapted for FAO to use when we have completed it. Moreover, the combined resources of the two organisations, USDA and the FAO technical personnel and data banks could shorten the model preparation and testing time. We would welcome such cooperation.

Mne N. LOSEBY-VENZI (Italy): I am grateful to you for this opportunity of commenting on the document "Agriculture: Toward 2000" The study contained in it demonstrates considerable courage in confronting the task of outlining the directions along which the agricultural sector may develop in the next 20 years. It should provide a valuable point of departure for international cooperation in planning for the future. The challenge facing us is twofold. Ws must create conditions which permit an adequate increase in agricultural production and at the same time ensure that supplies reach those sectors of the world's population which are at present undernourished and which are in danger of remaining so in the future. The significance of the problem in terms of human suffering needs no further elaboration.

The document before us shows dearly that demands placed on the capacity of-the world's agriculture to meet the needs of a rising population are alarming. The painstaking analysis of possible solutions which it contains therefore deserves careful consideration. I will leave aside comments on methodology and on the quantification of prospective growth rates, which have already been dealt with in some detail by other speakers. I should like instead to comment on two particular aspects of the analysis which appear particularly welcome and which will have further elaboration in the revised edition.

The first is the emphasis placed on the need for pricing policies which provide adequate returns, in particular to small-scale farmers. This appears to be a prerequisite for attracting private savings into agricultural investment.

The second is the consideration given to the rate at which machinery should substitute for labour. Given the scarcity of funds for investment it would seem essential that those available should not be used in such a way as to increase the already difficult problems of unemployment and under-employment. An investigation of the seasonal distribution of agricultural employment, as proposed in Chapter 8 of the document, nay help to increase our understanding of the nature of the problem of under-employment. Solutions could perhaps then be identifies which would permit a more even seasonal distribution of labour requirements, and where seasonal bottlenecks in labour supply emerge mechanisation programmes could perhaps be designed in such a way as to relieve them.

Finally I should like to add a comment on-the problems confronting agriculture in developed countries. I feel that the view taken in the document may be too optimistio. In my country

the increased prosperity of the agricultural sector has been hard-won and is still relatively fragile Its continuation undoubtedly depends on the overall wellbeing of the economy as a whole. This is endangered by the increased cost of essential supplies of energy which form a major part of our import bill. Food imports likewise form a substantial part of our balance of payments problems. In spite of this, many products exported by developing countries which compete directly with domestic production are allowed relatively free access to our markets. It will be easier for us to maintain such a position and further to extend it if we are able to operate in an international environment where further strains on the non-agricultural component of our import bill could be avoided. In this respect I should like to mention, as other speakers have done, the necessity for considering the impact of energy problems on the development of all aspects of agriculture-both production and trade.

In conclusion, I should like to assure you of our support for the efforts being made by FAO to deal with the difficult and vitally important problem of ensuring an adequate level of food production and consumption for present and future generations.

H. FARAJ (Maroc): Le chef de la délégation du Maroc, Ministre de l'Agriculture et de la Réforme, ayant fait connaître le point de vue de mon pays sur les orientations générales proposées dans le document "Agriculture, Horizon 2000", je ne crois pas utile de le rappeler ici étant donné le temps imparti à nos débats. Je me limiterai à évoquer quelques observations sur un certain nombre de points.

Le premier concerne l'approche méthodologique, c'est-à-dire le chapitre 2. La question que tout le monde se pose est de connaître les probabilités de réussite et les chances de réalisation d'un scénario normatif qui représente une rupture décisive avec les tendances passées. A ce titre, des questions doivent être posées. La première concerne les potentialités de production. Il ne semble pas que dans l'évaluation des rendements des différentes combinaisons-terres, eau, niveau d'aménagement-on ait tenu compte ou jugé de l'impact probable d'un progrès prévisionnel de la recherche agronomique, notamment dans les domaines de la génétique. Ce choix peut s'expliquer par le fait d'une amélioration technologique, ce qui demande en agriculture un temps assez long pour être diffusé et appliqué systématiquement dans un grand nombre d'exploitations agricoles. Il peut s'expliquer également par un souci de réalisme et de prudence. Néanmoins, ce point mériterait à notre avis d'être clairement exprimé.

La seconde question concerne les possibilités d'application des cinq principes et objectifs du Nouvel ordre économique international, tels qu'ils sont énumérés aux pages 23 et 24 de la version française du document C 79/24 Il serait peut-être souhaitable d'évaluer, même de manière grossière, grâce à un test de sensibilité, les répercussions d'une application incomplète d'un ou plusieurs de ces principes. Ces calculs auraient le mérite de faire mieux apprécier le poids des décisions politiques définies par les cinq principes, et de mieux situer les responsabilités. Autrement dit, si la croissance du PIB pour 1980/90 ne suit pas les taux prévus, ou si les pays en développement les plus pauvres n'arrivent pas à doubler le PIB par habitant, tel que cela est prévu, ou encore si les politiques commerciales des pays développés ne suivent pas l'évolution prévue, qu'en sera-t-il de nos projections ?

La troisième question concerne un point plus précis qui est le choix des technologies en vue d'accroître les rendements. Il s'agit du chapitre 4, page 63 du texte français du même document. Le principe énoncé dans ce chapitre et les niveaux technologiques doivent être accordés aux potentialités de production des zones où ils sont appliqués, c'est-à-dire que l'on doit consacrer le maximum d'intrants aux zones irriguées, utiliser les variétés végétales de productivité moyenne exigeantes dans les zones pluviales, enfin, accorder un minimum de facteurs de production aux zones marginales. Cette répartition des niveaux technologiques mériterait à notre avis certains amendements, certaines corrections; la première est que dans le cas où la technologie a été élaborée dans le pays même, et ce point est fondamental, une partie des acquis technologiques peut être transférée à partir des zones irriguées vers des zones moins favorables. Des variétés à haut rendement de blé tendre, obtenues par combinaison de variétés étrangères et de variétés locales, peuvent être indifféremment semées dans les zones irriguées ou dans les zones d'agriculture pluviale, à pluviométrie favorable. "Bi même dans ces dernières zones, elles marquent un net avantage sur les variétés traditionnelles. Ce transfert a été opéré dans mon pays mais il n'est pas toujours possible avec les variétés importées.

Le second correctif à apporter, suivant les zones, aux technologies est que l'on est en droit de se demander dans quelle mesure les zones d'agriculture pluviale, dites moins favorables, doivent être laissées à elles-mêmes, ainsi que le laisse supposer le document. Il est évident que les efforts de recherche ont été d'une manière générale consacrés aux zones les plus favorables. Il est probable que si l'on consacre aux zones d'agriculture pluviale toute l'attention qu'elles méritent en matière de recherche et d'aménagement, un accroissement significatif des rendements pourrait être obtenu. Ce regain d'attention est d'autant plus important qu'il concerne 12 pour cent des terres pour les zones de faibles précipitations et 36 pour cent des terres pour les zones dites critiques, soit respectivement 219 millions d'hectares et 646 millions d'hectares. Autrement dit, tout en sachant parfaitement

que la productivité des zones pluviales n'atteindra pas celle des zones plus favorables, c'est-à-dire des zones irriguées, il est important à notre avis de souligner l'impact que peut avoir sur la production totale une augmentation de rendement, si faible soit-elle, obtenue dans les zones marginales, et cela d'autant plus que ce sont dans ces zones que vivent les agriculteurs les plus démunis, in faisant un effort pour ces zones l'on pourra, de manière concrète et tangible, opérer une amélioration des revenus des couches paysannes les plus défavorisées.

W. Z. B. A. RAHMAN (Malaysia): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Malaysia is impressed by the Document C 79/24 which we have before us for this topic of the agenda. By its very nature the preparation of this document "Agriculture Toward 2000" or in short AT 2000, must have demanded a considerable quantum of input in terms of time and effort from the professional staff of FAO. For this at least, if not for anything else in connection with this agenda topic, FAO and its professional staff must be given due credit and Malaysia would like to place on record her appreciation on the contribution of FAO to the formulation of the New International Development Strategy by the United Nations for the Third Development Decade.

Since Malaysia is only a small country our interest is naturally restricted, more often than not to a regional or a sub-regional basis. For this reason Malaysia is keen to see an analysis of the implications of AT 2000 prepared for Asia and the Pacific Region, which I believe is the new name for our Region as from today.

Equally, Mr. Chairman, Malaysia is of the opinion that demand for sub-regional aspects and policy issues could be derived from AT 2000 for the benefit of the developing countries affected. Indeed, the results of the regional and sub-regional studies could be a valuable aid to developing countries in the preparation of their own national and agricultural plans for the next decade as a corollary to the suggestions above.

Malaysia is of the opinion that the document to AT 2000 would be greatly improved if a technical appendix is prepared and included as part of the document. This technical appendix should prepare details of the general approach and methodology that was adopted by FAO in preparing the AT 2000. In particular the methodology of quantitative analysis of AT 2000 if made available to local staff of developing countries who are responsible for the preparation of national plans.

In the final analysis it is these trained staff who would be intimately involved in their national agriculture development plans. They need to know, in order that they may amend or adjust the methodology to make allowances for national differences.

Mr. Chairman, Malaysia would like to see the chapter on Employment in the document AT 2000 developed further. Besides the need for agricultural labour for production, there exists also a need for agricultural labour for planning, for research, for extension and for development. An analysis should be made on the quantum of trained agricultural labour required for raising food and agricultural production in the next decade. Consequent to this suggestion is the need for the type and level of training for the agricultural staff required to implement the development plans. Otherwise these plans would remain as plans on paper only.

J. MAHMUL (Bangladesh): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, in the year 1952 The Economist described the FAO as "a permanent institution devoted to proving that there is not enough food to go around". It is certainly no longer true of this Organisation and AT 2000 clearly shows us that there can be enough but whether it will go around, that is the question confronting us today.

My delegation would like to congratulate Dr. Nurul Islam and his colleagues for this excellent study, and we have found the document most useful and it has brought all of us down from the rhetorics of hunger and abundance back to the realities of facts and figures, and we support very strongly the suggestion that FAO and the Conference should transmit the final version of AT 2000 to the United Nations Assembly and the United Nations Preparatory Committee in the New International Development Strategy along with a summary of its findings.

In the year 2000 Bangladesh will probably have a population of 120 million cramped in an area of 55, 000 square miles, yet the possibilities of vertical expansion in agriculture are enormous at least when judged from a purely technological perspective as achieved in India. The Delegate of India told us that the cereal growth rate and irrigation target in the document has been underestimated.

However, my Delegation is fully aware that the rate at which a modern agricultural system can be evolved by IDC's depends a good deal on the social, political and economic milieu. Before the Least Developed Countries embark upon their promised road to abundance there is an urgent need to take a hard look at our own policies. Chapter 11 of the document refers to price policies. Indeed, we feel that because of incorrect price signals that are being given to farmers, allocative, production and consumption potentials are not being realized. My Delegation suggests that a quantitative international comparison of price distortions in agriculture, and their effects be made and Least Developed Countries be shown the real effects in terms of change in production, consumption and employment.

The net social losses as a percentage of Gross National Product suffered by Least Developed Countries due to adopted policies will become obvious. We admit that immediate political compulsions often overtake objectivity in determining agriculture price policies in some of our countries.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation has noted with keen interest the points raised by the Delegate from Norway on behalf of Nordic countries. We generally endorse the views and agree that disaggregation and, if possible, separate exercises for country studies would greatly help us. However, regarding his reference to the WCARKD we find that Chapter 12, page 171, was written before WCARKD and in the very first paragraph it stipulated that "the final report of AT 2000 will reflect the outcome of this Conference".

Regarding the inclusion of insight of China, an analysis of the reports submitted and circulated by the various FAO study groups on China appears to be desirable.

Regarding Technology, my Delegation hopes that in the coming decade an increasing number of neutral technologies will be evolved which will benefit all of us more or less equally. Perhaps by the year 2000 biochemical and agricultural research will provide us with Nutrient Film Technique, Single Cell Protein and the like. Solar energy will by then, probably, become less expensive than conventional resources. However, we entirely agree with the delegate from Norway that the developing countries will remain dependent on the developed countries for transfer of these technologies. Without such transfers the consequences will be disastrous for energy starved Least Developed Countries.

The impact of science and technology as rightly pointed out by the Delegate from China will be more evident in the field of agriculture in these coming decades. At the same time the need for counteracting the disequalizing effects of new technology in the LDC's will always be there, unfortunately effectual instruments for attaining equity do not yet exist.

My Delegation agrees with the Delegate of Yugoslavia in considering Irrigation as one of the key issues. In this regard, chapter 5, table 5. 2, roay in the final report contain ground water irrigation as a separate item. In some of the LDC's, like Bangladesh, micro-irrigation projects like TW's and hold great promise because they are quick yielding with low gestation period. Also, while augmenting river resources for surface water irrigation the needs of the lower riparian will have to be looked into carefully in the coming decades.

Mr. Chairman, the document stresses the need for an efficient input delivery system, but unless we have an efficient input acceptance mechanism our efforts will come to nothing. This aspect has been very emphasized and on page 225 "the document expands on the compelling requirement for "unlocking the Potential of Human Capital". Perhaps we have to evolve for 2000 a development strategy centred around man, as distinct from that centred around materials. In such a strategy our man in the rural setting becomes the central issue and human resource development the key instrument.

Also, my delegation hopes that a detailed and comprehensive analysis of the various Integrated Rural Development Programmes undertaken in the LDC's will be made available in the final document undertaken by FAO which will enable them to devise various strategies for making such programmes better geared for agricultural development.

In the final analysis, in our road to the year 2000, we find there are two very important and very wide gaps. One is the Implementation Gap and the other Resources gap. For the Implementation gap those of us who belong to the Third World are primarily responsible. Consideration of the long term issues should not diminish our concern for the more immediate need to bridge the gap between plan formulation and implementation. This gap is as wide as the Resource gap. To bridge the Resource gap we shall continue to depend on external aid in many respects.

My delegation has an apprehension that possibly developed countries, disillusioned by the failure of their policies to achieve favorable socio-economic and sometimes political results in the underdeveloped would will become increasingly withdrawn. We hope that such an apprehension is unfounded

and ultimately they will take a logical leap forward in extending their moral concern to other members of the international community by establishing a permanent machinery for the redistribution of world incomes by the year 2000. There is a Mexican saying, "a full belly, a happy heart. An empty stomach, be careful

S. A. PARVEZ (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation extends its compliments to Br. Islam for the able and lucid manner in which this item was introduced for discussion. It gives us pleasure to be associated with other delegations in this regard.

We also express our appreciation for the considerable amount of work that went into the preparation of the study, "Agriculture: Toward 2000", and for the timely completion of the provisional report. We look forward to the finalization of the study. We consider that the detailed analysis of the agriculture of the developing countries places FAO in a good position to make an important contribution to the New International Economic Order.

We note that the analysis of agriculture in the study is based on relatively high economic growth assumptions for the developing countries: 7.3 percent in the 1980s and 8 percent in the 1990s, which emerged during consultations in the United Nations system for the preparation of the International Development Strategy. We are gratified that those assumptions reflect, *inter alia*, the desire of the international community to set targets leading to the doubling of *per capita* incomes of the lowest income countries over the next twenty years.

The main message of the study is that the developing countries could make substantial progress in their agriculture. Consider, for example, the possibility of more than doubling of total output between 1980 and 2000, or an increase in cereals output by over 400 million tons. In terms of growth rates this would mean an acceleration of gross output growth to 4 percent during the 1980s and 3.7 percent during the 1990s.

The study makes the point that for these improvements in production performance to materialize the pace of modernisation of agriculture must be speeded up. Although arable land expansion would be an important factor in this process, the mainstay of accelerated production growth would need to be improved productivity; but such productivity gains will not come about without massive doses of investment in irrigation and in the use of modern inputs. For irrigation, the study indicates a needed addition of around 55 million hectares to the 100 million hectares already existing. The investment estimates of the study give an idea of the magnitude of the efforts required to bring developing countries' agriculture on the path to accelerated growth. Annual gross agricultural investment would need to double over the twenty-year period, from \$39 billion in 1980 to \$57 billion in 1990 and \$78 billion by the year 2000. If one were to include supporting investments in transport and first-stage processing, the requirements would be even higher. \$52 billion, \$78 billion and \$107 billion respectively. The study rightly emphasizes that by far the major part of the effort should be borne by developing countries. Foreign assistance requirements for investing financing purposes would be \$10.3 billion in 1990 and \$13.3 billion in 2000.

However, foreign assistance for industrial financing is not the only area in which continued and intensified international cooperation would be needed. We note with alarm, though with appreciation for its realism, that the developing countries would continue to be increasingly dependent on cereal imports from the developed countries. Cereal import requirements of the net deficit countries among the 90 countries of the study would grow from 47 million tons in the mid-70s to 79 million tons in 1990 and 134 million tons by the year 2000, even under the normative scenario. The situation would be much worse under the trend scenario, the corresponding figures being 114 million and 177 million tons for 1990 and 2000 respectively.

It is in this spirit that we should view the assessment of the report that an increasing volume of agricultural exports could be forthcoming from the developing countries at growth rates of 4.3 percent and 5 percent per annum over the 1980s and 1990s respectively, but for such potential to materialize as actual exports, substantial liberalization in import and agricultural protection regimes will be necessary, particularly in the developed countries. Such exports, and also exports of manufactures, should be viewed as a means of payment for increasing imports of cereals, otherwise the foreign debt burden of the developing countries would continue to mount at an alarming rate. Unless substantial progress is made in this area, the developing countries could very well see their positive net agricultural trade balance turn into a deficit in the not too distant future.

We note with alarm that even under the accelerated overall and agricultural growth of the normative scenario the problem of hunger and malnutrition in the countries studied is not going to disappear even by the end of the century. True, the problem could be reduced significantly in relative terms—the

proportion of population undernourished falling from 22 percent to 12 percent in 1990 and 7 percent in 2000-but the absolute numbers involved could still remain substantial at nearly a quarter of a billion people by the end of the century. Naturally the situation could turn out to be much worse if the optimistic assessments of the normative scenario failed to matérialise.

The study rightly emphasizes that access by the poor and undernourished to food supplies is an indispensable condition for dealing effectively with this problem. As the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development Programme of Action emphasizes, growth is not enough. We must pursue policies for institutional change and a more equal distribution of assets and income• Moreover, we need to be aware that the solution of the problem of rural poverty is not to be sought in agriculture alone. Non-agriculture activities in the rural areas would need to play an increasingly important role in this respect.

In the context of the above estimates of food deficits and numbers of undernourished, the food aid estimates of the Study are rather modest. Provision of food aid at the above rates would not unduly strain donor capabilities. In conclusioni we would like to mention and support the conclusions put forward by the delegation of Ghana. We commend the work and effort that have gone into the preparation of AT 2000 and we look forward to its completion. We regard it as a useful contribution to the effort towards the attainment of the New International Economic Order by drawing attention to imperative needs and requirements. It also emphasizes forcefully and appreciably demonstrates the need for agriculture to receive him priority and significant importance in the International Development Strategy for the coming decade.

M. DEHEIM (Libya) (interpretation from Arabic):I would like to thank Dr. Islam for the excellent statement he made on the document before us, which is a serious attempt to put forward various ideas in a very broad framework. In the document we find some important ideas on the future of agriculture. Developing countries have expressed their misgivings concerning agricultural development up to the year 2000 and the plans set up for developing agriculture. The need is also noted to eliminate the consequences of malnutrition, hunger and poverty.

It is normal for a document of this size, with its ambitions, to contain also certain weaknesses or gaps of an investigational nature or in respect of its final conclusions. However, this does not mean that insufficient efforts have been made to prepare it.

We should like to have been able to read the document in its Arabic version in good time, unfortunately, the Arabic version was distributed very late and we were unable to do so.

I should like to make various ccomments.

Increase of agricultural income is a basic matter: we all agree on that objective fact. On several occasions we have said that it is even more important to divide this income fairly, especially in the less favoured economic areas, that is to say the rural areas. We see no reference to that in the document. The achievement of equality of income and the development of rural areas are matters that must be taken into account and considered as vital and basic objectives.

It is perfectly natural that this document should refer to the trends reflected in figures and statistics. We have also taken into account other problems which cannot be quantified in the same manner.

Secondly, the results of WCARRD are still in our minds and we would like to ccomment on this. We do not think that the Conference and its basic conclusions are indeed reflected in this document. We consider that the structural changes of agriculture and the diversification of agriculture and its development, strengthening of the rural areas and participation of rural workers in particular have not been mentioned sufficiently. Of course, development strategy and programmes must be set up. That is a vital matter for the future of agriculture and this should be stressed more clearly.

Thirdly, despite the fact that we entirely agree with the document, the growth rate of agricultural production in developing countries is not sufficiently mentioned in the document. We have not yet spoken of the transfer of technologies. We have not yet spoken of broadening the cultivable areas. The document has also set aside, or swept under the carpet, certain matter concerning animal husbandry and the cultivation of areas which are still uncultivated. I would like to mention these as important matters which have not been included and which, after all, are of great concern to the new prospects of agriculture. Libya is setting up a new agricultural community. We want to achieve true agricultural independence. We consider that animal husbandry is of vital importance and we want the people who deal with it to be able to be self-sufficient and to have a better standard of living. That is why we feel that this too should be taken into consideration in the plan set up by the Organization in its plan Agriculture: Toward 2000.

In conclusion, I would like to say that we should really achieve positive conclusions in respect of this document, so that we might be able to participate in the New World Economic Order, and so that we should be able to have a new worldwide strategy. We would also like to express our great appreciation for the matters raised in this document.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The representative of Saudi Arabia has informed us that he will hand in his statement in writing. This statement will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

L. COMANESCU (Roumanie): Qu'il nous soit permis d'exprimer tout d'abord nos félicitations les plus sincères au Secrétariat pour nous avoir présenté cette étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000", qui nous donne une image claire de la situation de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation et surtout de ce que nous devrions entreprendre afin d'éliminer jusqu'à la fin de ce siècle le fléau de la famine et de la malnutrition. Nous remercions aussi M. Nurul Islam pour son introduction qui a facilité dans une grande mesure nos débats.

Analysant cette étude, nous avons pu constater avec satisfaction l'effort qu'a fait le Secrétariat pour relever les causes réelles qui ont conduit à l'état actuel dans le domaine alimentaire ainsi que pour définir sur cette base les directions d'action pour l'avenir. Il en résulte en effet que la condition fondamentale pour résoudre à long terme le problème de la faim réside dans l'accroissement accéléré de la production alimentaire dans tous les pays en développement, qui implique à son tour des efforts soutenus de la part de chaque pays ainsi qu'une assistance accrue de la part de la communauté internationale. On met aussi en évidence la nécessité de changements d'ordre structurel dans chaque pays, conformément à ses propres conditions afin de permettre le développement accéléré de l'agriculture. On relève à la fois que le développement accéléré de l'agriculture doit être vu en étroite corrélation avec celui des autres secteurs économiques.

Enfin, et là nous voyons un aspect des plus importants, l'étude relève d'une façon très claire que l'objectif de l'élimination de la faim et de la malnutrition ne pourra pas être réalisé sans l'instauration d'un Nouvel ordre économique international.

Vu le temps limité, je ne voudrais pas entrer davantage dans les détails sur les différents aspects relevés dans le document C 79/24. Tout en étant d'accord avec les conclusions présentés à la fin de cette étude, je voudrais quand même, étant donné que cette étude n'est pas définitive et qu'elle sera révisée, et puis présentée comme contribution concrète de la FAO à l'élaboration de la nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement, faire quelques remarques:

Tout d'abord on précise dans le chapitre 2, page 17, paragraphe 2, ainsi qu'au chapitre 17, paragraphe 4 qu'il y a deux grands objectifs à suivre, à savoir l'élimination de la faim et la restructuration en vue d'un nouvel ordre économique international. Il me semble qu'il n'est pas possible de faire une telle délimitation et qu'on ne devrait même pas la faire parce que cela donne l'impression, tout au moins c'est l'impression que nous avons, qu'il est possible d'entreprendre le premier objectif, à savoir l'élimination de la faim, indépendamment du deuxième. Or, à notre avis, et je sais que la majorité des pays ici présents sont d'accord, on ne pourra pas éliminer la faim sans l'instauration du Nouvel ordre économique international.

Une deuxième remarque porte sur l'étendue de l'étude. Nous comprenons bien l'effort et les difficultés du Secrétariat à assurer les données nécessaires pour les 90 pays en développement pris en considération. Nous nous demandons quand même s'il ne serait pas souhaitable que l'étude couvre dans sa version définitive tous les pays en développement. Cela aidera, à notre avis, à avoir une image aussi complète que possible de ce que l'on devrait faire.

Une troisième et dernière remarque porte sur les actions à entreprendre. Ainsi que je l'ai dit dès le début, nous sommes très satisfaits du fait que l'étude présente les directions dans lesquelles on devrait agir, et on y donne et je me réfère au scénario normatif que nous considérons comme un minimum nécessaire-parmi d'autres, les niveaux des investissements nécessaires pour le développement agricole, les domaines prioritaires d'action, la part des pays en développement dans les échanges mondiaux des produits agricoles pour l'année 2000.

Nous considérons à la fois utile et nécessaire que cette étude inclut aussi une évaluation de ce que les organisations internationales pourraient et devraient faire à l'avenir pour la réalisation de ces objectifs. C'est dans ce sens que nous suggérons qu'on évalue dans cette étude la possibilité pour ces organisations internationales d'initier un programme de coopérations à long terme jusqu'à l'an 2000 pour le développement agricole des pays en voie de développement. Nous voyons la FAO jouer un rôle central dans un tel programme auquel devraient participer entre autres, la Banque mondiale, le FIDA et autres institutions intéressées.

Il me semble que cette idee a été relevée également par le délégué de l'Inde.

Finalment, je voudrais appuyer l'idée que l'étude "Horizon 2000" et le rapport de la Conférence sur ce point soit transmise à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies ainsi qu'au Comité préparatoire pour la nouvelle stratégie de développement.

A. FERNANDEZGONZALEZ (España): Mi delegación desea resaltar la validez de todo el trabajo desarrollado desde hace años para poder llegar a presentarnos la Secretaría este estudio que con el sugestivo título de "La Agricultura hacia el año 2000" figura en el documento C 79/24. Vaya por delante mi agradecimiento hacia todos aquéllos cuya dedicación nos permite ahora reflexionar, y documentadamente, sobre la hipótesis y resultados que en el documento figuran.

Teniendo en cuenta que, aunque intentan trasladar el escenario a edades futuras, a los autores les resulta muy difícil desvincularse de las ideas y tópicos de la edad presente para la cual escriben a fin de cuentas. Considero que la metodología seguida presenta un indudable pragmatismo al establecer dos escenarios, el tendencial y el normativo, cuya interacción en el texto permite una comparación relativamente fácil de las consecuencias y resultados que derivan teóricamente de ambos escenarios.

Era necesario contar con un estudio de este tipo ante la nueva estrategia internacional para el DD 3, y ya lo tenemos.

Sin entrar en detalles precisos ni pretender discutir la validez con que se pretende anticipar el incierto futuro de final de siglo, mi delegación desea exponer algunas consideraciones a los encargados de proceder a la redacción final del estudio, que entiendo seguirá siendo responsabilidad principal de la Secretaría, especialmente si se va a introducir un tercer escenario.

En primer lugar y para centrar el alcance del documento, deseo recordar que se trata de un informe sobre resultados provisionales de un estudio de prospectiva partiendo de una hipótesis derivada de los objetivos probables de la nueva estrategia internacional para el desarrollo.

El trasfondo de todo el estudio viene a ser, de un modo reiterado, la necesidad de una más justa redistribución de las rentas tanto intranacional cuanto internacionalmente como consecuencia de una mal racionalización de recursos.

El Director General nos recuerda en el preámbulo que muchas de las decisiones adoptadas hoy día pueden afectar a la producción en las dos décadas próximas. Creo que como marco global y a largo plazo para que nuestros gobiernos establezcan planes y políticas nacionales, su planteamiento resulta excesivamente tradicional, aunque parezca lógico a la luz de las necesidades hoy aparentes; no se trata de esperar durante los próximos veinte años una agricultura ficción, pero pensamos que muchos de los avances tecnológicos considerados como posibles probablemente habrán podido ejercer su influencia beneficiosa bastante antes que lo previsto utilizando tecnologías adecuadas a los distintos tipos de recursos disponibles y quizá espoleados por la urgencia en encontrar solución viable a la crisis energética mundial.

Las investigaciones agrarias han permitido un espectacular desarrollo en las técnicas de producción, aunque hay que reconocer que la tecnología de la revolución verde se halla asentada sobre el postulado de consumo energético creciente. Así se estima que cada caloría alimentaria obtenida según esta técnica moderna requiere por término medio el insumo de cuatro calorías fósiles; ahora bien ante la perspectiva de una energía petrolífera cada vez más escasa y cara conviene reflexionar seriamente sobre la orientación a medio y largo plazo que debemos dar a nuestro sistema de producción incorporando los máximos valores de origen biológico añadido a los productos finales; porque lo que está claro es la imposibilidad de continuar como hasta ahora cuando ha comenzado el período de restricciones y carestía de la oferta energética tradicional.

Como ejemplo puede decirse que a la hora de evaluar las prioridades de las inversiones somos bastantes ya los que consideramos necesario emprender una investigación de desarrollo para los denominados cultivos agro-energéticos, especialmente en zonas áridas y semi-áridas cuya dependencia energética puede resultar peligrosa a los niveles actuales y previsibles.

Otro ejemplo, señor Presidente: cuando sabemos positivamente que son muy numerosas las zonas agrarias que están deterioradas, por desertización, por desforestización, o salinización inducida a causa de regadíos inadecuados y perdiéndose por el hecho de estar situadas en zonas periurbanas, resulta difícil considerar que en los próximos veinte años ésta seguirá siendo la buena dirección del desarrollo.

Sería preciso, por el contrario, promover un tipo de agricultura que, sin dejar de proporcionar alimentos, fibras o energía en cantidad suficiente a las necesidades del año 2000, reflejase una inversión en la tendencia degradante de la ecología, a la que me acabo de referir. En este sentido mi delegación desea llamar la atención sobre el peligro de desertización irreversible derivado de la deforestación masiva ocasionada por la necesidad en que se ven determinadas zonas rurales de algunos países en desarrollo de emplear cada vez mayores cantidades de madera como fuente energética vital ante la carestía actual y previsible de las disponibilidades de petróleo.

Señor Presidente, si bien es cierto que los problemas agrarios y rurales vienen acompañando al hombre desde sus orígenes, también lo es que el modo de abordar su solución varía en el curso de la historia; en tal sentido considero que la óptica empleada en el estudio puede resultar excesivamente continuista y que se trata de resolver los problemas de la próxima generación partiendo de supuestos instrumentos aplicados por la agricultura de los países industrializados en los últimos 20 años, como si la gravedad de las crisis simultáneas que nos afectan, tanto de tipo económico y monetario cuanto de orden cultural y social, pudiesen superarse a medio plazo empleando las recetas tradicionales de las economías desarrolladas.

Creo que vale la pena insistir en este punto porque hasta ahora una de las grandes deficiencias del proceso desarrollista ha sido precisamente la ausencia de otorgar la debida consideración en todos los órdenes a los habitantes de zonas rurales; ha habido, con muy pocas excepciones, una marcada insuficiencia de inversión en el sector agrario porque el principal motor de la actividad económica, es decir, las fuentes de financiación no han sabido, no han podido o no han querido identificarse con los objetivos de la estrategia internacional señalada en los dos decenios anteriores. No podemos por ello si no subrayar una de las conclusiones del estudio en el sentido de que es preciso intensificar la asistencia técnica para potenciar la capacidad de los países en desarrollo en la planificación y preparación de sus proyectos de inversión indicando las más ventajosas vías financieras.

En el próximo futuro la agricultura debe recibir una proporción de recursos mucho mayor que hasta ahora, y sólo a medida que cabe impulsar su desarrollo económico podrá su participación disminuir, siempre relativamente, en los planes nacionales o multilaterales de asignación de recursos.

Por otra parte, la inequidad de la distribución de la renta ha acompañado demasiado a menudo al proceso de desarrollo seguido hasta ahora, y ello no constituye ciertamente un ejemplo digno de imitar en el futuro. Otra de las indicaciones que resulta pertinente, a juicio de mi delegación, se refiere a la necesidad de reconsiderar el uso inadecuado que hasta ahora se ha venido haciendo en general de los recursos naturales. Nos decía el señor Lamo de Espinosa el día de su elección como Presidente de la Conferencia que en el futuro se impone volver a una economía agraria con menos "elementos modernos", y esta palabra debe figurar entre comillas, y mayores aprovechamientos de los recursos naturales renovables. Creo que es preciso poner mucho más énfasis en la exploración, según criterios ecológicos, de los recursos renovables invirtiendo la tendencia registrada en pasados decenios de limitar en lo posible la inversión necesaria para ello, recurriendo, en cambio, al abuso de los recursos no renovables.

Para terminar mis comentarios pienso que aunque el estudio recoge fundamentalmente el espíritu de la declaración y programa de acción de la reciente Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, no le ha sido lógicamente posible incorporar algunos de los conceptos que esta Conferencia puso particularmente de relieve. Me refiero a la necesidad de participación activa y más eficaz de la población, y particularmente de la juventud rural en el proceso definitorio de su propio desarrollo.

Estamos pensando en el futuro y parece lógico compulsar la opinión de algunos de sus principales protagonistas, los jóvenes del mundo de hoy, a través de sus organizaciones, fundamentalmente para tratar de que nuestro escenario normativo corresponda a sus justas aspiraciones; porque, como he leído estos días en un reciente libro norteamericano de memorias, no basta con estar atentos a los cambios, hay que ir por delante de ellos.

H. RIEM (Netherlands): The Head of our Delegation in his general statement has already commended FAO for producing this study and there is no need for me to confirm here what he said. So today I have to add that our delegation wants to thank Professor Islam for his effective introduction to the subject.

The Head of our Delegation also expressed the view that FAO should increasingly base its programme of work and its field activities on studies like AT 2000, which provide valuable background material for agricultural policy planning by governments and international agencies. However, in doing so, one should

be aware of the danger that policies based on the outcome of such studies lose the whole or part of their validity if the assumptions are not in accordance with the actual situation. Two different aspects are to be considered in this connexion.

First, it is necessary to have an insight into the rate of sensibility of the assumptions with regard to the results. Also, secondly, it is desirable to make calculations on the basis of different assumptions, for instance, a pessimistic, a realistic and an optimistic set of assumptions.

Chapter 3 of the study gives two alternative paths of agricultural growth in the developing countries, namely a trend production growth and its implications and a normative path of agricultural growth.

In Chapter 5, which deals with investments in agriculture, calculations have been made of the investment requirements on the basis of a normative path of agricultural growth, at least that is what we understand. Since in our opinion the choice of a normative path of growth is too optimistic, it will be clear that the calculations result in input requirements which are too high.

The study would gain in value if it could be complemented by alternative scenarios, in particular on the basis of a more realistic economic growth, and an even more pessimistic one, in particular with regard to the consequences of investment requirements. We note that there are already plans in this direction and I think we have heard requests from other delegations which are similar.

Another issue is that we think that it will also be important to pay more attention to the selectivity of investments on the basis of priority of objectives. The Head of our Delegation pointed to the need for making country or area studies based on the methods of AT 2000. However, the situation in these countries or areas may be quite different and this will have to result in different priorities with regard to the objectives. This in turn will lead to selectivity in the investments, in particular with regard to the beneficiaries and the nature of the investments.

More thought about the selection of objectives is also of importance because with the Nordic countries, we feel that objectives should also be conditioned by energy problems and also ecology. Other delegations have also pointed to these factors.

We also agree with other countries and delegations that country studies will also provide insight into the productive capacity of these countries and the distribution of food and income in them. This is of importance for the determination of priorities among the objectives, the selectivity of investments and the contributions of the countries concerned to the solution of their problems.

Finally, my delegation recommends that more attention should be paid in the study to the effectiveness of the different strategies. We think that insufficient attention is being paid to education, research and extension, and the significance of these instruments for the effectiveness of the investments.

Our delegation recommends the following: that the study should be complemented by alternative scenarios and by taking into account the results of the calculations in establishing the various priorities and also the significance of education, research and extension for the effectiveness of the investments. Secondly, we propose that the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Preparatory Committee for the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade be informed about the relative value of the provisional study, in the light of the observations made by delegations yesterday and here today at the Conference. Also the information should cover the need for further complementing the study, and, I think it is agreed, for integration with the perspectives of non-agricultural sectors.

P. A. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): Nuestra delegación ha examinado con profunda atención el estudio de "La Agricultura hacia el año 2000", presentado por la FAO. Saludamos el esfuerzo y el resultado plasmado en el estudio, aunque como bien se aclara en el propio documento presentado, algunas de las premisas y conclusiones pudieran ser mejoradas como resultado de los debates que estamos llevando a cabo.

Sin duda que el resultado de esos debates enriquecerán los aportes que hará esta Conferencia de FAO a los criterios que sobre la próxima década de la Estrategia para el Desarrollo se llevan a cabo en las Naciones Unidas. Resulta ocioso destacar la importancia que para nuestros países en vías de desarrollo tiene el sector agrícola. Es sin duda alguna vital y decisivo lograr avances en ese sector en el difícil camino hacia el desarrollo.

Es justo reconocer, señor Presidente, el empeño que ha significado este estudio que, entre otras cosas, nos obliga no solamente a ver y a analizar la situación agrícola en el mundo a mediano plazo, sino a meditar más profundamente algo que de ello se desprende y que es como serán las condiciones de vida

de la inmensa mayoría de los seres humanos que pueblan nuestro planeta y que pertenecen en enorme proporción a los países subdesarrollados. Por esa sola razón nuestra delegación considera que este estudio debe enviarse a la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas y a su Comité Preparatorio. Estima mi delegación que solamente este propósito de tratar de ver cómo será en la práctica este mundo en los próximos años justifica ya de por sí su realización.

De otra parte, resultaría prácticamente imposible hacer una referencia detallada y minuciosa al sin número de aspectos sociales, económicos, políticos, etc. que contiene el estudio. Por ello, señor Presidente, pretendemos concentrarnos en aquellos puntos que a nuestro entender pudieran ser de mayor relevancia dadas las limitaciones de tiempo para hacer esta exposición, teniendo como principal punto de referencia, los centenares de millones de hambrientos que aun existirán a finales de siglo.

La primera reflexión que nos asalta al concluir el examen del estudio, es la magnitud y complejidad de la tarea que espera a la comunidad internacional en los próximos años. Resalta, en primer lugar, el fracaso de las metas establecidas para eliminar el hambre en el mundo, hacia 1985, tal como se expresa en el propio estudio, la meta era ambiciosa y en la práctica ha sido ignorada.

¿Qué medidas proponer entonces, para erradicar el más terrible azote de la humanidad? ¿Cómo materializar pasos concretos encaminados a aliviar y poder eliminar esta dramática situación?

Tal como plantea el estudio, será necesario acelerar la producción de alimentos. Para ello es imprescindible modernizar el proceso de producción. Se requieren más fertilizantes, herbicidas, maquinarias y equipos. Resulta imprescindible incrementar la aplicación de la ciencia y de la técnica, aumentar los esfuerzos en el campo de la investigación y apresurar su aplicación a la producción. La población aumenta, la tierra disponible disminuye relativamente. Sólo con la aplicación de la ciencia y la técnica puede enfrentarse este desafío. Apoyamos el criterio de que en los próximos veinte años deben duplicarse los recursos de la agricultura de 39 mil millones de dólares en 1980 hasta 78 mil millones en el año 2000.

Para todo el proceso de aumento de la producción, el factor decisivo es el hombre. Es necesario que se efectúen reformas económicas y sociales profundas en el sector, de manera que el hombre sea realmente el protagonista y beneficiario del proceso. Es en este aspecto en el que consideramos está la clave del problema. Sin una amplia participación popular, no habrá remedio para la dramática situación que confrontamos.

Junto con las reformas internas y el incremento de la producción, hay que exigir cada vez con más fuerza la reestructuración del caduco orden económico existente. Sin cambios sustanciales en el comercio internacional, del cual se benefician hoy sólo unos pocos países ricos, no podrán materializarse los cambios internos necesarios, ni alcanzar progresos encaminados al bienestar humano.

La injusta relación de intercambio existente, debe desaparecer. No es posible hablar de incrementar la producción agrícola cuando se padece una disminución constante de los precios de las materias primas y se encarecen ostensiblemente los productos manufacturados y los equipos que importamos. En nuestra región de Latinoamérica, según el estudio realizado recientemente por la Oficina Regional de la FAO para nuestra área, el efecto de las restricciones aplicadas por una serie de países fundamentalmente a cereales, carne vacuna, azúcar, bananas y algodón, se revirtieron en una reducción del comercio de nuestro país, en unos 14 400 millones de dólares de los Estados Unidos en sólo diez años.

Esta más que comprobado, señor Presidente, que la estabilización interna de los mercados de los productos agropecuarios la pueden realizar aquellos países que tienen una gran capacidad económica financiera. Esa estabilización interna se traduce en mayores fluctuaciones en el mercado internacional, el cual supone un peso mayor sobre los países en desarrollo productores que deben hacer grandes importaciones de todo tipo.

En el estudio se plantea la posibilidad de que los países subdesarrollados puedan elevar el volumen de sus exportaciones de productos agrícolas en un 5 por ciento en 1990. Con la situación actual de trabas al comercio impuestas por los países desarrollados con sus políticas de subsidio y proteccionismo, sería muy difícil llegar a esta meta.

Para aliviar sus situaciones de incuestionables déficits en las balanzas tiene necesariamente que recurrir a la ayuda externa. La ayuda externa tiene que ser enfocada bajo un nuevo prisma. Nuestros países no soportan la hoy terrible carga de la deuda externa. En muchos de los países más pobres el único camino es lograr la cancelación de esa deuda, que no tiene la mínima posibilidad de pagar.

En cuanto a la asistencia financiera necesaria, debe ofrecerse en términos blandos, y a muy corto plazo, pues de lo contrario sus efectos, como ahora, serán nocivos. Debe aumentarse sustancialmente la ayuda financiera. Esto es una obligación de toda la humanidad.

Cuando analizamos señor Presidente, el Capítulo 4, en el epígrafe 3, se plantean los principales sectores de decisión que influyen en las opciones estratégicas de la producción agrícola. Nos preguntamos, señor Presidente, ¿cómo podrían priorizar la extensión de la superficie o intensificación del uso de la tierra los cientos de millones de seres humanos que no tienen acceso a las tierras? ¿Cómo podrían diversificar los cultivos si no tiene ni siquiera dónde cultivar lo imprescindible para subsistir? ¿Cómo podrían utilizar tecnologías diversas para aumentar los rendimientos si solamente conocen sus manos o una simple azada para cultivar en tierra? Consideramos que además de los aspectos técnicos analizados en este estudio, hay aspectos de índole puramente social que esta Comisión y esta Conferencia no pueden pasar por alto. Exhortamos a que se profundice en estos aspectos pues todos sabemos que las soluciones técnicas no resuelven los problemas sociales.

Señor Presidente, referente a las dimensiones internacionales del desarrollo agrícola, y en especial al comercio internacional de productos agrícolas, consideramos que ya se ha hablado suficiente en esta Comisión y tenemos, incluso, que someter a aprobación una Resolución sobre estos importantes aspectos; sin embargo, resalta a nuestra atención los planteamientos de la página 182 del texto español, donde se afirma que la situación en los últimos años de los países desarrollados productores y exportadores de cereales, leche y productos lácteos, fue de abundancia y, en ocasiones, de molestos excedentes que, como todos conocemos, son destruidos en algunos momentos toques para mantener los precios.

¿Cómo se conjunta esto, señor Presidente, con la existencia de cientos de miles de personas que no tienen tan siquiera un pedazo de pan? En la actualidad se discute si el número de desnutridos en nuestro planeta es sólo de 400 millones o se acerca a la cifra de 450 millones. Nos parece que una cifra de 400 millones de desnutridos es de sobra acusatoria.

El estudio de la agricultura hacia el año 2000 es un gran desafío. En la exposición general sobre los problemas de la agricultura mundial, se plantea que el factor humano es importantísimo para elevar la producción, vayamos un poco más allá en ese desafío. Consideramos que es la hora que todos nos unamos en la tarea de sacar a pueblos enteros y a cientos de millones de seres humanos del retraso, la miseria, la desnutrición, las enfermedades, el analfabetismo, que les hace imposible disfrutar a plenitud de la dignidad y el orgullo de llamarse hombres.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic); Before closing the meeting this morning I should like to say that Brazil has handed in a written address which will be added to the record.

A. S. MASHHABY (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia): The study deals with the world agricultural sector and food situation, and anticipated agricultural policies until the year 2000, with special emphasis on developing countries. It studies the contribution of agriculture towards satisfaction of growing demand in view of the expected rise in national income. It points out to investment requirements and the implications to labour demand for agricultural production of the growth in income and production and the nutritional status in developing countries. Besides, the study goes on to deal with international trade, foreign aid requirements including food aid, necessary to finance production increase and narrow the gap between food supply and demand.

We noticed that the study has given special attention to aid in the form of subsidized imports into developing countries of strategic commodities such as wheat. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia suggests that aid should be increased in the form of production inputs (technical and technological assistance) to develop local production and enable the developing countries to rely on their own food resources.

We noticed that the study did not deal with dates, although world production of dates amounted to 2.2 million tons in 1975 according to FAO estimates, and the fact that dates are an important food source in many developing countries. That is why my country would like a study to be made on the maximization and processing of world production of dates.

To achieve increases in agricultural production by the year 2000 we believe special attention should be given to:

- (a) study possibilities of unconventional agricultural production
- (b) increased interest in agricultural extension and training
- (c) study relationship between farm income and size in order to establish the optimum farm capacity capable of maximizing returns in the agricultural sector
- (d) study the relationship between supply and demand of agricultural labour, especially technical skills which are in high demand as a result of new, highly technical agricultural practices

(e) study policies for agricultural integration between countries having the necessary elements for economic and social integration

Finally I believe the study is a good one, in spite of certain weak points. It could serve as a base for breakthrough if these deficiencies were taken care of. 1/

A. TRONCOSO VILAS (Brazil): Mr. Chairman, the Brazilian delegation would like to join the others in expressing its congratulation to FAO in preparing document C 79/24, as a quite useful study to the understanding of the agricultural situation in the future. The head of our delegation has already commended FAO's effort in developing such a study, therefore there is no need to say much about its importance.

However, since this is a provisional report which will be revised later on, we would also like to suggest the following items to be considered in the document:

1-An adequate and concise macro-economic model, benefiting from existing ones, should support its analysis allowing for greater consistency, reliability and further comparison with other agencies' studies;

2-Greater attention should be given to the appropriate role of investment in A. T. 2000 due to its basic importance in the process of generating and transferring technology to transform the traditional agriculture in less developed countries;

3-Besides indicating the present and future agricultural "state of arts", the ways and means to change or improve such situations should also be indicated and analyzed;

4-As it has been pointed out in many opportunities due consideration must be given to the key role and effect of international trade in the future of agriculture, therefore, the "At 2000" document should take it into account;

5-Since some of the estimates of the study indicate some biased results, an additional effort of updating will be recommended;

6-Finally, we would like to suggest that the document dedicate a special chapter into the challenging problems of energy constraints in agricultural development.

We understand, Mr. Chairman, the due analysis of the above items will contribute to improve the document and should add to the achievement of its objectives to provide this conference with long term perspectives in agriculture as well as to help FAO to formulate its action toward the new international development strategy. 1/

The meeting rose at 13. 00 hours

La séance est levée à 13 heures"

Se levanta la sesión a las 13 horas

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

conference

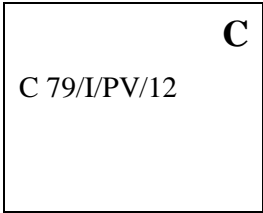
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

TWELFTH MEETING
DOUZIEME SEANCE
12ª SESION
(22 November 1979)

The Twelfth Meeting was opened at 14. 50 hours Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission" I, presiding
"La douzième séance est ouverte à 14 h 50, sous la présidence de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la
Commission I
Se abre la 12ª sesión a las 14. 50 horas, bajo la presidencia de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión
I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(Continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)
- 8. Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 and the New International Development Strategy (continued)
- 8. Préparation de la Session extraordinaire de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies en 1980 et Nouvelle strategie internationale du développement (suite)
- 8. Preparativos para el periodo extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General en 1980, y la Nueva Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo (continuación)
- 8. 2 "Agriculture:Toward 2000" (FAO's Study of Prospects for World Agriculture up to the end of the century) (continued)
- 8. 2 "Agriculture-Horizon 2000" (Etude FAO des perspectives de l'agriculture mondiale jusqu'à la fin du siècle) (suite)
- 8. 2 "La Agricultura hacia el año 2000" (Estudio de la FAO sobre las perspectivas de la agricultura en el mundo hasta fines del siglo) (continuación)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic):Venezuela has submitted a text on AT 2000, to be included in the record.

H. S. BAR SHAI (Israel):First of all I would like to thank very much those who prepared the AT 2000 survey. From this broad scoped preview very much can be learned about the many diversified aspects involved in the development of agriculture necessary for the next 20 years. On the other hand, I am sorry in a way that we have not got a forecast proper, which would have summed up the scientific, physical and social and other developments in the foreseeable future. Such a forecast, which need not prove right, of course, can serve as a useful tool in the planning of the agricultural set-up of every country of the world.

Anyhow, I would like to support the proposition of several delegates to add more scenarios which will give us a wider range of possibilities in preparing ourselves to any future developments.

Doubling agricultural production within 20 years is not an unattainable target, especially where developing countries are concerned and AT 2000 indeed indicates this in its elaborate way.

Israel has increased her agricultural production nearly ten-fold within such a period.

But such development demands several prerequisites, among them Suitable Social Structure. Our agriculture has been based mainly on self-supporting cooperative units on personal settlement and regional levels and for activities such as production, distribution and input acquiring.

There are in Israel several regional cooperative organizations that incorporate up to 50 or more rural settlements, which supply themselves with purchasing, processing and distribution facilities, utilizing the advantages and efficiency of big organizations, thus reducing expenses, losses and increasing the incomes of their member-farmers.

National ownership of land and water resources enables a rational and just allocation of these limited resources.

Advanced technologies and research facilities are employed in Israel and should also be in the whole world to get the best possible crop and reduced waste in a state of limited resources.

Water, in a relatively dry country such as Israel is very important. Israel has been increasing productivity of water by an annual rate of 8 to 9 percent per annum. This was done by utilizing waste water, water with high chlorine content which is suitable for certain crops and advanced drip irrigation systems.

Our aim has always been that top yields of today should be average yields of tomorrow. I believe that further development in the agricultural sector will depend, to a large extent, on whether we find and apply new modes and systems for better utilization of land, water, energy, high-yielding seed varieties.

We must find better and more economical modes for water supply through desalinization new systems of multi-cropping and poly-culturing for better utilization of limited resources.

We should enhance the utilization of other energy resources-and in many water-scarce countries solar energy is quite abundant. We must also learn much more about our world's climate so as to reduce our overwhelming dependence on unforeseeable climatic changes, especially in a period when ecological problems may have great influence on world climate.

A way of reducing our dependence on the vagaries of climate is to set up crop insurance funds on a national, regional and even global level. We have proposed this in the past and we propose it again.

Such a fund has been successfully operating in Israel, as well as in many other countries, and international financial bodies should be called upon to operate such funds.

Above all we should encourage farmers to produce more and be willingly involved in the process of ensuring food security. So much depends on them.

We expect FAO to play, as always, a leading role both as initiators and agents for such activities.

Israel, who has been much assisted by the FAO, and through her wide know-how and research facilities in this field, will gladly cooperate with nations in her area, and all over the world and the relevant international bodies, to contribute to a better world, free from hunger, so we hope in the year 2000.

G. DOCÖMMQN (Suisse): C'est avec une grande curiosité que nous avons attendu la parution des résultats provisoires de l'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000". Incontestablement, le Secrétariat de la FAO a fait un travail consciencieux et remarquable, l'investissement intellectuel et en travail n'a pas été épargné. Il en est résulté un exposé très intéressant, riche, autant dans ses aspects quantitatifs que dans la qualité des idées présentées.

L'avant-propos de l'étude, l'introduction et le survol des problèmes fondamentaux qui nous sont présentés au début de l'étude sont très bien équilibrés. L'effort intérieur des pays en développement a sa juste place à côté de l'aide publique au développement et du commerce international; la modernisation et la technologie n'écrasent pas les considérations socio-politiques.

Nous remercions les nombreuses personnes concernées pour le travail accompli. Il faut du courage pour empoigner un problème d'une pareille envergure et nous félicitons notre Directeur général pour cette initiative. Quels que soient les commentaires que suscite cette étude, nous pensons qu'elle sera toujours une base très valable pour la réflexion sur les stratégies du développement.

Lorsque les planificateurs et les politiciens pensent au développement, ils pensent en général en termes de produit intérieur brut, de croissance économique. L'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" mentionne en divers endroits que le facteur humain, son potentiel, sont souvent oubliés par les planificateurs. Après lecture, force nous est de constater que même si l'étude n'oublie pas ce potentiel travail, elle ne l'en néglige pas moins.

La réflexion sur le développement des sociétés devrait commencer par un examen des besoins fondamentaux des êtres humains, besoins tant matériels qu'immatériels; quel que soit le type de société envisagé, leur satisfaction exige que chaque cellule sociale de base puisse effectuer un travail dont le revenu en espèces ou en nature soit suffisant.

Il nous semble que l'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" aurait donc dû commencer sa réflexion par un examen approfondi du travail, du problème de l'emploi. Si le problème de l'emploi n'est pas résolu, celui de la pauvreté et donc celui de la faim ne le seront pas non plus.

Nous encourageons la FAO à examiner les stratégies et les mesures qui permettent d'utiliser pleinement le potentiel humain considérable qui est immobilisé dans la situation. actuelle.

Le chapitre de l'étude sur l'emploi comporte deux pages; ma délégation vous demande de l'étoffer par un travail interdisciplinaire et global dans lequel l'agriculture trouve sa. juste place. Pour les pays connaissant un chômage considérable, ouvert ou caché, il s'agirait d'examiner par exemple, quelles sont les techniques de production qui permettent à la fois d'augmenter le nombre d'emplois, la productivité du sol et autant que possible, la productivité du travail; d'examiner aussi si beaucoup d'investissements productifs ne pourraient pas être réalisés essentiellement avec l'investissement travail.

Nous pensons que les solutions ne peuvent vraiment pas être les mêmes pour des pays aux conditions totalement différentes. Il ne peut pas s'agir de reproduire dans les pays en voie de développement des techniques développées pour épargner du travail dans les pays européens où la croissance démographique était au plus de 1 pour cent dans les deux siècles passés, alors qu'elle est de 3 pour cent dans les pays en voie de développement.

Il est tout aussi risqué de propager des modes de production qui consomment beaucoup de pétrole alors que son prix est condamné à s'accroître rapidement du fait de sa rarefaction.

Dans la suite logique de notre préoccupation pour l'utilisation de tous les potentiels travail humain, s'inscrit notre souhait de voir l'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" se pencher plus sur l'artisanat et l'industrialisation rurale. Il est hautement prioritaire de développer en milieu rural des activités industrielles qui forment avec l'agriculture ou la sylviculture des circuits commerciaux solides.

La concentration de l'investissement de l'industrie et des infrastructures sociales dans quelques grands centres urbains a des conséquences que l'on peut qualifier de catastrophiques sur le plan humain. Peut-on vivre heureux dans les quartiers populeux de villes énormes qui comprendront bientôt 5, 10 to 30 millions d'habitants? Ne vaut-il pas mieux développer un tissu urbain décentralisé composé de villes petites et moyennes?

L'exode vers les grands centres peut être largement réduit si les campagnes deviennent aussi attrayantes que les villes, si les prix payés aux agriculteurs sont équitables, si les ouvriers agricoles reçoivent des salaires et des conditions suffisants, si les petits paysans disposent eux aussi des bonnes terres au lieu de montagnes et de sols fragiles qu'ils sont obligés de déboiser et de surexploiter pour survivre.

La question de la réforme agraire est très souvent centrale si la misère et la faim doivent être surmontées. La concentration de la propriété du sol a un grand nombre de conséquences qui empêchent un développement harmonieux au bénéfice de tous, elle rend probablement impossible une stratégie efficace en faveur des petits agriculteurs et empêche une réelle participation populaire à l'effort national de développement. La participation des communautés de base au pouvoir et à la gestion de leur développement nous paraît cruciale.

Souvent l'étude "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" semble faire plus confiance à la technologie sophistiquée qu'aux hommes, nous semble-t-il. C'est dommage. Les analphabètes ne sont pas ignorants et ne manquent pas d'intelligence. Cette intelligence peut être mise en action si on lui en donne la possibilité. Il faut donner aux communautés de base la possibilité de s'organiser et de défendre leurs intérêts et de s'éduquer.

Pour résumer, voici en quelques mots quelques aspects que nous souhaiterions voir renforcer dans la version définitive de "Agriculture Horizon 2000".

La recherche de la mobilisation de tout le potentiel humain avec un chapitre élaboré et interdisciplinaire sur le problème Ce l'emploi et la répartition des revenus.

Des stratégies et scénarios plus variés selon les disponibilités en ressources naturelles et humaines des pays.

Des propositions plus diversifiées quant aux technologies à appliquer en tenant compte en particulier des ressources renouvelables et de l'écologie.

Une considération encore plus poussée des obstacles socio-politiques du développement en conformité avec le Programme d'action adopté à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural du mois de juillet.

Une beaucoup plus grande confiance dans la capacité des populations des pays en développement à contribuer par leurs propres efforts au développement qu'elles se souhaitent. C'est sur la base d'une saine confiance en leurs capacités, en leur créativité et en leur culture que les pays en développement pourront le mieux bénéficier de l'aide que nous sommes à même de leur apporter. Cette base nous poussera aussi à poursuivre avec plus de vigueur la réflexion et la remise en question de notre propre société.

Ms. P. ROBERTS-PICHETTE (Canada): Agriculture: Toward 2000 is a most useful study for governments and international organizations, setting out as it does some of the possible trends affecting food production for the next twenty years. As Dr. Islam said in his comprehensive introductions, however, we should not regard it as a plan or a blueprint for the future but rather as an analysis. My delegation is pleased to have this opportunity to comment on the document and is happy to note that opportunity is being provided for discussion and explanation before it is submitted to the United Nations Preparatory Committee on IDS.

The next twenty years are certain to contain many surprises and the document provides a warning of what could befall us if we do not meet the challenge of ensuring adequate food for the world's people, essentially from their own backyards.

The Secretariat is to be congratulated on preparing such a stimulating document. Nevertheless my Government has some concerns with the document, which I would like to comment upon briefly.

We think that projections based on the lumping together of ninety developing countries at different stages of development and having very different resource bases are likely to be very unreliable. We think that the exclusion of China is inappropriate. We think that there is too great an emphasis on external investment in comparison with the major role that internal investment must play. The suggested growth rates would appear to be too high to be realistic if they are based primarily on additional external investments which do not appear to be attainable in any foreseeable circumstances. We do not think adequate recognition has been given to the role of energy, in all its forms, in modern farming and especially its future availability and price. Finally, we find that only peripheral notice has been taken of the real resources—people, land, water, air—and the biological and environmental limitations which must be recognized if such massive projected increases in food production are to be realized. Those comments are brief, so we shall endeavour to provide the Secretariat with a more detailed and constructive critique in due course.

I would like now to turn to some aspects of the results or implications of the analysis.

We find most worrisome the continuing large food deficit forecast for developing countries, particularly in grains and dairy products. It is true that certain countries with growing industrial bases can pay for these imports, and indeed this may well be the best use of their resources. For others, however, imports will represent a continuing drain on limited foreign exchange resources or a need for continuing food aid. This underlines the urgent need to provide national food strategies and to build up national agricultural capacity to increase the output of local staple foods.

Meeting the projected increase in fish production of 20 million to 30 million tons of fish by the year 2000 is an immense task but one which we believe is achievable. The document identifies two aspects of fisheries, fish-meal production and shrimp operations, as possible sources that could be improved to meet food-fish demands by the end of the century. My delegation supports policies that are geared towards the exploitation of marine and inland water resources for human consumption.

We agree with and compliment FAO upon shifting its operational policies in the fisheries sector towards small-scale rural activities and aquaculture. Fisheries can yield from 3 to 30 times as much animal protein as can their competitors for the same energy consumption. The sector offers an attractive means of increasing food in developing countries already burdened with heavy bills for oil. We also support policies that are aimed at helping management experts in the scientific assessment of existing resources in the economic zones of developing countries. Likewise, my delegation is happy with the response of other delegations to the Jakarta Declaration. The impact of the Declaration and the FAO policies of Forests for People should have a major impact on this sector of primary production.

We are also concerned about the projection which indicates that food aid will be a permanent feature of international relations. My Government had hoped that food aid could be considered a passing phase during the present difficult food situation, and for the future, that it would be limited to intermittent crop reverses, emergencies and for nutritional programmes. My Government still hopes that our collective efforts to build up the agricultural capacity of developing countries will reverse the projected trends. While my Government has the physical capacity to provide food aid, this represents

aid money and we doubt that a growing proportion of funds devoted to food aid at the expense of agriculture development is in the best interests of developing countries. Therefore we must all ensure that this forecast does not come to pass.

The Study recognizes many of the factors entering into agricultural policy formulation in the developed countries and notes its minor statistical importance in many overall economies, but agriculture is particularly important in certain regions and the revenue it generates has a high impact. The Study appears to neglect the importance of agricultural exports to the overall balance of payments of many developed countries and the importance of agriculture in providing employment opportunities.

While my Government accepts the role of shared responsibility for World Food Security and the need to help meet important demands, both commercial and concessional, from developing countries, there is an inherent contradiction in the Agriculture: Toward 2000 thesis aimed at import substitution. The agricultural sector must be fully productive and farmers assured of a fair return for their labours if emergency needs are to be met. Production cannot be turned on and off at short notice and countries are bound to consider their own needs before considering those of others. It is Canadian Government policy to get the best possible market intelligence to farmers while the annual production plans are being prepared.

Generally, the developed and developing countries complement one another in their productive bases and therefore increased trade potential exists. Where both sides produce competing products for export, such as beef or sugar, my Government supports the negotiation process between parties to consider possibilities and avoid conflict of interest. This is being done already in the FAO intergovernmental groups and in the commodity councils. There is a continual adjustment to changing circumstances, so reliable information is vital to make valid decisions.

We are encouraged by the regular trade liberalization and successive tariff reductions within the GATT over the past twenty-five years. The Generalized System of Preferences and special action on tropical products in advance of the MTN conclusion are important. My Government believes the MTN represents a major improvement in world trading conditions.

As a final point, it is of utmost importance that increased agricultural production (including fisheries and forestry) and more intensive management of resources is ecologically sustainable. Any proposed production framework must acknowledge the resource and environmental limitations of the particular area where it will be used. To stimulate an artificial and unsustainable short-term increase in production could have disastrous effects not only by raising long-term expectations far too high, but also of exhausting the inherent biological capacity, leading to losses in productivity in long term. The major thrust of our efforts over the next twenty years could perhaps be best planned around the theme "Meeting world food needs on an ecologically sustainable and economically viable basis. 11

M. R. LEAR (New Zealand): New Zealand wishes to join with other delegations in commending the Secretariat for its ambitious and far-reaching Study, Agriculture: Toward 2000. The document concludes that there will need to be a massive increase in food production by the year 2000 if the world is to be adequately fed and employed given its rapidly increasing population. The magnitude of this task, both for individual countries and for the international community, is daunting, especially since, as the analysis shows, a continuation of past rates of growth is not adequate and an accelerated rate of growth is essential, and since there are no easy short cuts. A great deal more effort and goodwill will be required on all sides than has been shown in the past, if we are to reach the objective of a world free from hunger and malnutrition.

Bearing in mind the shortage of time available to us and the usefulness of many of the suggestions already made for further improvements of the Study, we will confine our specific remarks to three observations.

The first is that the Study makes a sound analysis of the current international trading system for agriculture, noting that its restrictions and disruptions suppress growth and lead to misallocation of resources. The Study goes on to conclude-correctly in our view-that this system must be reformed if we are to achieve the desired rates of global economic growth. We would, however, like to have seen a stronger and more unequivocal call for greater reliance on market mechanisms for the solution of these problems.

It is our view that a relatively free international trading system will allocate resources most efficiently, and will ensure the most rational production and trading patterns to the benefit of the global economy. We have more faith in market mechanisms than in the organized trading arrangements and the production and export and import management schemes which the Study seems to advocate in places.

While speaking of trade, we would note in passing that paragraph 39 of Chapter 13 provides some conservative figures on the magnitude of the loss of earnings presently suffered by the developing countries as a result of agricultural protectionism. These figures, we believe, put into perspective the claim made by one delegation yesterday, and in the state of food and agriculture debate, that it is really only the developed countries which would benefit from liberalized agricultural trade.

We would also note in passing that the last section of Chapter 15 summarizes the type of measures which developed countries can take to safeguard the welfare of their farmers and to meet their food requirements, without resorting to the high levels of protection currently practised.

The second point we would like to make is that we note the analysis demonstrates that the developing countries will continue to depend on a high and increasing level of cereal imports, mainly from developed countries.

We heard some delegates from developed countries argue yesterday that this fact justifies their high price support systems, since those systems already encourage high production. We would observe, however, that a significant proportion of the world's demands for cereals comes from some industrialized countries for use as animal feedstuffs. As we all know, animals are relatively inefficient converters of the food energy in cereals and other feedstuffs into animal protein for human consumption. In our view, therefore, it makes better sense for those industrialized countries, rather than importing massive quantities of cereals for animal feedstuffs, to import smaller quantities of food-equivalent livestock end-products from the areas of the world which can raise livestock cheaply and efficiently, primarily on grass. That would release more cereals in the future for human consumption in the developing countries. We hope that this point might find mention in the revised Study.

Thirdly, we would simply like to highlight the sound economic sense made by the report when it discusses the issues of Self-Sufficiency, Self-reliance and Comparative Advantage in Chapter 17. The analysis notes that both developed and developing countries should be aware of "the implications of undue insulation from international supplies and competition, 11 and they should also be aware of the mutual benefits to be obtained from a greater reliance on trade as opposed to striving at high cost for complete self-sufficiency.

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): Nuestra delegación desea felicitar a la Secretaría por la elaboración del documento: "La agricultura hacia el año 2000", base de nuestras deliberaciones y que permite hacer observaciones de interpretación sobre su contenido, contribuyendo así al análisis de la agricultura, no solo globalmente, sino en los países en desarrollo en los cuales el documento nos parece limitado.

Principiaremos por decir que en aquellos países donde existe una fuerte presión demográfica, desempleo masivo, desnutrición, analfabetismo y otros factores inherentes al subdesarrollo, no es posible pensar exclusivamente en soluciones por la vía del minifundio o los pequeños productores, ya que sistemáticamente se mantendrían alejadas las masas, rurales de la compleja problemática del desarrollo en general y del desarrollo agrícola en particular.

La experiencia de nuestro país y de otros países con problemas semejantes en intentar resolver los problemas del desempleo, el éxodo masivo del campo a la ciudad o al extranjero, la dependencia enológica, la producción alimentaria para una población creciente, y de productos básicos ligados con la industria por la vía de las agroindustrias de propiedad social con apoyo del Estado. Esto mediante la coordinación con otros sectores productivos en los que intervienen los pequeños productores sin duda alguna.

Discrepamos del documento al asignar la importante área de la investigación básica a los países industrializados, tradicionalmente potencias agrícolas, lo que sugiere una continuación lineal de la industrialización internacional del trabajo que pretendemos transformar los países en desarrollo a través del establecimiento del Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional.

De implementarse permanentemente la propuesta del documento, equivaldría a condenarnos a depender sistemáticamente de las fundaciones y universidades extranjeras y de la ciencia y la tecnología que importamos "para resolver nuestro problema".

La investigación básica y aplicada provenientes del exterior es bienvenida; pero sólo en función de los intereses nacionales y de las necesidades productivas de los países en desarrollo.

Mediante un plano rector diseñado por el Estado apoyamos decididamente la investigación de nuestros propios campesinos y productores, los cuales con inversiones escasas obtienen resultados tangibles a corto plazo que resuelven problemas concretos y son portadores de sus propias soluciones.

Desarrollar tecnología nativa, que es una tecnología adecuada para resolver problemas concretos, es una contribución importante a la autosuficiencia alimentaria que tiene como meta todos los países.

Generalmente la tecnología que se importa de los países altamente industrializados elimina empleo indiscriminadamente, ignora la problemática social de la producción, fomenta la dependencia tecnológica y la fuga de divisas porque proviene de países que cuentan con abundantes recursos de capital y poca mano de obra; situación inversa a lo que ocurre en el Tercer Mundo.

En México establecemos una diferencia sustancial entre el simple incremento de las tasas de producción y productividad con respecto al desarrollo general, toda vez que este último contempla la coordinación armónica de la agricultura con la industria y los factores sociales que en ella intervienen.

Cuando hablamos de agroindustria de propiedad social, nos referimos al fortalecimiento del sector social en los países con la llamada economía mixta. Diferenciamos esta forma de propiedad de la privada y de la estatal, y nos apoyamos en los 24 000 ejidos y comunidades fruto de la reforma agraria mexicana que cubren el territorio nacional y todas las ramas de la producción para la generación de empleos productivos en la agricultura. Fomentar la capitalización local y regional con tecnología adecuada, con crecientes inversiones prioritariamente estatales y complementariamente privadas y extranjeras fomentan la inversión de los trabajadores rurales en la gestión de sus unidades productivas. Mediante esta red productiva nacional de propiedad social y de forma asociativa-y aquí me refiero a las cooperativas pesqueras-se pueden satisfacer las necesidades alimentarias de la población con bajo poder adquisitivo, ya que tradicionalmente las corporaciones transnacionales cubren las necesidades de consumo de las capas sociales con elevados ingresos, generalmente consumistas y derrochadoras. Estos cambios en la agricultura exigen transformaciones en el aparato institucional de los países en desarrollo capaces de resistir presiones de los intereses afectados que dejarán de acumular con los reajustes; para ello, sin duda, la reforma agraria es un prerequisite para la conformación de nuevas fuerzas económicas y sociales. Aquí valdría la pena recalcar las conclusiones de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural e incluirlas en el estudio que ahora comentamos. Es así como vislumbramos algunos aspectos de la agricultura en los próximos 20 años.

Para concluir, Señor Presidente, la agricultura como factor sustantivo del desarrollo y de la supervivencia de la creciente población mundial, no puede ser dejada al arbitrio de las fuerzas del mercado, sino que debe ser preservada como un patrimonio ambiental de la humanidad mediante su adecuada planificación.

México quiere solicitar a la Secretaría que incluya los conceptos centrales de nuestra propuesta en los ajustes que se hagan a este documento, y apoya que sean remitidos con el documento en su conjunto a la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas.

Igualmente, la meta del crecimiento del 4 por ciento de la agricultura en la siguiente década del desarrollo para lo que será necesario aumentos crecientes de investigación en el sector agrícola y seguramente apoyo externo en las economías en desarrollo.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Before calling on the next speaker, it might perhaps be useful to remind delegates that the draft resolution on the Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones has already been distributed in document C 79/LIM/41. Similarly, another draft resolution on the World Food Day is already available in document C 79/LIM/37.

I. OZORAI (Hungary): My delegation would like to be as cooperative as possible. Therefore I am going to speak for a very short time indeed, at the same time requesting the Secretariat to include the full text of my prepared statement in the Minutes of the meeting.

There is, however, one specific point which I would like to raise. This refers to investments. Chapter 5 of the study summarizes the investments needed to achieve proper growth in food and agricultural production in ninety developing countries. We have to voice some doubts on whether all countries concerned will be in a position to manage investments which, as a whole, exceeded US\$ 100 billion at 1975 prices. It does not seem to be quite clear to my delegation how the institutional capabilities of those countries are going to be strengthened. Efficient national institutions may rightly be looked upon as key elements to this end. We wonder whether in Chapter 12 on institutional changes investments and institutional development should be referred to and

analyzed as the most important prerequisites of any real progress. We have good reason to believe that the liquid finance available for agricultural investments in the last two decades of this century may depend on the receptive possibilities of a good number of the countries concerned. Having said this, I have only two very short remarks to make.

One is that my delegation fully endorses what has been said this morning by the Delegate of Poland arguing for increased universality of the study.

Finally, I would like to thank the Secretariat for having submitted this really unique piece of work and we consider this study as fit for submission to the General Assembly of the United Nations complemented with some improvements to be decided upon by the Conference.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The Secretariat will include your written text in the report as you have requested.

M. YOKOYAMA (Japan): First of all, I would like to associate myself with the other delegates in commending the Secretariat for the accomplishment of this comprehensive work. This work provides the long-term forecast of agricultural production and necessary investment in the field of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. In-depth analysis is carried out on various aspects of employment, nutrition, marketing, price policy, institutional framework and so on. My delegation is of the view that this forecast is generally realistic and reasonable although some figures may still remain to be re-examined through future discussions in various fora. My delegation thinks that this study will not only contribute to the drawing up of a New International Development Strategy for the 1980s, but will also be useful, particularly for developing countries, to consider their agricultural policies.

Now let me make a few detailed comments on some parts of the document. Firstly, as for Chapter 12 of Part Three, Institutional Changes, my delegation is of the view that the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and the Fifth World Food Council need to be reflected more in this chapter.

Secondly, with regard to Chapter 13 of Part Four, International Trade, we are aware that the free trade system contributes to the increase of agricultural production and also to the improvement of food consumption, not only in developing countries but also in the world as a whole. Bearing this point in mind, Japan provides a large agricultural market to the world and now is one of the largest food importing countries. But we must not forget the fact that the specific circumstances of agricultural production are different among countries and therefore it is necessary to deal with the international trade problem from a wider view, taking account of national food security and various roles of agriculture such as maintaining stable employment and conserving a good environment.

Thirdly, turning to Chapter 16 of Part Four, External Assistance, in order to promote normative rural development with the assistance of developed countries, it is particularly necessary to solve the problem of lack of technology for pre-investment assessment in developing countries. We cannot expect good results in spite of the increase in financial assistance without the improvement of such technology. Thus Japan has been emphasizing the necessity of the development of human resources.

Although the Secretariat's document refers to this Programme, I am under the impression that much stronger emphasis is placed on the analysis of the total amount of necessary assistance. Therefore I hope that a more comprehensive analysis on the amount needed for technical assistance will be carried out in future.

Mme. L. DE AZEVEDO (Portugal): Após tout ce qui vient d'être exposé au sujet du document C 79/24 "Agriculture: Horizon 2000", la délégation du Portugal veut aussi féliciter le secrétariat de la FAO pour l'élaboration d'un travail qui est vraiment un excellent document d'orientation vers le futur en ce qui concerne l'agriculture et la nutrition. Il est évident que le document pourra être amélioré en mettant par exemple un accent spécial sur la régionalisation dans une prochaine révision qui a été déjà annoncée. Cependant, il représente le meilleur outil de travail en matière agricole élaboré jusqu'à présent. Le Portugal, malgré ses modestes possibilités, appuie les efforts que tous les pays devront faire pour améliorer la nutrition de la population mondiale et pour faire que

l'égalité entre femmes et hommes soit une réalité à court terme pour tout ce qui concerne les possibilités d'éducation, de formation professionnelle, d'emploi, de travail au foyer dans les exploitations agricoles, etc. Comme il a été affirmé pendant la Conférence mondiale sur la Réforme agraire et le Développement rural, reconnaître le rôle primordial des femmes dans la vie socio-économique, qu'il s'agisse d'activités agricoles ou non agricoles, est une des conditions de succès des politiques, des plans et des programmes de développement rural.

Le Portugal croit effectivement que tous les pays s'uniront avec force pour établir dans un délai pas très lointain un nouvel ordre économique international qui puisse procurer de la satisfaction à tous les pays et, finalement, contribuer à voir un sourire heureux sur le visage de tous les enfants du monde.

A. K. OSÜBAN (Uganda): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Uganda delegation would like to thank the PAD Secretariat for compiling the document c 79/24, "Agriculture: Toward 2000". We find the report informative and full of policy guidelines for future agricultural development. Our comments here are intended for emphasis of some of the points covered. We realize that "Agriculture: Towards 2000" will continue to face similar problems then as at present, such as inadequate capital, scarce and expensive inputs, energy problems, adverse terms of trade, technological problems etc. However, the report provides valuable information for a good basis for overcoming these problems.

For most developing countries, "Agriculture: Toward 2000" will have to mean development of the small and marginal farmers who constitute the vast majority of the farming communities. To us, Mr. Chairman, this development will necessitate not only provision of appropriate technologies, but also preparation and successful implementation of package programmes, in which are included inputs, infrastructures, facilities, logistics and extension services.

The report indicates annual gross investment needs of up to \$107 billion by the year 2000. As you realize, Mr. Chairman, and as pointed out so eloquently by Prof. Nurul Islam in his introductory remarks to the agenda item, this level of investment will certainly be much more than the capacities of most developing countries to afford. This is even more so considering that adverse terms of trade are likely to continue to diminish the export earnings of these countries. This was clearly stated by H. E. Dr. Kaunda in his McDougall Memorial Lecture to the Conference. Therefore, unless there are structural changes in terms of trade to improve the earning capacities of developing countries, investments of the magnitude indicated in the report will not be realized, unless with massive external assistance.

Mr. Chairman, the solution to the food and nutrition problem has been elusive for a long time and continues to be a serious issue. My delegation is of the view that much attention, effort and resources, have been put on a few commodities which form part of the international trade. There are many types of localized foods such as millets, yams, sweet potatoes, cassava etc. which could go a long way to alleviating hunger and malnutrition if they received much more attention than, they do now. The Uganda delegation would like to propose that these possibilities receive more international attention.

Mr. Chairman, there have been many good reports in the past which have remained on shelves as material for future academic interest. We therefore welcome the Secretariat's proposal to make the report an agenda item of the FAO Regional Conferences next year where we hope it will inspire local solutions to the food and nutrition problem.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the findings of the report do not allay our fears of continued hunger and malnutrition. The investments required are too high and several other parameters of development will remain at their relative positions as they are today.

Even with the assumptions of the most unlikely doubling of both production and incomes, there will still be about 240 million hungry people by year 2000. Mr Chairman, although we realize the difficulty of answering such a question, maybe the Secretariat would like to tell us what it would require to wipe out hunger and malnutrition by the year 2000 or when we should expect hunger to be completely eliminated from the world.

K. A. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen, Arab Republic): (interpretation from Arabic) I would have liked to hand in a text to the Secretariat to save time, but in view of the importance of this document, please allow us to make use of three minutes only to make a few observations on some points we consider very important.

Most delegations have expressed gratitude to the Secretariat for the efforts they have made in preparing the excellent document before us, with important conclusions. We entirely agree with most delegates who have taken the floor here and consider that the observations which have been made here must not prevent the adoption by this Conference of this resolution, nor the need to take this document to the appropriate committee of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly, with whatever amendments are made to this document. We consider that this document can constitute a very useful basis of work for the discussions that will take place in this Preparatory Committee.

My delegation wishes to state once more that the question of investments and of the change in structure is the sine qua non for the developing countries throughout the world, and we feel that the developing countries ought to organize all their resources. But we also think that the developed countries should help the developing countries to achieve the objectives to which this study refers because we consider that there is still an even greater capacity for production for developing countries, thanks to the use of technology, and thanks also to the expansion of arable lands. This is why we hope that the

Third Development Decade will clearly show that the industrialized countries and oil-producing countries will devote one or two percent of their national product to the development aid of developing countries.

Rev. A. FONSECA (Holy See): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While congratulating Mr. Nurul Islam on the production of the excellent document "Agriculture: Toward 2000", we would like to make the following brief comments:

First, that the end of agricultural development is human development. This final purpose should be brought out much more explicitly as was so strongly emphasized in the conclusions of the recent World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

This delegation hopes that this human aspect will be taken into consideration not merely as potential human capital which needs strengthening in order to effectively increase labor productivity and total production. In this context due consideration should be given to the satisfaction of basic human needs as an objective of development so as to guarantee well-being and social progress linked up with economic development, as is clearly envisaged in the preamble of the document on the New International Economic Order.

Again the human dimension should not be too narrowly understood in reference to raising levels of nutrition. The document calculates the figures needed to reach nutritional availability proportionate to growing populations. The other words it is not only economic indicators but social indicators that need to be used to measure development and, we presume, that this human dimension should form an important part in the whole perspective of any type of programming for the future.

Nor can only global calculations of world production of available foodstuffs be enough for our purpose. There is also need to give attention to overcome the disequilibrium between availabilities and population in each country and within zones wherever it can be verified.

Since the present study is destined to determine the political decisions of individual Member States for their own programmes and projects, and of Inter-governmental Organizations for their joint action, it is worthwhile presenting the specific problems of agricultural development in the broader horizon of global development.

It is universally known that particular progress in the food and agricultural sector cannot be ensured without foreseeing and achieving world global development. This is the prerequisite for the orderly and ongoing growth of each country. This required that more attention be paid to the eleven guidelines for agricultural adjustment given the primary importance of agriculture in overall development.

The up-dating of the models of development should imply the increase of production above all by means of international cooperation, especially through the transfer of technology. Further, the limitations of imports whether it be technology, capital, chemicals, etc. cannot produce the fundamental change required if the human person is neglected. The rural worker must participate in his own development as was brought out so clearly at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. One would also have to consider the social conditions and the environment in which the rural worker lives and toils.

The new models of the future and the criteria of development require a choice of a new international strategy oriented towards satisfying real human needs and also corresponding to principles of self-reliance for which each country, group of countries or zones must be placed in a condition of using its own energies according to its culture and the values of life lived in a concrete human experience.

Such groupings would also lead to the formation of a better balance in the distribution of power for the realization of the New International Economic Order. One cannot refrain at this point from referring to the relation between the increase of production and the regulation of exchange. The Holy See Delegation shares the concern expressed by several other countries over the growing protectionist policies by certain States or groups of States. It supports the efforts to guarantee a growth of access to world markets particularly by developing countries for agricultural products through a progressive reduction of obstacles to trade.

We favour procedure that does not lean to a completely free market. What is required is an adequate control of trade and aid. Otherwise, the assistance given out of generosity will be reabsorbed through higher prices of both exports and imports.

Social justice requires the adoption of a relative preferential treatment for weaker countries on the world market, and a mechanism to actuate international price stability.

This Delegation willingly accepts this occasion in order to restate its support. Which has been given from the beginning, of the criteria that inspire the New International Economic Order. We consider these as based on the principle of justice for "peaceful reoperation" which will eliminate "the conditions of exploitation, of economic or political dependence which might be only a form of neocolonialism".

The difficulties that prevent the effective realization of these purposes are well known. We encourage every proposal that tends to reduce the distance between rich and poor countries by correcting those trends which would lead to a widening of that gap. Briefly, we favour action that would lead to a renovation of the prevailing economic system in its global relationships.

Above all, we give the greatest importance in relations among States to the fulfilment of their duty to distribute the goods produced and make all the inputs available which are necessary for the development of the emerging countries.

Finally, this would imply a change in the relations between governments so that they may be able to treat with each other on the same footing of equality, with adequate judicial guarantees.

B. SUSSMILCH (European Economic Community):The Commission of the European Economic Community congratulates the FAO Secretariat on the work which has gone into preparing the draft document which we have before us. The final version of this report should play a useful role in focussing attention on the longer-term issues which we will have to face. Moreover, it should provide a constructive contribution to the United Nations. preparation of the "International Development Strategy".

However, in our view, the report should not only cover, and I quote from the Director-General's foreword "desired rates of growth of overall income and feasible rates of increase in domestic agricultural production"; but should also draw on available analysis of our collective failure on occasion to fully realize earlier development objectives in order to present an alternative less optimistic scenario.

In this way, we believe, attention would be more effectively focussed on the key issues which have to be faced if we are to ensure that the increasing number of poor of this world receive-as a basic minimum-sufficient to eat.

We will make available to the Secretariat our detailed observations on the draft document before us today. However, it seems appropriate to state now a number of general observations.

First, in our view the basic assumptions which underpin the "normative" scenario of the present draft are far too optimistic for us. We are reassured that the Secretariat intends to incorporate in the final report calculations based upon less optimistic assumptions, in so doing we believe there should be a better possibility of focussing attention on the issues which we must face together over the next twenty years.

Secondly, the Secretariat has not had sufficient resources to refine its analysis of the developed countries to the same point as the developing countries. It is our hope that we will be able to contribute positively to an extension of this aspect of the Secretariat's work, by making available in advance work which we have under way within our own organization.

Before closing, I must emphasize one essential point. Many developed countries have already experienced a slowing-down of their economies. In particular since 1973, we have seen our general rate of economic growth slashed to a mere 2 percent on average, in comparison with 4 percent of objective. At the same time our agricultural sector is growing very slowly; it has even contracted slightly-if one takes Gross Value Added as a yardstick.

In consequence it would appear opportune to reconsider the draft conclusion of the report: that developed countries should in the longer term, restrain the growth of their agricultural output: since this could lead to dangerous instabilities in the global food supply situation.

I. M. NUR (Observer for the Organization of African Unity): I should like to join other delegations in congratulating the FAO Secretariat on the preparation of this document.

I should like first to refer to page 61 of the report, the part under the sub-title, "Area expansion versus land use intensification", and to add the following.

Crop intensification, or vertical expansion, is a complicated process as it requires soil survey, extension, research, watering, high-yielding varieties, requires the adoption of dry fanning techniques in rain-fed farming for conservation of moisture. Crop diversification, or horizontal expansion, requires soil, social and economic surveys plus aU that is needed in the case of crop intensification.

My second observation concerns page 85, under the heading "Power inputs". With respect to mechanization, there are four recognized sources of energy supply to agriculture: manual, animal, intermediate mechanization and advanced mechanisation. These sources overlap and are at times mixed. Agriculture in the developing countries is at various stages of the first two sources and cannot meet the demands of the population explosion. To meet this dilemma some developing countries have embarked on the advanced mechanization of their agriculture. On smallholdings the result has been obvious failure. Tractor hiring units generally have also not been successful, for operational reasons.

Farming requires certain factors of production which must be delivered to the right place at the right time in the right quantity and at prices that encourage rather than restrict their use. The farmers of developing countries are so poor that they cannot afford to buy expensive machinery. It is not so easy to bypass intermediate mechanization for the future because farm sizes are small, farmers are poor, many farms are inaccessible and modern machines are meant for advanced steps in advanced mechanization. What is required for narrowing the energy gap in the developing countries is for them to obtain machinery for the intermediate mechanization of agriculture.

Unfortunately, manufacturers of agricultural machinery, who are located in the developed countries, manufacture for their own markets machinery which is far too advanced for the developing countries' agriculture. Agriculture needs a full line of economical, simplified and compact farm machinery, so articulated that each unit is harmoniously linked to the others, and the machines must be low-cost, multi-purpose and easy to maintain. We have to pass through intermediate mechanization before reaching advanced mechanization.

This situation calls for joint action by the governments of the developing countries for the establishment of factories for the production of appropriate machinery for the intermediate mechanisation of agriculture.

As for research, I believe that national universities are not fully tapped for contributions to development. There should be a new model of national universities, tailored to contribute to development and food production.

We would also like the following points to be endorsed in the report.

First, mention should be made of the untapped resources. For example, the inter-action between climate and soil could be considered as an untapped resource for seed production and seed is an important item for greater agricultural production.

Among the untapped resources is the potential for the productivity of land. The current production is far below the potential. However, in order to approach potential productivity there is need to intensify the use of different inputs of production: development of rain lands, use of solar energy, use of the potential of tides, development of wildlife, creation of a germ plasma bank for livestock improvement, crossing of wild animals with livestock for greater meat production. These could all be considered as untapped resources.

Savings made in the developed countries in the field of arms expenditure would be an untapped resource and could be convertible into funds for development of agricultural assistance.

Secondly, there is the establishment of a commodity bank. Such a bank could be financed by special funds, and would protect the interests of the developing countries in respect of trade in selected commodities and also to support food reserves policies in selected countries.

Thirdly, the report ignores the impact of drought on agriculture. We are all aware of the spread of drought in many of the OAU Member States, especially in the Sāhelian Zone. All the indications are that drought, which is an ecological phenomenon appears in cycles. There have been similar droughts in the history of Africa before, and they are likely to occur in the future.

Fourthly, the climatic variability is perhaps the most important factor in production in the Sāhelian Zone, as it can cause major fluctuations in agricultural production, exports, industrial growth, balance of trade and payments, and so on. It is clear that the climate must be integrated as an explicit variable in any assessment of the long-term economic hopes of the Sāhelian Zone.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): First of all I should like to associate myself with the delegates of Ghana and Yugoslavia, and others, who have spoken before me in support of the general conclusions of the study, AT, 2000.

We believe that the study has given a fair analysis of the implications for agriculture if it is to meet the demands arising from the relatively high rate of overall growth, as postulated in the normative scenario. To achieve such growth rates, the study has identified correctly, as far as is possible in a global study like this, the required changes in national policies and international trading patterns and policies. It has also correctly identified and pointed out in quantitative terms the requirements in internal investments and inputs, as well as the requirements of external assistance and food aid, without neglecting the most important input of all, labour, the human factor, as well as the need for research to apply the findings of science to agriculture and the institutional changes to carry these findings to the people.

We can say, therefore, that AT 2000, with the exception of some assumptions that have been questioned by a few delegates, especially the delegate of Yugoslavia, has analyzed with great professional competence the relationships between the endogenous and exogenous variables. While it would be possible to refine the study to make it more region-specific and country-specific, and also to include other variables that may seem important to some, there is a limit to what can be included in a world-wide study like this.

We can therefore say that we are in general agreement with the conclusions of the study.

At this point, however, I would like to pose two questions, one relating to the objective and the other to the means.

With regard to the objective, I should like to recall that the international community made a solemn pledge in 1974 during the World Food Congress to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by 1985. Now we are told that such an objective is over ambitious, yet in 1974 the heads and plenipotentiaries of our delegations did not think it was an over ambitious goal. The question I should like to ask is, is this goal really now thought to be over ambitious because we have backed out from applying the means that had been identified at such a conference? Now that we have lowered the objectives in AT 2000, we are alarmed to note that even by that year we shall not have eradicated hunger and malnutrition, because with the high rate of growth in the normative scenario we shall have more than a quarter of a million people hungry by that time. That is indeed too many people, more than the whole population of Europe combined. Is this acceptable?

President Kaunda said in his McDougall Lecture that if we do not banish poverty and hunger from the face of the earth it will not be from lack of means but from lack of political will.

My second question is with regard to means identified. We are told on page 15, in the second paragraph, that the assessments of potentials and constraints are realistic provided that serious efforts are made. Some people will say that these assessments are probably too rosy in view of present and past performances. Perhaps they have reason to ask the question, in view of the impasse reached in the north/south dialogue referred to by some delegates and also with reference to the OECD projections with respect to ODA. Perhaps there is some reason to question this, because of the deteriorating conditions in many developing countries today and the ever increasing number of hungry and malnourished people. It would be far too easy to paint the future world food situation as one of doom and gloom, of unmitigated blackness without any redeeming feature, forbidding in its lack of hope, but it would be a false picture. Worse, it could lead to despair and a belief on the part of many that no action could suffice. The reality is that the situation is neither black nor white; it is grey. We do have an ominous situation in the world as far as hunger is concerned. At the same time, at no other time in history have we had the resources and the political awareness to banish world hunger in the shortest time, as we now have. A renewed commitment to apply the technology, the knowhow, at the start of the new development decade could still spell the difference.

B. SANCHEZ (Venezuela): La delegación de Venezuela saluda al documento C 79/24 de la forma más amplia y lo ve con el interés y la magia que despierta toda acción encaminada a enriquecer la bibliografía contemporánea en materia de economía agraria.

Señores delegados el mundo en que vivimos muchas veces da la impresión de ser un mundo goloso a características delirantes y ambiguas; de ahí que creemos que un análisis marcado por el exceso de parámetros muy generales es un equívoco. Por ende es un desprecio a las verdades históricas.

No creemos que este documento caiga en tales pretensiones, pero tampoco pensamos que los documentos deban tomarse como profecías absolutas que indican un camino sacro e inevitable, o si se quiere un apocalipsis verde o un apocalipsis agrario. Si así lo fuera, corresponderá a las realidades mismas encargarse de denunciar la insuficiencia de la econometría, de la estadística y el mero desarrollismo para aclarar la conciencia histórica, tan ansiosa por el logro de superar los impasses en que se debate la evolución humana.

Venezuela piensa que una agricultura propedéutica, una agricultura del año 2000 es un momento más en la lucha por el logro de Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, ya que entendemos por éste no un vano agregado de ritmos y tasas de crecimiento a las magnitudes sociales ni tampoco la mera adhesión de estructuras a estructuras, sino ante todo entendemos que un nuevo Orden Económico Internacional es un nuevo modo de trabajar.

Un nuevo modo de comer y sentir, sobre todo un nuevo modo de dialogar. Vemos que en el plano de las hipótesis y variables que vehicula el documento se da fundamental atención a acelerar la producción y promover la demanda, sobre todo la demanda efectiva. Estas viejas leyes de la economía clásica re-tomadas después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial por las escuelas Post-Keynesianas y, fundamentalmente, por las doctrinas de la economía marginal, es una proposición que no debe tomarse en forma ligera y textual. Acelerar el proceso productivo sin la producción de una economía de alternativas diversificadas y aumentar la demanda sin una sociología del consumo es meramente trasladar bajo esquemas mecanicistas la experiencia lograda en los países desarrollados hacia los países en desarrollo.

Pensamos que la modernización es ante todo rescatar y promover los valores económicos y agrarios propios y adaptarlos a una visión más flexible y dinámica del mundo. Esto en vista que el documento nos hace tomar conciencia de que la tendencia en los precios de los insumos es alcista y tiende a duplicarse para las próximas décadas.

El documento en discusión actualmente coincide con la tesis defendida por mi delegación que cree en la inevitable necesidad de incorporar la investigación científica como instrumento básico de desarrollo. Pero también creemos que la ciencia contemporánea está manipulada por incentivos ajenos a su metodología e intereses pedagógicos, elementos que plantean interrogantes como el uso de la ciencia de ¿quiénes? y ¿para quiénes?

Mi delegación cree que una pura distribución de ingresos no es una garantía de mejora en las condiciones nutricionales de aquella porción de la humanidad ya cansada por el cáncer del hambre. Si es auténtico que esto ha de aumentar el poder de compra de los bienes de subsistencia, cabe afirmar que todo lo que se come hoy en el mundo no es nutricional.

Si es cierto que el tercer mundo aumenta su desnutrición, cabe considerar que los regímenes de alimentación del mundo desarrollado aumentan sus tasas de intoxicación. Será también necesario realizar e investigar como complemento de este estudio el esquema de alimentación de las economías desarrolladas y toda la patología gastronómica que se tiende a establecer en la dieta humana con la incorporación de ciertos químicos y fertilizantes que comprometen la salud misma del hombre sobre la tierra.

Por ende, para nuestra delegación la redistribución de los ingresos vinculados a las políticas nutricionales pasa por una redistribución de tierras, políticas de reforma agraria, transformación y mejora en los hábitos de la educación, higiene, salud y mejora de la vida en general, en lo que concierne a los países en desarrollo y por una revisión del ecosistema y las formas de ayuda alimentaria y métodos nutricionales que nos aporta el mundo desarrollado. Cabe destacar que con la llegada de muchos enlatados a los países en desarrollo sin existir una pedagogía nutricional previa o anterior, también llegó esa enfermedad que en el siglo veinte sicólogos y psicoanalistas han mencionado y han buscado combatir en el mundo desarrollado. Repito, nos llegó la angustia, la ansiedad, factores consumistas que, aunque subjetivos, han perjudicado y despersonalizado culturas enteras. Nuestra delegación cree que se debe adecuar más la relación hombre-ayuda alimentaria al porvenir de los recursos propios o autóctonos de los países en desarrollo.

No se trata de comer cualquier cosa para vivir, se trata de saber comer, que en el fondo es homónimo de saber vivir.

Pensamos que las exportaciones agrícolas de los países en desarrollo en el futuro no deberán depender de las meras "oportunidades de mercado de los países desarrollados", sino ante todo de compromisos políticos más sólidos y coherentes que las leyes artificiosas del sistema comercial contemporáneo; compromisos articulados al contexto y búsqueda del nuevo orden económico internacional, sobre todo del Nuevo Orden Agrícola Mundial, elementos que solo podrán implementarse bajo una nueva división internacional del trabajo.

Venezuela cree que el proteccionismo a ultranza es una tara al desarrollo común de la humanidad y un instrumento paralizante en relación a todos los resultados que pudiesen derivarse de los foros internacionales. La era del mercantilismo chovinista ya fue derritada y la "autosuficiencia colectiva" es precisamente contar con los productos de los otros y saber analizar y asimilar las diferencias que ofrecen países con problemas idénticos o diversos.

Nuestra delegación comparte la tesis de que la ayuda exterior no es una panacea. Que ha sido un instrumento muchas veces de penetración y que por ende solo es aceptable en función de los intereses nacionales de los países en desarrollo.

Vemos con entusiasmo que el documento propone alternativas energéticas para la agricultura, voy a confesar algo que a muchos países le va a parecer extraño. Para un exportador de energía, en lo que concierne a los hidrocarburos, cada barril que se vende es una pérdida para los recursos de dicho país, aunque el precio de dicho barril sea alto, ya que el petróleo no es un producto manufacturado, ni un bien reversible. No lo puede reproducir ni siquiera en lapsos de años geológicos a brevedad histórica, la naturaleza misma, como producto entonces que se agota, esta sustancia no puede circular a precio de mercado de pulga, esto sería catastrófico y anarquizante para el esquema goloso en que se debate hoy la economía mundial misma.

Venezuela ha defendido la tesis de sembrar petróleo, esto quiere decir para los países en desarrollo, transformar bajo uso racional sus dinámicas internas de producción. Para el mundo desarrollado quiere decir, así aspiramos que se entienda, quiere decir, generar fuentes energéticas alternas.

Una agricultura moderna o en vías de desarrollo, o incluso la economía mundial misma en general, no puede seguir hipotecada al futuro de una sola energía. Sobre todo una energía que se agota. Esperamos que el documento profundice y abra un debate sobre las fuentes de energía alternantes. Esto en vista de la tendencia de ciertos países a acusar al petróleo como el causante de la inflación de esta última década. Los que se acuerden de la historia económica habrán ya reflexionado que antes de la subida de precios de petróleo a partir del año 1973, ya en el año 1972, las crisis del mercado de trigo elevaron el costo de una tonelada de este producto, de 70 dólares que costaba a 270 dólares americanos.

Cuando se sustituyó el uso de la harina de pescado por la harina de soya en los mercados farináceos la tonelada de soya que se cotizaba a 400 dólares subió bruscamente a 900 dólares. He aquí dos ejemplos que demuestran que la crisis de precios fue general y no un mero derivante del alza de los precios en el costo de la energía.

Repito entonces, señores delegados que saludamos al documento y no queremos cansarlos más, sobre todo a usted, señor Presidente, que en esta Comisión ha demostrado poseer un profundo amor por la brevedad, por la exactitud y por carecer de cualquier forma de frenetismo en sus puntos de vista. 1/

I. OZORAI (Hungary): I should like to start by saying the Hungarian delegation is pleased indeed to take note of the excellent document on 'Agriculture: Toward 2000' submitted by the Director-General. The Twentieth Session of the Conference is actually discussing a document, the main objective of which is not limited to setting targets for developing countries to be reached while leaving outside consideration the economic environment and special conditions. The paper before us is making a commendable attempt to estimate, determine and analyse the means and investments needed for developing countries for reaching the desirable development, moreover making references to some structural changes needed.

The study has been prepared for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly to be held in 1980 on the IDS. We are pleased to note that the study includes some alternatives and enquires into the food and agricultural sectors of the countries concerned as an integral part of their respective economies as a whole. My delegation appreciate the emphasis laid on the special role agriculture is playing in most developing countries. I should like furthermore to express our agreement with the priority the study is giving to training of national experts as well as to the importance of access to land and water for the small farmers. We would, however, welcome an even greater emphasis on the latter issue.

It is our feeling that the paper AT 2000, complemented with some improvements to be decided upon by the Conference, will be suitable for submission to the Special Session of the General Assembly. As a contribution to these improvements the Hungarian delegation would like to make some comments, one of a broader nature and two more specific ones.

The 1970s the period of the Second Development Decade-occupy an important place in the process which is marked, among other things, by increasingly decisive efforts to end the unequal and outworn pattern of international economic relations, inherited from the past, and to replace it by a new type of relations. As these efforts produced but modest results during the past decade, the next IDS will start mainly from an unchanged (illegible) and will have to carry the process to completion.

The new strategy should promote the earliest possible realization of the restructuring of international economic relations on a democratic and just basis. Its major focus should be on changing the present situation of developing countries. Lasting structural changes or the process of transformation of the existing international economic order, can only be conceived if the decisions to be taken have due regard for the fundamental interests of all countries or groups of countries concerned.

The first specific point I would like to raise refers to investments. Chapter 5 summarizes the investments needed to achieve a proper growth in food and agricultural production in 90 developing countries. We have to voice some doubts whether all countries concerned will be in the position to manage investments as a whole exceeding \$100 billion at 1975 prices. It does not seem to be quite clear to my delegation how the institutional capabilities of these countries are going to be strengthened. Efficient national institutions may rightly be looked upon as key elements to this end. We wonder whether in Chapter 12 on Institutional Changes those investments on institutional development should be referred to an analysed, as the most important prerequisites of any real progress. We have good reason to guess that liquid financial means available for agricultural investments in the last two decades of this century may exceed the receptive possibilities of a good number of countries concerned.

The second comment is on the chapters and paragraphs of the study where the need for agrarian reform and for the grouping and cooperation of small farmers and for the respective governments' assistance is touched upon. We would welcome the strengthening of these parts, thus complying also with the decisions of WCARRD. We fully endorse what has been said by the distinguished delegate of Poland on the desirable (illegible) of the study and on some alternative scenarios.

In conclusion, I am going to reiterate our thanks to the Director-General and to the staff involved for the good work done. Mr. Chairman, finally may I ask the Secretariat about any plans it may have to make full use of the wonderful and extensive work they did in collecting data and assessing agricultural output and input. We have in mind the possibilities offered by AT 2000 to be utilized in the training in agricultural planning of national agricultural decision-making officers. 2/

1/ Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.

2/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): That concludes our list of speakers and I would now like to call on Dr. Nurul Islam who will take up some of the points raised in the course of this discussion.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): We are very grateful for the amount of interest which the Study has aroused, and the variety and number of wide ranging comments which it has attracted. We feel that our efforts have been rewarded.

As many delegates have emphasized, and as I pointed out in my introduction, the Study was not designed as a forecast-a point worth emphasizing many times-but as a measure of the knowledge confronting humanity in its task of alleviating hunger and malnutrition.

It is not possible for me to cover all the points made in the debate. We would very much welcome an opportunity of detailed discussions with delegates individually during their stay in Rome. In fact, we have already had the opportunity of such a discussion with some of the delegations on a few points. We certainly need the support of member countries and the expertise at their disposal in our task of revision, in terms not only of expertise but also of coordination with the ongoing work in some of the countries, as mentioned by the delegates from Yugoslavia and United States. We also need access to data and information in particular countries.

A large number of questions have been raised on the methodology of the report. I would only try to comment on the main points raised, if I understood them correctly.

The estimation of commodity prices must be relaxed. Models should be made dynamic and better desegregated in terms of regions and countries. Distribution of income should be explicitly introduced. Multiple scenarios must be tried out. The trends scenario must be elaborated. Inter-sectorial relationships between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors should be elaborated. The aggregate DPP growth rate should not be treated as exogenous. Distinction should be made between urban and rural areas in terms of demand analysis. Greater integration should be made with the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Elements of variability of weather should be introduced into this analysis. Employment should be treated in greater detail-and so on and so forth.

As the delegate from the Philippines has just pointed out, the complete incorporation of all these various elements in a comprehensive dynamic, optimistic model, linking all the 90 developing countries not only among themselves but in relationship to the developed countries, as the delegate from France wanted I thought to imply, is an exercise which would require a very considerable amount of extra work and resources, including a level of expertise which I hope we shall be able to draw upon from member countries.

I seriously wonder whether such a model can be built, primarily in view of availability of data in the 90 developing countries which we have covered. I would even go one step further: I am not even aware that such a model has been built in the past, which is computable and which can be implemented without drastic simplification of the structural relationships and the assumptions to be made, which would seriously jeopardize the quality of his conclusions. However, in our revised version we intend to do further work and improve it in various ways, not necessarily within the context of the model but also outside the structure of the model, because of the difficulties which I have just pointed out. For example, income distribution. We realize that our treatment of income distribution leaves much to be desired. We have treated income distribution of exports, analysed changes in income distribution, and estimated the effect of changes in income distribution on demand and nutrition studies.

We have also analysed the employment implications of the growth of outputs, but in view of the limited data we have restricted this analysis mainly to employment in crop production, and our analysis shows a growth rate of 2.6 percent in demand, slightly higher than the rate of growth in the agricultural labour force. We also intend to undertake case studies on relations between agricultural growth and income distribution and poverty in the rural areas, but not within the context of the model, because we do not know how to do it. We also intend to integrate the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development with the findings and conclusions of our report.

Questions have been raised about the overall rate of growth: why it is not indiginous, why agriculture and non-agriculture sector relationships are not treated more comprehensively and consistently one with the other. These are the very issues which are part of the consistency and harmonization exercises which the United Nations agencies are now attempting to do in the task force on long-term development objectives. The overall economic growth and various sectors relating to economic growth, savings and investment, and balance of payments, are being worked out by the United Nations itself, and the various meetings which we have with the other agencies and the inter-phasing which continues to take place, hopefully will enable harmonization of various sectorial studies.

Questions have been asked as to whether the rates of growth for the agricultural sector are not over optimistic. Some delegates have in fact pointed out that they are pessimistic. At least two delegates mentioned that it should be possible to increase the rates of growth beyond what is being estimated.

I may here point out that our estimates for the year 2000 for cereal outputs for the 90 developing countries which we have analysed came very close to the analysis of cereal production for the year 2000 in the estimate made by the United States Department of Agriculture. We of course hope to work out the implications of a lower overall rate of growth, and a scenario in accordance with such a lower rate of growth.

We also intend to do a better analysis of the trend. As far as trend is concerned, as the delegate of Yugoslavia has mentioned, our trend rates are not exactly the same as the historic rates of growth. There are reasons why they are not, but at this present late stage perhaps I should not go into this detailed question. We do however intend to make a further elaboration of the trend analysis.

As far as distinction between various countries is concerned, we have given separate sets of figures, estimates, for different regions of the world, and also some specific estimates for low-income countries, especially in Chapters on Trade and Food Aid.

Recently we have submitted a paper on the least developed countries, to serve as a contribution to the UNCTAD High Level Experts Meeting on Less Developed Countries, and a programme of action for them.

We acknowledge that the estimate of prices is far from satisfactory. We are exploring ways in which, within the limitations of our methodology, we can relax this kind of restraint, but we do not think we shall be able to do a great deal more.

Questions have been raised about investment estimates. We intend to do a little more work on the investment estimates.

As far as elimination of hunger is concerned, to which the delegate from the Philippines referred just now, as our analysis indicates, it is possible to eliminate hunger by the end of the century not by just increasing food output, but also, in addition, adopting and undertaking re-distributive measures, and this is clearly pointed out in the analysis on the Chapter.

On environment, we have done some analysis, all of which is not reflected in the report. In the Chapter on Land and Water, Forestry and Fisheries, there are references to the implications for environment and are also our estimates of investment to make allowance for soil and water conservation and for flood control.

We hope to have a new Chapter on Energy. We already have the publication by FAO Energy for World Agriculture, which has just come out. We do recognize that this is an area in which we should do more work in the context of Agriculture: Toward 2000.

Insofar as country coverage is concerned, even though we have not given details for the developed countries, as we have done in developing countries, we have done analysis of the developed countries. This is available, but we intend to do a more systematic analysis in the revised Report-a little further work, but not much more.

As far as China is concerned, we have been handicapped by the lack of data but we have given our estimates of the net trade balance of China on individual commodities by the end of the century.

Mention has been made of the fact that possibly the Report does not pay adequate attention to exports of raw material and over emphasizes the question of self-sufficiency in food production. Our approach really has been to consider self-sufficiency in food production, without neglecting the comparative advantage of various developing countries in raw material exports. Further opportunities for trade exist in the world market.

As far as trade relationships between the developed and developing countries are concerned, the analysis shows that there will be large increases in imports of food from the developed countries by the developing countries, and there will be a large expansion of exports if all the advantages are realized of agricultural raw materials from the developing countries to the developed countries-so there will be an expansion of exports of food from developed countries to developing countries and an expansion of exports of raw materials from developing countries to developed countries.

Perhaps at this stage I should provide a clarification about the timing of the formulation of the International Development Strategy by the United Nations. According to present schedules, they are supposed to finalize the Strategy next year, and the Preparatory Committee is to complete its work in the middle of next year.

Therefore while discussing whether the findings and analysis should be transmitted by this Conference to the General Assembly, this timing is very critical because the revision of our reports under no circumstances can be made before the middle of next year.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to appeal to you to make brief statements only. But I fear I did not set such a good example myself because very often I have spoken at some length because I attach considerable importance to the subject under discussion.

More than 47 speakers have taken the floor in the course of the discussion on this item. All those who have participated and who have stressed the excellent work that has gone into the preparation of this document have stated that they were fully satisfied with the work carried out. Several have supported the conclusions that the document arrives at and have said too that although this was not the final and definitive document that the conclusions would be greater after the changes. A proportion of the delegates therefore referred to some of the conclusions in which they were particularly interested. I would not like to go into all these comments but I will mention some of the most important ones.

Accordingly, much has been said about the particular importance to be attributed to agriculture in preparing the new development strategy for the 1980s.

Speakers have also stressed that continuation of the present guidelines would lead to unacceptable results with regard to the level of food production generally. Therefore if adequate measures were not adopted it would not be possible to speed up and improve the production level in the field of agriculture. Of those who spoke on this particular point, some spoke about a dialogue and others drew attention to figures and statistics contained in the document on AT 2000, that the growth rate should be 3.8 percent for agricultural production.

Others stated that investment in agriculture in the developing countries should be increased considerably. Some of them mentioned figures given in the document; others quoted other figures. But, roughly speaking, it can be said that most delegates referred to the document itself saying that the annual investments should be \$ 87 million per annum for 1980 and \$ 57 million for 1990 on the basis of 1975 prices.

Several other aspects such as transport and trade have been referred to but most speakers stated that the objective for the year 2000 referred to in this document required an increase of external assistance. Some referred to certain figures. Some agreed to the figures. Some just referred to the figures and said that external investment would have to be increased. Others said it would mean \$2-\$16 billion-12 for 1990 and 16 for the year 2000. Among those who mentioned these figures some said in their statement that equity and justice should lead to the equal distribution of land amongst all and that equity be ensured in the services rendered to the whole strata of the rural population, including women, and in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the World Conference of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

Others in particular mentioned the fact that governments should finalise or prepare certain objectives which could be financially implemented, bearing in mind the financing problems and the minimum services which would be rendered to the population, and also how this would affect the employment market.

Others said that it was necessary to give a larger share to the developing countries. The industrial development of the developing countries should be emphasised more and 50 percent of the figure suggested should be achieved by the year 2000.

Some said that external assistance should be increased, and most delegates spoke of the 20 million tons referred to for food aid in the document. Others said that this amount should be increased.

Then another group of delegates said tribute to the efforts in preparing this document and stated that it was a very good basis for the discussion but, nevertheless, they expressed certain views which differ from those expressed in the document on certain points.

Some delegations said it was necessary to analyse the present presentation of the scenario more closely by carrying out an in-depth analysis. Others said a new scenario should be set up which would bear in mind three different levels of dialogue or analysis.

Then comment was made to the effect that the rate of expansion of the agricultural growth rate is too high, that the document is too optimistic and not realistic.

Others mentioned weather environment and similar aspects and the fact that the energy factor was not analyzed in the document, that it had not been highlighted enough, and also that the environment had not been highlighted sufficiently.

Several delegates said it stressed the role of foreign investment too much whereas it did not stress sufficiently the role of national governments in developing agriculture.

Some said the document was really an analysis and did not give an action programme. Furthermore that the document did not mention all developing countries, it was said. Some said in fact that there was a considerable gap in the document. Information on China was absent. Others said that therefore one could not have an overall analysis of all countries and as the result of such a gap it would not be rational.

Others said the study of international trade should be given more detailed attention.

Professor Islam has tried to reply to all these points as far as possible. So much for the document itself.

This part of the report will be considered by the Drafting Committee and all the various points which have been expressed here supporting, rejecting or criticising the document will be taken up in the final report so that it reflects all the different opinions expressed.

Now we shall have to decide what we are to do with the document and what we will do about a report on it. We can use the normal procedure-the majority decided that this document. . . -and our report on the discussion should be submitted to the General Assembly because this should be part of the International Development Strategy, And we felt that the strategy only contained a few chapters on agriculture and that by including this document it would highlight the role of agriculture in the new strategy.

The majority said that they agreed with the essential orientations contained in the document and any supplementary analysis would not change their basic view and that an attempt at improving it could take several years.

However, some of the delegates felt that it was not yet advisable to submit this document to the General Assembly of the United Nations because it was not yet the definitive document, as some of its components might be amended as the situation changed, or some of the approaches to certain topics in it might be changed,

I believe I have given a fair picture of our discussions, I have reflected our discussions correctly and we will have tried to find a solution between the two approaches. We must remember that this is not a definitive document in any case, the document does not pretend to be a final document. We need not pretend that this is a perfect document. We must of course stress that the effort in the preparation of this document was considerable and the majority of delegates paid tribute to the Secretariat for its preparation. Therefore I feel that as the report of the general Conference will be a full report, including all points of view-supporting the document or not-this general report will reflect the discussions fully, it will reflect the views of the various delegations with regard to this document, and if we add that the document itself is not the final version-it will be amended as the need is felt to do so-I think that the general feeling of the Commission is that it will be very useful to submit this document and above all the report of the general Conference to the General Assembly of the United Nations, so that they can bear this in mind when preparing the New Strategy of the United Nations. In any case, this will not be the only contribution of the general Conference of FAO to the preparation of a New Strategy. -there will also be other contributions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have tried to reflect as faithfully as possible and as best possible the discussions, and if you feel therefore that this summing up is correct, then we should adopt this stand unless anyone objects to this.

G. BIRAUD (France): Vous avez parfaitement résumé les débats qui ont eu lieu et ce n'est pas sur ce point que je voudrais intervenir, mais c'est sur le point de la procédure.

Nous avons déjà dans notre intervention souligné qu'il ne s'agissait pour l'instant que d'un projet d'étude et non pas d'une étude, et c'est conforme à ce que l'on peut lire dans le projet lui-même; par conséquent, nous continuons à souhaiter que si ce document doit suivre son cours et je suis très heureux d'avoir entendu le Dr ISLAM nous dire avec quel soin il entendrait tenir compte des observations qui ont été faites pendant ce débat si ce document doit être transmis à l'Assemblée générale, cela ne pourrait en tout cas pas être dès maintenant et sous sa forme actuelle, en tant que document officiel, et cela ne pourrait l'être en tant que document officiel qu'après l'examen par une nouvelle instance intergouvernementale au sein de la FAO.

Au stade actuel, il ne peut s'agir que d'un document de travail auquel serait annexé le rapport de notre discussion par exemple, et cela ne pourrait être en tout cas qu'un document purement, je dirais, officieux, et une transmission officieuse pour que d'autres experts des Nations Unies puissent essayer de commencer à agréger les différentes hypothèses qui ont été faites par nous et par d'autres organisations, comme l'ONUDI etc.

Ainsi, je souhaiterais que notre débat ne s'achève en aucun cas par une procédure d'approbation formelle du document comme document officiel de la Conférence.

Q. WEST (United States of America): I also think that both Professor Islam and you yourself did an excellent summary of the debate on this document. I think it would be useful if Professor Islam clarified a little bit to us just when such a document needs to be submitted to the General Assembly in order to fit in to the strategy of planning, and just what he would be able to do in the way of modification before that time. I think this timing is a little bit unclear. I think there were many things that were brought out by which the document could be improved, and it is hopeful that those improvements could be incorporated before this becomes an official document of the Conference and also the official submission to the General Assembly.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I fully share the feelings that you have really summarized our debate in an excellent way, doing full justice to all views expressed from the floor, but since our colleague from the United States asked Professor Islam to explain procedural things, if you would agree I would prefer to hear Professor Islam first before expressing our views with regard to the issues mentioned in the French intervention.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): As I have already stated, I explained the timetable of the preparation of the new strategy as far as we know at this stage. The Preparatory Committee for the preparation of the new strategy will have three more meetings-January, March and, I think, May. That is the last meeting and the deadline for the formulation of the strategy is 1980, as you know-it starts from 1980-the last one ends in 1980. Therefore, if the report of the FAO Conference has to submit something to the Preparatory Committee or the UN General Assembly, it has to be done in a matter of months. The revised report, as I stated, cannot be made ready except at the end of next year. We can't see any possibility of doing any revision of the report along the lines we have discussed.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Professor Islam explained what I just expected him to tell us again. I think it is now clear that this Conference should present the study itself, AT 2000, including as you suggested, I fully agree, comments including our report, the views expressed by this body, and sent as a very important contribution to the International Strategy for the 1980s. May I mention that it was one of the primary reasons when it was decided to include this valuable study in the Programme of Work of FAO. I fully share your summing up but I would wish to stress, in view of what we ourselves stated and how we understood our debate, there is no doubt in our minds that the vast majority of this body fully shared the basic findings of this study. Of course it would be unreasonable to expect that such a huge family of nations as we are here could agree on all things, but again there is no doubt at all-at least it is our understanding of our debate-that the vast majority of this body fully supported the basic salient findings of this study, and again the vast majority supported these findings as presented by the first speaker in our yesterday's debate, the representative of Ghana, who himself said that he was speaking on behalf of Ghana, but he also conveyed the feeling which certainly prevailed in Plenary. So we feel strongly that this Conference should officially submit the study, together with the report, to the General Assembly and to the Preparatory Committee for the Development Strategy for the 1980s.

H. CARADANG (Philippines): When I asked for the floor, I was going to ask the same question as the previous speaker about the timetable for the submission of this report to the UN. Now that Professor Islam has explained the timetable I would in general agree with what has been said by the previous speaker and, of course, we hope that the Secretariat can meanwhile put all the suggestions in the limited time, and what is possible, according to the suggestions that have been made by this Conference.

P. H. GRUE (Norway): On behalf of the Norwegian delegation, I fully share the view expressed by Professor Islam and by the delegation of Yugoslavia, and I am fully in agreement with the proposal put forward here that this report should be submitted to the General Assembly.

CHAIRMAN: I hope it is worthwhile to emphasize one point which Dr. Islam first made and which is going to be emphasized in the report of the Commission, that the document AT 2000 is provisional, but of course the Report of the FAO Conference itself is going to be an official report, so there should be no doubt about the officiality of the Report-it has to be official-but stating that the document is provisional.

SANG-WOO PARK (Republic of Korea): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I think it is not important whether it is official or provisional. I have been listening carefully to the explanations and points raised by representatives, and if my understanding is correct most of the representatives praised the work done by Dr. Islam and his staff. I think the projection towards 2000 years is a long-term projection. I think the quantitative things are less important than the direction, if we believe the direction is a correct and desirable one. I do not think there is any reason why we should hesitate to submit this document to the General Assembly. Therefore I strongly support the submission of this document to the General Assembly.

9. Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones
9. Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives
9. Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas

CHAIRMAN: We will now study item 9 of our agenda. The documents we are about to study are C 79/21 and C 79/LIM/41, which contain the draft resolution on this subject. I will give the floor to Mr. Lucas, Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department so that he can introduce this item to us.

K. C. LUCAS (Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department): What I plan to do is to give you a brief summary of the situation which has made this programme urgently necessary, and then I will describe very quickly the genesis of the programme and mention the discussion which took place recently in the Committee on Fisheries at the 76th Council and, finally, I would like to highlight the two most important issues influencing the successful implementation of the programme for your consideration.

So if I may start on the background. Since the start of the Law of the Seas Conference, over 5 years ago, we have seen, speaking quite literally, a revolution in world fisheries. At the start of the Conference in 1974 only a handful of nations claimed extended fisheries jurisdiction and most of the world's marine fish lived in waters beyond national jurisdiction, subject to uncontrolled and uncontrollable fishing. They were living in a no-man's land.

Today the situation is completely different. At this time 93 nations have already extended jurisdiction over fisheries and the number is steadily growing. Soon 99 percent of ocean areas where fish catches are taken will be under coastal state jurisdiction.

Now this trend constitutes, without any exaggeration, a most important development in the history of world fishing. It is a fundamental change in the situation, one which in a time of increasing pressure on food supplies the world cannot ignore.

In this situation we can see both opportunity and danger. Suddenly many nations have come into possession of immense renewable resources. A group of three or four small nations along the North-west Coast of Atlantic Africa just to give you one example-now control annual fish catches about as large as those of Norway and twice those of Canada-two traditionally very important fishing countries. Beyond the benefit to nations we have a situation where we can, for the first time, talk about managing the world's fisheries and not be simply indulging in wishful thinking. Because now, for the first time, someone is responsible, someone is in charge of the fish. We have a chance to move away from an area of unmeasured assaults on a finite resource toward a situation of stable supply and orderly development, and generation of tangible and lasting benefits from, world fisheries.

On the other hand there is another less hopeful but definitely plausible scenario. The declaration of a 200-mile zone by itself guarantees absolutely nothing. Fisheries do not take care of themselves. They cannot be left to the forces of nature and marketplace. They do not reach their own limits and flourish there, marvelous as that might be. They do not do that, they need systematic management. Without, for example, a careful matching of vessel and processing capacity to the amount of fish available to be caught, which is determined by highly sophisticated scientific study-fishing industries tear the stocks of fish and themselves to pieces.

Now this is not theory, this is recorded history. We will see history repeat itself within these new zones of sovereignty unless coastal states act to prevent it. And coastal nations understand this, they realize that they now have a definite but transient opportunity to avoid this destructive cycle. They know that to fulfil the potential they must begin the basis of sound, rational management. They must increase their knowledge of their stocks of fish. They must improve their fleets and their processing sectors. They must build marketing and distribution systems. They need to work out, at least in the interim, joint venture or licencing agreements which will assure them income from fishing by other nations until they are ready to do it themselves. Above all they must enforce their own jurisdiction.

But in most cases these nations lack the wherewithal to do these things. They lack the knowledge, they lack the technology, the expertise, and above all the money needed to build the foundations for managing their fisheries. So that, in a nutshell, is what this programme is all about. To nations that request help-and many already have-FAO will provide assistance in key areas of fisheries management and development, which has been described in the supporting documentation to the agenda item. Much of the infusion of expertise and assistance will come from nations already experienced in extended fishing zone management, mainly the developed nations. Much will be exchanged among developing nations in the spirit of technical cooperation among developing countries. And of course, FAO fisheries staff will be fully committed to the programme.

FAO has been active in fisheries assistance work for 30 years. What is new about this programme is extending jurisdiction. Because up to now, regardless of the enterprise of fishery managers, and regardless of the quality of advice from FAO, or anyone else offering it, matters were, to a large extent out of man's control. The fisheries were overwhelmingly out of range of management, out in that no man's land. But. they can now be managed, and they must be if nations are going to reap any lasting benefit from these opportunities.

I should also emphasize in my introductory remarks the importance we attach to small-scale fisheries. If nations so desire, and many are already doing so in the adoption of national policies, the most important beneficiaries of the programme would be the small-scale fishermen who fish over the continental shelves of national waters. There are at least 10 million fishermen in developing countries and a further 40 million people directly engaged in the handling, distribution and marketing of the production of the fishermen. They tend to be at the lowest end of the economic scale in terms of income and they are over-whelmingly rural inhabitants. Both the Committee on Fisheries and the Council welcomed this special attention accorded to small-scale fisheries.

So much for the background. Turning to the genesis of the programme for the moment, it is not new to this forum. The Nineteenth Session of the FAO Conference endorsed the Committee on Fisheries' request emanating from its 13th Session that the Secretariat provide a comprehensive programme to assist developing coastal states in the management and the development of fishery resources in their Economic Zones.

The Director-General's programme, which was brought before the 13th Session of the Committee on Fisheries a little over a month ago, is in direct response to action taken by the Conference at its last session.

Both the Committee on Fisheries and the Seventy-sixth Council at their meetings held during the past five weeks agreed that the proposals presented to them by the Director-General provided an excellent frame-work for the planning and execution of the EEZ Programme and expressed unanimous and enthusiastic support for it. The Council, at its last meeting, also endorsed the three central objectives of the Programme, one of which was to strengthen the capabilities of coastal countries and grouping of countries to manage their fisheries and get the maximum benefits from those resources. Most importantly, the 76th Council endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on Fisheries regarding the Programme and in particular the proposals to decentralize the delivery of the Programme through a network of technical support units associated with a strengthened and reoriented framework of FAO regional fishery bodies. I would like to come back and enlarge on this point in a few moments.

In welcoming the high priority being accorded by the Director-General to the Programme, the Seventy-sixth Council approved the efforts being made by FAO to mobilize financial and other forms of assistance for the Programme and requested potential donors to provide the maximum support possible for fisheries development and management. Again, I would want to refer to this point in a bit more detail in a few moments.

I am not going to discuss the Programme here. It has been discussed thoroughly in the Committee on Fisheries and in the Council.

There are two important issues which I would like to return to now. The first is the question of the decentralized delivery of the Programme. FAO's network of regional fisheries bodies has a vital role to play in the implementation of the EEZ Programme. They will be a major source of advice on the programmed orientation and priorities. It is apparent from recent discussions in the Programme Committee in September, in the Committee on Fisheries and in the Council, that adjustments in the sub-regional structure of our fishery bodies would allow for the requirements of coastal states for fishery management and development to be met on a more appropriate geographical basis than is the case at present. The concept of natural management areas, based on such factors as shared stocks or fisheries, common problems or opportunities and other natural affinities among the coastal states concerned, has received strong support at those meetings and in direct discussions with government officials.

The suggestion has also been made that such management areas should be served by an appropriate subsidiary body of the relevant regional fisheries commission and that each subsidiary body should be provided with a locally based, multi-disciplinary technical support unit financed from extra budgetary sources. This will entail in some cases a readjustment of the existing inter-country technical assistance programmes.

I am convinced that this approach, more closely attuned to the needs of the coastal states under the new ocean regime, will help us to serve them more effectively and to build up their capability as rapidly as possible.

I would like to give you a few examples of such arrangements of regional fishery commissions supported by subsidiary bodies coinciding with natural management areas and having affiliated with them technical support units located in the natural management areas, so that I can clarify these explanations.

These are long phrases and they may be hard to understand.

For example, in the Indian Ocean region there are already two geographic subsidiary bodies, one in the Gulf between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula, the other dealing with tuna management ocean-wide. Two more are proposed; one for the Bay of Bengal and one for the Southwest Indian Ocean. Each of these four groupings would be subsidiary bodies of the Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission and each of these subsidiary bodies would have attached to it, or working for it, a technical support unit located in the area of each of those subsidiary bodies' areas I mentioned.

Another example: in the Southeast Asia region, where you have the overall authority of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission at play, there is already a proposal coming before the next meeting of that Commission to establish a South China Sea subsidiary body which already has a technical programme in place, located at Manila, serving the countries of that region.

Similar arrangements exist off West Africa and also in the Caribbean, and this network can be expanded when further needs are identified and agreed upon by coastal countries.

A second, and last, point I want to emphasize is to bring to the Conference's attention the critical need for adequate financial and other support from international, bilateral and other sources if the Programme is to fulfill its mandate to help coastal states take full advantage of the opportunities presented by extended jurisdiction.

As delegates will have read in the document, approximately US\$35 million to \$40 million will be required over the next three years alone to plan and execute the programme of assistance. As a result of discussions already held with the UNDP and other organizations and donors, firm agreement has already been reached on the provision of \$13 million to finance the Programme during the first two of the three years. Further support, to the extent of another \$8 million to \$9 million, is under active discussion and negotiation with several donors.

This is an encouraging start, but substantial additional funding must be forthcoming if requests for assistance are to be met promptly and efficiently. When the presently envisaged network of twelve to fifteen technical support units is fully in place in about three years time, the estimated cost of the Programme will be US\$18 million to \$20 million annually, which will need to be supported through extra-budgetary funding. Thus, the cost of the Programme from 1980 through 1984 will be in the order of US\$75 million to \$80 million.

The financial support of the UNDP through its three inter-country Indicative Planning figures has been a key to getting the Programme started and its continuing support over the longer term will be essential. Even though the work is commencing near the end of UNDP's second programme cycle, it has been able to provide additional financial support because of the high priority accorded to the Programme. The Committee on Fisheries expressed the hope that the UNDP Governing Council would recognize the importance and urgency for continued and accelerated support of the EEZ Programme when considering its third programme cycle allocations for 1982-86. I would hope that the Conference would take note of the great importance of the UNDP Governing Council reflecting the same high priority for FAO's EEZ Programme as has been accorded to it in this forum. If appropriate emphasis is given to this Programme in time to influence UNDP's inter-country programme allocations for the third cycle I believe that the full medium to long term Programme will be a reality rather than simply an aspiration. A combination of strong UNDP core funding for the network of technical units, coupled with expanded multilateral and bilateral assistance in the form presently being provided by only three or four countries, will ensure the Programmed success.

It is very gratifying for me to report that at the recent Session of the Committee on Fisheries, several delegations offered the technical cooperation of their countries in the implementation of the Programme. Indeed, the assistance provided need not necessarily be financial, as there are many opportunities for technical and other help between developing countries in the spirit of TCDC, as well as between developed and developing states. I could mention training facilities, fellowships, research and other vessels, equipment and joint venture collaboration as examples of such non-reciprocal assistance. I am convinced that there is much scope for this type of cooperation, particularly since a number of countries have acquired considerable skills and experience through the development of their fisheries over the past two decades.

In conclusion I would refer to the final paragraph of document C 79/21, in which various actions designed to assist developing coastal states to obtain a more equitable share of world fishery resources are suggested for the Conference's consideration. While noting the many supportive statements made in the Plenary meetings over the past week, we look forward to the Conference's debate on this agenda item and to the advice and guidance which will be offered, to efforts to help the developing states accept this chance to secure a higher and sustained marine harvest, beyond anything achieved in the past.

Could I draw attention to a couple of errors which have crept into document C 79/21, before somebody points them out to us. No corrigendum has been issued. In paragraph 8 there is a typing error on page 5 in the fourth line where it says " US\$ 60 billion ", the number should be " US\$ 60 million ". Of course, there is a bit of difference there.

There is an error in paragraph 13 in the very last line. We omitted to express the number in the terms used in FAO. It should say US\$ 2, 000 million " rather than " US\$ 2 billion ".

CHAIRMAN:(interpretation from Arabic)I thank Dr. Lucas on behalf of the members of the Commission for his introduction, which was extremely clear and complete, on item 9 of the agenda, which we are about to discuss. Since he has just explained to us that the Programme will require \$60 million and not \$60 billion, as we may have believed at the outset, that may make our discussion easier and make it possible for us to come to a conclusion fairly quickly.

Mario RUIVO (Portugal): Ma delegation note avec satisfaction qu'à nouveau l'agenda de la Conference inclut un point spécifique sur la pêche, en particulier sur le développement et la gestion dans la zone économique exclusive. Ceci est déjà en soi-même indicatif de l'importance croissante de ce secteur pour le développement économique et social et de la contribution des ressources aquatiques corame source de protéines pour l'alimentation.

Le débat très riche qui a eu lieu à la dernière session de la Conference et qui a inspiré l'action du Departement des pêches au cours de ce biennium, a contribué également à stimuler les débats à la treizième session du Comité des pêches sur cette importante question. Nous avons beaucoup apprécié l'excellente introduction qui vient d'être faite par le Directeur adjoint pour les pêches, M. Lucas, et nous profitons de cette occasion pour lui souhaiter le plus grand succès dans ses nouvelles tâches, succès garanti d'ailleurs en raison de sa compétence et de son dynamisme.

Le nouveau régime des océans commence à acquérir progressivement sa propre nature qui le démarque du régime traditionnel de la liberté des mers, ceci dû aux progrès accomplis au sein de la Conference des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer qui, d'ailleurs, est entré dans une phase finale sous de bons auspices et à la pratique des Etats.

C'est précisément pour ce qui est du régime de la zone économique exclusive dans son application aux ressources halieutiques que le consensus est pratiquement acquis. Il est assez encourageant pour la communauté internationale de constater le grand effort en cours accompli par les Etats concernés en vue de profiter pleinement des grandes opportunités créées par le nouveau régime des océans dans le but de développer leurs pêcheries et qui perçoivent la nécessité de maintenir dans cette phase de transition le niveau des captures et d'atténuer les difficultés auxquelles sont confrontés les Etats qui ont perdu l'accès à certaines pêcheries ou ont été forcés d'en détruire certaines pourtant traditionnelles, ou ceux qui, par leur situation géographique ou pour d'autres raisons, ont été défavorisés par la nouvelle situation. Une référence a d'ailleurs été faite, au cours de la récente session du Conseil, à la situation spéciale de la Méditerranée,

Ceci renforce le besoin de coopération internationale au niveau global régional et sous-régional, selon les cas, et a mis en mouvement un processus de réajustement des organisations internationales compétentes indispensable non seulement à l'utilisation et à la gestion rationnelle des ressources, particulièrement des ressources communes, comme à la protection contre les effets de la pollution, surtout dans les effets transfrontières ainsi qu'au transfert des technologies et à la recherche indispensable comme appui à ces objectifs.

Mais, en dernière analyse, la mise en oeuvre du nouveau régime, les opportunités pour le développement économique et social des Etats et la réalisation de cette composante d'un Nouvel ordre économique international avec son objectif de rapports internationaux plus justes et équitables et la réduction de l'écart entre le niveau de développement des Etats ne sont pas faites de mots mais d'actions, c'est-à-dire de mesures pratiques qui, à tous les niveaux, puissent favoriser les finalités mentionnées ci-dessus.

Malgré la volonté de nombreux Etats de développer leurs secteurs de la pêche, ils sont confrontés à des difficultés objectives-comme d'ailleurs vient de le signaler le Directeur general adjoint-difficultés liées à leurs limitations en matière de financement, de personnel qualifié, d'équipements, parfois même de caractère institutionnel.

La sensibilité politique et la capacité d'action du Directeur general ont à nouveau été démontrées lorsqu'il a pris l'initiative de promouvoir un programme d'assistance au développement de la pêche dans la zone économique, et de réorienter les activités du Departement des pêches-dont la compétence est une garantie de succès d'une telle initiative-pour qu'il puisse jouer le rôle nouveau que la Communauté internationale attend de lui.

Ma delegation tient à souligner que ce Programme constitue l'initiative la plus avancée et la plus concrète prise dans le cadre du Systeme des Nations Unies en vue de répondre aux besoins accrus des Etats, surtout ceux en développement, ayant comme objectif de faciliter la mise en oeuvre du nouveau régime des océans, composante d'un Nouvel ordre économique international.

L'accueil enthousiaste accorda par les Etats Membres du Comité des peches aux propositions du Directeur general, la richesse des débats qui ont eu lieu à la récente reunion de cet organisme, que j'ai eu d'ailleurs l'honneur de présider, l'unanimité faite sur les conclusions auxquelles on est arrive offrent maintenant une base solide d'orientation pour les activités futures du Departement des peches, la cooperation entre les agences directement concernées ainsi que la mobilisation des moyens financiers et autres nécessaires à l'execution d'un Programme si vaste et si complexe.

Il est assez encourageant de constater d'ailleurs l'appui general que ces propositions ont regu à la récente reunion du Conseil de la FAO. Nous avons noté avec satisfaction 1 excellent résumé qui figure dans le document C 79/21 et qui couvre tous les elements indispensables pour que les Etats puissent obtenir une part equitable des ressources halieutiques dans le cadre des nouveaux droits et devoirs créés par le nouveau regime et dont la pierre angulaire est en dernière analyse le renforcement de la capacité nationale de chaque Etat, ce qui à leur tour leur permettra de mettre en oeuvre leurs politiques dans le domaine des peches et de participer effectivement à l'effort de cooperation regionale et globale indispensable.

Dans ce contexte, un groupe d'Etats, dont le Portugal a l'honneur de faire partie, a décidé de soumettre à la consideration de la Conference un projet de resolution, maintenant distribué sous le numero C 79/LIM/41, projet de resolution sur le programme d'assistance au développement et gestion des pecheries dans les zones économiques exclusives. Je dois signaler qu'étant donné le nombre de contacts et de consultations qui ont été nécessaires pour mobiliser l'appui des Etats qui ont décidé d'être co-auteurs de ce projet, il se peut que dans certaines phrases il y ait peut-être quelques erreurs, disons des expressions qui ne correspondent pas exactement à l'intention de certains des co-auteurs. Mais ceci ne touche pas le fond du document et les participants auront l'occasion de faire leurs commentaires et leurs propositions d'amélioration.

Ce projet, après avoir rappelé le changement fondamental que representent le nouveau regime et le role special de la FAO, en collaboration avec les autres agences et institutions dans ce domaine, suggère ou recommande un certain nombre de mesures parmi lesquelles je signale:

- la formulation et l'application des politiques par les Etats côtiers où il est fait référence, en les approuvant, aux propositions du Directeur general relatives au programme qui représente un cadre excellent pour planifier et acheminer l'assistance nécessaire. D'autre part, il est dit:
- appuie la réalisation en 1982 d'une conference technique de la FAO sur la planification et la gestion des pecheries.
- se félicite de l'intention de décentraliser l'execution du programme en mobilisant le réseau existant d'organismes régionaux de pêches.
- reconnaît que cette décentralisation accélèrera l'expansion de la cooperation technique et économique, et je signale le paragraphe 7 qui, par son caractère opérationnel, touche le fond du problème, c'est-à-dire le besoin de mobiliser des fonds et des moyens au niveau approprié pour la mise en oeuvre de ces programmes.

Au nom des auteurs de ce projet de resolution qui, d'ailleurs, a eu un accueil très favorable de la part d'autres delegations avec lesquelles nous avons eu des consultations et dont nous verrons avec beaucoup de satisfaction la participation à cette resolution, je sollicite l'attention de la Conference envers cette proposition, en espérant que les débats qui vont suivre confirmeront le consensus qui s'est dégagé au Comité des peches. Les co-auteurs du projet de resolution seront d'ailleurs très heureux que d'autres Etats puissent avec leur experience et leur connaissance contribuer à ce débat et enrichir cette resolution.

A. TRONCOSO VILAS (Brazil): The Brazilian delegation would like to point out the importance of this programme for many countries, particularly for Brazil in view of its large coastal resources. We stress our congratulations to FAO for its involvement in this area, and especially for proposing a systematic approach when attempting to identify needs and also when analyzing how to develop and rationally exploit fishery resources all over the world.

Brazil has supported this programme for exclusive economic zones for its opportunities because our country has long ago claimed a 200-mile limit. We emphasise that we support the programme mainly because we believe that a lot can be done. Taking into consideration the technical cooperation that can be achieved among member countries, we do believe that many countries have a lot of expertise that could be used with reasonably reduced investments, helping other countries to develop their fishery resources. Of course a special economic fund mechanism will have to be provided. We hope that the proposal on this programme will take into account the developing additional details on these funding arrangements. But we do believe that special arrangements among member countries should be worked out. This would, of course, reduce the investment estimates that we may have for a programme like this.

We stress that we support this programme, as we did before, and we hope that this is going to help a lot of countries to minimise the food shortages all over the world.

The meeting rose at 18. 10 hours

La seance est levée à 18 h 10

Se levanta la sesión a las 18. 10 horas

conference

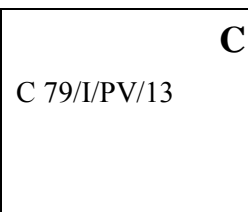
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

THIRTEENTH MEETING
TREIZIEME SÉANCE
13ª SESION
(23 November 1979)

The Thirteenth Meeting was opened at 9. 40 hours Alphonsus Antoine, Vice-Chairman of Commission I, presiding

La treizième séance est ouverte à 9 h 40, sous la présidence de Alphonsus Antoine, Vice-Président de la Commission I

Se abre la 13ª sesión a las 9. 40 horas, bajo la Presidencia de Alphonsus Antoine, Vice-Presidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN
MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y
LA ALIMENTACIÓN (continuación)
- 9. Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in
Exclusive Economic Zones (continued)
- 9. Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les
zones économiques exclusives (suite)
- 9. Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las
zonas económicas exclusivas (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: Before we begin the discussion, we shall have the Rapporteur's report.

H. MENDS (Rapporteur from Plenary to Commission I): The enthusiasm with which delegates approached this subject will allow me to be very brief this morning.

The Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones was by far the most favoured subject of the general discussion, judging from the way the various Heads of delegation reacted to it. They decried the apparent lack of financial and technical resources for immediate implementation of the Programme. Australia, while supporting the Programme, was of the view that individual countries would be best able to undertake the development of their EEZ only with the cooperation of neighbouring countries. They cited many fruitful regional collaborative efforts among the countries in the South-West Pacific area.

As there was considerable scarcity with regard to protein-rich food in many of the developing countries, fishery development was considered to be very important for improving the nourishment of large sections of their populations. However, most of the speakers emphasized the fact that without external assistance it would not be possible for many of those countries to undertake the fisheries development in their EEZ.

Many countries were concerned about this, and in the main the developed countries said they were ready to share their experience, both technical and expertise, with the developing countries in this field. Specifically, mention was made of the contribution Norway had made in executing this Programme, and Bulgaria stated that it had already extended bilateral assistance to some countries for implementing the Programme in their areas.

Some countries were of the view that the development of aquaculture and promotion of inland fisheries, with particular emphasis on small artesanal operators, should be carried out simultaneously with the development of marine fisheries.

Finally, since very little mention was made in the general discussion on the next item on your agenda, I wish to take this opportunity to report on it at this stage. Indeed, the records show that only two countries referred to the subject of food standards matters and the work of the FAO/WHO CODEX Alimentarius Commission. Reference was made by Turkey to the problems that developing countries are experiencing on account of the food standards prescribed by the developed countries. It was considered that processing and packaging of food products had become more important than the efforts that must go into the production process to feed the hungry and malnourished millions.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the Rapporteur very much for his exposition.

It is vital that speakers try to limit their contributions to no more than 4 minutes, in order to give everyone on the list a chance to speak. If you have longer statements, please submit those for inclusion in the records. In fact, Indonesia and Liberia have already done so, and their statements will be included in the official record. Papua New Guinea has discussed with the Secretariat how they can cut down the time they need to take.

I would like to ask speakers in particular to lay stress on and address themselves to the Resolution on the subject contained in Document C 79/LIM/41 in particular. I trust that you will take these points into consideration. If this suggestion is acceptable to delegates, we shall proceed directly to discussion-and I see no objections.

I. A. RONQUILLO (Philippines): I thank the Assistant Director-General, Dr. Lucas for his comprehensive introduction of this item. I showed to us the opportunities and problems provided by the extension of the Extended Economic Zone to coastal states, and also to FAO.

The Philippine Delegation has considered in depth the overall programme of the potential role of FAO in its desire to assist developing coastal states to enable them to derive maximum benefits from the fisheries in their exclusive economic zones in document C 79/21.

We commend the Director-General for such a comprehensive programme thereby keeping the FAO abreast with the new developments emerging from the third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea-that is the concept of the extended jurisdiction of coastal states up to a limit of 200 nautical miles off their shores, known as the EEZ.

In this regard the developing coastal states have to depend upon the expertise and experience of FAO on these matters and it is very timely that FAO has prepared plans of action for such assistance, to enable them to derive maximum benefits from the fisheries in their EEZ.

The Philippines as one of the coastal states which recently established an exclusive economic zone of 200 nautical miles, welcomes FAO's activities along these lines.

The Philippines hosted with FAO a workshop on fisheries joint venture early this year in Manila. These activities are badly needed by developing coastal states so that they could reap full benefits from such joint ventures or bilateral arrangements.

We have embarked on a development programme in the exploration and exploitation of the tuna resources, which are fished not only within the EEZ, and the territorial sea but also within the archipelagic waters as well; a unique condition obtaining in our country. At the same time, biological studies and stock assessments of the fisheries are being undertaken in cooperation with neighbouring states where such tuna stocks may be present. Further assistance from FAO on these studies are necessary as we very well know that such researches are better undertaken in a cooperative way on a regional basis.

We therefore support a programme on the formation of a more permanent fishery body of FAO in a region concerned primarily with this specific task as it will be more effective to assist developing coastal states in the development of their marine resources, leading to more successful management programme of their fishery resources, especially on shared fish stocks such as tunas.

As is necessary, the Philippines has defined its national fisheries policies and set its general strategies on fisheries development and management. It is one of the most developed fishing nations in South East Asia, yet it has just reached self-sufficiency in its fish requirement. We therefore fully support FAO for more development assistance especially from joint ventures and other investment projects.

We believe in the concept that FAO should be more active and more systematic in its approach in giving advice to governments on issues arising from the extension of jurisdiction over the living resources in the exclusive economic zone.

We therefore give our full support and co-sponsor the draft resolution on the programme of assistance in the development and management of fisheries in the exclusive economic zone.

Further, we support the Director-General's plans for future actions especially to strengthen the regional fisheries bodies of FAO to make them more responsible to the new ocean regime and increase the capability of FAO to provide more funds for development assistance to regional fisheries programmes. To this end, such regional offices must be further supported financially by the member nations in the region.

We welcome the FAO's leadership to encourage potential donor nations to support selected activities or projects of developing coastal nations to enable them to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the new ocean regime, as well as its plans to intensify its pre-investment work and preparation for investment work.

The Philippines (as stated by the Head of our Delegation, Natural Resources Minister, José J. Leido, Jr. In Plenary) is offering to host a regional workshop or a consultative meeting on Development and Management of Fisheries in the EEZ in late 1980 as a preparation for the proposed World Technical Conference on this subject to be held in 1982 as sponsored by FAO.

H. EMADI (Iran): Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this session, even though it looks to me that my recommendation may not exactly fit with the order of today's talk. I probably should have brought it up in yesterday's session of "Agriculture: Toward 2000", but in regard to my speciality, I decided to discuss it today.

I would like to inform you that unfortunately neither in previous documents C 79/33 and C 79/24, and normally, nor in document C 79/29, has attention been given to the inland fisheries, to help and persuade developing and developed countries to plan, develop, and manage their own inland fisheries.

With regard to the recent constant decline in marine resources, resulting from pollution and over-fishing, which was partly discussed by Dr. Lucas yesterday, it is necessary to benefit from many possible inland water resources for fish culture in different countries.

Just as an example, I would like to say that in the southern part of the Caspian Sea, the northern waters of Iran, the yearly catch of different commercial fishes was about 30, 000 tons or more per year, up to 25 years ago. But in the recent years it has declined down to 6, 000 to 8, 000 tons per annum, including delivered catch to the fisheries and local consumption. Today all the catches from the southern Caspian Sea and Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, with a total shore line of 2, 500 km. and the small inland products, is something around 20, 000 tons per year which provides a per capita of only 600 grams of aquatic products for a population of over 35, 000, 000, which provides the necessary animal protein ration for only six complete meals. This is only about 5 percent of the world's average, referred to in document C 79/21.

We believe that with industrialization of developing countries and increasing growth rate of world population, it is impossible or at least a very hard and time consuming process to prevent and control pollution and over-fishing in order to increase the resources and bring them up at least to the level of two decades ago.

One of the very urgent and important tasks to increase the animal protein production in a worldwide scheme, in which FAO can play a very important roll, is to help developing countries to establish their own inland fisheries, in order to build up fish culture plans, by using their inland water resources, such as lakes, rivers, and other reservoirs and to build up fish culture ponds.

We have just delivered a project to our new Government to establish an inland fisheries, and have suggested the build up of at least a large fish culture plan in each of the 24 Provinces. We have forecast that by the end of a five-year project, we will be able to produce at least 30, 000 tons of fresh water fish per year which will be about two times more than today's lands of our catch in the Caspian Sea, Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

We believe that FAO should pay much more attention to the development of inland fisheries, in developing and developed countries. This could be very important regarding the following points of view:

1. On small-or large-scale, inland fish culture can be done in combination with agriculture even in the rural areas.
2. There is a very pronounced need for animal protein in almost all countries and this is a rather easy, quick, and economic way to increase world protein production.
3. In comparison with some of the ocean fisheries, such as in Iran, much less effort is needed to produce the same quantity of fish in ponds, than catching in the sea. For example each hectare of fish culture pond can produce three to four tons of Chinese Carp, while at the time the catchable fish in the southern part of the Caspian Sea is at the most 10 kg. per hectare.
4. By increasing fish production in inland waters, less pressure will be put on some marine fishes and this will give a good chance to the depleted species of fish to rehabilitate and increase their resources.

5. And most important of all not all the countries have ocean and sea borders.

I would like to suggest that FAO in its future conferences allocates a special session to the planning and development of inland fisheries.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the Chinese delegation for having handed in a written statement which will be included in the verbatim records. I thank them very much for this strike on the side of economy.

D. H. J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Sri Lanka): My delegation would like to thank Mr. Lucas for the very lucid and comprehensive introduction he gave us last evening on this subject.

We have listened with great interest to the discussions which took place at the recent Council Meeting and at the last COFI Meeting on this important subject. As everyone knows, the major event affecting marine fisheries is the emerging new regime of the seas consequent on the deliberations at the Law of the Sea Conference in the United Nations. This unique event brought under the national jurisdiction of coastal states large expanses of water. Therefore we welcome the Director-General's Programme for the Development of Resources in the Exclusive Economic Zones as a timely response to this new situation.

We are gratified to note that considerable funds have been obtained already for the proposed \$35 million programme and we sincerely hope that both countries and donor agencies who are in a position to assist the FAO will do so in order to implement this useful and essential programme.

Sri Lanka shares the view that increased sea-fish production is possible only by means of greater exploitation of the under-exploited fish resources. Unlike many coastal countries, our presently under-exploited sea-fish resources consist only of migratory pelagic species of fish such as the tuna and bill fishes. Therefore we have a special constraint on the exploitation and management of fish resources in our Exclusive Economic Zone. Any programme for the exploitation of the Exclusive Economic Zone's resources should take into consideration the migratory nature of the fish in our waters.

As far as Sri Lanka is concerned, we have already received help from FAO in drawing up the necessary fisheries legislation to enforce the laws pertaining to the Exclusive Economic Zone. However, we require assistance in other fields. In the first place, a prerequisite for planning large-scale exploitation of fishery resources must take into consideration an assessment of our resources. Our present estimates of the resources are still not accurate enough. Precise estimates are therefore essential for any forward planning. Secondly, we require skilled personnel to undertake training of local fishermen in purse-seining, tuna long-line fishing and in the operation of ocean-going fishing vessels. Thirdly, international assistance is required for preventing poaching by vessels of other countries and for maintaining proper surveillance of the territorial waters within our Exclusive Economic Zone. Lastly, we would like to enter into joint ventures both with the public and private sectors for the exploitation of the high value species of fish, so that the funds generated by the sale of such fish could be utilised for the import of low value species of fish which could meet the nutrition requirements in our daily diet.

While we appreciate the new thrust of this programme we would wish to remind the FAO that the pursuit of this programme should not be at the expense of other important programmes such as aquaculture and small-scale fisheries, because it should not be forgotten that not all countries are beneficiaries of the ocean regime.

We in Sri Lanka attach great importance to the development of inland fisheries. Ours is a country that is largely dependent on river and tank irrigation for agriculture. The existence of such a large number of water bodies in all parts of the island which could be developed into fish breeding centres to augment the supply of fish in the country through the integrated rural development programmes of my country will contribute greatly towards the goals of self-sufficiency in food. We are therefore grateful to FAO for the assistance which is being provided by the Aquaculture Programme.

We are also happy to note that the Fisheries Department of FAO has stated that the development of small-scale fisheries will be a major concern. However, we do not see clearly how the EEZ programmes could help in this sphere and therefore would like further elaboration. What Sri Lanka would like to see would be more intense, short but effective technical assistance programmes. We therefore hope that, even though the Indian Ocean Programme will cease to exist at the end of this year, some other project will take its place to provide this assistance which by its very nature cannot be foreseen nor planned in advance.

In this context we are pleased to hear that FAO in the execution of its programmes of assistance to developing States to manage and exploit their resources in the EEZ is planning to provide this assistance through a series of regional management units. We appreciate particularly these efforts at decentralization and at bringing these technical units into the arena where the real problems exist and action takes place.

We understand that the Indian Ocean activities will also be handled by smaller regional units. We wish to take this opportunity to offer host facilities in Sri Lanka for the unit which would include my country. We thank FAO for what it has done so far and appreciate and support the recommendations which are being put to us for consideration now.

Finally, in consideration of the importance of this Programme and the impact that it would have on countries which are now being vested with the EEZs in the developing countries, we would request this Conference to approve the draft resolution which is presented along with document C 79/LIM/41 for adoption to which Sri Lanka is a signatory.

CHAIRMAN: Before we go on to the next speaker, I would like to announce that Thailand has handed in a written statement which will be recorded in the official documents.

Whereas there is a limitation on the number of speakers, there is no limit on the number of written statements which can be handed in. Everybody, for that matter, can hand in a written statement.

A. ELHONSALI (Maroc): Avant d'examiner la proposition de mise en valeur et de la gestion des peches dans la ZEE contenue dans le document C 79/21, permettez-moi de dire quelques mots sur le secteur de la pêche maritime au Maroc.

La pêche occupe une place importante dans l'economie nationale. Les prises se situent entre 250 000 et 300 000 tonnes par an. L'industrie de transformation du poisson occupe le troisième rang des industries exportatrices.

Du point de vue social, le secteur emploie environ 23 000 marins-pêcheurs, 28 000 personnes travaillent dans l'industrie de transformation et quelque 5 000 autres dans les activités annexes globales; plus de 50 000 familles tirent leur subsistance de la pêche.

Consciente de l'importance de ce secteur, les pouvoirs publics marocains ont pris en 1973 un certain nombre de mesures destinées à favoriser le développement de la flottille de pêche sur le plan quantitatif et qualitatif. Ces mesures ont trait notamment à l'octroi de primes aux investissements pouvant aller jusqu'à 30 pour cent du montant global de l'investissement, à l'extension des limites de pêche à 70 milles marins, à la promulgation d'un nouveau Code de pêche et enfin à l'amélioration de la productivité de la pêche artisanale, en particulier la création de coopératives de marins-pêcheurs. Parallèlement, des études devaient être entreprises avec le concours de la FAO pour déterminer les stocks de poisson que recèle la ZEE et permettre une exploitation rationnelle des ressources, tâche difficile en raison des nombreuses incursions de navires de pêche d'un grand nombre de pays dans cette zone.

Malgré certains aspects positifs, ces mesures se sont avérées cependant insuffisantes pour permettre un décollage réel de la pêche dans notre pays.

Devant cette situation, et en raison de nombreux problèmes complexes qui se posent dans cette branche, le Gouvernement marocain prévoit le renforcement des structures administratives chargées des peches par la création prochaine d'une entité "pêche" à un niveau élevé.

Le Maroc a toujours collaboré étroitement avec les organisations internationales, en particulier la FAO. Les experts de cet organisme dépêchés chez nous ont fourni une assistance appréciable aussi bien sur le plan scientifique (évaluation des peches) que sur le plan de la formation.

Il serait donc souhaitable que cet organisme augmente davantage sa contribution.

Ma délégation a constaté avec plaisir que des propositions dans ce sens ont été faites dans le document C 79/21.

Certes, le Maroc dispose déjà de certains moyens pour faire face aux nouveaux problèmes découlant de l'institution de la ZEE. Il possède des structures administratives et l'infrastructure nécessaire pour cela (Institut scientifique des pêches, Ecole de pêche, ports de pêche). Il a déjà entrepris des études sur les évaluations de stocks; il peut envisager d'améliorer les circuits de distribution, et les moyens de manutention.

En outre, le Maroc a signé avec un certain nombre de pays ayant une grande expérience en matière de pêche. Ces pays pourraient apporter leur contribution notamment par l'évaluation des stocks en déclarant les prises effectuées dans la ZEE, le renforcement des infrastructures de pêche comme l'aménagement de ports de pêche ou la construction d'usines de traitement de poisson.

Comme la plupart des pays en développement, le Maroc ne sera pas en mesure, avec ses seuls moyens, d'établir un type de programme de pêche exigé par le nouveau régime. C'est pourquoi le Maroc adhère pleinement aux propositions d'assistance technique présentées par la FAO concernant la mise en valeur et la gestion des ressources dans la ZEE. Il s'agit en premier lieu de renforcer l'action déjà menée au Maroc par cette organisation concernant l'identification des stocks de poisson et existant à l'intérieur de la ZEE ainsi que celle menée en matière de formation professionnelle de techniciens de la pêche, en particulier par l'organisation de stages pour cadres supérieurs spécialisés.

Sur le plan de l'exploitation des ressources vivantes, nous avons assisté, sinon à une absence de gestion rationnelle, du moins à une mauvaise gestion des ressources de la mer. Je n'en veux comme exemple que la région du Comité des pêches de l'Atlantique Centre-Est dont mon pays est membre, qui se trouve être une zone où l'exploitation a été effectuée d'une façon anarchique. Et malgré l'intense productivité des eaux de cette partie de l'Atlantique de l'Ouest, des signes de Surexploitation apparaissent déjà pour certains stocks.

C'est pourquoi mon pays fonde son plan de gestion des ressources sur les deux principes fondamentaux suivants:

- 1) Renforcement des capacités scientifiques existantes.
- 2) Concertation sur le niveau régional, car, quels que soient les efforts consentis sur le plan national, la réussite d'une politique de gestion suppose, compte tenu des déplacements et des migrations du poisson, une coopération sur le plan régional.

Pour le Maroc, le COPACE constitue un des terrains pour débattre avec les pays frères africains et les pays amis des mesures et moyens de renforcer cette coopération.

Par ailleurs, ma délégation voudrait souligner ici que deux points importants n'ont pas été envisagés dans le programme présenté par la FAO: il s'agit du contrôle et de la surveillance des pêches dans la ZEE, et les études à entreprendre pour la détermination du choix de type de bateaux et de techniques de pêches à utiliser dans la ZEE. Pour le Maroc, le problème du contrôle et de la surveillance de la ZEE se pose avec beaucoup d'acuité et il est apparu clairement qu'il ne sert à rien de consentir des efforts pour le développement des pêches nationales de la ZEE, si celle-ci continue à être fréquentée et exploitée par des flottes étrangères dont le seul souci demeure la rentabilité de leurs navires.

Le Maroc a bien sûr passé des accords de pêche avec certains pays pour que ceux-ci puissent exercer leur activité dans un cadre légal, mais beaucoup d'autres flottes pêchent dans la ZEE au mépris des règlements nationaux et internationaux.

Le problème va donc s'aggraver avec l'institution de la ZEE des 200 milles marins. Il semble donc que la FAO pourrait dans la limite de sa compétence et bien entendu dans le respect des droits souverains des Etats, se pencher sur ce problème et essayer de suggérer des solutions comme, par exemple, l'organisation d'une surveillance conjointe de plusieurs pays intéressés par la ZEE ou par l'intervention de la FAO auprès des pays contrevenants, soit par toute autre mesure appropriée susceptible de mettre fin à cette situation préjudiciable aux intérêts des pays ayant institué une ZEE et qui annihile tous les efforts louables entrepris par la FAO pour permettre aux Etats en développement de tirer une part optimum des ressources se trouvant dans la ZEE.

Le deuxième point qui mériterait aussi, à mon avis, de figurer dans le programme de la FAO concerne les études qui devraient être menées pour la détermination des techniques de pêche et le choix de type de bateaux.

Il a été constaté, en effet, que la stagnation de la production halieutique peut provenir de l'inadaptation de la flottille de pêche aux différentes méthodes de pêche, cette flottille se contentant

donc d'exploiter les pêcheries traditionnelles. La FAO pourrait donc se pencher sur ce problème qui concerne les questions de taille, d'âge, de conception des navires, les techniques de pêche, les engins de pêche, et la localisation des zones de pêche dans la ZEE.

Tels sont les commentaires et les propositions que ma délégation avait l'intention de formuler sur le programme FAO, programme encore une fois que nous appuyons pleinement.

La délégation marocaine renforce par ailleurs son appui aux programmes ZEE présentés par la FAO en se portant co-auteur de la résolution sur le Programme d'assistance au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques, résolution dont le contenu répond à nos préoccupations et à nos aspirations en matière de développement des pêches nationales dans le cadre du nouveau régime des pêches institué par l'établissement de la ZEE.

C. RIGOPOULOS (Greece): First I wish to express my satisfaction to the Secretariat for the preparation of the very interesting and informative document referring to the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones, and to compliment Mr. Lucas on his comprehensive introduction. This document gives a concise report on the new situation created by the new regime of the ocean as a result of the establishment of the 200-mile economic zone.

The sea regions from which the world fish catch comes have, as a whole, been brought under the jurisdiction of the coastal states. A new situation now arises for fisheries which will affect both the quantity of the fish catch and its allocation and consumption among the different countries.

The fish catch by a considerable number of ships of various nations will, under the new regime, come into the hands of one single nation which has jurisdiction over the waters.

The issue which now arises is to take all necessary action towards the development and management of fisheries in Exclusive Zones, so that the coastal states, as well as the whole world, will benefit as much as possible.

FAO's decision to provide developing coastal states with technical experience and financial aid to enable them to take full advantage of fisheries within the zone of their jurisdiction will substantially contribute to the development and rational management of fishery resources in the Exclusive Economic Zones.

FAO's assistance in assessing the stocks in the zones under the jurisdiction of the coastal countries must be considered a first priority since the quantity and the quality of the fish catch will assist in the establishment of the management policy to be pursued by the coastal states and the determination of their surpluses for foreign fleets.

The objectives of the Director-General's Programme of Assistance are, as regards the new ocean regime, those imposed by the circumstances. We believe that the existence of rules under which coastal states may allow foreign fishing ships to operate in their Exclusive Economic Zones are necessary. The principle of equal treatment, as well as the recognition of the historical rights of foreign fleets, must be considered in this case.

Care should also be taken for foreign fleets which, because of the new regime, will have to face problems of fishing fields resulting in their part-time occupation or even in their non-occupation. The problem of those fleets will remain as long as the establishment of fisheries policies is not determined by the coastal states.

Our country believes that FAO should take a more active and systematic approach in advising governments on subjects resulting from the extension of their jurisdiction over the biological resources of the sea. FAO should also play a leading role in encouraging external funds for development programmes necessary to the coastal states to assist them in facing the new situation.

The role of the FAO regional services is of great importance in the assessment of fish stocks, the development of fishery control, the promotion of agreements for the exploitation of excess stocks and also for the prevention of sea pollution which will unfavourably affect the fish stocks.

In certain areas the establishment of small management units is also advisable, if the necessity arises.

It is necessary and urgent that the Coastal States determine their fishery policies for the zones which came under their jurisdiction in accordance with the new regime and, in particular, to define the objectives of their policies on the basis of which the procedures and methods for their achievement will be considered.

Greece is very much interested and intends to continue its assistance and to participate fully in every effort towards the development of fisheries in the developing coastal countries.

Furthermore, we wish to emphasize the need for FAO, in close cooperation with FAO member countries, to undertake a full study for the application of modern plans, technical programmes and rules for the fishing exploitation, preservation, utilization and development of the fishing resources with emphasis on ecology and to the problems of environment that have been created and are multiplied with the population increase and the human activity and directly or indirectly affect fishery and agriculture.

Finally, we propose the necessity for a closer observation of the whole matter and also frequent information to the member states of the progress on this subject.

CHAIRMAN: New Zealand and Uganda have handed in statements and these will be included in the official report.

S. TRINGIN (Papua New Guinea): Mr. Chairman, as stated in the Plenary session, Papua New Guinea is vitally concerned with the development and management of the fisheries resources in our 200-mile fisheries zone.

These renewable resources offer a unique opportunity for us and our Pacific neighbours to gain sizeable economic benefits from a resource not yet fully exploited.

Approximately 70% of the world tuna harvest is taken from the Pacific Ocean, 20% from the Atlantic Ocean and 10% from the Indian Ocean. The western Pacific has the largest tuna fisheries in the world and 45% of the world tuna harvest is taken from this area, twice as much as is taken from the eastern Pacific, and four times as much as is taken from the Atlantic.

While the full extent of the tuna stocks in the western Pacific has yet to be properly assessed, experts agree increased production from the eastern Pacific and Atlantic is unlikely. However, it is recognised that the western Pacific stocks are not being fully utilised and that, in fact, production can be increased substantially, perhaps even doubled to some 800, 000 tons or more a year.

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 has a value of \$100 million U. S. dollars; fully processed as canned tuna its value would come to some 250 million U. S. dollars, a figure of real significance to any nation, particularly a developing one such as ourselves.

World wide demand for tuna has doubled during the past ten years and the current accelerated demand indicates this trend will continue. However, the available stocks are, for the most part, being fully utilised, therefore, the increased world demand for tuna will cause a continuing upward movement in fish prices.

Distant water fishing nations and large tuna processing companies are looking to the undeveloped, rich fishing areas in the western Pacific as a new sources of tuna to meet the world's demand for tuna.

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.

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, therefore, we must work towards a realistic localisation 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 which will allow us to 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 principals to guide us on our way.

Our first and most basic principal 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 favored status to those who help us.

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 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.

Recognising that tunas are a highly migratory species that know no political boundaries and move from one nation's zone to another, Papua New Guinea recognises the need for nations sharing stocks of tuna or other species to cooperate on their conservation and management.

This view differs from that put forth by another nation which states that highly migratory species must be managed by an international organisation to which all nations with an interest in the resource can participate.

Papua New Guinea strongly feels that only those nations which share stocks have the right to make decisions about their management.

A distant-water fishing nation that does not share stocks with another nation or nations, should have no right to make decisions about the management of such stocks.

Distant-water fishing nations that do not share stocks with another nation or nations should have no right to make decisions about the management of such stocks, however, those distant-water fishing nations who presently harvest these stocks could be invited to participate in recommending measures for the conservation and optimum utilisation of such stocks.

It must be emphasised that it is the sovereign right of a coastal State to make the final determination as to who can fish in its zone and under what conditions.

Papua New Guinea and the South Pacific Forum members hold that it is the right of every nation to plan and develop their resources in a manner which will bring optimal benefits to them.

If a State or a group of coastal States can structure a fishery which can harvest the total allowable catch with their own vessels, vessels not authorised by the coastal State or States involved should have no rights to fish in that region.

Coastal States with established fisheries of their own should also have the right to restrict certain types of fishing in their zones in order to prevent excessive competition to their own fisheries by larger more effective vessels belonging to distant-water fishing nations.

Unless these basic principals are observed, meaningful development of a nation's fisheries resources becomes impossible, as that nation cannot say just who can and cannot fish its waters.

Having control over our fisheries zone is, therefore, a non-negotiable subject. Recognition of this basic fact should cause those nations and large tuna processing companies which want long-term access to fish in our zones to intensify their efforts to contribute real and meaningful developments within the area, and, thereby bring to developing coastal States the type of industrial development they can only achieve with the full cooperation of the distant-water fishing nations.

The 200-mile fisheries zone came about largely through the efforts of South American countries unilaterally declaring 200-mile zones in the eastern Pacific in order to derive more benefits from their offshore tuna fisheries which were being intensively fished by distant-water fishing nations with few local benefits.

The Law of the Sea Conference later confirmed the concept of 200-mile exclusive economic zones. This was done primarily to insure that developing nations would be able to gain real benefits from their fisheries resources and not be dictated to by the larger more developed fishing nations as well as to insure the proper conservation and management of the fisheries stocks.

Remove the basic concept of sovereign rights of 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.

How then can effective cooperation and management of our vast tuna stocks be achieved?

Papua New Guinea, in cooperation with ten other independent nations, all members of the South Pacific Forum, has formed a fisheries organisation known as the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency whose primary objectives will be to assist member States to co-ordinate and harmonise policy of the Law of the Sea so as to ensure the maximum benefits for the people and the region as a whole.

Towards this end the Agency will also collect, analyse, evaluate and disseminate to members statistical and biological information relating to the fisheries resources in the region, particularly as they pertain to tuna.

On request, the Agency will assist with matters pertaining to negotiations of fisheries agreements and surveillance and enforcement activities. The Agency will also collect and disseminate information on prices, shipping, processing and marketing of fish and fisheries products.

The Agency will not carry on research programmes, it will confine its activities to that of data gathering and advisory services to members who shall, by acting through consensus agree on what sort of action they will follow in the management of the stocks shared between them.

Recognising that a tremendous amount of research needs to be done throughout the Pacific before the real state of the fisheries can be known, and being aware that no single nation could begin to carry out such a programme on its own, Papua New Guinea and the members of the South Pacific Forum support the concept of creating a second larger body within the meaning of Article 64 of the ICNT of the Law of the Sea comprised of coastal States who share the stocks and the distant-water fishing nations who may not share their jurisdiction, but fish them.

While the precise functions of this second body have yet to be agreed upon, Papua New Guinea sees it primarily as an organisation which will conduct and coordinate research throughout the region and recommend measures for the conservation and optimum utilisation to the coastal States who could exercise their sovereign rights in effecting management control. Such an organisation would however have no regulatory powers and could only make recommendations of such measures to the coastal States.

The management problems which have manifested themselves in the eastern tropical Pacific must be avoided in establishing this new regime in the western Pacific.

As so little is known about the state of the stocks at this stage the organisation's initial work should focus on a widespread programme of research to determine if it will be necessary to place certain populations of highly migratory species under regulation.

The conduct of research is a technical matter which should not generate any particularly difficult problems.

Should such research reveal certain stocks are in need of regulation, it is not likely that the quotas recommended for a particular species within the region will be opposed.

Problems will arise on how the stocks will be allocated between the nations which share them and the terms under which distant-water fishery nations that do not share stock jurisdiction will be allowed access.

While resolving these issues will prove difficult, a system which allows the coastal nations to share the economic wealth of the fisheries without necessarily developing their own fishing capabilities will be essential in view of the limited capabilities of many small Pacific nations.

To accomplish this basic objective it will first be necessary to have the wide-base body scientifically determine just who shares what stocks of fish. This is particularly important as recent research indicates there are at least five sub-populations of skipjack occurring across the Pacific, each of which will probably have to be managed as a separate fishery.

The research organisation will then have to determine just how much fishing should be done each year to best serve regional objectives.

Finally, the real problem must be resolved on how the total catch quota for each stock placed under regulation should be allocated between the coastal nations in whose waters the particular stocks occur.

Papua New Guinea feels the only satisfactory method of resolving the allocation of the quota is by negotiation between the political leaders of the nations who share the stocks.

Allocation could for example be made on the basis of any agreed-on set of weighted criteria such as historic catches, population size, length of coastline, size of fisheries zones, value of the resource, economic trade offer, etc. .

When the leaders have allocated the annual quota, then each State would be able to manage their allocation as they deem in their best interest.

Small States with no fishing or processing capabilities could sell rights to fish their zone to the highest bidder, on their own or in cooperation with their neighbour or neighbours.

Larger States who have developed their own fishing and processing capabilities could restrict entry to vessels of their own and their joint venture partners.

Such a system will ensure that proper attention is given to the conservation of the stocks while still ensuring that the coastal nations in whose waters the stocks occur are able to derive some real benefit from their resource and maintain control over their economic zones.

Early next year officials of the South Pacific Forum will meet to discuss the principles under which they wish to see such an organisation within the meaning of Article 64 of the ICNT formed.

When consensus on these principles has been agreed, the South Pacific Forum will consider issuing an invitation, probably toward the latter part of 1980, to interested States to meet to discuss the formation of such an organisation.

Papua New Guinea is of the opinion that it will be some ten years before regulation of the tuna stocks in the western Pacific is required, if at all.

What will more likely ensure conservation of the tuna stocks is the economics of the fishery. The rising cost of fuel and its growing scarcity will limit the activities of all but the most successful long-range vessels, thus reducing effort.

However, this will probably be offset to some degree by the establishment of joint venture fleets in those coastal States with tuna stocks, thus achieving in part some benefits for the small developing countries in the region.

There is of course a need for control of fisheries now, in order to ensure licence fees are paid and fishing regulations observed.

The present system whereby the distant-water fishing nations negotiate unilaterally with those countries with large known resources does have shortcomings. Access to good fishing grounds is restricted because the long-range fishing vessels cannot afford to purchase fishing licences or pay royalty payments to all States, so they deal only with those nearest them and with known resources.

This results in many countries receiving no cash benefits and the long-range vessels being forced to operate less effectively and profitably by being restricted as to where they can go.

A possible solution to this problem is that access arrangements and fees could 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 arrangements could 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 fish taken.

While the members of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency have not agreed to such an arrangement with the distant-water fishing nations, one of the prime reasons for establishing the Agency was to "coordinate and harmonise their policies on Law of the Sea so as to ensure the maximum benefits for their people and the region as a whole and specifically to harmonise fisheries policy in the region and to adopt a coordinated approach in their negotiations with distant-water fishing nations".

Papua New Guinea and other members of the Fisheries Agency are now 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.

The need for such a system is not to protect the resource from overfishing as this could hardly occur without massive fleets which are not yet in existence and could be detected in any case.

The need is to ensure that foreign vessels recognise that failure to take licences, provide data and fees for fish taken can result in heavy fines, the loss of their catch, or even their vessel if they are apprehended fishing illegally.

The costs and problems of detecting and apprehending vessels in such a large area are indeed formidable, however, the threat of detection is very real because of the numbers of national ships and aircraft operating in the region.

Further, confirmed detection of illegal fishing by any vessel could well lead to "black-balling" of that vessel, or its owner even if it is not actually apprehended, a concept which received support at the recent FAO Committee of Fisheries meeting. Such "black-balling" would result in a detected violator not being able to fish legally anywhere in the region.

With the assistance of the United States, Papua New Guinea is examining the feasibility of establishing a satellite surveillance system in the south western Pacific.

The hardware for such a system is now available and can tell us where a vessel is located, its name, and even its daily catch provided such vessels carry transponders and key in their daily catches.

Carrying the transponders can be a condition of licencing and keying in the catch should not matter to the vessel if the same fee is paid wherever it fishes.

In the next few years significant changes will occur in the harvesting, processing, marketing and management of the Pacific tuna stocks.

The growing demand for tuna during the next ten years will give the western Pacific nations a much stronger negotiating position with the large fishing nations than they ever enjoyed before.

The control of coastal States over all fisheries stocks, including tunas, will bring drastic changes to the world tuna industry which will surely benefit those developing nations which cooperate on the conservation, management, utilisation and marketing of the stocks shared between them.^{1/}

R. PEREZ (Cuba): Saludamos al Departamento de Pesca de la FAO por el magnifico documento elaborado y puesto a nuestra disposición. Me refiero al C 79/21.

En la introducción al documento se situa como uno de los dos objetivos primordiales que persigue la FAO con este programa, y cito, "que los países ribereños en desarrollo se aseguren una participación mas equitativa en la riqueza que se extraiga del mar".

Consideramos que este enunciado contiene una impostergable necesidad.

Nuestro país puede decir con modestia y satisfacción que ha hecho el esfuerzo necesario encaminado a asegurarse una participación más activa en la riqueza del mar, aunque estamos lejos aun de alcanzar nuestro objetivos.

Nuestro país, a pesar de dificultades que debe enfrentar, trabaja hacia ese fin; pero si de algo valiera a otros países como nosotros también en vías de desarrollo, debemos expresar que ello entraña no sólo grandes sacrificios económicos, sino también no pocas decisiones de tipo político que en la inmensa mayoría de las ocasiones chocan con los intereses ya creados en el ámbito internacional. Pero esto es sólo una parte del problema, bien difícil por cierto.

La otra parte del problema es precisamente cómo asegurar que los países ribereños, en su inmensa mayoría pobres, puedan disponer de los recursos financieros, las tecnologías, etc. , necesarios para algún día hacer realidad este propósito tan justo y necesario en el que nos empeñamos.

Con esta premisa, el esfuerzo individual y colectivo y la cooperación mutua entre los países sí se podría lograr que este programa incidiera en el establecimiento de un nuevo orden económico internacional.

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

Recientemente en COFI enfatizamos sobre la necesidad de que todos los países en desarrollo trabajemos por la transformación de las relaciones internacionales, marcadas hoy por su carácter desigual e injusto, con el fin de crear condiciones que permitan avanzar hacia el nuevo orden económico internacional basadas en relaciones justas y equitativas.

Al desglosar las capturas totales mundiales de especies marinas reportadas por la FAO en 1975 encontramos que el 19,3 por ciento del total de países y territorios que reportan actividades pesqueras tienen el 65,8 por ciento de dicha captura y corresponde ésta a 33 países desarrollados; en contraposición, los países no alineados y otros en desarrollo constituyen el 81 por ciento de los países pesqueros y sólo capturaron el 34,2 por ciento. En 1977 notamos que 84 países no alineados incrementaron sus capturas en un 7 por ciento en los últimos cinco años.

Es cierto también que nuestros países pescan más en sus zonas próximas a la costa. Por todo ello, Cuba concede gran importancia a que se haga uso adecuado de las jurisdicciones ampliadas, a que se apliquen tratos preferenciales recíprocos entre nuestros países sobre la base de que exista la colaboración y asistencia técnica idónea y que parte de esta acción cooperativa se reinvierta en el financiamiento y ayuda a los países menos desarrollados.

Insistimos en la estrecha colaboración, incluyendo las empresas conjuntas, que debe existir entre los países en desarrollo para fomentar la pesca. De ahí la trascendencia y oportunidad de la iniciativa de la FAO en el sentido de proponer y estar dispuesta a comenzar de inmediato la ejecución del programa para el desarrollo y la ordenación de las pesquerías en las zonas económicas exclusivas con sus actividades inmediatas y sus objetivos a mediano y largo plazo, el aumento de la eficacia de los órganos regionales y la necesidad de financiación que plantea.

No deben olvidar los países desarrollados su obligación moral e histórica de participar en la financiación del programa acorde con los requerimientos del mismo. Cuba les brinda su respaldo pleno en el marco de un estricto respeto por la soberanía de nuestros pueblos sobre sus recursos naturales, tomando en especial consideración los intereses de los países en desarrollo.

El énfasis que se ponga en la aplicación y éxito del programa no deberá significar, en manera alguna, que se desatiendan los intereses pesqueros de los países en desarrollo que no coincidan con el incremento de sus pesquerías en sus zonas económicas; ni tampoco afectar las actividades de la FAO relativas a la acuicultura ya que ésta tiene objetivamente la posibilidad de incrementar de un modo extraordinario la producción pesquera en un breve período de tiempo y, en consecuencia, mejorar también la alimentación de nuestros pueblos y proporcionar nuevas fuentes de trabajo.

Cuba, aunque aparece entre los países que presentaron el proyecto de resolución y está de acuerdo en general con el mismo, se reserva el derecho de proponerle algunas pequeñas modificaciones a la resolución cuando ésta se someta a debate, por cuanto al suscribir nosotros como copatrocinadores la misma estaba elaborada en algunos elementos diferentes a la forma en que ahora se nos presenta.

CHAIRMAN: Argentina has handed in a written statement for inclusion in the record.

P. NISKANEN (Finland): I shall be very brief. The new regime of the sea, particularly the extension of national jurisdiction offers the coastal states an opportunity to take advantage of the living resources off their coasts. It also provides better possibilities for effective management measures of the fish stocks. However, to achieve both of these objectives substantial help is needed for developing countries almost in all sectors of fisheries. This was unanimously recognized a few weeks ago in the last session of the Committee on Fisheries.

It was also pointed out that FAO should assume a leading role in assisting developing coastal states in this regard. The Finnish delegation fully supports the programme presented to COFI and to this Conference in which FAO would assist these states as well within the framework of regular budget as in seeking for additional funds from external sources. My delegation is of the opinion that FAO should actively and systematically advise governments on all issues arising from the new situation so that the coastal states are able to prepare and implement such fisheries policies that take into account the extended jurisdiction.

Also the strengthening of regional fishery bodies is most important particularly in areas where several states shares the same fish stocks. Furthermore, regional bodies are in key position to help the coastal states to assess the state of fish stocks, to determine the total allowable catch, the fishing capacity of a coastal state etc. We understand, Mr. Chairman, that the development of fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones takes time and therefore we welcome the idea of the basic long-term studies which will provide the necessary information for future action. Time is also needed for planning investment projects in developing countries and to find necessary resources of funds.

On the other hand these countries should be able to benefit from the new regime as soon as possible but in many cases there are a lot of technical difficulties. However, these difficulties could be overcome, at least partly, by joint ventures and other bilateral agreements. In this respect we consider it important that FAO should encourage and help in planning ventures between developing and developed countries.

In the Programme of Work and Budget we notice with satisfaction that the extension of fisheries jurisdiction has been duly taken into account in all sectors of fisheries. We are glad to see that there is substantial increase of extra-budgetary funds particularly. fisheries exploitation and utilization-it is item 2. 2. 2. In this context I would like to stress the importance of item 2. 2. 1-Fisheries Information-which will form a firm basis and is necessary in planning the exploitation and management of fish stocks as well as other activities in the field of fisheries.

Mr. Chairman, Finland fully supports the Programme of Work and Budget presented to us and we recognize that it will provide to FAO the framework to assume the leading role in developing fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, Finland wants to support the Draft Resolution C 79/LIM/41 presented by both Portugal and other countries.

CHAIRMAN: We would like to announce that Sierra Leone has handed in a written statement to be included in the official document of this Commission.

S. ANGOY (Guyana): The Delegation of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana congratulates you on your appointment as Chairman. My delegation wishes to express its appreciation of the skill and efficiency with which you are conducting the difficult business of this Commission. My delegation supports the resolution on "Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones"- Document C 79/LIM/41.

There is no doubt that developing and managing fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones would provide a much needed addition to the protein requirements of a large number of people in developing countries and coastal states, who are presently denied a reasonable supply of food, due to lack of funds for the development and management of fisheries.

My delegation recognizes and pays tribute to the extraordinary leadership FAO continues to provide in this field and the assistance FAO offers to the developing countries in the management of comprehensive programmes of exploitation of the fisheries resources in their area. FAO has an efficient fisheries unit whose expertise is invaluable to developing countries.

My delegation is pleased to note that paragraph 4 of the Draft Report of Commission I, Part I, Item 6. 1, Document C 79/I/Rep/1 on the "State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems" deals with this subject-and I quote: "The growth of world fish production had slowed down because of indiscriminate fishing in the past. The Conference therefore expressed the hope the establishment of exclusive economic zones would lay the basis for substantial expansion in the future".

Mr. Chairman, my delegation also wishes to take this opportunity to place on record that Guyana has been receiving very welcome bilateral assistance from developed countries, in the fields of research, inventory of fish stocks, port development, processing installations and training. In particular we are enjoying considerable help from Japan and Canada, and also from EEC, the United Kingdom, Cuba, the USSR, and the Federal Republic of Germany, Such bilateral assistance reinforces and extends the global aims so well stated in Document C 79/21.

S. A. PARVEZ (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation would like to be associated with the appreciation expressed to Mr. Lucas. We are grateful for the very clear and able manner in which he introduced the subject to the Commission. We have read the document C 79/21 with great interest and would like to compliment FAO on the presentation of a useful document which, besides outlining the specific issues which have arisen as a result of the new legal regime of the ocean, also provides some useful information.

We would have been happier to see more information on developing countries but, that is one of the issues confronting this meeting. The establishment of exclusive economic zones offers a tremendous challenge to FAO. The additional responsibilities cannot, we feel, be discharged by FAO's merely continuing activities long undertaken through its Regular and Field Programmes. We would therefore agree with and suggest a medium-term action plan and basic studies, with the proviso that they should be made as practical and meaningful as possible.

We would also like to stress the continuing need for close coordination among FAO fishery bodies, the UNDP, the World Bank, regional development banks, IFAD and other financing institutions, but before we go to specifics we would like to commend the initiative and foresight shown by the Director-General in assigning a high priority to the development and management of fisheries in economic zones. He very rightly pointed out that the development of fisheries under the new regime was part of the effort to build a new international economic order. To our mind, the first and basic prerequisite is the collection of data on all aspects of fisheries sectors, from the magnitude and characteristics of the resources to fish catering, processing and marketing.

It is a vital necessity to quantify results in terms which are as exact as possible. Realizing this, we in Pakistan have already acquired two 29 metres-long 200 gross tons steel-hulled fishery research vessels for the exploration of our fisheries resources in the EEZ. We hope to acquire much needed data on the resources, identification of stocks, magnitude of exploitation, resource conservation and management, but there is still a wide gulf between what we have and what is actually required. We feel that many other developing countries are in the same plight and need help. Of course this would mean additional resources. The document estimates that by the year 2000 investments required to support increased production and utilization will exceed US\$30 000 million.

Viewed against this background, we strongly support the US\$35 million programme to meet the special needs of developing countries in coping with the problems and opportunities arising out of the establishment of the EEZs. We are grateful to the Government of Norway for its encouraging response and we look hopefully to the Canadian Government to fulfill its promise, made during the Fifth Session of the World Food Council. We hope that other donors will join in.

Incidentally, while we are on the subject, may we ask what is the latest state of contributions to this programme? We would also like to mention here the importance of training. In fact, training could very well be placed before data collection. I do not want to go over at length the obvious importance of the subject but would simply stress the intensive need for training at all levels. Coming to what FAO can do to assist in this regard, we support FAO's regional bodies as we recognize the important role these bodies can and should play in providing advice on the main orientations and priorities of the programme. In addition, we would like to stress the possibility of a transfer of technology, through cooperative ventures with countries in possession of more advanced skills and techniques. This should be on two levels: first, in terms of human capabilities and, secondly, in terms of physical resources. We would be very greatly interested to hear the reactions of our colleagues from the developed countries to this proposal.

We would also be inclined to support the idea of an FAO technical conference on management and development of fisheries in 1982.

Before concluding our views on this, may we sound a note of caution. The new legal regime of the oceans should not and must not remain an exercise on paper only. Merely extending limits to 200 miles is not enough. Those limits should be made a reality and should be recognized by everyone, irrespective of whether or not a country has directly to police its waters. This, we recognize, would require a certain amount of voluntary self-restraint, but we hope it will be forthcoming.

We would also take this opportunity of supporting the draft resolution presented by Portugal and other countries (C 79/LIM/41).

While I have just given our views on the EEZs, I should like to take this opportunity of focusing on an area of activity which, besides being important to a large number of countries, could have got lost in the euphoria over the new legal regime of the oceans. I refer here to inland fisheries. We must continue to accord first priority to the development of aquaculture in developing countries primarily, on a small scale, so as to improve the socio-economic conditions of producers at the village level. What are the possible agents of development that could be utilized in bringing about the desired change? It could be done by applying an already-known technique to increase production, or the establishment of private projects in which aquaculture is included in rural development projects.

We would like to mention the need for an integrated approach by the Organization to supplies of essential inputs, by improving training and extension and the dissemination of approved technology in simple language. Commercial ventures must be accorded the next priority. There are obvious constraints in undertaking commercial ventures. Acquiring the necessary capital is in itself a problem. Both national and international financial institutions are reluctant to invest in this industry. The frequent failure of new enterprises, due to inexperience, inadequate feasibility studies or lack of a supporting infrastructure, further complicates the situation. However, we feel that there are no sound reason why aquaculture should involve risks greater than other forms of farming.

Coming to the next question the gap between knowledge and practice can be bridged by the exchange of research findings and adaptive development. Besides global and regional meetings, the coordination of development work could also prove helpful.

Another useful tool could be the provision of training in aquaculture at all levels, primarily technical but also in planning and management skills.

Thirdly, on statistics, FAO's figures of yield of aquaculture resources are an approximation, but FAO is hardly to blame. Most of the data is drawn through national sources but, unfortunately, in most developing countries basic data is sadly lacking; consequently there is a dire need for the strengthening of national statistics.

Lastly, on the ways and means in which FAO could help and stimulate the growth of aquaculture, the most significant: constraint to expansion or intensification of aquaculture in our region is the production and distribution of seed. Most countries experience difficulty in maintaining even the present levels of seed production and still depend to a large extent on collection of wild seed, even where artificial propagation has been developed. FAO could assist member countries in experiments in fish breeding and larva rearing.

I do apologize for having spoken at such length, especially at this stage when we have a race against time, but we did deem it essential to make those points in this Commission.

M. BHIM (Libya) (interpretation from Arabic): The Libyan delegation has considered document C 79/21, concerning the development and management of fisheries in EEZs and at the outset we would like to express our thanks for the excellent preparation of the document and to thank Mr. Lucas for his excellent introduction of the item. The analysis and recommendations in the document are aimed at increasing the production of fish in developing countries. We welcome this attitude as one of the ways and means of combatting hunger, and the principle that nutrition is part of the struggle to liberate human beings wherever they may be. We therefore support the efforts of the Organization. in this field.

Libya, which has a very long coastline of almost 2000 km on the Mediterranean, is convinced that marine resources are an excellent source of nutrition and pays due attention to the fisheries sector within its food security strategy. It has therefore introduced modern techniques to develop its fisheries and the exploitation of its vast coastlines. In order to accomplish this we have set up a Marine Research Institute to undertake studies on the marine environment and to determine fish stocks and species with areas for fishing, as well as fishing methods, and to define ways and means of conserving marine resources. We have equipped this centre with all the necessary laboratories, vessels, etc.

Managing fishery resources has led us to set up an association, a cooperative, of fishermen. The General Department of Marine Resources has set up a plant for canning fish. We also have close cooperation between ourselves and friendly countries in the field of fish. We have eight joint ventures:-with Tunisia, Spain, Greece, Malta, the Republic of Yemen, Mauritania, Togo and Benin-in addition to two other national ventures, in order to fish and market fish products.

We have also tried to develop aquaculture in some of our inland fisheries. We have set up the necessary refrigeration plants and established a number of dockyards in order to equip and maintain fishing vessels.

Fish production has increased from 1972 to 1978 and reached 400 tons annually.

In conclusion, we wish to express our appreciation for FAO's efforts in developing and managing fishery resources and we shall cooperate with FAO in this respect.

A. NORMAN (Angola): Nous souscrivons au projet de résolution présentée par le Portugal, si bien que ladélégation de l'Angola sera très brève.

La République populaire d'Angola tient à souligner l'importance du programme visant au développement et à la gestion des pêches dans la zone économique exclusive. Je félicite, au nom de ma délégation, Le Directeur général de la FAO pour son initiative. Je profite aussi de cette occasion pour remercier la FAO de l'envoi de techniciens chargés d'évaluer la situation de notre pêche continentale. Je dois vous assurer que l'Angola, pays en développement, accueille avec grande satisfaction la proposition du Directeur général de la FAO visant à aider la mise en valeur et la gestion des pêches dans la ZEE des Etats en développement où, de façon générale, sans l'aide internationale dans le domaine des pêches, les pays en développement, y compris l'Angola, ne puissent à court terme disposer des moyens matériels suffisants pour bien profiter des possibilités qu'offre le nouveau régime des océans.

Le cas concret de l'Angola: vous savez, j'en suis persuadé, qu'outre notre qualité d'être un pays en développement, nous venons d'accéder à l'indépendance il y a à peine quatre ans et dans des conditions très difficiles qui ont même détruit notre économie. Nous nous sommes engagés dans la reconstruction nationale, et nous avons réellement besoin d'aide pour développer notre pêche. Nous ne pouvons donc que louer les initiatives telles que celle qui vient d'être prise par le Directeur général de la FAO et prions les organismes internationaux de soutenir matériellement les efforts que celui-ci poursuivra pour mettre en application son programme.

B. F. DADA (Nigeria): I would like on behalf of our delegation to congratulate the Director-General on the preparation of this excellent document C 79/21. While noting that the Committee on Fisheries was instrumental to the initiation of the programme of assistance to developing coastal States in the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones, the formulation of the programme had, of course, to rest with the Fisheries Department and the Secretariat. I would also like to thank Mr. Lucas, Assistant Director-General of Fisheries, for his concise presentation of the paper.

The document itself presents a clear analysis of the problems arising from the changing Law of the Sea and the fisheries of developing countries. It also confirms the unique role which FAO is expected to play in assisting the developing coastal States in their efforts to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities created by the new legal regime of the ocean.

The Leader of the Nigerian Delegation, the Honourable Minister of State for Agriculture, in his statement to the Plenary, had already expressed support for the FAO Programme of Assistance for the development and management of fisheries in the new Exclusive Economic Zones. Nigeria, in 1978, promulgated the Exclusive Economic Zone Decree and thereby joined other countries which have extended their national jurisdiction to cover the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. Although our continental shelf is not as broad as those of some other countries, yet with a coastline of approximately 800 km. , Nigeria can now exercise control over a larger area of sea and marine fishery resources than hitherto.

Permit me to mention that Nigeria, with a population of about 80 million people, has by far the largest market for fish in West Africa. Indeed, the estimated current fish demand is of the order of one million metric tons per annum while the total supply falls short of this figure. We have had to import fish to the tune of about 300 000 metric tonnes per annum to meet part of the local consumption. The new regime no doubt offers considerable opportunities for us to develop our inshore as well as offshore fisheries resources to meet a substantial part of our ever-increasing demand for fish. We do not pretend to have all the technical expertise and funds required to explore and exploit the resources in the extended fisheries zones and this is why we wholeheartedly welcome the Director-General's Programme of Assistance in this regard.

However, for the Programme of Assistance to be meaningful and produce a desired impact, it must be action-oriented. The five major types of activity proposed in paragraph 23 of the document are in the right direction and enjoy our support.

Firstly, there is a clear need for inter-disciplinary missions which will help to prepare policies and plans for an effective exploitation and utilisation of the resources. Nigeria will be pleased to receive such a mission in due course.

Secondly, a factual and objective assessment of the resources to determine the optimal sustainable yield is vital to the successful development and management of fisheries in the new Zones. Nigeria would welcome assistance in this area in view of the fears being expressed about the extent of fish stocks available in Nigeria territorial water and the Exclusive Economic Zones.

Thirdly, training of both professional and technical staff from developing coastal states should be given immediate priority under the programme.

Fourthly, it has been noted that the funds under the regular programme are too limited to accommodate the programme of assistance of magnitude envisaged. A sum of US\$35-40 million is the estimated additional funding required over the next three to four years, according to the document under discussion. We fully endorse the Director-General's appeal for additional funding from multilateral and bilateral agencies to translate the proposals into reality.

Fifthly, our delegation fully appreciates the role of the regional bodies in the new fisheries development and management programme. We therefore support the proposal to channel some of the assistance through such bodies.

Finally, we would like to stress the importance of fisheries legislation and enforcement in the new EEZ. Not only must developing countries be assisted, where necessary, to draw up appropriate legislation to conserve the fish stocks, they should also be assisted in their programme of surveillance and the enforcement of management measures introduced. Many developing countries, including Nigeria, have in the past observed with dismay the rate at which illegal fishing is being carried out within the waters under their national jurisdiction. If the new efforts are to yield the desired results then the developing coastal states should be assisted to contain the wave of foreign fishing vessels which are illegally exploiting the resources in the new EEZ. In the opinion of our delegation the new ocean regime should encourage genuine joint fishing ventures between the developed and developing countries to the mutual benefit of both.

In conclusion I would like to reiterate the call by the Head of our Delegation that this Conference should adopt definite and strong resolutions to back up the Director-General's Programme of Assistance for Fisheries Development in the Exclusive Economic Zones. We, therefore, warmly support the draft resolution contained in C 79/LIM/41 to which we offer co-sponsorship.

H. MOKHTARI (Algerie): Je voudrais tout d'abord féliciter Monsieur le Directeur general adjoint du Departement des peches pour l'exposé liminaire qu'il nous a fait la veille en ce qui concerne la cooperation possible dans ce domaine; nous avons particulièrement apprécié le caractère pratique des actions qui sont proposées et nous tenons à assurer le Directeur general de l'appui de notre delegation pour les idées qu'il a exprimées.

Monsieur le President, la tradition de la liberté des mers reposait sur le fait que leurs ressources étaient illimitées par rapport à la technologie dont on disposait. Cette situation a changé radicalement au cours des dernières années, la rarefaction de certaines espèces importantes et la stagnation des apports ont montré que les ressources biologiques marines bien que considérables ne sont pas inépuisables.

La pression démographique entraînant un déficit alimentaire important rend plus tragique la stagnation de ces apports liée aux conséquences de l'exploitation anarchique des ressources marines. De nombreux Etats, conscients de cet état de fait, ont exercé des pressions pour étendre leur juridiction en matière de pêche. Mais l'extension de ces zones à elle seule ne suffit pas, il faudrait savoir développer leurs pêches et les gérer d'une manière rationnelle et selon les objectifs nationaux.

Le développement des pêches doit avant tout servir à combler le déficit alimentaire important. Dans plusieurs pays les techniques actuellement exploitées le sont dans un but plus commercial et mercantile que nutritionnel.

Comme nous le savons, 20% des protéines animales consommées par l'homme le sont sous forme de poisson. Ceci ne reflète pas la dépendance plus grande des pays en voie de développement vis-à-vis de cette ressource.

Si nous prenons le cas de l'Algerie, dont la production annuelle moyenne est de 40 000 tonnes représentant moins de 2 kg par an et par habitant, ceci est loin d'être satisfaisant vu qu'on estime à 200 000 tonnes la demande en poisson pour 1985.

Ce développement doit se faire aussi par le biais d'une meilleure concertation et d'une collaboration régionale et sous-régionale entre pays en développement qui doivent coordonner leurs efforts pour lutter contre la malnutrition. En plus de la solution du problème de malnutrition, le développement des pêches doit permettre une amélioration socio-économique des populations tributaires de la pêche.

La pêche en Méditerranée, par exemple, n'a jamais perdu son caractère artisanal de sorte qu'elle continue à occuper une main-d'œuvre considérable tant sur mer qu'à terre, ce qui confirme l'ampleur de cette activité dans le bassin méditerranéen. Donc, pour le bassin méditerranéen et particulièrement pour les pays en développement de cette région, l'essor des pêches doit se porter sur la pêche industrielle pour une augmentation de la production et sur la pêche artisanale pour une amélioration du niveau de vie des populations, entraînant ainsi leur sédentarisation dans les zones rurales côtières.

Le développement des pêches doit être l'un des moyens de lutte pour un meilleur équilibre entre pays pauvres et pays riches en même temps que pour l'établissement d'un nouvel ordre économique mondial. Pour pouvoir atteindre ces différents objectifs, le développement des pêches doit être orienté selon les objectifs de développement national. Ce développement national doit se porter sur les infrastructures à terre et en mer, ainsi que sur les équipements et l'armement, cela afin de pallier la grande dépendance des pays en développement vis-à-vis des pays développés.

Le développement des pêches sans une gestion rationnelle des ressources les entraînerait à décliner. La majorité des États en est consciente. Car, nous le savons, il s'agit de faits et non de théories. Comme l'a souligné le Directeur général de la FAO lors de son discours à l'ouverture de la treizième session du Comité des pêches, je cite: "Bien gérées, les nouvelles zones de pêches exclusives constituent un tremplin naturel pour le développement économique. Ces zones de pêche exclusives doivent être gérées par les pays qui les ont établies. C'est seulement ainsi qu'elles pourront devenir la grande ressource nationale qu'elles sont en puissance".

L'extension de la juridiction nationale donne donc aux pays en développement l'occasion de tirer pleinement parti des ressources se trouvant au large de leurs côtes. Cependant, peu de pays en développement, peut-être même aucun, sont actuellement à même d'établir les types de programmes exigés par ce que sera le nouveau régime en raison de la méconnaissance de leurs ressources halieutiques. Cette méconnaissance ne leur permet pas de déterminer la limite des captures, de contrôler les stocks et de promouvoir un développement des pêches sans appréhension.

Ceci démontre l'urgence pour chaque pays de connaître l'importance et l'identification des ressources relevant de leur juridiction.

La FAO et les Organismes internationaux doivent mettre tous les moyens en œuvre pour déterminer les niveaux biologiquement exploitables des mers et des océans.

En plus de la méconnaissance des ressources, rares sont les pays en développement possédant les moyens nécessaires pour profiter pleinement des possibilités qu'offre l'extension de leur juridiction. Ce manque de moyens amènera ces pays à utiliser une assistance technique dans tous les domaines. Dans ce cadre, la FAO détient une position privilégiée pour aider les États côtiers dans leurs efforts en vue de faire face à tous problèmes, cela compte tenu de son expérience et de l'action particulière et collective qu'elle entreprend en vue "d'améliorer le rendement de la production et l'efficacité de répartition de tous les produits alimentaires".

La FAO, en préparant un programme destiné à fournir toute l'assistance utile à ces pays, leur permettra d'atteindre leurs objectifs prioritaires d'augmentation de la production halieutique et l'amélioration de la situation socio-économique de leur population.

R. C. SOOD (India): The Declaration of Exclusive Economic Zones by several states has been the most significant development in world fisheries in recent years. The new resource frontiers have placed the bulk of marine fishery resources, which were formerly harvested by a few distant fishing nations on the principle of common heritage, under national control. While this presents a great opportunity to the developing countries for fuller exploitation of coastal resources to meet their requirements for food, employment and foreign exchange, the new regime also puts an enormous responsibility on the coastal states for rational and scientific management of the extended zones. The task warrants, besides large investments, the development of technology for assessment, harvesting and conservation of resources, post-harvest processing and the marketing of products.

FAO's Programme for providing assistance to coastal states in the management of the extended zones is indeed very timely and I am sure it will go a long way to helping the coastal states in the rational management of those zones.

India has already declared a 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone extending the country's fishery jurisdiction to 2.2 million square kilometers. The country is making serious efforts to exploit this extended fish zone through various measures, which include conducting exploratory and experimental fishing to assess and map the fishery areas, imparting training in the operation of fishing vessels, encouraging the introduction of new vessels through purchase, indigenous construction, collaboration arrangements and by charter arrangements. New and unconventional varieties of fish are being popularised and suitable facilities are being provided for marketing the catch. Financial assistance is being provided on soft lending terms.

However, looking to the immense responsibility involved, we need the assistance of FAO in different fields, such as assistance in conducting exploratory surveys by the supply of vessels, equipment and the provision of training facilities and consultancy services; the development of proper technology for the processing and marketing of unconventional and unattractive varieties of fish which have little or no market demand; evolving cheaper and more efficient fishing vessels and fishing techniques or methods for deep-sea fishing; and devising a simpler, cheaper and quicker methodology for assessing the resources.

The effective exploitation of the extended Economic Zone is of crucial importance for the welfare of the countries concerned. The whole programme of EEZ will simply remain a paper exercise if the developing countries are not assisted to survey, manage and exploit their fishery resources within their 200-mile economic zones. The magnitude of the problem can well be imagined by the fact that even though up to now 93 countries have extended their national jurisdiction, the extended area is almost two-thirds of the entire land surface of the world.

FAO has made preliminary assessments that by the year 2000 at least \$30 billion will be required to support increased production and utilization. Therefore ways and means have to be found to mobilize this level of investment in suitable phases.

We would like to compliment the Director-General for the timely initiative taken by him in this direction. His proposal to have a programme of about \$35 to \$40 million to assist the developing countries during the next three years is very timely, opportune and critical. This is a modest beginning, bearing in mind the magnitude of the problem, but it is expected that this will have a catalytic role and will stimulate much larger investment both multilaterally and bilaterally for fisheries development. It is very encouraging to note that FAO is having discussions with multilateral and bilateral donors. Norway has already provided help and I would like to compliment them on this account. The UNDP has already promised support, as brought out by Mr. Lucas. We sincerely hope that adequate funds for supporting this very important programme will be forth coming.

The Indian delegation wholeheartedly endorses the Director-General's proposals for a Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones, which should be of immense help to the developing countries concerned in effective exploitation of this huge resource. The regional approach with technical groups at the local level, explained by Mr. Lucas in his opening remarks, is very much a step in the right direction, and is fully commended by us.

The Indian delegation would like to extend its full support to the proposed resolution on the Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones.

H. SY MOUSSA (Mauritanie): Les richesses halieutiques des cotes mauritaniennes ont fait l'objet depuis quelques années d'une exploitation intense par des flottes étrangères à la recherche de nouvelles zones de pêches. Notre pays, dans le souci de préserver cette richesse a décidé d'étendre sa zone de juridiction en matière de pêche à 200 milles, et la mise en application d'une politique de gestion et de développement de la zone économique exclusive. Ceci, en créant et en développant nos infrastructures de recherche en vue d'évaluer nos ressources en coopération avec les pays cotiers intéressés; en menant une politique de promotion et de développement de la pêche artisanale par la reorientation d'une partie des populations inactives du monde rural vers la pêche maritime où les activités se trouvent limitées par le nombre d'hommes qui se livrent à cette activité et par la création de centres de formation de pêcheurs; en encourageant la création de sociétés de pêche avec dans pays étrangers et amis; en limitant les licences de pêche aux seuls bateaux qui accepteraient de débarquer la totalité de leurs captures dans nos industries de pêche, et, enfin, en renfortant les moyens de contrôle et de surveillance de la zone économique exclusive. Nous souhaitons que la FAO nous apporte son concours et son expérience tant sur le plan études des projets que sur le plan investissements à réaliser. Nous adressons nos remerciements aux pays amis qui nous apportent leur concours pour la réalisation de nos objectifs. Nous exprimons notre satisfaction à l'égard des propositions faites par le Directeur general et relatives à l'assistance à accorder aux pays cotiers en développement et contenues dans le document C 79/21.

Nous appuyons le projet de résolution contenu dans le document C 79/LIM/41 sur le Programme d'assistance au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans la zone économique exclusive.

Z. DUDKIEWICZ (Poland): During the Thirteenth Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries the Polish delegation presented in detail its position on many questions which are referred to in the EEZ Programme. In addition, I would like first of all to repeat our Government's support for both the ideas and the policies presented in this significant document. However, in order to ensure that the Programme becomes as effective as possible, we must take careful note of a few basic aspects.

One of them is the extent of assistance to be declared in support of the Programme, particularly its form, time and concrete methods of execution on the part of countries declaring such assistance.

During the above-mentioned Thirteenth Session of COFI, we declared our willingness to give effective assistance under this Programme. At the beginning we wish to declare that places will be available on our research vessels for ichthyologists to the extent of 18 to 24 man-months per year free of charge. We would also agree to loan a large fully-fitted ship with the crew and gear to carry out surveys on the shelves of the Indian, Pacific or Atlantic oceans, as needed. We also offer, free of charge, about 15 places to train fishery officers and other specialists in our high schools and institutes, all of them on terms to be fixed through the good services of FAO.

In further implementation of the Programme, we offer our cooperation and help in fields such as the construction of fishing vessels, the production of fishing and freezing equipment and the carrying out of scientific expertise.

Apart from that declaration, we can also supply other intermediate forms of cooperation and assistance. In particular, we are prepared to pay for fishing rights in the zones of those countries which have substantial catch surpluses. Our payments could be in the form of fishing vessels and gear, refrigeration plant expertise and so on.

At the same time I would like to emphasize what our Minister of Agriculture said in his statement to the Plenary.

That is we believe that the FAO Programme should cover not only problems connected with difficulties encountered by the developing countries in their management of living resources in the new system of fisheries economic zones, but also problems linked with rational utilization of the available potential to fishery resources.

Poland is one of the latter countries as it is known. The role of FAO in this field should consist in skilful coordination of operations and rational utilization of living resources owned by countries of wide access to the sea 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.

For these reasons we would like to stress our position also with regard to the draft resolution on the EEZ Programme submitted to the Conference.

We strongly and sincerely believe that FAO will follow this course of action to take into full consideration the interests of geographically disadvantaged countries. We hope that our proposal could be incorporated in the text of the resolution. With these remarks we are prepared to support the submitted resolution.

CHAIRMAN: Bangladesh has handed in an official statement which will be incorporated in the official record.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): Due to the new legal regime of the ocean many developing countries are now in possession of very considerable renewable resources of food which however can only be fully utilized with increased assistance from inter alia FAO, various funding institutions and bilateral zones. These new resources also imply new responsibilities for the management of available fish stocks existing in the extended economic zones. Properly managed these new resources would have very favourable long-term effects on the income, the living and nutritional standards of broad-including the poorest-segments of the population in developing countries. For this and other reasons Sweden welcomes the new programme for the development of fisheries in extended economic zones which in our view has very promising development potentials.

Although as a result of the new ocean regime important fishing stocks have become the property of one owner, the coastal state, these stocks are still migratory and will therefore only exceptionally be exploited by one single nation. When considering the increased utilization of shared stocks it is important at an early stage to have accepted ideas of the management of such stocks, and how the production should be shared. Otherwise wrong investments could be made and over-capacities created.

This increased need of cooperation should however become one of the greatest stimuli for the development of both technical and economic cooperation among developing countries. The existing regional fishery commissions have a very important role to play in this context. Some of these commissions cover very large areas and we therefore strongly support the proposed establishment of smaller management units that can focus on specific needs identified by groups of countries as opposed to more general regional requirements. Existing sub-regional and regional fisheries development programmes also constitute excellent units for assistance on problems which affect several countries and relate to economic zones.

In Sweden we have very favourable experiences from the FAO Regional Development Programme concerning artisanal fisheries in the Bay of Bengal which is financially and technically supported by Sweden.

It is important in our view that measures taken and financed within the EEZ programme comprise the whole integrated system including legal, technical, economic and biological questions. Financial resources should not be split up on isolated projects where the effects of the means put in are often difficult to measure. Sweden is thus strongly in favour of an integrated approach to the elaboration and implementation of the Programme. Training, research and the development of systems whereby correct assessments concerning total available catches in different areas could be made will be of the utmost importance for the effective management of available fish stocks. Resources devoted to the assessment of stocks should in the view of my delegation principally be concentrated on such fish stocks which could be utilized within the framework of artisanal and coastal fishery. The primary need of the majority of the developing countries must be exploitation of fish resources that could be exploited without the need for costly and capital-intensive equipment.

In conclusion Sweden as already stated in the Committee on Fisheries endorses a concrete and specified FAO programme of assistance in the development and management of fisheries in the extended economic zones on both a medium-term and long-term basis and we look forward to the establishment of priorities within the programme by the FAO Secretariat.

Finally, we would also like to support the draft resolution contained in document C 79/LIM/41.

A. M. B. JAGNE (The Gambia): The Gambian delegation wishes to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Lucas for his lucid introduction of the paper Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones, C 79/21 and to say at the outset that Gambia supports the draft resolution before this Commission.

As one of the coastal states with considerable fishery resources Gambia has declared a 200-mile exclusive fishing zone. In his statement at the Plenary meeting of this Conference the Head of the Gambian delegation said that the development of the Gambian fisheries resource is in accordance with our objective to diversify the national economy and with the urgent need to improve the nutritional standards of our people. In our situation, fishery offers tremendous opportunities for increased full-time employment, for earning much-needed foreign exchange and for ensuring and enhancing national economic stability. It also offers an opportunity for rural development as the vast majority of our fishermen exploiting our marine resource operate from a rural milieu.

In virtually all the documents prepared by the Secretariat on the EEZ and the programmes for assistance in the programme of management of fisheries, the point has been made and emphasized, and in our view rightly, that an extension of national jurisdiction offers most coastal states increased opportunities to develop their fisheries. But it also involves increased responsibilities. We wish to underline the words "increased responsibilities". In the fulfilment of these responsibilities we must adopt conservation and management measures that will enable the optimum yield to be taken from these stocks, measures that will prevent over-fishing and the dissipation of the resource. The adoption of these measures should be based on a sound knowledge of the size of the stock available. In our view it is essential therefore that coastal states should cooperate amongst themselves and with FAO in the important area of stock assessment and monitoring. We believe that the programme of assistance should give priority to the assessment of the stocks lying within national jurisdiction as well as those stocks shared by two or more nations since in most areas the stocks are migratory. We would welcome assistance in this important area.

H. M. EL-HASHEM (Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of) (interpretation from Arabic): Having reviewed document C 79/21 related to the Development of Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones I find that this document treats the salient points of the new legal regime of the oceans resulting from the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and its impact on the fishing resources in the world and the benefit resulting thereof to the developing countries.

We consider that this new legal regime of the seas is very good and aims at the establishment of a new international economic order which would be more equitable to the developing countries and which would further contribute towards their development enabling them to meet their rising food needs. This regime would also contribute to the establishment of food security in the developing countries, as well as supporting and extending the sovereignty of the developing countries over their national resources. We think that this new system should be speeded up in view of the many benefits which will result from its implementation as a first important step towards reducing the gap between the developing and developed countries.

We also believe that it may be useful to consider the implementation of sectoral and specialized regional offices to concentrate on fishing resources, their maintenance and development as a main source of animal protein, together with studying the effects of environmental pollution on the stocks of marine production.

In conclusion the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recommends that the new regime of the seas should include some rules and regulations that would limit pollution of the marine environment which would be harmful, or which has a harmful effect on fishing resources.

CHAIRMAN: The EEC has handed in a written statement which will be included in the official records of the Commission.

JEE-DAE KIM (Korea): Thank you Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor. My delegation would like to express its deep appreciation to the FAO Secretariat for the excellent preparation of document C 79/21 on the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones. Taking this opportunity I would like to make some comments on this agenda.

Firstly, under the gloomy world food and agricultural situation and prospects, the fisheries resources are specially important because the fisheries resources provide us with more than 20 percent high-quality protein of the total world animal protein supply. I, therefore, believe that keeping sustained optimum yield is an important task given to us all. In this connection I would like to point out that many developing coastal states find it difficult to plan successfully fisheries development policies and fulfil responsibilities, that is, keeping the sustained optimum yield due to the lack of modern technology and capital shortage.

My delegation is of the view that international cooperation for technology transfer and capital assistance must be strengthened to achieve this objective.

Secondly, under-utilization of fisheries resources results in wasting our very valuable food resources while excessive exploitation of them reduces the stock.

In relation to this point I would like to stress that other countries interested should be given the opportunity to share the resources under reasonable conditions, when the coastal states cannot utilize the entire allowable catch.

I sincerely hope that the coastal states will take necessary measures to provide reasonable conditions for interested countries.

In light of these views, my delegation strongly supports the resolution C 79/LIM/41.

Thirdly, I would ask FAO to play a more active role in technical cooperation in the fisheries sector and efficient utilization of the world fisheries resources by establishing elaborate action programmes.

Lastly, I am pleased to inform you that my country, the Republic of Korea, has strengthened cooperation with other countries for fisheries development.

In this year we have received 33 trainees from 22 countries, and are willing to provide more training opportunities for other developing countries in the coming years.

Moreover, my country is willing and prepared to play our part in international cooperation, especially technical cooperation through FAO and international bodies for the well-being of the people of the world.

CHAIRMAN: Gabon has proposed to hand in a written statement which will be included in the official record of this Commission.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of)(interpretation from German): Thanks to the excellent and very careful preparation by the Secretariat, the discussions in the Committee on Fisheries on the new FAO programme on promotion of fisheries in the EEZ were most successful.

My government is in agreement with the ideas of the Secretariat concerning future development of fisheries and measures which need to be taken to promote fisheries.

The Committee on Fisheries stressed the need for fish stocks to be assessed with scientific exactitude and to use them in an optimal way. Processing, storage and marketing of fish and fish products need to be improved. What is important in this connexion is the maintenance of very high standards of quality. The Committee attaches a great deal of importance to bilateral cooperation between fishery nations and developing countries in the form of joint ventures.

My delegation in the Committee on Fisheries has associated itself with this judgment and gave its support to the programme. In this connexion FAO has a leading role to play. In the view of my government this programme is a continuation of the excellent work of FAO in the fishery sector, and one which is adapted to more recent conditions.

The implementation of this programme requires a great deal of effort. Multilateral and bilateral support has already been promised for this programme. The coastal countries concerned have now the possibility with the EEZ, to promote the development of their fisheries, by exploiting these resources and by cooperation with fishery nations.

The large number of and the differences in the economies involved will require an adjustment of aid measures to existing conditions. Bilateral cooperation will fulfil an important task in this respect. This aid can best be oriented to local conditions.

Technical cooperation of my country with developing countries in this particular sector has proved good. My government is going to continue this assistance in view of the importance of fisheries for food security in the Third World. It is prepared to cooperate with developing countries to a greater extent within the framework of joint ventures. A close coordination with FAO is in our view important, in particular in the elaboration of principles and strategies, in project identification and regional programme planning. The Federal Government will, if necessary, participate in the implementation of seminars, workshops and other education and training programmes.

L. COMANESCU (Roumanie):Je voudrais signaler tout d'abord que la Roumanie se situe parmi les premiers Etats qui se sont prononcés en faveur de la constitution de la zone économique dans la nouvelle convention sur le droit de la mer, tenant compte du désir des pays riverains en développement de protéger et de développer les ressources biologiques situées au-delà de la zone territoriale, et cela au bénéfice de leur économie nationale et de leur population. Cela correspond d'ailleurs aux objectifs de l'instauration du Nouvel ordre économique international.

En conséquence, nous sommes en faveur de toute mesure destinée à développer les ressources de pêche dans ces zones. Il est satisfaisant de voir que la FAO est la première à avoir pris une telle mesure en lançant le programme d'action pour le développement et la gestion des pêches dans les zones économiques exclusives. En appuyant la mise en œuvre de ce programme, donc l'adoption de la résolution présentée dans le document C 79/LIM/41, je voudrais ajouter quelques commentaires.

Nous comprenons qu'il est nécessaire, en déployant de tels programmes, de tenir compte à la fois de la nécessité de satisfaire les besoins en pêche des pays, particulièrement de ceux en développement, situés en dehors des zones riches en pêche, en ressources halieutiques ou des zones riveraines de mers pauvres en telles ressources, comme c'est le cas du Bassin Méditerranée-Mer Noire. L'idée de lancer avec l'appui de la FAO un programme pour le développement de la pêche dans ce bassin nous paraît particulièrement bienvenue. Il est en même temps indispensable que les pays désavantagés du point de vue de la pêche aient une garantie d'accès, sur des bases équitables, aux ressources de pêche situées au-delà de la région à laquelle ils appartiennent. Il ne faut pas oublier que beaucoup de ces pays, la Roumanie par exemple, ont développé des capacités de pêche-je dirai même de véritables flottes-et qu'ils détiennent de ce fait déjà une expérience susceptible d'être bien utilisée dans le cadre d'une coopération mutuellement avantageuse avec les pays riverains de zones riches en ressources halieutiques.

Finalement, nous partageons entièrement l'idée exprimée ici, à savoir que l'on devrait prêter attention au développement de la pêche dans les zones intérieures et que la FAO pourrait et devrait y apporter une contribution accrue.

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): Consideramos que el documento elaborado por la Secretaría es una buena base para nuestros trabajos.

Dada la trascendencia de los asuntos marinos para los países subdesarrollados y como México cuenta con más de 10 000 kilómetros de costas, nuestro Gobierno ha participado activa y permanentemente en la Conferencia sobre el Derecho del Mar; estamos particularmente pendientes de la intervención actual y futura de la FAO en el desarrollo y ordenación, entre otras cosas, de las pesquerías en las zonas económicas exclusivas. México ha sido uno de los primeros países en reivindicar soberanamente las 200 millas náuticas como zona económica exclusiva y, además, ha declarado al Golfo de California como "mare nostrum".

A través del Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Pesquero, que se elaboró con la participación de la FAO, estamos empeñados en aprovechar integralmente nuestros recursos pesqueros y a preservarlos en beneficio de nuestro pueblo. Por ello nos esforzamos en incrementar racionalmente la tasa de extracción de alimentos marinos que son fuente de proteínas de alta calidad y contribuir a reorientar y enriquecer la dieta popular.

La pesca puede ofrecer un número importante de puestos de trabajo por lo que es necesario fomentarla. Nuestra legislación reserva la captura de ciertas especies-como el camarón-a entidades de propiedad social como son las cooperativas pesqueras. Lamentablemente tienen que afrontar la competencia desleal e ilegal de barcos transnacionales que navegan bajo diferentes banderas y que proceden de países cercanos y lejanos al nuestro.

México ve con profunda simpatía la formación de empresas multinacionales entre gobiernos y pueblos de países en desarrollo, aunque no se descarta la posibilidad de eventual cooperación con otros países con diverso grado de desarrollo, bajo una base renovada de equitativa y justa participación.

Nuestro país asigna gran importancia a la cooperación sincera, auténtica y solidaria entre los países en desarrollo, que son capaces de intercambiar experiencias y técnicos, por lo que recomendamos a la FAO que apoye y estimule estas acciones y contrate un mayor número de técnicos de los países del Tercer Mundo.

La explotación de los recursos marinos, como muchos otros casos, habría venido siendo campo de acción y beneficio de unas pocas Potencias pesqueras, por lo que apoyamos decididamente la reivindicación de los países en desarrollo en ejercicio de su soberanía, como consagra la Carta de Derechos y Deberes Económicos de los Estados. Cuando hablamos del nuevo orden marítimo, nos referimos a uno de los más importantes pilares del establecimiento del Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional.

La pesca en aguas continentales representa características que vale la pena subrayar. Aparte de que genera ingresos para quien la practica, es una fuente alimenticia de primer orden y contribuye a mantener el equilibrio ecológico y crear nuevas fuentes de empleo. Es importante que la FAO dedique mayores recursos a la acuicultura en los países en desarrollo, sin descuidar ni las prácticas artesanales ni las prácticas artesanales que se logran con explotaciones de mediana y grande envergadura.

México considera que a pesar de existir aún mucho por hacer, la FAO ha mejorado respecto del pasado para colaborar con sus Miembros. Es decir, debemos reconocer que afronta limitaciones de diverso tipo y que debemos preocuparnos porque su apoyo sea ágil, eficiente y evidente. El caso del programa de las zonas económicas exclusivas demandará una significativa flexibilidad temática y operativa, así como una ejecutiva descentralización, que debemos garantizar.

Por último, Sr. Presidente, queremos llamar la atención sobre el hecho de que la nueva situación marina internacional responsabiliza a los Estados en ejercicio de las zonas económicas exclusivas, de la adecuada utilización de la riqueza marina. Sin embargo, algunos países, -y no son pocos por cierto-, han encontrado que algunas especies fueron excesivamente explotadas y otras están prácticamente extinguiéndose por virtud de métodos irracionales fundamentados en la sola idea de la acumulación. Pedimos que esta Conferencia tome debida nota de este inaceptable fenómeno depredatorio, y que se deslinden claramente las responsabilidades. 1/

CHAIRMAN: Before calling on the next speaker, I should like to inform delegates that Ecuador has handed in a written statement for inclusion in the official documentation of this Commission.

1/ Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.

M. MORIMOTO (Japan): I should like to make a few brief comments on the development and management of fisheries in the exclusive economic zones.

First of all, in regard to the development of fisheries in the developing coastal states, what is needed is for them to have a good grasp of the fisheries resources within their 200-mile zones and then to formulate reasonable programmes based on the state of the fisheries resources. Since this point is taken into account in the Secretariat's Programme, my delegation can generally accept the Programme.

My delegation highly appreciates the positive activity of FAO for the medium-long term programme in the management and development of the fishery resources to ECDC. However, it is the view of my delegation that it is not in the interest of developing coastal states to exclude foreign vessels from the 200-mile zones by imposing too heavy fees or by admitting only joint ventures. Such policies will hinder the efficient utilization of marine resources. Rather, the developing coastal states are recommended to adopt more realistic policies, such as admitting the operation of foreign vessels, naturally charging them a reasonable fee and spending the revenue on the development of their fisheries.

I understand that FAO plays an important role by carrying out various projects for the development of fisheries in developing countries. I think it is appropriate for FAO to promote the projects further by external financing. Concerning economic development assistance, my Government has been giving assistance in the fisheries sector and for this fiscal year its contribution amounts to 6 billion yen. The FAO Secretariat is inviting member nations to give financial assistance to the field programme of the fisheries sector. My Government is now studying carefully the possibility for this assistance.

T. POULSEN (Norway): Norway has had occasion in the past, and again at this Conference, to note with satisfaction the urgency with which FAO approaches the very important task of promoting fisheries development in the economic zones of developing countries. At the meeting of the Committee on Fisheries in October we witnessed what was perhaps an exceptionally broad participation of member countries when this subject was debated.

The programme outline which was then presented to COFI concerning FAO's role in assisting developing countries received the full support and endorsement of COFI.

It is our feeling that the present Conference will give extra and really weighty impetus to help both FAO and other international and development agencies to translate the prevailing will to assist into practical action.

Since the emergence of the new law of the sea, with the 200 nautical miles economic zones being established by the great majority of the world's coastal states, we have got a wholly new framework for the management of the world's living resources.

A preponderant share, indeed more than 90 percent of the fish resources that can presently be exploited, have come under national jurisdiction and the developing countries themselves have assumed sovereign rights over a very significant share of these resources. As such, an overall framework conducive to the development of their fisheries has been created. But this framework of extended fisheries jurisdiction, although necessary, is not sufficient to give substantive benefits to such developing countries. The programme presented by the Director-General is a potent expression of this understanding. We are fully in accord with the philosophy of the programme, that the immediate task is to develop the local capacity both for planning and policy implementation in the developing countries themselves.

The general restraint that the present lack of appropriate resources poses for such countries must be overcome. Substantial aid is therefore required. On this I feel we can all agree. But we need, furthermore, to define more closely the objectives which we seek to promote. In particular we need to tailor the projects to the particular requirements of each individual country or region. What is demanded is thus a real appreciation of the social and economic context within which we seek to promote fisheries development and to accord direct and broad participation to the local fishing community at an early stage in the planning and implementation of projects. This will be a first and immediate demand that we must place on any project. The basis will then be laid for developing an independent local capacity to ensure that in the longer term we may witness greater self-reliance and more self-sustained development.

In this connexion we are glad to see the explicit dismissal in the document before us of the idea that there might exist a general model for fisheries development. Nevertheless, there is one general objective to which the programme which we now debate must relate and that objective is to ensure that fisheries development makes a real contribution to enhancing the nutritional benefits that the local populations derive from fisheries.

Seen in relation to the objective of promoting a new international economic order, the programme that we now endorse must, to be successful, make a real contribution to creating a more equitable food procurement policy globally. In particular we must promote the right structure in the fishing industries to ensure that the vast nutritional potential of the living resources is exploited to make a real improvement in diet.

It is clear that the implementation of the programme will require cooperation not only between donor agencies and FAO and the affected countries but also at the regional level, so that countries which face similar problems and challenges do cooperate between themselves. This will require a strengthening of existing regional bodies, which in the years to come will provide an essential forum for cooperation.

The challenge we now face is an unprecedented one. It is therefore of vital importance that the progress of our work is being subjected to continuous evaluation and assessment.

Lastly, we urge Member States of FAO to accept the practical consequences of endorsing the Director-General's programme and, in particular, to make available funds to cover the financial requirements inherent in the task we are now ready to undertake.

L. HINDS (Canada): We are pleased to be co-sponsors of the draft resolution which deals with the Director-General's plan for the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones. This programme is of special interest to Canada, since our practical experience in both the benefits and the problems of fisheries management and development could be shared with FAO and with developing countries. My delegation supports the role of FAO and we are pleased to see that other multilateral and bilateral agencies are invited to share in the implementation of the programme.

With respect to future actions for the implementation of the programme, my delegation agrees that as a first step developing countries must give priority to the identification of precise national policies that relate to the extension of economic zones. We agree that additional resources, both technical and financial, would be necessary for assistance to the developing countries. We have, however, indicated at the Thirteenth Session of COFI that in the short-term internal reorganization and reorientation of activities within FAO could be used to achieve the immediate objectives of the programme.

With respect to regional bodies, we support the position taken by FAO, which would facilitate TCDC and bring about better fisheries management and development of fisheries in the EEZs of developing countries.

Although Canada is operating in a period of tight budgetary constraints, we will continue to consider requests for additional assistance for fisheries projects and programmes from eligible bilateral recipients. within the context of their own development programme priorities.

Canada is in the process of concluding five important fisheries projects under the multi-bi formula with FAO. The value of Canada's contribution for these projects will be about \$6 million. Although we cannot commit ourselves to future multilateral increases at this time, we would hope that other donors will continue to support the programme.

I. MOSKOVITS (Malta): The delegation of Malta wholeheartedly supports the FAO project on the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones. You will be surprised, Mr. Chairman, to hear such a statement from the delegation of a country which is not directly profiting from the project, but we are pleased to see that the Director-General is giving the highest priority in FAO's Programme of Work for 1980-81 to a project which has immense economic and social importance for a large segment of the world's population and is an important step for the realization of the New International Economic Order. We had the privilege of participating in the meetings of the Committee on Fisheries, which first presented this project in its entirety, as well as the 76th Session of the Conference. We are grateful to Mr. Ruivo, the distinguished delegate of Portugal and also Chairman of the Committee on Fisheries, for mentioning the highlights of this meeting yesterday, as well as the matters to which we are giving particular importance. We have already stressed this matter at the meeting of the Committee on Fisheries.

We are very grateful to Dr. Lucas for the excellent presentation and preparation of the Committee on Fisheries, and for the working papers which he submitted to this Session, which were very much to the point and very useful. There was only one paragraph in the main document submitted to the Committee on Fisheries concerning the EEZ, which we found rather troubling. This paragraph referred to possible actions regarding countries, which, for geographical or other reasons, are disadvantaged and will not take direct profit from the EEZ. There was only a very vague indication that these countries should benefit from the programme, but no firm and concrete actions were described. This referred in particular to the Mediterranean countries, which for geographical and other reasons cannot profit from the EEZ project and programme. However, there are many other possibilities through which these countries could also benefit in an indirect way from the whole FAO Programme concerning EEZ. For instance, through the organisation of training centres for the training of technical people at all levels on the legal problems resulting from the new regime of the sea, as well as on the improvement of the statistics Mediterranean countries which are not sufficiently harmonized regarding fisheries and on many other problems. We are satisfied to see FAO's efforts to undertake such actions, as has been confirmed at the Conference. We are also very pleased to see that the Council in the Report of its 76th Session noted that special technical support should be provided to the existing administrative machinery for fishery development and management in the Mediterranean. The Council was also informed that concrete preparations for such technical assistance were already being made by the Fisheries Department. We are grateful to Dr. Lucas that he has already undertaken concrete steps in this direction, but we realize also that it is not enough that only the FAO Department of Fisheries is doing something: the countries directly interested should also participate in this work.

We hope that in the very near future we will be able to have a meeting with interested countries of the Mediterranean to design details of a project or programme for the benefit of Mediterranean countries, and to establish priorities of how this programme should be carried out.

Regarding the Draft Resolution before the Commission, at this time we do not wish to make any comment, neither additions nor amendments. We would however request that in the Report of the Commission's discussion, the particular problems of the Mediterranean should be duly reflected and stressed, in order that the Department of Fisheries be encouraged to continue its efforts for the benefit of the countries of the Mediterranean.

ABU BAKAR BIN MAMMUD (Malaysia): I would like to begin my intervention on this topic by echoing the sentiments of the Delegate of Indonesia, in wishing Happy Muharram to all fellow Muslims, no matter how delayed these wishes may be. To us in Malaysia the development and management of fisheries is a very important topic and we would like to compliment FAO on its efforts in being able to develop a comprehensive programme for the development and management of fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones. We are pleased to note that FAO has succeeded in this difficult task, the results of which we have before us in the document C 79/21, which is a good summary of the EEZ Programme. My delegation wishes to pay high tribute, particularly to the staff of Dr. Lucas, the Assistant Director of the Fisheries Department, for this brilliant effort.

As a coastal developing country, Malaysia supports the EEZ Programme. However, we hope that with its implementation, the other fisheries development programmes of FAO, especially aquaculture and inland fisheries, will not suffer from inattention and neglect as a consequence, and that any withdrawal of staff or resources from these other programmes to assist in launching the EEZ Programme will only be temporary. Malaysia's interest in aquaculture and inland fisheries is derived from her belief that these two activities have great potentials in terms of increasing food production and employment for the rural poor. Not only that but the impact is also greater and far more immediate than that of any activity envisaged under the EEZ Programme. The technology for aquaculture already exists in many countries, both developing and developed, and it is only a question of a transfer of technology which is needed in this particular case.

Malaysia is a small developing country. Our fisheries sector is just emerging from the traditional stage of economic development as most of our fish supply comes from the inshore small scale fisheries. Consequently, we would need a substantial amount of technical assistance to enable us to implement the EEZ Programme. In this context, Malaysia would welcome bilateral aid, not only from the developed countries (the traditional donors) but also from the developing countries who possess the requisite technology and experience in the field of extended fisheries. Of course, we would also welcome assistance and aid from FAO, especially technical assistance for which the Organization is so well equipped. What we lack in our development needs are, in particular, the technology to develop our fisheries in the EEZ, which we hope will be made readily available to us through the technical cooperation programmes either on a bilateral basis or a multilateral basis. This technology is costly, and a developing country like Malaysia can only afford it if it is made available at reduced cost as an indirect form of financial assistance.

Malaysia notes that the EEZ Programme is essentially a management programme in the long term with development components for the short term. Under the Programme, coastal developing countries will be assisted to improve the management of the fish stocks coming under their national jurisdiction as a result of the new regime of the sea and the establishment of the EEZ. A sum of \$US 35-40 million is being proposed for implementing the Programme for the first 3 years. What the expenditure of this substantial sum of money will achieve is not quantified in the document C 79/21 which is before us, except that it might lead to an increase in fish landings of 20-30 million tons in a global context. This increase in the catch is expected to come from non-conventional species caught with capital :: intensive, high technological equipment, and from better management. It is not envisaged that the EEZ Programme will develop new sources of fish supply which will augment the present available supply of fish. Consequently, there may be possible over-exploitation of the fish stocks, and in this respect, Malaysia would like to see an element of conservation included in the EEZ Programme. The EEZ Programme as formulated at present contains a slight but serious deficiency. As a management programme, it does not contain any provisions or activity whose objective is to help develop the national capacity and capability of developing coastal states to take over the management of projects initiated under the EEZ Programme. The existing capacity and capability of many developing countries is already over-extended in the management of current fisheries programmes. To ask them to assume a new responsibility as vital and extensive as the EEZ Programme, and to implement it effectively and efficiently, is to ask them to do a humanly impossible task. Thus Malaysia would like to see an element of training not only included but greatly enhanced in the EEZ Programme.

Finally, we support the resolution on the EEZ.

CHAIRMAN: Before calling on the next speaker, I would like to announce that Cyprus has handed in a written statement to be included in the official documents of this Commission.

J. L. MESB EGUER SANCHEZ (España): Muchas gracias, señor Presidente. La delegación de España quiere unirse a cuantas delegaciones han felicitado al Director General de la FAO por la feliz iniciativa de su Programa de Asistencia al Desarrollo y la Ordenación de las Pesquerías en las Zonas Económicas EXclusivas. Asimismo quiere felicitar también al departamento de Pesca por el documento C 79/21 que nos ofrece las distintas oportunidades que para la alimentación mundial ha de suponer el nuevo régimen jurídico del mar que se debate todavía en la Tercera Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Derecho del Mar.

Precisamente por la importancia que el programa va a tener en beneficio de la alimentación de toda la humanidad en los próximos años, la delegación de España apoya la iniciativa de la FAO de adelantarse en la elaboración y, en su caso, aplicación del programa antes que termine sus trabajos la Tercera Conferencia sobre el Derecho del Mar, cuyo término está previsto en principio para el próximo año 1980.

El programa ahora, a juicio de la delegación de España, está basado en el consenso cada vez más amplio que existe en la Conferencia de considerar costumbre internacional tanto las doscientas millas y los derechos soberanos de los estados ribereños sobre los recursos de sus zonas económicas, como la posibilidad que tienen los terceros estados de tener acceso a la pesca de los excedentes.

Sobre estos tres pilares debe fundamentarse el desarrollo del programa hasta que la Conferencia de Caracas entre en vigor, en cuyo momento histórico el programa deberá basarse en los artículos de la Convención.

En este orden de ideas, la delegación española estima que el desarrollo y aplicación del programa del Director General, con ser tan grande su importancia y trascendencia, no agota las funciones que el nuevo orden jurídico de los mares exige a la FAO.

Efectivamente, en el ámbito de su competencia, es decir proveer a la alimentación mundial, la FAO deberá jugar un papel realmente importante dirigido, entre otros aspectos, a interpretar con la imparcialidad que le caracteriza el alcance jurídico de los derechos y obligaciones que la Convención de Caracas atribuye en las zonas económicas exclusivas a todos los Estados, sean o no ribereños.

Asimismo deberá promover la cooperación internacional entre Estados en desarrollo y Estados industrializados para el desarrollo de la pesca en beneficio de la humanidad, tanto a nivel multilateral a través de las organizaciones internacionales de pesca, como a nivel bilateral, en especial respecto a los stocks mixtos que se encuentran en las zonas económicas de dos o más Estados y entre estas zonas económicas y alta mar.

En este ámbito de la cooperación entre Estados, también la FAO debe alentar la transferencia de tecnologías pesqueras de los países industrializados a los países en desarrollo, bien en el contexto de convenios bilaterales, bien mediante la constitución de empresas conjuntas que favorezcan un desarrollo integral de la actividad pesquera, tanto extractiva como comercial, formación profesional náutica co-pesquera, desarrollo de las técnicas de mercadeo, sistemas de conservación y distribución, etc. , De esta forma el nuevo orden jurídico de los mares se irá haciendo efectivo en beneficio de los estados ribereños, sin perjudicar en exceso a los nacionales de Estados con flotas de pesca a distancia, de manera que, al mismo tiempo, se contribuya a resolver el déficit alimentario mundial y se eviten desequilibrios estructurales.

En este sentido, la delegación española apoya la Resolución presentada ayer por Portugal, si bien tiene algunas sugerencias que, sin cambiar el espíritu de la misma, tienden a acomodarla al nuevo derecho del mar. Así, en el preámbulo de la Resolución, en el último de los considerandos se habla de recordar la declaración de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural. La Delegación de España considera que sería más oportuno recordar que la Tercera Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Derecho del Mar ha declarado unos derechos soberanos, o derechos de soberanía, sobre los recursos naturales, vivos o no, de las zonas económicas.

También señor Presidente, en el punto 5 de la resolución considera que debía de incluirse la cooperación económica y técnica a los estados industrializados. Y por último, el punto 6 debería quizá colocarse, para ser consecuente con el punto 1, como punto 2 de la Resolución.

CHAIRMAN: Before calling on the next speaker, I would like to announce that Tunisia has handed in a written statement which will be included in the official documents of this Commission.

M. YOUNG (United States of America): The United States delegation wishes to express its appreciation for the initiative of FAO in directing its assistance in the fisheries sector to the new problems and, above all, to the new opportunities arising out of the revolution of the legal regime dealing with the Economic Zones.

The comprehensive programme wisely adopts a two-fold approach, addressing both the immediate and mid-term needs for technical assistance, while laying the groundwork for LDCs to develop the institutional and research systems for long-term management of fishery resources.

We plan to follow the progress and the achievements of the new comprehensive programme very carefully in the years to come through the reports to FAO technical and governing bodies. Thus we stress at this time the importance of building into the programme a provision for careful monitoring and assessment.

We also support the proposal for a conference in 1982 on the development and management of fisheries.

In summary, the EEZ Programme provides a unique opportunity for FAO, and the Fisheries Department in particular, to be of practical assistance to developing countries, while at the same time playing a very constructive role in helping to reach the desired goal of full, sustained and controlled utilization of this important renewable resource.

J. C. SAINSBURY (Australia): The Australian delegation would also like to join many other speakers in complimenting Mr Lucas and his staff on the initiative they have shown in the development of this Programme,

We fully concur with Mr. Lucas' opening comments that the new legal regime of the seas has brought about profound and, indeed, dramatic changes to the exploitation and management of world fisheries and in particular in the potential benefits it offers developing countries.

Australia itself only developed a declared national jurisdiction over its 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone on 1 November this year. Although we are a developed country, we have a common community interest with many developing countries in respect of the development of our fishing industries, particularly in respect of the essential need for all of us to gain the necessary technical know-how to effectively develop and manage fishery resources within our respective Exclusive Economic Zones.

Australia supports the future action programme as proposed in document C 79/21.

Finally, Australia would like to respond to the request made by the delegate of Portugal when he spoke on this item late yesterday. We would like to join with other countries who have already co-sponsored or offered to co-sponsor the resolution as contained in document C 79/LIM//41.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Ma délégation appuie pleinement l'intervention de la FAO pour la mise en valeur et la gestion des pêches dans les zones économiques exclusives. Je tiens à féliciter la FAO, et particulièrement le Département des Pêches, pour l'excellent document présenté à notre Commission. Je voudrais aussi, en tant que représentant d'un Etat côtier, m'associer à la suggestion faite par la Délégation du Portugal pour la pleine réalisation des activités prévues par la FAO.

En terminant, j'aimerais attirer l'attention de la Commission sur le fait que la pêche représente un secteur important pour l'économie du Cap-Vert et, dans ce sens, nous espérons recevoir une assistance amplifiée de la FAO.

SALMON PADMANAGARA (Indonesia): First of all on behalf of my delegation I wish to thank the Secretariat for having prepared the documentation which constitutes a solid platform for the discussion of this item on fisheries development which directly and indirectly affects the livelihood of millions and millions of people, particularly in the developing world. My delegation endorses the view that the new legal regime of the oceans emerging from the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea is having a profound influence on world fisheries. At this stage we are only at the very beginning. Many countries have already extended jurisdiction, commonly to 200 miles over the resources off their shores placing these fish stocks under their national control. Indonesia will be no exception in this respect, since its adherence to the Archipelagic State Principle. And its adopting Exclusive Economic Zones is a matter of time only.

There is no doubt that the new regime of the oceans will have its positive impact on the economic development of coastal and island developing countries, provided that the countries concerned are in a position to effectively utilize the opportunities created by the new legal regime, and to the largest possible extent meet the challenges, briefly the exploitation of their expanded resources in an efficient way, and without further delay. How to manage this, and how to get started is the problem.

My delegation, while endorsing the view that the extension of national jurisdiction offers a wide variety of opportunities to develop fisheries on a large scale, is aware of the fact that it involves new and heavy responsibilities. It should be recognized that a large number of coastal and island developing countries are facing many constraints and difficulties in their efforts to make the best use of their expanded living resources.

My delegation associates itself with the views expressed on the role of FAO, as set forth in page 4 of document C 79/21, and would therefore confine itself to make brief comments only. It is true that the new regime demands comprehensive fisheries programmes covering fishery research, stock assessment, data collection and analysis, conservation and management measures, which all together constitute prerequisites for the successful development of fisheries. We could simply say that first of all there is a need for sound planning and feasible programming.

However, we must start with acquiring the right knowledge of the potentials which are to be developed. As far as Indonesia is concerned, technical assistance is still needed in assessing the marine living resources, and in finding methods for their exploitation. This deserves serious consideration before embarking upon further programmes, because only after the potentials have been known, we can proceed with more clearly defined plans.

Taking into account the fact that living resources of the sea might move from one area to another, thereby crossing national borders, there would be advantages if a cooperative survey could be conducted by the countries concerned in cooperation also with FAO. Such joint survey would certainly enhance technical cooperation among developing countries in the same region and may extend to other activities related to the fishery industry. FAO's Regional bodies dealing with fisheries could also play an important role in this regard, by providing technical assistance and expertise when called upon to do so.

Coming to the matter of Links with Regional Economic Groupings, my delegation welcomes the intention of FAO to establish close liaison with financial institutions which are in a position to help finance the implementation of new programmes in the field of fisheries. The importance of it can not be over-emphasized since most of the coastal and island developing countries would need huge amounts of money for the implementation of fishery industries.

Mr. Chairman, with regard to Future Action being taken by FAO aimed at the objective of helping developing coastal states to obtain a more equitable share of world fishery resources, my delegation is in general agreement with the points set forth in the document. Nevertheless my delegation would like to suggest that FAO should, in addition to the ideas it has already in mind, also take note of the following:

- attach high priority to strengthening national research institutes responsible for conducting scientific research in the field of fisheries;
- make use, to the largest extent possible, of national experts and regional experts who are conversant with fishery problems in the areas concerned;
- promote the exchange of experience and expertise among fishery experts and research workers of countries of the region;
- provide training for officials engaged in fishery development, and also development of skills and the use of more advanced techniques among the fishermen; and prepare them for a more rewarding task in the high seas in the future.

In closing, allow me to say that all programmes should be drawn up according to the immediate need of the individual countries in their initial efforts to gradually expand their fishery industries in the context of the establishment of the new Expanded Economic Zones.^{1/}

R. COOPER (Liberia): Liberia is a coastal state. She has tremendous fisheries resources which are not yet fully exploited, This resource base has been immensely increased by extending our jurisdiction of sea area to 200 miles.

Presently, Liberia is at near self-sufficiency stage in fisheries production except for small quantities of canned fish products which are imported. In addition, she is a net exporter of shrimps. However, despite Liberia's fisheries resources and the fact that fisheries are the cheapest source of animal protein, she is still an animal-protein deficit country because of the need for supplementary meat and meat products, the small animal population of the country engendering the need to rely on external sources and the inadequate distribution network for fisheries. The demand for animal protein exceed 8 percent per annum.

Our marine fisheries have not been inventoried and studied. However, we are aware of the potential of fisheries to transfer Liberia from an animal-protein deficit country to a surplus one and thereby increase food consumption and the nutritional level of the country, provide more gainful employment and income to small fishermen and increase export earnings and revenues to Government. Finally, since the high cost of domestic animal feed is a major constraint to the development of the livestock industry, exploitation, processing and availability of cheap fish meal could go a long way to alleviate this major constraint.

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 fisheries resources and in formulating fisheries policies and strategies.

Finally, we support draft resolution C 79/LIM/41 with the following modification: the second operative paragraph which begins with "Endorses the Director-General's proposal..." should include urging donor countries to provide the \$35-40 million required over the next three-year period to plan and implement FAO's Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones.

LIN GAN (China): We have studied Document C 79/21 and have also taken part in the discussion of this agenda item at the Fisheries Commission. We feel that to meet the requirements inherent in the new ocean regime, a Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones has been drawn up. The Programme provides, among other things, for offering expert advice to developing coastal countries on resource surveying and assessment, stock monitoring and fishery management, training technical and administrative personnel, and mobilizing bilateral and multilateral funds for the development of fisheries, regarding all these activities as "part of efforts to implement the New International Economic Order. " We consider this a welcome initiative on the part of the FAO.

^{1/} Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

It is through prolonged struggle that developing coastal countries have obtained their sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the marine living resources in their EEZs. Today the struggle continues. Therefore, in helping developing coastal countries to formulate fishery development policies and coordinating fishery development programme and resources-sharing of related states, special attention should be paid to helping developing coastal countries to develop their marine fishery in the spirit of independence and self-reliance, thereby respecting and upholding their national sovereignty and interests. In this connection, we would like to express our appreciation of the statement contained in paragraph 19 of C 79/21 that "the Organization is committed to encouraging greater technical self-reliance in the developing world by strengthening national institutions and promoting TCDC. "

Mr. Chairman, my Government attaches great importance to the production and marketing of marine fisheries. The state provides support to collective fishery enterprises through purchasing their catches and in fishery processing, storage, transportation and marketing. Thus, progress has been made in China's fisheries. In 1978, off-shore catches accounted for three-fourths of China's total aquatic output of 4.66 million tons. But aquatic output value averages a mere 1.4 percent of the gross agricultural output value and falls far short of the ever-growing needs of the people. There is a gap, too, between our level of fishery management and advanced world levels. At present, positive measures are being taken. We're developing fishery production mainly through self-reliance. But at the same time we are also learning from other countries' advanced fishery technology and management skills as well as strengthening and promoting technical cooperation with developing countries and other countries, so as to make joint efforts for the promotion of the "Programme of Assistance in the Developing and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones". 1/

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand): Among all other means of food acquisition, marine fisheries had in the past provided Thailand with a great deal of additional food both for her domestic consumption and exports. As stated earlier by our leader in his country statement in the Plenary, the new law of the sea forces Thailand to lose approximately 20-25 percent of her traditional fishing water. This accounts for a loss of approximately 600,000 tons of marine landings every year. Without equal catches by relevant coastal states, this also implies the loss of food for the world by the same amount.

To remunerate the loss, we urge FAO to see to it that all developing countries who are adversely affected by this new ocean regime be granted special concessions to continue operating, especially where the coastal states are not yet ready to efficiently harvest their newly acquired marine resources.

Besides, our Government is also placing much emphasis on the development of coastal aquaculture and inland fisheries. We urge that FAO should also support us in so doing. 1/

M. R. LEAR (New Zealand): As New Zealand was in fact one of the first coastal states to declare and implement an EEZ, our experience may be of some interest to others attending the Conference. The creation of EEZ(s) is of course a new phenomenon and New Zealand, like everyone else, is still in the process of learning how best to administer and control the resources to the best advantage of both its own fish industry and of those foreign fishing nations who have a legitimate and established interest in its EEZ.

Up to 1963, we adopted a rigid limited entry system of licensing for New Zealand fishermen which had restrained local industry development and many resources were under-fished. The most significant measure was the requirement that licensed fishing vessels could operate from the land only at the place or places specified in their licences, usually a single port. The philosophy behind the measure was that the Licensing Authority could assess applications for licences in the light of available stocks to be found in the vicinity of the port. The majority of licence applications, at this time, were rejected on the principles of conservation.

A number of factors finally brought about the removal of the restrictive licensing in 1963:

- Larger more effective fishing vessels were appearing with greater range and sea-going ability which blurred the geographic boundaries between fisheries near to ports. This form of conservation thus became ineffective.
- The majority of trawling grounds were outside the territorial sea and foreign vessels could work unrestrictedly while the domestic fleet was confined by our fisheries law.
- Finally, there was growing opinion that restrictive licensing retarded the development of the industry.

1/. Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

Limited entry to the catching sector had restricted output and maintained prices at an artificially high level. This may have been offset if less popular fish species had been promoted. Adherence to minimum length restrictions often resulted in dumping of fish already dead.

With the introduction of open entry to the catching sector in 1963 came a drive to generate greater wealth from the fisheries. Government policy became one of controlled exploitation to promote exports, as opposed to the previous emphasis on conservation.

It can now possibly be said with the benefit of hindsight that if licensing had been continued in a less restrictive form, i. e. dropping the one-port landing requirement, it could have served a useful function of rationing fishing effort to preserve maximum economic return to the fisheries.

Not all fisheries were decontrolled in 1963. Dredge oyster fishermen are still required to obtain fishing permits. Only 23 permits are able to be in force at any one time and must be renewed annually.

In 1977 legislation was amended so that certain specified fisheries could be controlled. In a fishery declared controlled, the Government can now define the quality and quantity of the fish, the areas fished and methods used. Entry to a controlled fishery is by way of licences obtained by application to a Licensing Authority. Socio-economic effects are amongst the matters considered by the Authority.

In 1978 two of our main scallop fisheries and an eel fishery were declared controlled and in the near future the Rock Lobster, the Foveaux Strait Oyster and the Northern Scallop fisheries will come under the new control Act. Most of these fisheries have shown indications of over-exploitation resulting in a fall in the catch, although in the case of rock lobsters, concern over the fall in catch per vessel with the growing entry of vessels has been a major consideration.

New Zealand thus administers its 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone as a limited entry fishery. The objectives of the Government in establishing a controlled fishery include:

- (i) the management of fish stocks to enable exploitation to be undertaken having regard to the need to conserve stocks for the future.
- (ii) to promote exports.
- (iii) to assist in the development of an important New Zealand industry-to encourage investment-to promote investment and show Government's commitment to the industry.
- (iv) to assist in the acquisition of scientific and economic knowledge of the commercial and non-commercial species found within the zone.
- (v) to continue access, in accordance with international law, by foreign vessels to the surplus.

The EEZ is administered by way of several institutional avenues to meet these objectives. The Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act of 1977 defines the zone and is the basis of administrative approach. Vessels within the zone must comply with the relevant sections of the 1980 Fisheries Act, and conditions attached to their Government approvals to fish.

There are two methods of entry into the EEZ fishery:

- (i) Licensed Access-which is secured at a Government to Government level and is regarded as a temporary means of exploiting that part of the total allowable catch which at this stage cannot be utilised by New Zealand interests. In most instances fees are levied on the catch allocated to and taken up by foreign licensed vessels. To date licensed vessels from Japan, USSR, Korea and the United States fish in the zone.
- (ii) Access through Cooperative Fishing Ventures between New Zealand and Foreign Partners – Government consideration of proposals for cooperative fishing ventures includes such factors as:
 - the extent of New Zealand involvement
 - the expertise of the foreign partner
 - the share of fishing and marketing risk undertaken by the venture
 - marketing, fishing and processing plans
 - commercial viability of the operation.

New Zealand catching capacity is being given a big boost by the development of joint-venture companies. This has already resulted in a large increase in processing throughput and in export of fish products. As joint-venture companies gear up their processing plans, an increasing proportion of fish caught by joint venture vessels will be processed in New Zealand.

At the same time, the catching capacity of the inshore fleet has been increasing. Most species popular in New Zealand are now fully exploited, and the New Zealand fleet is being encouraged to fish for less-preferred and less-heavily exploited species through a price support scheme for a few selected species.

Processors are being encouraged to improve the quality of their products. With many prime species now being fully exploited, the only way to increase profits from these species is to increase value by improving quality. The development of joint ventures is bringing into the New Zealand fishing industry some new experience and expertise in handling, processing and marketing which can only be beneficial to the industry as a whole.

New Zealand has the sole responsibility of setting the level of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC). The EEZ is divided into eight management areas, for each of which a TAC is set separately for demersal fish.

For each area the catch expected to be taken during the year by local and joint-venture fishing vessels is estimated, and this estimate is subtracted from the TAC. Foreign fishing vessels are licensed to fish in areas where a surplus of fish is available. Quotas are allocated to foreign vessels so that the TAC in any area will not be exceeded. When quotas are reached by a national fleet, either for the total quantity of fish or for any individual species, vessels of that nation's fleet are instructed to leave the areas.

For fisheries in which the availability of the resource varies considerably from year to year, such as squid and skipjack tuna, a rather different approach has been taken. No quota is put on the catch, but the fisheries are controlled by limiting the number of boats allowed to enter the fishery. In this way the actual catch each year will be roughly proportional to the availability of the good year classes and can be advantageously exploited, while in poor years the stock will not be severely reduced because of excess effort being applied in order to reach a quota, but will only be reduced in proportion to the limited fishing effort applied by the set number of boats.

The potential for export expansion in the fisheries sector is considerable. New Zealand hopes to lift export performance well above the existing level of \$63 million in 1978 with multiplier effects on the economy and I am confident that time will show it to be a successful example of a limited entry fishery. In light of our own experience, Mr. Chairman, New Zealand also welcomes the FAO programme of assistance for the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones of coastal areas of developing countries. As we understand it, the programme aims to meet immediate needs through a medium-term plan of action, and to undertake basic studies on a long-term basis to formulate principles and methods for management of fisheries in such zones.

The medium-term action plan appears to be well designed to assess the situation in countries and to provide assistance where required. One area which could perhaps be further emphasised is the spreading of information between countries rather than from FAO to individual countries and vice versa. The management of fishery zones is now a worldwide administrative phenomenon, and the solution of problems in one part of the world could provide the key to solving similar problems in other parts. In particular, the development of joint ventures has greatly increased in recent years, bringing with them their attendant problems, and marketing is now on a world-wide basis. Issues like these deserve study and dissemination of information on an international basis.

Fisheries administrators also need frequent opportunities to confer with their fellows in other countries so that topics and problems of mutual interest can be discussed and resolved. In connection with this, the Technical Conference on the Management and Development of Fisheries proposed for 1982 will be welcome. Similar, more frequent, conferences at a regional level would be of advantage.

The long-term programme is aimed at improving identification and estimation of abundance of stocks and at formulating and administering management regimes. New Zealand has problems in both of these areas, arising from our insufficient research vessels, and resulting from the rapid changes in the fisheries scene in New Zealand in the last 3 years. New Zealand's administrative problems are mainly due to complications in managing multispecies fisheries and in controlling fishing effort applied to these fisheries by a number of fishing methods and by vessels of greatly differing sizes and catching capacities.

We would therefore suggest that FAO could concentrate its long-term programme on developing better methods of stock assessment and in exploring ways of resolving problems in multispecies and multimethod fisheries. 1/
1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

A. R. BIRIBONWOHA (Uganda): Uganda is a non-coastal state and it is not a potential direct beneficiary from the new regime of the ocean. We have, however, requested the floor because of the importance we attach to fisheries development in an effort to increase food production, and upgrade the level of nutrition. We also wish to express our gratitude to the Secretariat for producing document C 79/21 on the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zones. We have found the paper lucid, exhaustive and very informative.

The paper emphasizes the increased responsibilities to coastal states to ensure maximum development and adopt such rational management measures which will enable them to utilize the marine living resources within their jurisdiction not only for their overall benefit but also for the benefit of mankind.

This delegation recognizes the fact that coastal developing countries do not have the resources to take full advantage of the new situation. We concur with the proposal that FAO is in the best position and indeed should continue to marshal and coordinate the required multilateral and bilateral assistance in investment and technical cooperation to these countries in policy formulation, the development and management of fisheries in their exclusive economic zones. We feel that the natural management area concept is a good practical approach.

The Uganda delegation finds the projected level of initial funding for the proposed programme a modest figure considering the magnitude of the task involved.

Given the above considerations, the Uganda delegation strongly supports the Director-General's proposed programme of assistance to coastal developing states to develop and manage the fisheries in their exclusive economic zones.

Mr. Chairman, Uganda fully endorses the tabled draft resolution on the subject under discussion 1/.

R. IBARGUREN (Argentina): El Gobierno de la Nación Argentina presta su total apoyo a las recomendaciones del documento C 79/21 y al proyecto de Resolución C 79/LIM/41, por cuanto tienden a consolidar en la práctica los derechos exclusivos de los estados ribereños sobre las zonas económicas exclusivas, que es uno de los principales objetivos que persigue nuestro país en la III Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el derecho del mar.

En efecto, el informe resguarda el ejercicio de los derechos exclusivos de los estados ribereños, en la administración de sus recursos vivos en las zonas económicas exclusivas y tiende a reforzar la provisión de asistencia, asesoramiento, y financiamiento sin enervar las facultades exclusivas de los estados.

Cabe por ello elogiar las propuestas que conllevan una mayor asistencia a los países en desarrollo para la promoción de sus pesquerías, ya sea en materia de administración, conservación, investigación, exploración, o aprovechamiento de sus recursos marinos ^{2/}.

T. J. SHO-SAWYERR (Sierra Leone): My delegation is aware of the challenges and problems relevant to managing and developing the fish resources in the extended territorial waters. We therefore endorse the Director-General's Comprehensive Programme of Assistance in the development and management of Fisheries in the Economic Zone.

Fisheries in my country is receiving more attention through the Ministry of Natural Resources created from the original Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources with responsibility for fisheries and livestock.

We have adopted and are implementing policies in fisheries which are in line with our national development policies. Training in all aspects of fisheries has been accorded high priority in order to meet our immediate manpower requirements and for implementation of our development plans.

1/. Statement to be inserted in the verbatim records on request.

2/ Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.

Paras 15-18 of C 79/21 have highlighted some prerequisites for development of fisheries in the EEZ. We are grateful that through the assistance of FAO, a revision of our fisheries legislation has been started which will take into account the new regime; collection of statistical data has improved and some knowledge of the fisheries potential is available. Applied research is being pursued with collaboration of our University in spite of serious obstacles. These activities though peripheral in scope at the present time indicate our preparedness to take on the challenges of the new regime.

We have now and again emphasized the importance of small-scale fisheries and the need for more attention to be devoted to this sector. The FAO Comprehensive EEZ Programme has not catered for them even though the activities in the EEZ would affect them directly. It is hoped that the Programme would be sufficiently flexible so as to include proposals under the Community Fishery Centre Group concept which we believe offers considerable scope for development of socio-economic aspects of small-scale fisheries.

We support the move for a more active and systematic approach by FAO to advising governments, on matters related to marine resources in the EEZ, and also the strengthening of the Regional bodies to make them more responsive to the needs of member states, and to exercise a coordinating function in regional and sub-regional cooperation by coastal states, on matters vital to their common interest.

Mr. Chairman, the size of the investment and the level of technical expertise needed for the accomplishment of the comprehensive fisheries programme are such that the active cooperation of the developed countries would be essential.

The gesture by the Government of Norway to allocate substantial amounts for support of the FAO programme is most welcome. It is hoped that other donors, bilateral as well as multilateral, would react positively to FAO requests.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my delegation gives its unreserved support to the Draft Resolution C 79/LIM/41. 1/

S. M. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh): My delegation thanks Dr. Lucas for his excellent presentation of item 9 of the agenda. We have also read with interest the FAO Document C 79/21, which in our opinion is an excellent document and congratulate the Secretariat for its preparation.

My Government welcomed the new legal regime of the ocean which emerged from UNCLOS III since access to 200-mile zone would enable us to substantially improve our fisheries industry which otherwise has great potentialities. This will prevent others from profiting from resources which naturally belong to us. However access to extended zones of fisheries means little, if efforts are not made to develop it. In this respect we express our deepest gratitude to the Director-General for his offer to help developing coastal States like ours who have serious resource constraints to meet this challenge. We therefore look forward to the early implementation of the FAO Programme of Assistance in Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones which was presented at the 13th Session of the COFI. Both the aims of this programme, that is, to meet immediate identified needs, and to analyze how fisheries in economic zones can be developed and managed in the long term are applicable and helpful to countries like ours.

Implementation of the FAO Programme of Assistance will call for adequate funding. We therefore urge the developed countries to contribute to the programme which will require 35 to 40 million dollars during the next three years. We are thankful to the Government of Norway for its contribution and hope others would join in soon. The urgent need for funds was expressed and recognized by the Committee-of-the Whole of the UN General Assembly in March, 1979.

We fully support the importance of the role of regional fisheries bodies, particularly those established within the framework of FAO, and we agree that these should be strengthened to promote agreements on how stocks should be exploited and also to prevent poaching on the waters of others.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations has said that the UNCLOS III should be viewed as one of the activities aimed at establishing a New International Economic Order and seeking to create a more equitable and better functioning global economic system. Such optimism will turn into reality only when the developing countries are allowed greater share in world trade. Our views on commodity trade have already been expressed earlier on in this very Commission.

Finally, Bangladesh, as one of the co-sponsors of the Draft Resolution on the Development and Management of Fisheries in the EEZ, hopes for its endorsement by the Conference. 1/

1/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

B. SUSSIELCH (Communauté économique européenne): Le document C 79/21 correspond largement au Document COFI/79/4 présenté à la 13^e session du Comité des Pêches, qui s'est tenue à Rome du 8 au 12 octobre dernier à laquelle la CEE a participé.

Le schéma général pour le "programme global d'assistance au développement et à la gestion des pêches dans les zones économiques" avait été exposé par le Directeur Général Adjoint, M. Lucas, FAO, en février 1979 lors de sa visite auprès de la Communauté.

Ce programme, élaboré par la FAO, semble constituer une bonne approche des questions d'assistance, dont les p. v. d. ont besoin pour une bonne utilisation et gestion des ressources de leurs ZEE, tant dans leur propre intérêt que dans l'intérêt général.

L'action communautaire dans ce domaine se situe essentiellement sur deux plans: 1. celui de la politique communautaire de pêche et des accords de pêche.

1. celui de la politique d'aide au développement et notamment de la coopération financière et technique qui est du ressort de ma division en ce qui concerne la pêche.

Quant à la question de quelle manière la CEE est disposée à aider les p. v. d. dans la mise en valeur et la gestion des pêches dans leur ZEE, j'attire l'attention sur la coopération financière et technique communautaire déjà existante surtout dans le cadre des Conventions CEE/ACP.

Dans le cadre du 4^e FED (Convention Lomé I), une bonne trentaine de demandes d'aide dans le domaine du développement des pêches ont été adressées à la CEE dont plus de la moitié seront financées dans le cadre du FED.

Vu que l'aide communautaire est essentiellement donnée sous forme de subvention (2.928 millions d'UCE) et pour une moindre partie sous forme de prêt à conditions extrêmement favorables (durée 40 ans, 10 ans de grâce, 1% d'intérêt-504 millions d'UCE), l'aide à des secteurs non directement profitables commercialement, constitue en général l'emploi le plus rationnel, pour les pays des contributions du FED.

Dans ce contexte il faut citer notamment l'aide au développement des pêches artisanales ainsi que des infrastructures ou des équipements de base qui permettent ensuite un essor de la pêche hauturière et des activités de transformation de poisson.

Certains projets dans ce domaine peuvent profiter d'une participation communautaire au titre de capitaux à risque (280 millions d'UCE) ainsi que des prêts de la Banque Européenne (685 millions d'UCE).

Enfin, il peut être noté qu'en ce qui concerne les p. v. d. non ACP, la Communauté peut également les assister-mais dans une mesure plus limitée-dans le développement de leur pêche.

En effet, dans le cadre des ressources budgétaires libérées annuellement (en 1979 110 millions d'UCE sont prévues) pour des projets de développement en milieu rural notamment dans les p. v. d. les plus nécessiteux, une dizaine d'interventions ont déjà été financées au cours des trois dernières années dans le domaine de la pêche ou de l'aquaculture. 1/

E. OSSINGA (Gabon) : La délégation gabonaise a déjà eu l'occasion d'intervenir sur la pêche de façon détaillée lors de la discussion du programme de budget à la Commission II. Pour l'heure, nous voudrions seulement faire quelques observations. Tout d'abord, il nous revient de féliciter le Secrétariat pour le document C 79/21 que nous approuvons dans son ensemble. Nous voulons relever tout l'intérêt que notre délégation porte:

- pour l'aide de la FAO à l'établissement et à la consolidation de structures de base nationales destinées à soutenir les programmes de développement des pêches, notamment les infrastructures de pêche au niveau national;

- pour l'approche régionale qui doit permettre une concentration plus importante et plus efficace de moyens, notamment dans l'étude et l'évaluation des ressources halieutiques. A cet endroit, nous nous permettons de relever l'absence ou l'insuffisance des structures appropriées dans la région de la Côte ouest-africaine pour laquelle la délégation gabonaise demande un effort particulier de la FAO.

1/ Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

Nous voulons également souligner l'intérêt des statistiques halieutiques mais également faire remarquer les difficultés pratiques constatées par les pays en développement pour réaliser ces statistiques par manque de base logistique, d'équipement de toute sorte.

Cette situation mérite un examen attentif de la part de la FAO et de son système ASPIS si l'on veut améliorer les statistiques de la pêche au niveau mondial.

Parmi les actions particulières envisagées pour la promotion mondiale des pêches, la délégation gabonaise relève la part prépondérante que doit revêtir le système de formation non seulement en matière de sciences halieutiques mais d'océanographie en général. A cet effet, ma délégation voudrait faire ressortir le cadre que représente l'Ecole nationale des Eaux et forêts du Cap ESTERIAS, A Libreville, comme pouvant contribuer à une action concrète de promotion des études océanographiques dans le cadre de la Sous-région de l'Afrique centrale. Cette école est prête à accueillir l'appui et l'aide de la FAO dans ce domaine.

La délégation gabonaise voudrait relever également dans les actions concrètes de la FAO pour le programme à venir la place intéressante de l'aquaculture qui mérite beaucoup d'attention et d'intérêt.

Enfin, ma délégation appuie sans réserve le projet de résolution C 79/LIM/41 présenté par le Portugal. 1/

A. BARRERA VALVERDE (Ecuador): El gobierno del Ecuador aprecia el espíritu constructivo y eficaz; del documento C 79/21 y presta su apoyo al proyecto de resolución C 79/LIM/21, por cuanto en ellos tiende a consolidar el ejercicio de los derechos soberanos y exclusivos de los Estados ribereños sobre las zonas marítimas sometidas a su propia legislación.

Por ello, al elogiar las propuestas en curso, tendientes a buscar y proporcionar mayor asistencia a los países en desarrollo para la promoción del uso de los recursos biológicos del mar, comparte y suscribe el ánimo de estimular la presencia soberana de esos países ribereños, en la administración, cooperación internacional y en los beneficios mediatos e inmediatos del financiamiento externo. 2/

G. CAMEIARIS (Cyprus) : Document C 79/21 has set the pace of our discussions on the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones. The document is well prepared and well presented and the Secretariat should be congratulated for this.

I will be brief, Mr. Chairman, since my delegation is basically in agreement with the rationale and future action, on behalf of FAO, as proposed by the Director-General. For this reason I will comment only on two points:

First, the evolution of exclusive economic zones opens new horizons for most coastal developing states. These states, in order to benefit and in order to use these new resources wisely and efficiently, coupled with adequate conservation policies, will need administrative, technical (including training) and financial support and assistance. This is clearly brought out in the document C 79/21. Thus my delegation hopes that this assistance either through FAO or through bilateral or multilateral arrangements would be forthcoming since, as it is pointed out in the document (paragraph 37) "Rarely does the chance occur to secure immediate and sustainable gains both in terms of food and income for some of the poorer countries of the world. " In other words, we have before us a once in a lifetime opportunity for quick, sustainable and adequate returns to any investments, due to the low gestation period required for most fishery projects to start paying dividends.

My second point, Mr. Chairman, concerns the fishery investments themselves. In my delegation's views, it is important, indeed vital, that these should be extended to research, processing, marketing and training, and should not be confined to financing of fishing fleet infrastructure alone and equipment. Indeed, in our view, programmes in training, research, marketing and processing are complementary and as such should be pursued together with programmes in marine life conservation and management. Thus yields can be maximised and harvested at sustainable levels to the benefit of developing coastal countries and their people. 3/

1/ Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

2/ Texto incluido en las actas a petición expresa.

3/ Statement inserted in the verbatim records on request.

M. HAMZA MORSEN (Tunisie) La Tunisie avec sa large ouverture sur la Méditerranée et ses 1, 200 kilomètres de côtes accorde une importance capitale au secteur de la pêche.

Vu sa démographie croissante et les besoins de plus en plus pressants de sa population en protéines, besoins qui sont liés au développement du pays, la Tunisie veut profiter pleinement de ses ressources halieutiques.

A cet effet, la Tunisie vient de réorganiser des structures de gestion de la pêche en créant un commissariat général à la pêche qui prend en main toutes les activités de la pêche dans le pays et ce, pour une gestion plus efficace du secteur et la mise au point de l'adoption d'une politique à long terme dans ce domaine.

Aussi, la Tunisie accueille avec satisfaction tout programme d'aide et toute initiative visant à la bonne gestion des pêcheries dans les mers. A cette occasion, je voudrais féliciter la FAO pour la préparation du document C 79/21. Ce document est complet. Mais si vous permettez, j'aimerais faire les observations suivantes.

Pour certains pays, les ressources halieutiques sont capitales et surtout nécessaires pour l'avenir de l'alimentation de la population.

Par ailleurs, il s'agit là de ressources biologiques fragiles. A cet effet, l'aide de la FAO devrait se traduire dans une première phase par l'élaboration d'un programme de recherche bien précis permettant à certains Etats en développement de bien connaître leurs ressources halieutiques dans leurs zones et d'avoir en leur possession tous les éléments nécessaires pour une bonne planification de leurs projets d'exploitation.

Ce qui doit être recherché en premier lieu à travers cette aide, c'est une bonne gestion des ressources et une exploitation rationnelle des stocks, adaptées dans chaque pays aux conditions environnantes; écologiques et socio-économiques.

N'est-ce pas là la meilleure garantie pour que ces ressources soient protégées et constituent une source d'alimentation et de protéines sûre et durable?

En effet, l'on parle souvent de captures et d'augmentation de la production sans tenir pleinement compte des potentiels et des facteurs écologiques: c'est le cas dans certains pays en développement qui ne pensent qu'à satisfaire leurs besoins immédiats en aliments sans se soucier de ce qui va se passer demain, ce qui est légitime.

De plus, pour résoudre ce problème, il faudrait apporter certains changements aux modes d'exploitation et aux structures de gestion et les adapter aux nouvelles orientations données au développement des pêcheries dans les mers et aux nouvelles exigences de l'humanité.

C'est sur cet aspect que je viens de mentionner que la FAO peut jouer un rôle prépondérant et contribuer au maintien de l'environnement sain et riche où toute l'humanité peut vivre en paix et en sécurité. 1/

The meeting rose at 12. 45 hours

La séance est levée à 12 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 12. 45 horas

1/. Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

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

C 79/I/PV/14

C

Twentieth Session
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

FOURTEENTH MEETING
QUATORZIEME SEANCE
14ª SESION

(23 November 1979)

The Fourteenth Meeting was opened at 15. 00 hours
Istvan Ozorai, Vice-Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La quatorzième séance est ouverte à 15 heures, sous la présidence
de Istvan Ozorai, Vice-Président de la Commission I
Se abre la 14ª sesión a las 15. 00 horas, bajo la presidencia
de Istvan Ozorai, Vicepresidente de la Comisión I

MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)

PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)

PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION (continuación)

9. Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (continued)
9. Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (suite)
9. Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas (continuación)

F. KESMIR (Turkey): First of all I would like to thank Mr. Lucas for his excellent introduction of yesterday to this very important subject which deserves a high priority in the activities of FAO. By bringing under control all coastal nations large fish stocks the new ocean regime would give the developing countries an opportunity to provide better nutrition for their populations. It would also permit them to increase their foreign exchange earnings by exporting their surplus catches. Finally, it will place upon them new responsibilities in the field of fisheries management and conservation. However, as most of these countries do not have the means and possibilities for fully exploiting themselves their own resources, the situation calls for increased international assistance and cooperation.

It also opens new opportunities in the field of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries. Any realization in this field would constitute a major contribution to the efforts to create a new international economic order. FAO should continue its leading role in this respect and encourage such cooperation as it has done so well in the past. The programme that FAO has prepared for the EEZs and presented in the recent quarterly meeting shows an integrated structure and this is highly appreciated by my delegation.

However, we would like to make a few points about its implementation. First of all, priority should be given to the short-term needs of the developing countries. Many countries have already established 200 miles of EEZ and they urgently require equipment, fishing techniques and qualified staff to take advantage of the situation. . Emphasis must be placed on this point.

The second point is that small-scale fisheries already existing in the developing countries should be extended in order not to create new inequalities in income distribution and to prevent price increases. The new opportunities created by the EEZ should be well taken into consideration in the solution to the unemployment problem.

A third point is that special emphasis should be placed on the establishment of distribution networks in order to reach all consumers.

In Turkey 85 percent of the fish catch is consumed in the coastal areas as fresh fish. Since facilities for economic transportation are not available annual fish consumption per capita, which reaches 10 to 12 kgs in the coastal areas, drops to zero in some inner parts of the country.

Finally, we believe that the programme should also take into consideration the situation of geographically or otherwise disadvantaged states who are not in a position to benefit from the programme but when however there is a potential to be utilized and increased. For instance, in Turkey, which is surrounded by three seas and has a sea coast of about 2, 700 kms there is need for international assistance in determining fish stocks, improving the conservation and processing techniques and in preventing losses during marketing. In this respect we fully subscribe to the proposal made by the delegate of Malta for the inclusion in the report of this Commission of a paragraph duly reflecting the special situation and the needs of the countries in the Mediterranean.

M. LEROTHOLI (Lesotho): My brotherly greetings to you and the participants in Commission I. My delegation will confine its remarks to the Draft Resolution on the Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones contained in document C 79/LIM/41. We recognize the hard reality of the trend that has already superseded the purposes of the ongoing United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in relation to the new phenomenon of nationalizing the seas by creating exclusive economic zones by some coastal states. We note that this resolution seeks to institutionalize this phenomenon within the context of the United Nations system, even before the United Nations has adopted a formal position on it through the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

We wish to state our position clearly, Mr. Chairman, in this regard, that this Conference of FAO is being requested to invoke a serious precedent in the procedures of the United Nations system, where a United Nations agency jumps the gun and pre-empts the United Nations General Assembly on an issue of so profound importance that the United Nations has already accepted that there is the need to ascertain world opinion through our Conference. That Conference has not yet concluded this issue.

My delegation very sincerely fears the potential consequences of the proposed resolution upon the process of the United Nations system at large. A precedent once established usually evolves into imponderables of limitless dimension, a complete Pandora's box.

It would be wise for this 20th FAO Conference to consider this resolution to have preceded its time and shelve it, much though it has important prospects for intended beneficiary states. The United Nations is a legal entity with its own statutory procedures which we must consider carefully as we draw up decisions in this agency. We should not be found to have hastened to legalise lawlessness.

However, should this Conference deem it convenient to ignore our warning, my delegation wishes to draw attention to yet another fact: the fact that nationalization of the seas through the exclusivity concept permanently dispossesses the non-coastal and other disadvantaged states of a universal right in respect of renewable resources of the sea.

We urge a reconsideration of the proposed resolution so that landlocked and other disadvantaged states may also be given a fair formula of standing as co-beneficiaries from the Exclusive Economic Zone with the coastal states. To that end my delegation formally proposes the amendment of both the preambular and operative parts of the resolution, in a modest way which will, however, profoundly express the common brotherhood of man within the forum of FAO in the following way:

1. In the 3rd preambular paragraph, in the 3rd line after the words ". . . benefit of the people insert the following words "without prejudice to the interests of non-coastal and other disadvantaged states". So that the preambular paragraph will then read "Realizing that in order to take advantage of these opportunities and to discharge responsibilities for managing fishery resources and utilizing them for the social and economic benefit of their peoples, without prejudice to the interest of non-coastal and other disadvantaged States, will urgently need considerable assistance'".

2. In operative paragraph 1 after the words ". . . fishery resources", add "in the Exclusive Economic Zone" and after the words "economic objectives", add "including those of the non-coastal and other disadvantaged States".

It cannot be overemphasized how important these modifications are to the affected States whose right of exploitation of the sea, their economic circumstances permitting, would then be accorded appropriate universal recognition. The acceptance of these modifications could considerably ease our position in mutual support with regard to other aspects and activities of this Conference where such support is of importance even to the coastal states. We need each other, the coastal and non-coastal states, in a wide variety of inter-state relationships, and please let us not forget one another when we enter the Kingdom of the Seas.

My delegation enlists the support of our fellow landlocked and other disadvantaged states, and we solicit the goodwill of the coastal states on this issue in the universal interest of mankind. Let us take advantage of the limitless prospects offered by Oceanic technology, with due regard for the basic principles that distinguish man as a social being. Even if some of us nationalize the seas let us do so rationally and equitably. A ruthless, unilateral nationalization by some coastal states of—and I quote the Secretariat in this ". . . an area of sea about equal to the entire land surface of the world . . ." without regard for the existence of non-coastal and other disadvantaged States could bring about irreparable rupture of human relations in new dimensions. Let us strive to retain the world of mankind intact and accommodate each other.

CHAIRMAN: Your suggestions and amendments are duly taken note of by the Secretariat.

W. WOLDEYES (Ethiopia): Mr. Chairman, first of all my delegation highly appreciates Mr. Lucas' preparation of the document on the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones.

Ethiopia as recognized by the United Nations has a coastal line of over 1, 000 Km. on the Southwestern Red Sea. As one of the coastal states Ethiopia has repeatedly supported FAO's efforts in assisting developing coastal countries. FAO's efforts include (1) holding regional multi-disciplinary seminars, particularly on the implications of the changing law of the sea on fisheries, with emphasis to regional management bodies, and the provision of direct assistance to coastal countries in remodelling national legislations.

The role of parastatal bodies in fisheries development and the implications of new law of the seas in fisheries legislation were highly supported by the Ethiopian delegations during the 19th Session of the FAO Conference.

At the 19th Session of the FAO Conference Ethiopia expressed the opinion that it would welcome the intended series of multi-disciplinary missions that FAO had planned to implement in order to assess the implications re the extended zones of jurisdiction for fishery development on a region-by-region basis which was actually a partial fulfilment by the Committee on Fisheries at its 11th Session.

In spite of our continued support for FAO's plan for fisheries development in coastal developing countries, our Permanent Representative to FAO was denied the right to attend the session of the Committee on the Red Sea. Although this decision was made by the majority of the countries bordering the Red Sea, we appreciate and give thanks to the Democratic Republic of Yemen for its unreserved support.

The Socialist Government of Ethiopia has given prior attention to the development of fisheries on the Ethiopian coastline of the Red Sea, in cooperation with concerned countries bordering those waters, and bilateral and/or parastatal bodies.

However, Ethiopia's sovereignty over fisheries resources in the Red Sea was not recognized. This was made clear by the Minister of Agriculture of Ethiopia in his address in the Plenary meeting of the august body of the Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference.

As one of the founding members of 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 area and Gulf of Aden Fisheries Development which was organized by the Arab States bordering those waters with the assistance of FAD, and with the exclusion of and without consulting my country.

My Government continues to consider this step as a violation of Ethiopian sovereignty over its territory, as well as a violation of international obligations.

These being the facts, my delegation believes that whatever the source of finance may be, FAO should in no way indulge and ultimately become instrumental in a regional exercise which might entail a discriminatory attitude against one member nation or a few member nations of the same region.

We believe that FAO is a vital instrument of multilateral development of member states which in its past history, its noble aims and achievements never entertained the values of a particular interest group at the expense of other member states. FAO, as a multilateral development agency of all member states, should hardly take the source of funding as the only criterion to prepare and implement a regional project to the exclusion of a vital member state of the region, otherwise FAO will easily be subject to a delicate situation and so unwittingly be used as an instrument to advance political objectives of particular interest groups.

Actually, excluding a member nation from the so-called Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fisheries Regional Development Project is contrary to the principles on which the concept of the exclusive economic zone is based.

It is amazing to note that while all member countries which have small coastal areas in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden have the privilege of being included in the project, Ethiopia, with over 1000 km. of coastline on the Red Sea, has been excluded.

We insist on Your Excellencies' judgement on the implications of such regional fisheries development viewed against the basic principle of exclusive economic zones.

In these circumstances, Ethiopia strongly feels that the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fisheries Project and its so-called committee do not embrace the vital fishing interests of all the coastal states of the Red Sea Region. If PAD is to conduct a meaningful project for all the people of the region, the present intent must by all means be altered to include all coastal member states of the region.

Finally, my delegation proposes to this august Commission that a resolution should be adopted with a view to reotifying the illegal deprivation of its rights imposed upon my country, by omitting its membership from the Red Sea Committee, and should include all other countries of the region willing to participate in the work of the Committee.

The Ethiopian delegation would hope that, beyond this incident concerning the Red Sea, no similar motives will be entertained in other regions where FAO or similar organizations are involved.

A. ANTOINE (Grenada): First of all, let me say that we believe that the document before us is well prepared. However, we are a little worried that the problem of island economies has not been exclusively and specifically dealt with in the documentation We would have liked to see how the programme proposes to treat small-island economies like ours, which cannot talk about 200 mile limits because we are very close to other people. Secondly, we would have hoped that the documentation would have given us some information on who gains and who loses. For instance, on page 32 of the document on world fisheries and the law of the sea we have sum developed countries, like Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand, gaining from the EEZ, yet the document gives the impression that it is only the developing countries which are gaining.

We recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the EEZ to develop-to some developed countries, as I have said-and that it will require political will to implement the proposals, and so on.

Our position is this that as an island economy fishing is vital to our people. So far we have implemented a fisheries development programme under which several projects are planned, one of which has been implemented or is being implemented, and that is the training of fishermen. However, as an island economy within the Caribbean, we share fisheries resources with several other countries.

Grenada will expect FAO to assist us in developing an integrated approach to the development and management of our shared fisheries resources. We are sure that other Caribbean countries are thinking along the same lines. We rely on FAO to give us some guidanc e in the development of our shared resources

We expect FAO to support and strengthen the regional fisheries development programmes, assist in the assessment of stooks and preparation and implementation of fisheries policies and programmes, and generally to promote cooperation with the countries with which we share fisheries resources. We would welcome a decentraiizati on of the fisheries bodies in our region. In our region there is WECAFC, but we would like to see smaller bodies able to deal with our speoific, insular problems.

We Welcome the assistance given to our fisheries development by Cuba. We also welcome the assistance given to that programme by Canada. We look forward to further assistance along the same lines, yet we would hope that inland fisheries would not suffer as a result of a preoccupation with any EEZs. So we would expeot FAO to continue to support, and in fact expand its support, for programmes in the EEZ as well. The EEZ will stress the technical and financial resources and, of o our se, the political will of governments, to the fullest, to the limit. We believe that FAO and the international community will face that challenge.

K. C. LUCAS (Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department)! It has been hard enough to digest the large number of oral interventions, altogether 42, but as well as those we had to digest 16 written interventions and try to bring the whole into some sort of coordinated response. It will not be perfect, but we will try our best. I have written down various points made by delegates under seven headings, and I think I can pick up most of the issues raised under those seven headings. I am not attempting to summarize the discussion but am picking up the points of questions, misunderstandings, disagreements, contentious points, rather than discussing the points on which there was agreement, because there was agreement on a very large part of what was written and proposed.

The most consistent and important point of contention raised throughout the morning and early afternoon, where there may be some misunderstanding, was the question of where does inland fisheries and agriculture fit? The reason there is no document on inland fisheries and agriculture before the Commission is that it was not on the agenda, it was not an item, therefore there was no discussion of the important work of the Organization in inland fisheries management and agriculture. But there was an important discussion on this subject at the recent Thirteenth meeting of the Committee on Fisheries, in this very room only five weeks ago. It had on its agenda the Exclusive Economic Zone Programme and it also had on its agenda Agriculture. It spent a whole day debating and considering the agricultural and freshwater management programme of FAO and the development of fisheries on an equal basis with its EEZ programme. May I refer to the report of the Committee on Fisheries.

I think it is worth making the point that in the Report adopted by the Committee on Fisheries, and passed by the 76th Council, it says, under Aquaculture Development, that the Committee on Fisheries expressed strong support for the Organisations present and proposed programme in aquaculture development, which would help meet the special needs of rural communities. It was suggested that efforts be made to include coordination among various organizations and experts involved in aquacultural development programmes.

The debate on Aquaculture lasted for a full day-roughly a third of the total time available for the Committee-and that I think is the answer to the delegate who said that we needed to put aquaculture on the agenda of meetings of FAO and Fisheries. I think that that delegation was not present at the meeting of the Committee on Fisheries, and may not have realized that it was given a thorough airing. When this report did come before the 76th Council ten days ago, this point was again raised, as to the possible competition between the new Marine thrust and the Exclusive Economic Zones, and the deleterious effects it may have on aquaculture development. There was a thorough airing of the point and discussion on it, and I have the draft Report of the Council in my hands now-this has not yet been officially released. Many of the delegations present here were represented at this meeting, although probably not individual delegates now present. The relevant paragraph reads, "with regard to aquaculture development, the second matter brought to its attention in the Committee on Fisheries, the Council expressed satisfaction at the Secretariat's assurance that support to aquaculture was being given high priority and was regarded as an essential complement, not as a competitor, to the Organisation's work in marine fisheries. "

So the issue has been discussed, and there was satisfaction in the minds of members of the FAO Council that aquaculture was getting fair treatment within the programme; I personally in fact advised the Council, as I have earlier advised the Committee on Fisheries, that the Organisation gives aquaculture, inland fisheries, and marine fisheries, equally high priority. We in fact have another subject of high priority as well and that is the utilisation of fish, once caught.

I think that is all I wish to say about that particular question. Again, I want to reassure the delegations present that aquaculture is not listed on the agenda and therefore was not provided with supporting documentation, but it was discussed at those two other fora, and satisfaction was expressed that the aquaculture programme is receiving not only high priority but programme support, not only from the regular programme but from budget programme from which it gets the majority of its funds, both the inter-regional and global programme and the country programmes.

We are very well aware of the opportunities for development in inland waters, where there is much competition for alternative uses of these waters. Here we must be careful of pollution and also of the conflict of fisheries management with other activities. This of course also makes a strong contribution to rural development and to nutrition in areas which are very short of protein.

The second matter raised by a number of delegates was: "where do small scale fisheries fit?" They were mentioned" by me in my introductory remarks yesterday in the context of small-scale farmers. They have the best chance of all of gaining a benefit from the existence of EEZ, if-and I under-line the word if-it is in fact the policy of national governments to make that emphasis. I would like to make this point again: that it is the philosophy within FAO's Fisheries Department that the small-scale fisheries development should be encouraged and given priority. However, we are not in charge of anyone's fisheries-all we are is advisors-technical advisors, policy advisors-and that it is up to the government of each individual country to decide to whom it is going to allocate the use of its fishery resources. Now that at least 93 countries have declared zones of extended jurisdiction, this gives them authority over the resources within that zone. But more than ever now it rests with the governments to make the decision as to who should have access, who should have priority for use of their resources, and whether the use of the resources be for social reasons, economic reasons, and so forth. That is why in document C 79/21, on the very last page in paragraph 38, it is suggested that the Conference should discuss the question of fisheries policies. The

Government should make conscious decisions as to how their fisheries resources should be used, now that they are under their control; because without making such decisions, the resources in many cases will fall to the strong rather than to the weaker in the community, which means that the small-scale fisherman loses out again. So I would like to urge again that governments do address themselves to this question, and make their own decisions-as they are of course empowered to do -and take a conscious decision on the question of allocation of their resources, and to what end purpose they should be used.

The Delegate from Sri Lanka asked how this EEZ helped small-scale fisheries, and I think I have given the answer in my earlier remarks on this topic. It helps them in a sense that (as I mentioned in my introduction yesterday) 99 percent of the exploited resources of the sea will lie within Exclusive Economic Zones, and therefore governments do have the power to make clear allocations of excess of certain stocks of fish to small-scale fishermen, thereby providing the one basic ingredient for their livelihood-the other ingredient being their ability to catch the fish and their ability to sell them at a price which will allow them to make a profit, or to in fact not take a loss on their operations. So it is possible now, because of EEZ, because of the control over the stocks, to tilt in favour of the small-scale fisherman, to give him a better chance of a better livelihood and a better life.

The third general topic on which there was a fair amount of comment was the whole question of the role of PAD in giving policy and planning advice, and in every case where it was mentioned, it was I think agreed by all the delegations making the interventions that FAO should take a more active role in providing comprehensive advice on fisheries development and management, including that of policy and planning. Included in this was the recognition that fisheries information was a very important ingredient of providing advice and assistance in policy and planning. I think different legislations fell under that same heading. I understand that delegations have introduced into the Programme of Work and Budget discussions in Commission II, and the Director-General has in fact proposed-and I believe it has now been agreed in the Commission-that the Fisheries Department should strengthen its policy in the planning capacity in order to give advice to member countries in their planning of how they can best utilize their EEZ, and to help also to evolve a network of regional bodies and subsidiary structures to gain the best possible advantage from this opportunity. Also in fact there is an organisational adjustment proposed by the Director-General and agreed upon at Commission II, to put a sharper focus on this problem of the distribution of work.

I think the Norwegian intervention was particularly appropriate here, when he spoke of the need to define objectives more closely and specifically, and then follow the development and assistance projects carefully so as to meet those objectives as precisely as possible. Again, I think this can take place within the context of country programmes as well as the sub-regional and regional programmes. We are certainly committing ourselves to an attempt to sharpen our preparations for and follow-through of these programmes, and we are now engaged in evaluation and assessment. We have already been instructed by the Committee on Fisheries to bring forward a report at the next meeting of that Committee in 1981, to report for the first time on what has been accomplished so far and to evaluate and assess its accomplishments as far as corrections in directions are concerned.

The fourth point on which there was a substantial number of interventions was that of the centralized delivery of the programme through strengthened institutions under the framework of the regional bodies. The concept of the smaller management areas within the regional bodies was strongly supported, and the movement towards the setting up of subsidiary bodies under the present large regional groups, and the strengthening of technical support, both received, I think, unanimous support.

I would like to acknowledge the offer by Sri Lanka to host a technical unit. I do not think it is within the Secretariat's mandate to accept that offer-but certainly we are pleased to see that countries are thinking in that direction. I would recommend that Sri Lanka take the matter up with countries within its geographical area, to seek consensus on this. We are prepared to go wherever countries wish us to go. We will be looking for host nations for a large number-eventually there will be between 12 and 15-of these technical groups, located in various critical places around the world.

The fifth topic on which there was a fair amount of discussion was that of cooperation between developed and developing countries. Very constructive interventions were made by a number of delegations, discussing the various ways and means of doing this. One was licensing arrangements, which the Delegate from Japan suggested: this was a very useful way of doing business, and should be encouraged. Of course, going on bilateral agreements between countries, these need not be just between developing and developed countries, but between developing countries as well. The use of joint ventures is another tool for development between partner countries, to take advantage of development opportunities, to keep things keep moving, you might say, until more programme arrangements can be made.

A call went up for FAO to intensify its help in this area, and it is certainly in the programme plan to assist wherever a question on licensing arrangements, bilateral agreements, and joint ventures, arises. I welcome the support that the Commission is giving to this type of work.

My next heading is that of funding and assistance. There seemed to be support from a number of delegations for an integrated approach to planning and execution of programmes of this nature, which makes it easier to arrange funding on a programme basis. One delegation asked what the latest status funding of the programme was. I did mention the statement yesterday in my introduction, but, roughly speaking, in the first two years of the programme (1980/81) we have already secured firm financing for \$13 million-that is, incremental firm financing-for the programme, with a further \$8 to \$9 million in active discussion at the present time.

However, for funding for 1982 and beyond, as we know, no commitments are made yet, in that medium-term, mainly because most agencies do not do their financing three years ahead; they only do it two years ahead. Another very important factor is that the UN Development Programme because its financial cycle begins in 1982, the planning on how the funds in the cycle will be allocated has not yet got to the point where they can make commitments. That is why in my intervention yesterday I was urging delegations which strongly support this Programme here also, in the forum of the UN open programme to make their voice heard and their weight felt when the time comes to be making allocations, which will probably begin in the meeting of the Governing Council in the Summer of 1980.

Also during the debate this morning there were a number of countries which in fact offered technical assistance, which is just as welcome to the Organization as financial assistance, because sometimes technical assistance is even scarcer than the funds. We are very pleased with the offers made by the delegate of Poland in his intervention offering training facilities, berths in research vessels, and other forms of assistance in kind. Also Korea made generous offers in this field, as did the Federal Republic of Germany and Canada. Canada in fact discussed what it was doing both in the way of financial assistance and assistance in kind. Again, we are open to all offers. There were other offers made in COFI and not repeated here and we promise that we will follow up every one of them after the Conference is over as quickly as we can to try to tie down some matching of the offers with the needs, so we can get moving to implement this Programme as quickly as possible.

This one did not have a category but the proposed technical conference to be held in 1982-the global conference-was mentioned by a couple of delegations, and in fact the delegate of the Philippines offered to host some preparatory meetings, for which we thank him very much, and I am sure we will be taking him up on that offer to have some of the preparatory meetings in his country.

We do not have a firm offer yet from any country for the hosting of that 1982 conference and we shall be rather anxious . to hear from anyone who is possibly entertaining the thought of inviting that conference to be held in their country.

I do not believe any one country could be expected to pick up the whole of the cost of that conference. I would see it being shared between the host country and the EEZ Programme, which I think should make some provision for it, since it would be contributing so much to the overall understanding and improvement of the fisheries development and management situation in the world.

One delegate mentioned the fact that small island economies were not mentioned anywhere in the documentation and I would beg to differ on that. Maybe it is not very obvious but in document C 79/21, it is mentioned in paragraph 27, where in fact the UN Programme of Assistance to Developing Island Countries is mentioned as one of the relevant UN issues to which this Programme relates, and we have it clearly in mind that the developing island states should be very important recipients of assistance from this Programme, because many of them have a very small population, so that they do not have the internal capacity, knowledge or expertise to take the many steps required to develop and better manage their fisheries. I would like to assure the delegation of Grenada that in the Secretariat we have their concerns very much in mind and we will see to it that in the future it is more clearly put in our papers.

I have only one more specific point concerning things mentioned at the meeting. The delegate of Ethiopia, who spoke last, I believe, mentioned the problem his country has had in the Red Sea project. I would just like to say that I have never heard about that problem until the intervention of his delegation at the Plenary a week ago. I managed to look into the problem and I found that the participation of Ethiopia in the Red Sea project which is, in fact, an OPEC Special Fund project executed by FAO, was considered by the Steering Committee in February of this year. There was no

decision taken and the delegations of the participating countries decided to refer the question to the next meeting, which has not yet been held, so there is really not a decision on Ethiopia's membership in that group. There are two other countries in the region who are also not members of that Programme, I believe, who are asking for participation. Through you, Mr. Chairman, I will commit myself to look into the question closely for Ethiopia and I will be communicating with Ethiopia further on that issue and with other countries in that regional programme.

If I may, I will give a few comments on the reaction to the resolution, introduced by a number of delegations and circulated to the meeting yesterday, and which was discussed by a number of delegations mentioned during the debate today. Firstly, could I make a correction on the document C 79/LIM/41. In that document it was noted that the resolution was submitted by delegations of seventeen countries listed from a paper and I now find that the name of the United Kingdom delegation should not have been on that list. Apparently the delegation wanted some changes made to the wording and the word did not filter back to the right people in time. Therefore, would delegates please delete the United Kingdom from the list of countries submitted in the document, although the United Kingdom delegation has said that it supports the resolution. Therefore it still wants to be on the list of countries supporting it but unfortunately it cannot be one of those submitting it.

While we are doing a roll call on this, therefore, sixteen countries submitted the resolution and a further sixteen expressed their support for it during the debate. Therefore there are 32 countries who through their delegations present here are now supporting the resolution.

There are four countries which have suggested modifications to the resolution and if I carry on with this now it may save time later. I am not quite sure how you, Mr. Chairman, want to deal with this when the time comes to report it. If I can report the proposed modifications, not all were mentioned in public. Some were mentioned to us privately. If I can exceed my authority, I will refer to those mentioned privately so that everything is face up on the table.

There was an intervention made by Poland about the resolution not recognizing the particular situation of geographically or otherwise disadvantaged states, and I must say that the Secretariat is very sympathetic to Poland for identifying this oversight. It was an oversight because that issue was discussed and decided upon in COFI and it appears in the report. Turkey also mentioned its concern on that matter and supported Poland's intervention. I think even the intervention at the very end of Lesotho reflected some of that concern. The Secretariat proposes to work out something and perhaps insert another paragraph in the action paragraphs of the document. It could be inserted after paragraph 2 and I can read it out quickly to put it on the record. It could be 2(a) of the present draft until until it is adopted.

"Recognizes that a number of geographically or otherwise disadvantaged states will not be in a position to benefit directly from the Programme and request the Director-General to give attention as well to the special needs and interests of those States"

I understand that with that adjustment Poland will be prepared to support the resolution.

The United States which did not intervene, but mentioned they probably would intervene later during the debate, had a proposal to insert a small phrase in one of the preambular paragraphs. In the fifth preambular paragraph which begins "Recalling the declaration by the World Conference", after the phrase "permanent sovereignty over its natural resources" insert "in accordance with international law" in commas.

Then the delegate of Spain did in fact announce his proposal to the meeting. In further discussions with him he had two amendments. In operative paragraph 5 which starts "Recognizes that this decentralized approach" in the second line after "developing" in the English text insert "as well as industrialized" so that the phrase would then read "foster increased technical and economic cooperation among developing as well as industrialized countries, . . .".

One further suggestion of the delegate of Spain was that operative paragraph 6 should be moved up to follow operative paragraph 2-or 2(a) was added. It was just the location of the paragraph; he would move paragraph 6 up.

Finally, right near the end of the intervention the delegate of Lesotho raised a pretty substantial point which could be the rocket on which this resolution might be grounded and sink. He was raising points which had been "debated in the past in the Law of the Sea Conference, on which I am not an outstanding expert at all. Mr. Lerotholi is. I would like to remind him of a couple of things though before he pursues those amendments much further.

Number 1 was that this resolution is addressing a programme of assistance in the development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones and that this programme has been in fact prepared and this resolution reflects support of that programme at the direction of the Conference at its meeting in 1977. Conference in fact entrusted the Director-General to prepare this programme and to implement it-gave very detailed instructions in paragraph 65 in the report of the Nineteenth Session of the Conference in 1977, so I do not think it can be debated that this programme is in fact being put together and operated under legitimate instructions from the Conference.

The second point is that it is a reality that 93 countries of the world have already declared either exclusive economic zones or exclusive fishing zones in the spirit and context of the growing consensus of the Law of the Sea Conference.

Thirdly, I would like to make the point that the Under Secretary-General of the Law of the Sea Conference in an address that he made recently at the Committee on Fisheries in fact endorsed the programme of FAO as being the first concrete evidence of action to implement the spirit of the Law of the Sea Conference and that it was going to have very concrete beneficial effects on economic and social benefits to developing countries.

With those few warnings-I think you could get into hours and hours of debate-the status of the landlocked and geographically disadvantaged states-which could bring the whole Law of the Sea debate into this House which would be very hard to manage-but I would just caution that this item would need to be addressed to this forum because of the facts I have just mentioned.

The delegation of Cuba had in fact said that they supported the resolution but they had some reservations and my understanding of the Cuban reservations is that they are editorial and presentational rather than of substance. I understand that the Spanish text of this resolution does not read as smoothly as the English text reads to me and perhaps the concerns of the delegate of Cuba could be best tackled within the Drafting Committee or a smaller drafting group which could take care of the Spanish and French texts of this document to make sure it is all in keeping with the interest of the language groups.

CHAIRMAN:I would like to announce to the House that a draft resolution on World Food Security as revised by the Contact Group is now available in all languages as document C 79/LIM/16.

R. PEREZ (Cuba):Nosotros, no obstante la sugerencia del Sr. Lucas entendemos que debemos hacer uso de la palabra ahora porque de hecho el Sr. Lucas en su intervención tomó, e hizo suyas y pasó a la Secretaría, una serie de modificaciones que le plantearon, según sus palabras, de un modo personal algunas delegaciones.

Nosotros, en particular, también tenemos algunas modificaciones al texto de la Resolución y entendemos hay otros países que también las tienen y si así se ha hecho en el marco de esta reunión nos creemos en el derecho y en el deber de plantear esas modificaciones, si la Presidencia nos lo permite.

Queríamos hacer las siguientes y pequeñas propuestas:en el párrafo cuarto que comienza: "Convencida", aquí se añadió al texto original que le fue planteado a los patrocinadores "y otros organismos multilaterales". Cuba plantea que se suprima esto que se incluyó "y otros organismos multilaterales" ya que no sólo FAO y los organismos multilaterales han colaborado en el desarrollo de la pesca internacional y tendríamos que mencionar a otros, y estamos en el marco de FAO. Por lo tanto, nosotros sugerimos que se quede sólo mencionando a FAO y que se mantenga el texto como en la Resolución original, "convencidos de que la FAO ha aportado durante muchos, etc. " y así continuaría.

También, en el punto cinco de la propuesta de Resolución donde dice en el primer renglón "reconoce que este criterio descentralizado facilitará la realización del programa" añadía a continuación del "programa", "ágil y eficiente": "facilitará la realización del programa ágil y eficiente", y el resto del texto del párrafo continuará como está planteado.

¿La Secretaría está recogiendo estas modificaciones?, pregunto; muchas gracias.

Por último, en el párrafo 7 que comienza "Reconociendo", ahí nosotros insertaríamos "Reconociendo el estado apremiante en que viven muchos países en desarrollo", y continuaría el resto del párrafo "y que se requerirán considerables recursos adicionales", es decir, como está expuesto en el documento.

Estas son las modificaciones que propone Cuba a la Resolución. En sentido general quisiéramos decir que aparecen otras palabras en el texto español de modo muy absoluto, por lo que sugerimos al Comité de Redacción que revisará el documento, lo señale con las palabras adecuadas, propias y lógicas a un escrito de esta índole.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to thank on behalf of the Commission BrLucas for his rather comprehensive answers and comments on this issue. I think his somewhat lengthy comments were called for because of the great variety of comments from the floor. If you are in agreement I would prefer not to reopen the discussion on item 9 which has been discussed all the morning. Item 109 the next item, on Food Standards Matters has to be dealt with as soon as possible, otherwise the Secretariat will not be able to prepare the report to be adopted on Monday morning so it is my wish that now item 10 be dealt with and later on we could come back to item 9 which is the Draft Resolution on 23 EEZ.

M. LEROTHCLI (Lesotho): I have no wish to take up the time of the Commission. May I thank Dr. Lucas for having paid attention to what we have said but I would like to refer to the fact that we have made formal amendments which he did not refer to here, that is in respect of the preambulatory paragraph 3 and operative paragraph 1. He shall however submit this in writing to the Secretariat for appropriate consideration.

T. J. SHO-SAWTERR (Sierra Leone): I just wanted a little point of clarification. In his summary Dr. Luoa indicated that 16 speakers had supported the resolution. May we know if these 16 include delegates which submitted their written texts for inclusion in the record of the Committee?

A. LOPES RIBEIRO (Portugal): I asked for the floor in order to try and contribute to the speeding up of the procedures on this very important matter to all our member countries, I noted the different suggestions for improvement or amendment to the proposal. We know that you are working against the clock because we have other business to undertake and I would like to explore one or two alternatives to improve the work and to avoid if possible an extensive debate on this point. As I had no time to consult with the other states which are co-supporters with us on this, I take advantage of having the floor to exchange views with them in sharing them with you.

It is my impression that the proposals for amendments or improvement which had been read by Mr. Lucas, by the Secretariat, do not seem, as far as I can judge, to be very controversial matters. If my assumption is a correct one I would be inclined to suggest that the Secretariat, through consultations with those directly concerned, and by that I have in mind those that have made proposals on the one hand or those that have raised a particular point of disagreement or objection, try to get a text that could be submitted on a clean form to see if we could get consensus on this proposal. If, however, you or the Secretariat consider that this is difficult, or any country on the floor objects to that procedure, another approach is to take advantage of your postponing of the debate on item 9 because we have now the matter of item 10 to consider to have a small contact group to try and polish and improve the resolution so that we could come to the Plenary with a paper that could obtain, I would hope, consensus without further discussion. At the same time I would like to make an appeal to all member states here present to ensure that by concentrating our efforts and taking a certain pragmatic approach we succeed in putting into action the proposals for the programme, avoiding a debate for which there are other items -with full appreciation for the importance attached by some states to their positions-avoiding a debate in which certain elements of the Third Law of the Sea could bring considerable difficulties to the procedures.

In conclusion my proposal is to recommend that the Secretariat, through direct or bilateral consultation with those concerned, should try to get a text containing the basic improvements and amendments, and if this failed, should have a very small contact group to try to do that job in the time available before the end of item 10. I hope that the colleagues of this proposal agree with my suggestion and I apologise for not having time to consult them before.

A. I. KIXIJEZ (México): Nosotros recogemos con interés y con positivo espíritu de colaboración los conceptos mencionados por el país que propuso la resolución y estamos en condiciones de hacérsela o formar un grupo pequeño de contacto para acelerar la velocidad de nuestro trabajo.

(illegible) A nosotros nos parecen pertinentes las recomendaciones hechas por Portugal y nos permitiríamos hacer modificaciones de forma que estamos seguros no alterarán el contenido de la resolución: el párrafo cuarto del inicio de la propuesta consideramos se debe eliminar en la segunda línea la palabra "FAO" porque es redundante; a la vez que "inmejorable" cambiándola por "mejores"; en la siguiente línea en lugar de la palabra "determinante" por la "más importante", para no hacerlo en absolutos; consideramos que la FAO tendrá una mejor y más importante participación.

(illegible) manera en el párrafo cuarto de la hoja tres de la versión en español en lugar de que inicie palabra "encomia" sugerimos que sea "apoya". Y por último en el párrafo séptimo consideramos que la siguiente frase: "reconociendo el estado apremiante en que viven los países en continúa la frase.

(illegible). . tras sugerencias concretas, señor Presidente.

(illegible). I am very grateful to Portugal for the suggestions made, and the proposer of the Draft Resolution to act as convener, as he kindly suggested, co-sponsoring the resolution I think this will promote the work of this office. The Portuguese legaté said we are working very much against the clock. If I see declare item 9 closed and we will move to discuss item 10.

10. (illegible) Matters and the Work of the FAO/WHO Codex Commission

10. concernant les normes alimentaires et travaux de la t: mixte FAO/OMS du Codex Alimentarius

10. Asuntos relacionados con las Normas Alimentarias y el trabajo de la Comisión FAO/OMS del Codex Alimentarius

(illegible) E. L. SABEN (Director, Food Policy and Nutrition Division): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman, the to introduce deals with Food Standards Matters and the Work of the FAO/WHO Codex Commission.

I should like to refer to four main issues under this item. These are, first, the question of elaborating an effective mechanism to enable governments to comment on the economic impact on trade food of the recommendations of commissions. Secondly the re-orientation of the Commission designed to give greater emphasis to food standards, needs of developing countries. Thirdly, the question of spacing that food standards take nutritional aspects fully into account. And, fourth, the related need to further strengthen the food control capability of developing countries. These are the 4 points I would like to pursue.

As regards our first point, the question of assessing the economic impact which may result from the recommendations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, this matter has been dealt with by the 35th Session of the Programme Committee, and the 74th Session of Council. Both welcomed the action taken by the Commission in establishing new procedures for the assessment of economic impact, but had agreed that the effectiveness of these new procedures depended to a large extent, on the mechanism evolved within the Commission and its Secretariat for dealing with trade impact statements from governments. In connexion with this matter, it should be pointed out that the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its Secretariat have taken steps to find a practical and effective solution to ensure that economic impact statements and statements relating to technical aspects would receive appropriate attention. The Thirty-seventh Session of the Programme Committee was informed about the action being taken. The Committee on General Principles, which met in Paris in October this year, examined this question in depth and its recommendations will be discussed by the Thirteenth Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to be held in Rome in December this year immediately following the Conference.

The Codex Committee on General Principles has recommended to the Commission detailed procedures to enable governments at any stage in the development of standards to have the economic applications of the standards fully considered within the Commission and/or its appropriate subsidiary bodies. Moreover it will also be open to any Member country after a standard has been adopted by the Commission to propose amendments when examining the standard with a view to its acceptance. The Council will, of course, be kept informed about developments.

The second question I would like to address myself to is that of reorientation of the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission which has been dealt with in detail both by the Thirty-fifth Session of the Programme Committee and by the Seventy-fourth Session of the Council. I am pleased to inform the Conference that, in keeping with the objective to meet further the needs of developing countries in the field of food standards, the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies are responding to the maximum extent possible. The requirements of developing countries in this respect will continue to receive high priority and increased attention will continue to be given to developing standards for products of economic or potential economic importance to these countries. In order to ensure these objectives, the Codex Alimentarius Commission is paying particular attention to the role of Codex Regional Coordinating Committees for Africa, Asia and Latin America. It has drawn up new terms of reference for these Committees and it is expected that they will be confirmed by the next session of the Commission in the light of the views of the various Coordinating Committees.

The third issue to which I made reference earlier relates to the agreement by the Seventy-fifth Session of the Council that food and nutrition should be a standing item on the agenda COAG and that the Programme Committee should follow developments in the nutrition programmes of the Organization. In response to the need to give greater emphasis to nutrition aspects wherever appropriate, the Food Policy and Nutrition Division has prepared a document for consideration by the next session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission setting out ways and means of ensuring that nutrition aspects are fully reflected in food standards work.

The fourth related issue refers to the need for expanding the food control field activities especially to assist developing countries in the establishment and strengthening of national food control infrastructures. Both the Thirty-fifth Session of the Programme Committee and the Seventy-fourth Session of the Council stressed this need. The Programme Committee again emphasized that more funds from extra-budgetary resources should be sought. I should like to inform the Conference that efforts are being made in this direction and that, in addition, a modest shift in resources has been proposed within the 1980-81 Programme of Work and Budget from food standards to food control under the appropriate sub-programme (2. 1. 6. 3).

In my brief introduction I have attempted to update information to recent developments designed to ensure that developing countries should derive greater benefits from the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission by being in a better position to influence the work of the Commission and also by having better capability to give effect to the recommendations of the Commission through improved food control facilities.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you Dr. Sabry for that introduction.

The delegate of Israel has handed in a written statement for inclusion in the recorded proceedings in this Commission and on item 10 of the agenda.

E. MATTHEY (President de la Commission FAO/OMS du Codex Alimentarius): Je parle non pas au nom de la délégation suisse mais en qualité de Président de la Commission FAO/OMS du Codex Alimentarius. Je voudrais enchaîner sur ce que vient de dire M. Sabry au sujet du programme FAO/OMS du Codex Alimentarius. Je serai très bref mais vous me permettrez de rappeler les objectifs du Codex, Je me bornerai à lire une ou deux phrases du Manuel de procédure du Codex, Celui-ci a pour objet de "protéger la santé des consommateurs et d'assurer la loyauté des pratiques suivies par le commerce des produits alimentaires, de promouvoir la coordination de tous les travaux en matière de normes alimentaires entrepris par des organisations internationales, gouvernementales et non gouvernementales". J'insiste sur la suite: "d'établir un ordre de priorités et de prendre l'initiative et la conduite du travail de préparation des projets de normes" Vous avez indiqué tout à l'heure, Monsieur le Président, la nouvelle orientation prise par la Commission du Codex lors de sa dernière session. Cette nouvelle orientation n'est pas due uniquement au hasard ou à un état nouveau de l'élaboration de normes Codex. Il s'agit tout simplement de ceci: sans vouloir remonter à la création de la

Commission FAO/OMS, en 1962 une trentaine de pays en étaient membres et, en 1979, ce chiffre est passé à 117 pays. C'est une démonstration éclatante, spectaculaire, de l'intérêt porté par les pays membres de la FAO et de l'OMS aux travaux du Codex, et en particulier ces dernières années par les pays en voie de développement. Cet intérêt ne s'est pas manifesté de façon soudaine mais insensiblement, de manière toujours plus évidente et convaincante, par une participation plus active des pays en développement aux travaux du Codex. Certes, ces travaux ont un caractère technique s'agissant de l'élaboration des normes et d'une nomenclature précise, concernant en particulier la fixation de la limite de résidus et de contaminants, tous facteurs propres à protéger la santé du consommateur et à assurer la loyauté des transactions dans le commerce international.

Bien entendu, et tout naturellement, au début les travaux se sont orientés sur les produits les plus courants faisant l'objet d'un commerce international. Quatre-vingt-treize normes, codes et pratiques ont été ainsi élaborés par la Commission du Codex mais je dois insister sur un fait; dans l'intérêt de plus en plus grandissant manifesté par les pays en développement aux travaux du Codex, ces pays ont insisté avec raison pour que les produits qui pourraient présenter un intérêt économique immédiat ou un intérêt économique potentiel soient étudiés. Cela entre parfaitement dans les lignes directrices de la Commission. Et si je me suis permis tout à l'heure de lire un extrait de l'introduction du Manuel de Procédure du Codex sur la priorité de certains aspects des travaux de la Commission, c'est pour dire qu'actuellement, après avoir travaillé sur les produits les plus courants faisant l'objet d'un commerce international, les produits provenant des pays en développement retiennent l'intérêt et font l'objet de l'activité des travaux de la Commission du Codex. Je citerai quelques exemples: la création de nouveaux comités, comme celui des céréales, ou la poursuite de l'activité du Comité Codex sur les huiles et les graisses qui prend en considération maintenant les produits oléagineux de graines exotiques et, mieux encore, certains travaux sur des jus de fruits exotiques. Les Comités de coordination des régions ont désormais une plus grande latitude pour s'occuper des produits directement liés à l'économie de ces régions; exemple, le Comité de coordination pour l'Afrique qui n'a pas hésité, au cours de ses deux dernières sessions, à élaborer des normes pour des produits typiquement africains.

C'est dire que le virage est pris de manière à ce que la Commission du Codex puisse prêter plus d'attention aux intérêts des pays en développement. Tout à l'heure, M. Sabry a insisté sur les nouvelles procédures proposées par la Commission mais non encore décidées; il s'agit de la nouvelle procédure élaborée par le Comité des principes généraux à Paris. Je n'insiste pas car M. Sabry l'a très exactement montré. Je voudrais simplement m'arrêter sur le fait qu'à tous les échelons de la procédure d'élaboration des normes Codex, il est possible, soit au Comité des produits directement intéressé à l'élaboration des normes sur les produits pertinents, soit à la Commission, de tenir compte des observations susceptibles d'être faites sur les normes en élaboration, et sur leurs conséquences et leur impact économique.

La Commission du Codex a largement tenu compte des vœux exprimés auparavant par le Conseil de la FAO, et j'ai le ferme espoir que dans dix jours, lorsque la Commission du Codex se réunira, elle ne manquera pas d'appuyer et d'avaliser la nouvelle procédure préparée par le Comité sur les principes généraux pour tenir compte d'une manière plus évidente des intérêts des pays en développement.

M. Sabry a parlé des aspects nutritionnels qui devaient tenir compte des normes du Codex. Je rappelle ici aux membres de cette assemblée que les normes Codex sont élaborées selon un schéma mis au point dans le Manuel de Procédure qui, je crois pouvoir le dire, est un modèle du genre. Dans ce schéma d'élaboration des normes Codex, il est question de facteurs essentiels de qualité et il y est question d'habitudes alimentaires, des contaminants, d'hygiène. Ce sont là autant d'éléments, autant de problèmes sur lesquels l'attention du Comité du Codex et de la Commission est attirée précisément pour essayer de promouvoir une meilleure nutrition par les produits faisant l'objet d'un commerce international. Certes, le Codex ne peut pas tout faire dans la promotion d'une meilleure nutrition. Il ne faut pas oublier que la promotion de la nutrition dans un pays est avant tout une question de médecine préventive. Mais les travaux de la Commission FAO/OMS du Codex peuvent apporter une contribution très positive à la promotion de la nutrition précisément par l'élaboration de facteurs de qualité. Je pense en particulier aux résidus, aux pesticides et autres contaminants; je pense aussi aux facteurs de composition relevant de la teneur en protéines ou autres facteurs déterminants pour la santé. Je pense également aux nombreux codes de pratiques, codes d'hygiène élaborés par la Commission du Codex qui doivent en quelque sorte suppléer aux déficiences du contrôle.

En dernier ressort, M. Sabry a insisté avec beaucoup de pertinence sur le besoin des pays en développement de promouvoir les contrôles alimentaires. Ce besoin est évident; la surveillance des produits alimentaires passe par le contrôle, pas forcément par un contrôle policier mais par un contrôle éducatif, un contrôle de conseils, un contrôle consultatif prêt à venir en aide aux importateurs, aux exportateurs, aux producteurs, aux industriels d'où qu'ils soient, de manière à leur donner la possibilité d'observer les exigences des normes; bien sûr, et j'en suis parfaitement conscient, tout n'est pas opérationnel dans les pays en développement mais toute chose doit avoir un début, qui ne

ne passe pas forcément par des équipements sophistiqués. Ce serait un mauvais argument de dire qu'on ne peut pas le faire parce qu'on n'a pas d'appareil sophistiqué. Au contraire, à mon avis, tout doit commencer par la mise en place de structures de contrôle des denrées alimentaires qui puissent assurer l'essentiel, je dis bien l'essentiel des besoins, des populations de pays en développement comme ce fut le cas dans d'autres pays il y a longtemps.

D'autre part, dans la constatation évidente du fait que les pays en développement ne disposent pas encore, et il faut espérer que cela viendra, de structures de contrôle, le Codex Alimentarius a élaboré un code d'éthique du commerce international des denrées alimentaires, Code d'éthique en vue de la conduite à suivre dans le commerce international. Vous me direz que ce code d'éthique n'a peut-être pas une force contraignante et c'est vrai, mais rien n'empêche les parties contractantes, qui ne sont pas obligatoirement des parties gouvernementales, de signer des conventions en vue d'observer le code d'éthique. Cela faciliterait grandement la protection des consommateurs dans les pays en développement.

En résumé, je pense pouvoir dire ceci: l'idée du Codex était une idée généreuse, et elle le reste. Le Codex met à la disposition aussi bien des pays en développement que des pays industrialisés une documentation extraordinairement intéressante qu'aucun de ces pays n'aurait jamais pu rassembler sur les arguments nécessaires à l'élaboration de structures de contrôle des denrées alimentaires pour assurer une meilleure loyauté et la protection du consommateur dans le commerce international.

Puisque j'ai eu l'occasion, en ma qualité de Président de la Commission du Codex, de prendre la parole, voilà ce que je voulais dire en complément de ce que vient d'exprimer excellemment M. Sabry.

R. C. SOOD (India) On some of the points that I wished to raise, some explanation has already been given, but for the sake of the record I would briefly indicate those points.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was set up jointly by FAO/WHO for dealing with food standards. It has an important responsibility. The Commission already has 117 members. The Commission has constituted 23 subsidiary bodies. The procedure laid down requires the standards to be processed through eleven steps. One of the disappointments of the programme is that, after all the elaborate effort, acceptance of the standards is very low.

The point was made at the 71st Session of the FAO Council in June 1977 that the standards recommended by the Commission were in fact being used as non-tariff barriers to trade, with a negative impact on food industries of developing countries. It is increasingly necessary that suitable mechanisms should be evolved to assess the economic impact of draft standards before they are adopted. We are glad to be advised that progress has been made in this regard.

Another problem we have is the cost involved in participation in the exercise, involved for preparing the standards under the request that these procedures be modified to ensure that various matters are dealt with in a single meeting, and at reasonable intervals-maybe once every two years or so-and that work may be conducted as far as possible by correspondence or through Permanent Representatives stationed in Rome. The present procedure appears highly expensive and needs to be very carefully looked into by the FAO Secretariat as otherwise the developing countries are going to find it difficult to continue participating regularly.

Another point we would like to stress is the need for development of infrastructure in food control. The developing countries need equipment for laboratory services and training programmes for functionaries at various levels, and FAO/WHO might examine how more assistance could be provided in this regard. I was glad to note from Mr. Sabry's explanation that this has already been looked into.

M. R. LEAR (New Zealand): New Zealand supported the decisions taken by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at its Twelfth Session to make Codex work more responsive to the needs of developing countries and we are pleased to see that the Codex Committee and its Secretariat are actively implementing these decisions. The Commission, we believe, has clearly shown itself capable of adaptive and flexible response to the express needs of its members. Although we would agree that the FAO Council and the Programme Committee should follow major development within Codex we do not consider it necessary for them to monitor the work of the Commission in any detail. The Commission should be given time to assess the results of the changes that have been made and are being made and to consider any further changes that its members consider necessary.

As a nation which is highly dependent on trade and food products and because of our concern for the health of our consumers, New Zealand remains a strong and active supporter of the work of the Commission. Its work of elaborating assessments and codes is lengthy and complicated and highly technical but it is of vital importance in facilitating international trade in food and protecting the interests of food consumers.

We would note that this work is one of the relatively few FAO activities which directly benefits the developed countries as well as developing countries. Bearing this in mind, we have a special interest, therefore, in expressing the hope that the Codex Secretariat is provided by the Director-General and the World Health Organization with sufficient staff resources adequately to perform its demanding and important work.

We believe that Codex's work continues to deserve a high priority among FAO's activities and that its resources should be commensurate with this priority.

Mrs. N. SHEANAKUL (Thailand): Thailand has always been interested in the activities of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission since its conception. A national committee was set up some time ago to act as coordinator between our country and the Commission and endless efforts have been made to improve our own food standards with the hope that eventually the principle of free distribution, wherever possible, will be realized.

Unfortunately Thailand, and other developing countries for that matter, has not been able to reap full benefit from the more than one hundred Codex standards that have been set up, for the simple reason that they could not be applied in our trade negotiations and instead standards of buyer countries were used.

Thailand supports any move to set up comprehensive and suitable standards that could be applied with full acceptance by both developed and developing countries and thereby help facilitate our trade negotiations instead of becoming barriers as they have been in the past. Indeed, Thailand believes that the key for the solution to the problem concerning full acceptance lies within the hands of the developed countries themselves who are, after all, designers of the said standards. Moreover the Thai delegation fully accepts that the full standard at the regional level is of the utmost importance as a step towards full acceptance in the international trade circle and that the standards for finished products rather than for raw materials is to have continued priority by the Commission.

In these respects the Thai delegation feels that FAO could spare its expertise to developing countries whose agro industry is mostly in its infancy in order that their food products may not only have a better chance for survival but also of reaching an international market in their adulthood.

J. C. SAINSBURY (Australia): Australia is a significant exporter of food products. In global terms Australia was the sixth largest exporter of food products in 1977 and in 1978 exports of food products accounted for 27 percent of our total export income. The Codex Commission's international food standards activities thus have a particular importance for Australia and we have therefore been an active participant in the programme since its inception.

Australia fully supports the report of the Seventy-Fourth FAO Council Session in Commending the initiatives taken by the Twelfth Session of the Commission towards more effectively meeting the needs of developing countries. Australia considers these initiatives to be sound and their implementation should ensure that the direction of work of the Commission is more attuned to the needs of developing countries and will enable them in the future to participate more fully in the Codex programme.

Finally, we fully support the point made in the report of the Seventy-Fourth Council Session that the work of the Commission is important to all countries, particularly within the context of nutritionally improved food production and food trade.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German) The Government of my country always attached special importance to the activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission also with regard to the implementation of the general objectives of FAO. We note with satisfaction that the Programme Committee as well as the FAO Council also share this view. Both have stressed rightly the importance of the work carried out by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for all countries. In that the specific

needs and problems of developing countries must be taken into consideration. My Government feels that the reorientation of the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission is a step forward in the right direction towards attaching greater importance to the interests of developing countries. Two new commodity committees have been set up. The Codex Alimentarius Commission has also shown its will to strengthen the work within the framework of the regional Committees. The Codex Alimentarius Commission finally has taken account of another important concern to developing countries. It has amended its rules of procedure to the effect that in future greater attention will be given to the possible effects of Codex standards on the economic development of the countries involved.

From the overall point of view we can, therefore, note that since the last FAO Conference significant progress has been made with regard to the reorientation of the activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. We welcome in particular the fact that this development has taken place within the frame work of the present programme with relatively low financial and personnel expenditure. This fact deserves our appreciation.

My Government will continue to make its contribution towards promoting also in future the programme of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in an effective way, and taking the interests of all participants into account.

Ms A. A. D'ALMEIDA (Angola): Before our independence the food laws and regulations were the same as those applied in Portugal, The standards for each product were issued by the Portuguese Institution for Standardization and became legally valid once published in the Government Gazette.

Our nation has witnessed that a great part of the physical structures that existed in colonial times were destroyed, and that the technical cadres in charge of the work related to food control left the country, being nearly all of them of Portuguese nationality, which was in keeping with colonial policy.

Due to the considerable number of problems that our country must face, the government has resolved to put them in order of importance, establishing a clear line of priorities. In health, for example, the emphasis has been placed on such actions that can, within a relatively short time, reduce the high mortality rates observed in infants and preschool children and decrease the incidence of certain endemic diseases. For example, the Expanded Programme of Immunization, the Maternal and Child Health Programmes, the Nutrition Programme, etc. ; dedicating at the same time a considerable effort to the formation of cadres that are necessary for the materialization of these actions.

The considerations referred to above give evidence that our young nation must programme the conditions for organizing the important work that refers to food control and for creating the laboratories and the necessary technical cadres for its effective implementation. All of these will be given preferential attention. We do not have either the professionals with experience or training in food science or food technology, the supplies that are most necessary for the high levels of food control service, nor the medium level technicians. Without these human resources it will be impossible to expand existing laboratories so as to obtain a significant increase in the coverage of food control services in our country. The Government of Angola recognizes the importance of food control and the application of food standards, especially those emanating from the Codex Alimentarius Commission, not only from the point of view of health but also in relation to agricultural, industrial and socio-economic development in general. It also recognizes that our present conditions are not satisfactory in relation to food control and standards.

We would like to take advantage of this opportunity to call attention to matters related to food control and standards in which our Government would like to obtain technical assistance from the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, namely FAO and WHO. These matters relate to, first, the establishment of an administrative structure responsible for food control and standards; second, the study and adoption of a food law and its corresponding regulations; third, the creation of a system of laboratories capables of performing the analytical work demanded by an improved organization of food control services and by their extension; third and last, the formation of professional and technical cadres that are necessary for the work related to food control and standards.

P, GRIFFIN (Ireland): My remarks will be brief and it is largely to indicate our interest in this matter that I am speaking. First of all, I would like to say that your own introduction and the subsequent comprehensive survey of the nature and value of the Codex work given by Mr. Matthey, the Chairman of the Commission, has provided a very useful background within which to consider this whole matter. The increasing interest which has been taken in Codex work by the developing countries in recent years is greatly to be welcomed. Arising out of their proposals some years ago-it was

at some Council meeting a few years ago-consideration was given to the feasibility of making the Codex standards more acceptable to them, particularly in regard to economic impact; and positive action has been taken, as will be seen from document C 79/LIM/1 in this direction. No doubt this action, which has been found to be a step forward, will be developed further at the meeting of the Codex Commission which will begin in ten days' time.

I think that it is of particular interest, however, to hear the interventions of delegations such as Thailand and Angola, which enable us to realise that of course all these problems are not yet solved, that there are specific problems which some of these countries have and to which I am sure further attention will need to be given. However, there is no doubt that developing countries and especially those engaging in exports of food, will find it very much in their interest to take full account of what is happening in the Codex. And, although the evolution of the Codex itself has perhaps not been precisely on the lines on which it was originally anticipated, I think that the growing accumulation of material arising out of the responses by various countries to the standards which have been transmitted for acceptance to them, is becoming of steadily increasing value to all countries.

M. DIALLO (Senegal): Mon pays, le Sénégal, suit avec beaucoup d'attention et d'intérêt les travaux de la Commission sur le CODEX ALIMENTARIOS. Il a participé jusqu'à présent à toutes les réunions organisées sur le CODEX ALIMENTARIUS et il dispose déjà d'un Comité national du CODEX.

Ma délégation voudrait insister essentiellement sur l'importance qu'il faudrait accorder à l'évaluation de l'incidence économique alimentaire internationale dans les pays en développement. En effet, même si nous souscrivons entièrement au CODEX ALIMENTARIUS parce qu'il peut améliorer la qualité des aliments de notre population, nous souhaiterions qu'il ne constitue pas par sa rigueur une arme à double tranchant pouvant paralyser les efforts des exportations des produits alimentaires des pays en développement.

Aussi ma délégation pense que le CODEX ALIMENTARIUS sur les produits alimentaires n'aura de chance réelle de succès que dans la mesure où les pays en développement disposent des structures de contrôle national et du personnel compétent.

C'est pourquoi nous demandons qu'un effort soit entrepris par la FAO et la communauté internationale, d'une part, dans la formation du personnel technique chargé dans les pays en développement d'assurer le contrôle efficace des denrées alimentaires et, d'autre part, dans la mise en place des moyens matériels de contrôle efficace. Nous appuyons le rapport de la Commission sur le CODEX ALIMENTARIUS.

Ms. V. F. WIGHTMAN (Canada): We would not want to pass this point in silence because, as you know, Canada has long supported the work of the Codex Alimentarius. We support it as a measure to facilitate international trade and to protect the ultimate consumer. We recognize that over time, some orientation is necessary in any programme in order to keep it relevant and useful for the full membership. As developing countries assume a larger role in world trade, the Codex will take on a greater significance for them and we welcome their active participation in the formulation of standards. We in Canada are working with others to give greater emphasis to the food standards needs of the developing countries. We have offered to host-and this just awaits final endorsement by the Codex Commission-a new Committee on vegetable proteins. These foodstuffs, as we know, represent a significant part of the diet in many developing countries.

Canada is also contributing to working out a new focus on nutrition for the activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. For many years we have been host to the Committee on Food Labelling. Labelling is of considerable importance in setting nutrition standards, in informing the consumer and it could be of value in nutritional education programmes.

My Government strongly supports the FAO work in the area of food control and in assisting the developing countries to improve their national programmes, to regulate and to monitor the quality and safety of food for the consumer. This in turn will help the developing countries to meet international standards and to participate increasingly in world trade.

We look forward to pursuing these and other issues at the meeting of the Codex Commission here in Rome in early December.

Z. I. SABRY (Director, Food Policy and Nutrition Division): I wish to thank all the delegates for their interventions and the very fine points that were raised. They will be of great help to us certainly here in the Secrétariat. I will make reference to a number of points that were raised.

The point was raised by the delegate of India as well as the delegates of Thailand and of Senegal regarding the acceptance of the standards and whether, in fact, this has an economic impact. As I indicated in my introduction of the item, the Committee of General Principles has developed the necessary amendments to introduce an assessment of the economic impact of a food standard at any time during the acceptance of the standard and it could be introduced at any number of steps that are followed in accepting a food standard. This will certainly bear fruit in time and we should be able to look at an introduction of food standards that are designed to help both developing and developed countries in that respect—an objective that we all agree on.

The second point I would like to refer to is regarding the importance of food control work, particularly in developing countries. The delegate of India as well as the delegates of Thailand, Angola and Senegal, have particularly elaborated on this. We in the Food Policy and Nutrition Division give great emphasis to this work and endeavour to strengthen the food control infrastructure in developing countries to assist them implementing the recommendations of the Commission. This is a very important part of our work and it ties very closely to the work of the Codex Alimentarius.

Another point that was raised by the delegate of India was regarding the cost involved in developing standards. Certainly we have taken note of this and it will guide our thinking as we proceed through our work in this area.

We appreciate the supportive indications that were given by a number of delegates, particularly the delegate of Thailand, in support of the work of the regional coordinating committees. The work of these committees is bearing fruit and we can see a role that these committees are playing that will enhance the advantages that we can reap from the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

These basically are all the points that I have noted down, Mr. Chairman. If there are any specific points that I have not covered I will be glad to address myself to them.

CHAIRMAN: I really do not see any reason why I should sum up this discussion, as everyone seems to be in agreement that the Codex Alimentarius Commission is doing commendable work. I will only say that this Commission seems to be in agreement with what has been suggested by the Council and we will recommend and suggest to the Conference that the Report of the Council should be accepted as it stands. With that I declare Agenda Item 10 closed.

H. BAR-SHAI (Israel): I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission for the very important work they do.

Israel applies Codex Alimentarius Standards wherever feasible, especially where Israeli standards are concerned. One cannot exaggerate the importance of the contribution of the Codex Alimentarius International Standards to more efficiency in food production, to the removal of unnecessary obstacles to trade at both national and international levels, and ultimately to better food for the world's population, for whom we all speak and do so much. ^{1/}

^{1/} Statement inserted in the verbatim record on request.

Mohamed SIDKI ZEHNI; Chairman of Commission I, took the Chair
Mohamed SIDKI ZEHNI, President de la Commission I, assume la présidence
Ocupa la presidencia Mohamed SIDKI ZEHNI, Presidente de la Comisión I

6. World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)
6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)
6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)
6. 1 State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)
6. 1 Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)
6. 1 El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas, relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)
- Draft Resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment
- Projet de résolution sur le commerce des produits, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agricole"
- Proyecto de resolución sobre comercio de productos básicos, proteccionismo y reajuste agrícola

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic) : You will remember that as we have been moving through these items this afternoon each time a draft resolution was offered for your consideration we postponed the discussion in favour of adopting various measures to allocate them to various other bodies. We will not move to discuss these draft resolutions themselves.

You know that we have a draft resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment. We have another draft resolution on World Food Security. We also have a draft resolution on Fisheries. We also have a draft resolution on World Food Day.

My proposal is that we should now begin our examination of these draft resolutions in order. Before the discussion of each of these draft resolutions I will explain to you the status of these draft resolutions in each of the various Commissions which have been examining them.

You will remember that the draft resolution on World Food Security is document C 79/LIM/16; on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment the document is C 79/LIM/42; the draft resolution on World Food Day is C 79/LIM/37; on Fisheries the document is C 79/LIM/41. I propose that we should examine them in the following order. Let us take Protectionism first. Let us take World Food Security second. Let us take World Food Day third. We will take the draft resolution on Fisheries fourth.

If you agree we will begin straight away with the first draft resolution, which is on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment. For this one you will recall that you asked me to carry out unofficial consultations within the context of a small unofficial contact group, which I did I can now tell you that this small unofficial contact group was able to achieve a consensus upon a text for this draft resolution. I would just like to mention here that the consultations on this draft resolution were long and arduous and I think each person had to contribute a considerable amount of effort in order to achieve this consensus. In the light of that I really would like to appeal to you all to accept the results of the working group, to view their work with a favourable eye, to adopt it even, because, believe me, all those involved most intimately have accepted it. I repeat that on Saturday during the day and the evening we worked on it at considerable length. I think the results we have achieved should be to the satisfaction of all of you.

Having said that, I will open the discussion on the draft resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment. This is document C 79/LIM/42. Nobody seems to be asking for the floor. Then my conclusion must be that you agree with the draft resolution.

Ms. V. F. WIGHTMAN (Canada): I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, everything seems to be moving so quickly. We received the clean draft only today. We referred it to Ottawa and have not had final clearance from Ottawa. But based on developments so far I would like to make an interpretive statement which I hope can be included in the record of the proceedings.

The Canadian delegation is most appreciative of the work of the contact group, which we did not participate in, as you know. However, there are certain aspects of this resolution which still give us concern. We are troubled both by the thrust of the resolution and by some of the wording.

There is reference in the Preamble to the work undertaken in other international agencies.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Are you making your interpretive statement now? Usually we have the interpretive statement after the approval of the draft resolution by the Commission. As I see no objections to the draft resolution, to my mind it has been approved.

The draft resolution was approved

Le projet de résolution est approuvé

El proyecto de resolución es aprobado

Ms. V. F. WIGHTMAN (Canada): As I indicated, we have some problems with the resolution which has now been approved. These relate, as I said, to the thrust of the resolution and to some of the wording.

There is reference in the Preamble to the work being undertaken in other international agencies. We have studied the resolutions anew, the resolutions emanating from UNCTAD V. We note, for instance, with regard to protectionism, including agricultural protectionism, that the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD was instructed by the recent Conference in Manila "to review developments involving restrictions on trade with a view to examining and formulating appropriate recommendations concerning the problem of protectionism". The Trade and Development Board is also asked "to make a global evaluation of the MTN". The GATT is of course constantly monitoring barriers to trade. I think we are well served in this respect.

The UNCTAD resolutions to which we refer cover the full membership of that Organization which is almost identical to that of the FAO. While we fully appreciate and are participating in consideration of the many problems of the developing countries, we find that the resolution before us makes an unfortunate distinction between groups of countries, and we would have wished a more balanced text reflecting the interests of all the members of the FAO. We hope that the proposed examination of problems of CCP and the subsidiary bodies will not in any way duplicate the work under way in UNCTAD or GATT. The proposed examinations should seek to focus on particular problems which warrant further investigation and should be cost-effective, bearing in mind budgetary concerns of the Organization.

Finally, Canada has indicated on a number of occasions its support for the conclusions of the MTN as a major improvement in world trading conditions not only in terms of tariff concessions but also the far reaching effects of the codes which have been negotiated. That negotiation is now concluded and the implementation is to begin next year. A great deal of work will continue in the GATT in putting the conclusions of this negotiation into operation and we hope for the widest possible participation of all countries in this work.

In adding this last paragraph, it is simply to go on record that we feel the MTN is perhaps not receiving sufficient recognition in the resolution before us.

D. SMITH (United States of America): The U. S. delegation wishes to support the Resolution on Commodity Trade Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment. We wish to express our appreciation for the skill with which you led the contact group, Mr. Chairman, and for the constructive atmosphere which characterized its negotiations.

The United States Delegation wishes to make the following statement concerning our understanding of preambular paragraph 7 concerning the Multilateral Trade Negotiations. The United States delegation

considers that the Multilateral Trade Negotiations achieved more in the area of agricultural trade than any previous round of trade negotiations. Moreover, the liberalization achieved in the MTN will, we believe, substantially improve the access of developing countries to all major markets. We realize, however, that further progress is needed in liberalizing agricultural trade, and we urge all countries to participate actively in the GATT in order to work towards increased market access for all countries in this important area of international trade.

The United States would like this statement to be placed in the Report of the Conference and asks that the paragraph in the Resolution be footnoted to that effect.

G. DUCOMMUN (Suisse): La délégation de la Suisse adopte la résolution sur le coneroe dos produits, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agricole. Toutefois, elle aimerait rappeler la déclaration faite au point 7 de l'ordre du jour concernant la sécurité alimentaire. La Suisse a, elle aussi, en tant que pays industrialisé, une politique de sécurité alimentaire. Notre pays est largement ouvert aux exportateurs agricoles du monde mais, parallèlement à nos importations massives de produits agricoles, nous tenons à maintenir un potentiel national de production agricole pour assurer notre sécurité alimentaire.

L'ajustement agricole international a donc des limites et l'application du principe des Coûts comparatifs avantageux ne peut être totalement appliquée au secteur agricole alimentaire.

A propos du dernier considérant, avant le dispositif de la résolution, nous aimerions souligner que la Suisse n'a pas accru son protectionnisme agricole et qu'elle n'a pas l'intention de le faire.

S. BE MARE (Sweden): The delegations of Finland, Norway and Sweden wish to make the following statement in connection with the Resolution just adopted. In the view of these delegations, the Resolution must be considered in the context of the discussion that has taken place during this Conference concerning long-term developments of the future food supply, taking into account such factors as population growth and the fast increase of food imports of developing countries.

Against this background, it does not seem to be meaningful to substantially reduce a technically efficient food production in some industrialized countries, even if this production under the present somewhat irrational market conditions should require some economic support.

Accordingly, the delegations of Finland, Norway and Sweden do not interpret the Resolution in such a way that it should call for any important changes in the present agricultural system of our three countries. We would like this statement to be inserted in the Report of the Conference.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): First of all, I would like to associate myself with the remarks made by the United States of appreciation toward yourself and the hard and patient work which you in collaboration with the members of the Contact Group put in to achieve this Resolution.

In relation to this Resolution, now that the Resolution has been adopted I wish to make the following interpretative statement on behalf of the nine member states of European Economic Community. The fourth and eighth preambular paragraphs do not and cannot mean or imply an invitation to a country or a group of countries to change or to modify the instructions of their own or common agricultural policies. The adjustments undertaken in the agricultural sector are exclusively of the competence of each country or group of countries concerned, taking into account the specific problems which occur in this sector.

The seventh preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 3 cannot give grounds to justify a reopening of the Tokyo Multilateral Trade Negotiations, which must be considered as concluded.

As for sugar, we would like to point out that the Community considers that the contacts which have already been established between the Community and the informal group of the International Sugar Organisation are in line with the request made in operative paragraph 8 of the Resolution. Possible participation of the Community in the Organisation would be determined by the Resolution on such negotiations and by the compatibility with the EEC sugar policy.

We would like this statement to be inserted in the Report of the Conference and that a footnote indicating that the EEC made an interpretative statement be appended to the Resolution.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): Kay I also join all the others who have complimented you, Mr. Chairman, on your patience and perseverance in chairing this group. But apparently your patience and perseverance have not been well rewarded because from the length of these interpretative statements I am wondering what will be the effects of this Resolution, because some of the interpretative statements are longer than the Resolution itself, and if these were to be inserted in the Report-and to the best of my knowledge there are two or three paragraphs about this subject in the Report-if you are going to have lengthy statements in fact negating the whole exercise, then I do not see the point of adopting such a Resolution. On the one hand, you adopt a Resolution and then you pull the rug from underneath it, Sir. Therefore, I would like a consideration. If these interpretative statements are to be recorded, they should be brief, concise, and to the point, not lengthy, rambling statements which cover all aspects of the matter.

I. TAKI (Japan): First of all, I would like to express appreciation with other delegates for the excellent chairmanship you showed in order for us to reach the adoption of this Resolution.

On behalf of the Japanese delegation, I would like to make the following interpretative statements which concern paragraphs 7 and 8 of the preamble and operative paragraph 3 of this Resolution, and ask the Secretariat to put them on record.

First, with regard to paragraph 7 of the preamble and operative paragraph 3 which concern the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, I wish to state that in the course of the MIN, the Japanese Government made a great effort to bring the MTN to a successful conclusion, and its viewpoint now is that the results of the MTN in the agricultural sector should be highly appreciated.

I understand that the developing countries have a deep concern for the problems which have not been resolved in the MIN. I do hope, however, that the exporting countries of agricultural products on the other hand understand the serious difficulties with which the importing developing countries are confronted on their agricultural sector.

I further wish to clarify that Japan's acceptance of the paragraphs should not be interpreted as implying that the MTN should be prolonged.

Second, with regard to paragraph 8 of the preamble, I am not reluctant to recognize the necessity of agricultural adjustments mentioned in this paragraph. At the same time, however, I am convinced that many agricultural adjustments should be carried out taking into account the economic and social structure and the economic, social and security objectives of the developed countries concerned, as stated in Resolution 96 (IV)E of the UNCTAD V.

M. S. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen Arab Republic)(interpretation from Arabic):I fully agree with what the delegate of Pakistan has said, and pay tribute to you and the Contact Group for the excellent efforts they have made in the lengthy negotiations on this draft Resolution. I really do not see why such lengthy interpretations are given for this Resolution because the present text does represent the opinion of most delegations here.

That is why I support the proposal of Pakistan that the Resolution should be adopted as is and any reservations should be appended to the report without changing the text of the Resolution.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia):I was privileged enough, Mr. Chairman, to work under your guidance in this small Contact Group so I fully share the sentiments already expressed. You have been very patient and have invested enormous efforts after so many hours of our work. But now, of course, as we have discussed in the Contact Group, it was announced there that some interpretative statements would be made here.

My point is, first of all, procedure. As we understand the basic purpose of our report is to reflect as briefly as possible our collective feeling, and in a very very short statement-in one sentence, in fact-only the strong points of some statements. With regard to that, I would see it as very difficult, if not impossible, if all these lengthy interpretative statements are now to be included in our report.

May I suggest for your consideration Mr. Chairman, that we place in the text a close cross-reference and indicate with regard to certain specific elements of the Resolution that interpretative statements were made and recorded in the verbatim of the Conference, otherwise it would be difficult if not impossible as it would certainly make our report highly unbalanced.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you very much. I hope that this meeting will not be transformed into a substantive discussion of the problem.

RAMADHAR (India): The Contact Group under your guidance has accomplished an excellent job, and I agree with the solution suggested by the delegate of Yugoslavia that this interpretative statement in any case will find their place in the verbatim record and what is required is to briefly refer to them somewhere in the text of the draft of this Commission.

If you are going to have all these interpretative statements here, then this will be lengthy and cumbersome and will not be in conformity with the conventions we have in this situation in this House. Therefore I would support you.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I am, of course, speaking only in regard to the interpretative statement made by me on behalf of the European Economic Community, but you will recall that at the Contact Group when these matters were being discussed—I am speaking about the EEC only—in the case of these matters which were at issue certain questions were accepted on the understanding announced at the Contact Group that we should make an interpretative statement.

This is of the essence of the arrangement we made, and for the European Community at least I must say that the statement we have made is very short and concise and contains nothing but the essential points and is not capable of being condensed.

That is my declaration on behalf of the statement which we have made, at any rate.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. First of all I would like to thank all of you who have paid tribute to my efforts and the efforts made by the members of the Contact Group, but in fact these thanks should be addressed to the members of the Contact Group because it was they and not I who enabled us to reach the results that we have.

My second comment, as was stated by the delegate of Yugoslavia, is when we had agreed on the present text of the draft Resolution some of the members of the Contact Group told us that they were going to make interpretative statements at the Committee meeting. During the discussions at the Contact Group of course we did not discuss the nature or substance of these interpretative statements and did not refer to the possible length. After having heard the various interventions here, I believe the solution if you would agree should be, or might be, to first of all have the full text, the text of the interpretative statements, in the records and we should mention the fact that some delegations made interpretative statements, and we would put the most important portion in connection with the relevant passages of the Resolution so that we would in fact maintain the original text in its entirety as well as the sense of the interpretative statements.

This would mean it is not necessary for the full texts to be reproduced, as they were often lengthy and they would unbalance the texts of the report in many cases.

So if you would agree, if you would trust me to be very careful in the drafting of the verbatim record or of the report we could in fact give satisfaction to all delegations and include the sense of the interpretative statements in the report and the verbatim record. This is by no means unusual; there have been precedents at other conferences where it was the essential basic point in the basic interpretative statements which were reproduced while the full text was put in the verbatim record of the meetings, in other words, summaries of the report and the full text of the verbatim records.

If you think this is a fair procedure, and I think we are reduced to having a faithful reproduction of the statements given, then I suggest we agree to this procedure.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Mr, Chairman, I do not insist on it, but if no one else is offering to take the floor then I will. I think that as usual you are showing the qualities of chairmanship which we greatly appreciate in you, not only in the Commission policy at the Contact Group, and I certainly appreciate the suggestion you have made. As far as the statements of any other group are concerned we would not raise any objection to the proposal you would make.

However, I am in a position that I am unable to accept your proposal on behalf of the statement of the Community at this moment, because the Community we feel went to great lengths to arrive at an agreed resolution but we did specifically stress at the time the importance we attach to the interpretative statement, and this importance as I say in the case of our statement, is a very short and concise one. However, I am talking about our statement and our position is that we would like that to be incorporated in the report, and I am not in a position to depart from that situation at the moment at any rate. That does not mean I will be later on, but that is my situation at present.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I cannot really imagine that the Contact Group could solve all problems and overcome all obstacles, but the Contact Group did find solutions to some very difficult problems. I can hardly conceive we would now be in a position that would not enable us to find a solution to such a minor problem of procedure, in connection with the length of the interpretative statements, as reproduced. I therefore believe that once you have an opportunity to see the text of the draft report, you will see the conciseness at which we have aspired, and the faithfulness of the report.

RAMADHAR (India): Your proposal is an excellent solution of the situation, and as you rightly said, was in conformity with the tradition which we have been following. This is not the first time that a situation of this nature has arisen. I have before me the Report of WCARRD, and we were there faced with a similar situation, where certain countries wished to make interpretative statements-9 of them-and they had been brought out in a separate document with an explanation that these were the statements made by these countries. We resorted to that procedure because there was no system of verbatim reporting. Here we have that system, so, in conformity with the conventions we have followed, once they are in the verbatim record and are referred to in the Report of this Commission, the matter ends there. What the representative of EEC and the Delegate from Ireland are suggesting is an entirely new procedure, which I am afraid we will not be prepared to accept.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): First of all, Sir, I wish to wholeheartedly second what you yourself suggested as a means by which we could perhaps best reflect some of the interpretive statements. Secondly, on substance, I fully support what my colleagues from Pakistan and India have said. I even want to add something. I don't need to waste your time expressing something of which you are fully aware. My delegation party in this Contact Group is equally unhappy-in some cases, even more unhappy-than some others who have made interpretative statements.

They would start by saying certain things, which, by the rules of the day, become more and more modified. We would certainly, in two other cases, make our own interpretative statements, to make sure what our position on the same issue is.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): We agree with what the Delegate of India, and later the Delegate of Yugoslavia have said. I think the best way out is to add in the report "The delegations of the following countries and the representative of the EEC made interpretative statements which are reflected in the verbatim record"-and this would give them an opportunity of making even lengthier interpretative statements.

I. TAKE (Japan): We have a good example in the report of WCARRD. This report shows that several interpretative statements and reservations were made, with the name of the countries. The interpretative statement is duly abridged in this report.

CHAIRMAN: You have used the word "abridged", or summarized-and that is what we are trying to convince our friend from Ireland of.

P. MASUT (Pakistan): Regarding the suggestion made by the Delegate of Japan. I think that this was already explained by the Delegate of India: that these statements had to be annexed because there was no verbatim report of WCARRD. In this case we do have a verbatim record, and a reference could be made to that.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): En ce qui concerne la Conférence sur la réforme agraire, j'en parle d'autant mieux que je suis en quelque sorte à l'origine de ce complément qui est annexé au rapport.

Nous avions demandé que les réserves figurent in extenso dans le rapport lui-même. Cela n'a pas été possible à ce moment-là et ce n'est pas parce qu'il n'y avait pas de verbatim de séance que cela n'a pas été inséré dans ces verbatim, c'est tout simplement en raison des conditions dans lesquelles nous avons été amenés à travailler les uns et les autres dans les différentes commissions et parce que l'on nous avait dit "Il faut que vous remettiez les textes de vos réserves et de vos déclarations interprétatives au bureau de chaque commission pour qu'il en soit tenu compte et qu'elles figurent."

Au moment de la dernière séance, nous nous sommes aperçus que, si elles étaient mentionnées sous une forme succincte dans le cours du rapport, elles ne figuraient pas telles qu'elles l'étaient et comme il était nécessaire lorsqu'on se rapportait au projet de déclaration et au programme d'action; pour que les lecteurs puissent éventuellement lire in extenso le texte des réserves, il a été décidé par la suite, et c'est un document de septembre qui a été adressé maintenant à tous les membres, qu'il figurerait en annexe au rapport.

Dans ces conditions, il n'est pas suffisant pour nous que le texte puisse être dans les verbatim, vous savez très bien ce qu'il en est, ils se perdent, ils s'égarer et pratiquement personne ne les lit, tout au moins pour corriger ses propres observations.

Alors, ce qu'il faut c'est que, si vous ne voulez pas que ce soit dans le rapport lui-même, mais vraiment ce serait curieux puisque là nous avons le temps, il faut que cela figure dans une annexe au rapport, tel que cela a été fait pour la Conférence sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, annexe qui comprendrait les différentes déclarations in extenso des pays qui en ont fait.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): While the Delegate of France was speaking, I was frantically sending for my own copy of WCARRD, which I now have. I have looked at it while he was explaining the position -and there is no one in a better position to explain it than he-but, as I looked at it, I saw that my own share of the supplement is an annex to the Report and contains the interpretative statement in full: so in effect, I would say it is included in the Report. If there is to be an annex to the Report, well and good-but that is rather different to putting it in the verbatim record. If those delegations who were prepared to abide by the precedent set at WCARRD will appreciate this, then I think the problem is solved, because in effect we are following the suggestions of the delegations who advocated our following the WCARRD precedent. We will then put this in an annex to the Report, and there is no problem for anybody.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I will not reiterate what I have already said. We fully agree. I think that what you propose is much more possible, practically speaking-that we have an extremely concise report-wise statement, certainly not very lengthy. But to follow what seems to have become the fashion, I reserve the right to present-not orally, in order not to waste your time, but in written form-our own views on all these subjects-on trade, and on other subjects if necessary, to make sure that we record that we are not very happy, and in some cases very dissatisfied with the fact that we are excepted. So far, we have always followed a practice which at least seemed to us to be very normal. Of course, "compromise" is by definition something which makes all parties equally unhappy-but if we are to make interpretative statements, then I reserve the right to present in written form our own interpretation of this.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): We on our part would like to support the procedure used during the WCARRD Conference. We think there is a great difference between statements recorded in the verbatim record and statements recorded in an annex to the Report itself, and I think that would be a good solution.

CHAIRMAN: I myself think that the analogy between WCARRD and this Conference is not valid, in the sense that in WCARRD we resorted to certain measurements in the absence of a verbatim record. I see the views of delegations polarizing into two extremes: I as Chairman, with your trust, must find a middle course between these two opposing opinions. I understand the feeling of those who think that if interpretative statements are included in the verbatim record they may be overlooked and not easy to find, and there is no reference index to them.

On the other hand, to have the full context—we are not particularly talking of the text we have now, we are not judging length or width here, but I mean to put this precedent, or this procedure, forward: that for interpretative statements to be inserted in full, or to be appendixed, is, I think carrying the matter a little further than the normal, usual procedure. I need your understanding and your cooperation to accept a reasonable mid-way course, that we put the full statements in the verbatim report and then we have a concise summarized statement which has to meet your approval when the report comes to you for your adoption, so that you have a chance to see it. For me, to my understanding, I think this is a reasonable and good course to take and I really count on you to continue your cooperation with me in this matter. Thank you.

RAMADHAR (India): When I referred to WCARRD I made it very clear that we resorted to this procedure in WCARRD—and you also mentioned the same thing—only because there was no verbatim record, and this Annex is only verbatim record. If we look at this, these are just verbatim records of the interpretative statements. What I am speaking of now is not only on behalf of India but also on behalf of the Group of 77 because references have been made to the position of EEC and of certain nations.

The Group of 77 would like for these interpretative statements to go only in the verbatim and references to be made in the report so that if somebody wants to consult the verbatim records, he may do so.

M. S. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): Once again I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, for the objective approach which you have taken towards this extremely thorny subject. I thank you for having striven to give an excellent interpretation of the discussions but, before adopting this resolution, I would like to suggest that the resolution should be unchanged as a text, with reference to whatever objections have been raised. The delegates of the United States, Ireland, India, and Yugoslavia could well help you in this text so as to give due wording to everything which has been said in here and in order that we may proceed to adopt this resolution.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I thank the delegate of Yemen for his suggestion but the resolution has already been adopted; there is no difficulty from that point of view. We are not getting into trouble on the adoption: it is a question of procedure concerning only these interpretative statements which have been made. We are trying to find some way of giving due record to these statements.

Gentlemen, we must find a solution to this procedural matter. I would like you to think about the proposal I made a few minutes ago; I had hoped your reaction would be positive.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I have been thinking about what you said, Mr. Chairman, and in saying this I am not saying anything I do not fully believe; anything that you say is certainly worthy of serious consideration but I think that I should say this, in this case. This is something that I have been concerned with, as you know, and in which I have certainly proved as co-operative as possible on behalf of the Community, and the Community has proved as cooperative as possible. But I really feel that I should make it clear—and I would like those delegates to note this, who wish to have the interpretative statements relegated to the verbatim record—that this would mean that we had really agreed under a mistaken impression because the agreement to some of the items in the resolution was given with the greatest of difficulty. I am not arguing the

merits or otherwise, but certainly it is true to say that agreement was given with the greatest of difficulty and only on the clear understanding that there would be definite interpretative statements made which would indicate the position of the Community. And furthermore, as I said, I announced this at a time when in fact we had agreed to these difficult tasks of the resolution, so that if these interpretative statements are now to be relegated to the verbatim report-which I think it is very clear nobody reads, except in the case of a specific desire to look up something particular-I really feel that our position would be seriously undermined. So that if the countries that wish to do this could understand that point of view-- I am not clear what serious harm can come from following the procedures of adopting WCARRD and incorporating these statements, which were statements to which the Community attaches considerable importance-if these could be incorporated in an annex to the report, if not in the report itself -

I am speaking now about our position. I do not know what the position of other countries would be, which have made such statements, but ours is short and concise and we feel it would not be unreasonable to incorporate it at least in an annex to the report.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): This is just to say, Mr. Chairman, that we were very impressed with your suggestion a moment ago that what has been stated by those countries who have to make interpretative statements could be condensed, with their approval, as you yourself said, Sir; and that portion could be kept in the report; and while that portion could be kept in the report, a footnote could be added to it also to the effect that for details see verbatim record, etc.

In this way we would have two references: one would be in the report and the other would be for those who are deeply interested in knowing what they said, to the verbatim record.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): There are of course taped records of all these sessions which anyone can consult. I think that what the delegate of Pakistan has said is wisdom, particularly as he is Chairman of the Drafting Committee. Such a course of action would be that these explanations could be added to the report in an abridged version so as nevertheless to give a clear idea of what the various commentators have had to say.

Well, gentlemen, we must finish our work this evening. We have solved the problem of interpretation up until 8.30; it is up to us now to solve our own problems. To my mind the proposal which I have made, even if it does not satisfy every single person in the Commission, could I think be considered as judicious. I think that you could rally to it and I must make a direct appeal to the delegate of Ireland now: could you go along with it, so that we can move on?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): There is only one way in which I feel I might be able to help you, Mr. Chairman, to some extent. I referred earlier to the fact that at the Contact Group we had announced that we would be making this statement, and really our agreement was contingent upon those statements. Now we would almost feel it was a breach of faith if these interpretative statements were not clearly available to anybody reading the resolution. It is for this reason and the fact that we announced it in advance at the time that we agreed to difficult passages, that we feel that we have a case for insisting on an interpretative statement being included in the report. This probably does not apply to various other countries; I do not know. As I have said before, I am only speaking from the Community point of view but in our case we certainly did announce these interpretative statements and the agreement that we made to extremely difficult passages was contingent on these interpretative statements being made and, by understanding, being read in due course.

CHAIRMAN: I am glad that you hesitated a little bit at the last sentence, Mr. Griffin, because I said it and Yugoslavia said this, that we came out of the Contact Group on the clear understanding that you and other delegates or members would make an interpretative statement, but we did not go as far as saying that they will be recorded sort of statements or lengthy statements or short ones, to be in the verbatim or not to be there; we did not talk about this.

So what I am saying here is that we agreed on the interpretative statement, and now we are trying to agree on how to accommodate that provision during our discussion. I am not saying that merely "because we did not say that we would record it, you are not entitled to it. All I am saying is: we are discussing it now and hoping to get to some conclusion. And I make another appeal for understanding in view of the time and the urgency, and the critical point of this meeting.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): I am just making up my mind. We have known Mr. Griffin for a very long time and always found him to be extremely reasonable and cooperative. The point I wish to stress in my capacity as Chairman of the Drafting Group is this. There were four paragraphs in the adoption of this resolution. After tonight you would have eight paragraphs adopting the resolution. I think the report would be a little lopsided. This is my concern and this is why I raised the point. You must have a balanced report. It must not give the impression that while we have adopted this report we have so many reservations that it was adopted under some sort of compulsion. That is the impression that we should try to avoid giving and it was in that context that I was suggesting a very interpretive statement. Within a paragraph or two a reference could be made to the fact that for details you could refer to the verbatim record. Incidentally, I may add that the verbatim record is the official record. It is an entirely different matter that we are lazy and we do not read it, but it is part of the official proceedings.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): First, I would like to reciprocate the good opinion that my friend from Pakistan has of me. I would confirm that we have known each other for a long time and I think our exchanges have always been friendly and no doubt beneficial. Then I would like to deal with the point of balance in the report. If the suggestion that we made were adopted there would be a small annex which would not undo the balance of the report at all because this would be an annex which gave the wording in full of the interpretive statements.

Secondly, from the point of view of the difficulties of the Drafting Committee there is nobody more sympathetic than myself to the difficulties of such a Committee, on many of which I have served, but I had always thought personally that to simply copy something which already existed was simpler than to make a précis of it.

Thirdly, I would simply refer to the fact that the EEC statement consists of seventeen lines for nine countries which is something short of two lines per country.

CHAIRMAN: If you accept this division, the short statement of Yugoslavia or India on behalf of the Group of 77 divided by 77/130-if you accept the share of each country-then we can go along. Your statement will be much shorter. But I do not think I am talking about your statement or how short it is. I am talking about the principle itself, that we do not need to include the full length of the statement but the salient and most important parts. Maybe in your case, in your statement, all of it will be salient and important, so it will all be included. So why don't you just agree to the procedure and see the results and judge for yourself? Maybe it will make it even more concise and short than what you had done yourself on that.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): It is not my wish to be involved in an exchange of compliments though I highly appreciate the contribution of Mr. Griffin himself. I made it known to him in our small Contact Group but here again I think even what you suggested is going to create a fairly dangerous precedent. As the delegate of Pakistan very clearly pointed out the verbatim record is official - the actual proceedings of the Conference. It is usually, for the benefit of those perhaps who do not know, a textbook containing all the views expressed in this Conference. That is the reason that we have a verbatim record. I would now suggest that we simply mark in the text a cross reference and then whoever is deeply interested in what happened in the Conference and in the small group, let him read carefully the verbatim record which is the official document of the Conference. So I am in a way even departing from what you suggested and what I supported. All these interpretative statements are going to destroy the balance that we established in the small group. It is correct that Mr. Griffin and the EEC countries and some other countries, I think all the people in the Group, were fully aware that we were at least equally unhappy with so many provisions in this resolution, so that is the reason I will reserve the right, that whatever procedure you follow I always want our interpretations also to be included.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Clearly we cannot spend the whole night here discussing this simple matter of procedure particularly as we have been able to get over all the other fundamental difficulties when we were putting this resolution together. I still hope that the representative of Ireland will be understanding of our position so that we can move forward.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): There is nothing I would like more than to save you this very vexatious problem because I can understand your position very well-I have been in the same position myself as Chairman and these sort of things seem to go on endlessly and people are taking opposite positions. But I have to say that while you say that we got through all the fundamental problems which were those in the resolution, that we resolved all those and now we are held up on a matter of procedure, well this is not altogether the case because the fundamental ones are included in our case-they were negotiated on the basis of an interpretative statement being made and this is what I have been saying. I am sorry to say for your sake that I am not in a position to depart from this. I would say-I am just thinking aloud now-I usually do understand the points of view of everybody-this is one of the difficulties with which I am beset. But in this particular case where it is only a question of including certain statements into a very slim volume I am not quite sure what enormous national or international difficulties this can cause because they are statements that were made-they are statements that certain countries very much want to have incorporated in full. I can see our difficulty but in this particular case I do not quite as easily see the difficulties of countries who think this should not be done and I would ask them would they please see our difficulty because we did indicate that this agreement was on the basis of interpretative statements and it is important where these statements appear.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): May I propose to Mr. Griffin as a compromise that instead of 17 lines he can have nine lines, one for each country, and that that could be a way out. Seriously speaking, if it could be condensed somehow we could see a way to accepting something but this is just a suggestion for Mr. Griffin's consideration.

CHAIRMAN: As I said earlier to Mr. Griffin and his colleagues with these 17 lines, I am sure they are drawn carefully but I am sure as well that you did not spend that long just to be sure that there could not be 18 lines so the principle here is-let us see what can be done with this text in the Drafting Committee, and if you are not happy with it you can come back to it. But we are setting a precedent which could be unacceptable that everything said as an explanatory note or verbatim should be annexed. We have not done it before. WCARRD was a different thing. So I do not see the difficulty here. If the main points of your statement are included and put there I do not see where the difficulty could be.

M. S. AL-SAYED AHMAD (Yemen Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): This is a question of order I would like to raise. I am extremely surprised that we have not been able to adopt the same procedure for all resolutions. The Drafting Committee has done this work. It is ready to pick up all statements which have been made by delegations in this room. This resolution which has been put together already expresses the opinion of the majority and has been worked out so as to accommodate the reservations expressed.

RAMADHAR (India): You have made an excellent suggestion, let us leave it to the Drafting Committee and let the Drafting Committee draft this portion, giving a brief account of the interpretative statements. It is very clear that we cannot accept the interpretative statements as they are in the report.

The question is in what form the gist of these statements could be put in the report and you have rightly said that this should be left to the Drafting Committee, so I would request Mr. Griffin, who is a friend of mine and all of us here, to agree to this and of course we can refer back to this after we have seen the draft report and see in what way there could be a meeting point of all the views because if we adopt this practice, Yugoslavia has rightly pointed out that many of the countries would like to have interpretative statements and probably your Annex of the interpretative statements might be much better and more voluminous than the report itself.

The Meeting was suspended from 19. 00 to 19. 30 hours

La séance est suspendue de 19 h à 19 h 30

Se suspende la sesión de las 19 a 19. 30 horas

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I think we have had a sufficient pause now and let us admit, it lasted a little longer than planned. However, we have had ample time and I wonder if private consultations have been such that we can now reach a conclusion?

Is any delegation in a position to announce that the result that we were hoping for is acceptable?

I have made a proposal which could constitute a solution. I think it should be widely acceptable, because we have spoken of the possibility of inserting wording which will mention the interpretative statements made by delegates on the paragraphs in the resolution.

It is obvious to all of us that time is getting on. It is also obvious to all of us that we still have a lot of work to do, and I do need the cooperation of delegates. I should like to ask who would like to give me the fruits of the conversations held during the pause? Is the delegate of Ireland in a position to tell me anything?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Yes, there has been considerable discussion and consultation going on during the pause and I have a slight modification, but I do not know whether it is any more acceptable-in fact, I am not quite certain if it is acceptable to all the Community, but I think it probably would be.

It is this. If it were possible-and I do not know if this is the case-to have footnote to the resolution itself, indicating that interpretative statements were made, then we could accept a somewhat abridged version of our interpretative statements; and, of course, the full texts would appear in the verbatim record.

I hope I am speaking for the Community in this, but if there is any difficulty about it I would wish any member who cannot accept it to indicate.

In case that was not clear, what I said was that we might have a footnote to the resolution, a resumé in the report of the interpretative statements; and, of course, it goes without saying that the full text would appear anyway in the verbatim record.

I am speaking for the Community, with the proviso that if there is difficulty concerning other individual members they will indicate that-but this is I think acceptable to the Community.

P. MASUD (Pakistan) :We are very grateful to the delegate of Ireland for having shown the spirit of accommodation, We would like to know where exactly this footnote would be placed and how the whole thing would read, because this is very important. I would be grateful for further guidance from you.

I. TAKE (Japan): We would support the proposal of the EEC, that a resumé in the Report will be a good solution.

CHAIRMAN: May I ask the Delegate of Ireland to give a precise reply to the question from the Delegate from Pakistan.

P. ORIFFIN (Ireland) : I think what we would wish to have at the foot of the resolution itself would be a simple note, saying that on this Resolution an interpretative statement was made by the EEC. That is as far as the Resolution is concerned. After that, we would agree to the abridgement of the actual statement in the Report itself. The points would be referred to, as they were for instance in WCARRD, and of course the full text would be in the verbatim record. Would that be acceptable?

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Would this concern the whole Draft Resolution, or would it to be added to the various paragraphs referred to in your interpretative statement?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I think what we would have in mind is that the footnote would simply say, "On this Resolution an interpretative statement was made by the EEC"-but the interpretative statement itself obviously does not cover the whole Resolution, it only covers the definite parts of it which are mentioned in the statement, as you know. But a simple statement, keeping it as simple and short as possible.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): If we were to place a footnote on the whole Resolution, would it not give the impression that there was an interpretative statement on the whole Resolution?-whereas in actual fact it is on certain paragraphs, and the others have been accepted without any interpretative statements. I would like to consult my colleagues if you could give me a moment-but I would like an answer to that question first.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): That suggestion would be quite acceptable to us. We would be quite happy if the specific paragraphs to which the interpretative statements are mentioned in the footnote. That would cause no problem.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): We could go along with the EEC proposal but we think it is very important that all countries that made these interpretative notes are included in the footnote, and we made an interpretative note of a more general nature concerning the whole resolution.

T. GLASER (Switzerland): Like the Swedish speaker before me, I could go along with the proposal from the European Economic Community provided that all the countries that made statements are mentioned in the footnote, and since we made a declaration which covers various paragraphs I would prefer that there is one footnote under the whole resolution and not paragraph by paragraph.

D. SMITH (United States of America): I would like to support the suggestion of the delegate of Switzerland.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): After hearing all these statements by the delegates from developed countries, I think we are now at the beginning of today's proceedings on the matter and at this moment I would like to come back and propose that we keep to the normal procedure of the work of the FAO Council and the Conference, that is to make a cross-reference in the resolution or in the report that those countries made interpretative statements on the resolution, which are in the verbatim records and no other solution seems to me possible now.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): I have consulted my colleagues and, as has just been stated by the delegate of Yugoslavia, they seem to be a little perturbed over the shape this debate is now taking. We are exactly where we started today with delegations expressing views which are very difficult for us to accept. We had hoped, Mr. Chairman, that after the effort that you had put in, and in which you were joined by a large number of other delegations, it would have been possible for us to go through this smoothly and quickly. But apparently now we are told that we have interpretative statements on the whole of the re-solution. I see that my friend from the EEC is nodding his head vigorously. I apprehend the position of the EEC but I heard Switzerland and Sweden speaking on behalf of the Nordic Countries. They have in-terpretative statements on the whole of the resolution. So where would this end? That is what is really bothering us at the moment. We are willing to try and search for a compromise solution that would really be acceptable to everybody but we should be given a reason for this apparent-I have no words to explain it-a reason for making interpretative statements.

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): El debate que estamos teniendo esta noche nos recuerda las cuarenta horas que empleamos en los trabajos del pequeño y sustantivo Grupo de Consultas. Nosotros pensamos que se deben aplicar los procedimientos conciliatorios con un límite, y que si no se encuentra ese consenso, se debería llegar a lo que indica el Reglamento interno de votaciones de esta casa.

Nos solidarizamos con la posición de Yugoslavia y de Pakistán, que feflejan la posición del Grupo de los 77.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): It seems to me that it is obvious that all of us have been working very hard the whole week and we are so tired that we cannot understand and solve a very small procedural matter. I think that it would be advisable at this moment for you to decide, Mr. Chairman, that we close our debate on this matter and come refreshed and with goodwill on Monday to continue this debate.

CHAIRMAN: I hope that our friend from Yugoslavia is not at this moment submitting a formal motion of closure of the debate. He has said he is not.

P. A. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): Mi delegación también comparte la preocupación del colega de Yugoslavia en el sentido de que ya es muy tarde y, estamos cansados ya que llevamos trabajando todo el día y, tal vez, no estemos en condiciones de seguir ensistiendo sobre este tema al cual no encontramos una solución inmediata.

Nos parece sensato dejarlo para el lunes y reflexionar con calma, ya que estamos próximos a llegar a un punto en que se traben de nuevo las cosas. Me parece que eso sería lo más logico. Repito que apoyo al colega de Yugoslavia.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): I do not want to prolong this discussion but if it helps we could refer our interpretative notes to one or two paragraphs of the resolution and not to the whole of the resolution. For instance, we could refer to paragraph 1.

CHAIRMAN: Before we decide to leave this matter until Monday, which I do not think will be a good course for us to take since we have so many things on hand, and with the sort of discussion that is going on probably there is not much hope that a better solution to what we proposed tonight will come up-you will recall that I suggested a course which, after listening to delegates, consulting with them and sensing the feeling of the House, I thought I presented a course which is reasonable: that we duly record in an abridged way. Without harming or upsetting the real meaning which is meant by the interpretative statement, and I said that delegates would have a chance to look at this when the draft report comes up.

To my thinking this reasonable suggestion has been rejected to be substituted by a different course which accepts part of that report but endangers the whole thing by introducing a new element- that interpretative statements were made in paragraphs 1 or 2 of the whole resolution. This really has thrown the whole thing into a new confusion. For a final attempt I really want you to reconsider your position concerning my earlier suggestion because I think it covers all your concerns. It will record your interpretative statements and you will have a chance to look at it and to express your opinion. I want to hear from you before I decide to close this debate or defer it to Monday, or any other decision.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I sympathise with you in the position we are in at the moment, and you have again referred to the suggestion that you made. It was in the hope that we could reach agreement that I suggested on behalf of the Community that we should do exactly what you said, that is to say have an abridged version of our interpretative declarations in the report. The text in the verbatim is automatic but the only additional suggestion was that there should be a footnote to the resolution showing that there was in fact an interpretative statement. This was the only suggestion that we should have a footnote which could convey in general terms if you wished or could refer to the specific paragraphs if this were

preferred. This one can still do. The only difference between that and your suggestion is in fact a footnote. It is up to other countries what the decision is. That is something that we can do. It does not seem really to be a very considerable departure-it is simply the insertion of a simple footnote of one and a half lines at the bottom.

D. SMITH (United States of America): I think that one thing that all the delegates can agree on is that we have discussed this topic long and hard and long enough and I believe that the proposal which the Chairman has made, which I understand to be in three parts, is that in the report of the Commission there would be reference by name to the countries which have made interpretative statements. Secondly, there would be a slightly abridged version of the interpretative statements. Thirdly, the verbatim record. Given the length and nature of this debate this represents a reasonable compromise and I would hope in order to bring this matter to a close, that we might all be able to agree to that proposal.

I. TAKI (Japan): We feel that this is a reasonable solution. We can support the American proposal.

T. GLASER (Switzerland): This procedure would be entirely satisfactory to my delegation as well.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I would like to hear the precise suggestion of the United States delegation again.

D. SMITH (United States of America): I was not really offering what I understood to be a proposal of the United States but summarizing what I understand to be the Chairman's proposal in three parts.

CHAIRMAN: The three parts first that in the report there will be a reference by name to those countries who made interpretative statements. The second thing is that there will be an abridged-and this is where I differ maybe slightly from the United States suggestion-we say abridged, slightly or whatever the term-abridged statement of the interpretative statements. Third, obviously, is the verbatim record which duly records all the statements made, interpretative or otherwise. Is that clear, Mr. Griffin?

C. F. LASCHINGER (Canada): My delegation can also support the proposal which you have now restated. S. DE MARE (Sweden): We can also support your proposal.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): We could also support what you propose with one proviso-that exactly the same treatment that is being accorded to those who have made interpretative statements should be accorded to those who may have the contrary point of view. The thing that I am trying to suggest is that the developing countries would also like to have interpretative statements and they would also be abbreviated and not abridged, and that reference will be made to the verbatim record and the countries will be mentioned by name.

CHAIRMAN: Granted. Now if I don't see any objection I consider the matter decided.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): As I understand it this is in fact the suggestion that you made originally—a reference in the report to the countries who have made interpretative statements, then an abridged version of the statements and the full text in the verbatim record. But there is no question of any footnote and I am afraid that I am not in a position to accept that. When I say that, I am not speaking as the delegate of Ireland, I am speaking all the time as occupying the Presidency of the European Economic Community, and that is to say the nine countries are not in a position to accept that. The Community of Nine is not in a position to accept it. I just want to avoid any confusion about the role in which I am speaking.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): I thought we were heading towards an agreement but evidently we are a little faraway still. What I wanted to ask you was that you did state once or twice or even more that the resolution had been adopted. If the resolution has been adopted how can you suggest any amendment? The only question that remains is the interpretative statements, their length and their position in the report. It will be very difficult for us to allow any changes in the resolution now. By all means we can accept the proposal made by you but it will be difficult for us to reopen the question of the resolution.

CHAIRMAN: As I recall clearly, this question of a footnote to the resolution was really never brought up in the Contact Group. I was under the clear understanding—and I think I once made the answer because I was not aware of the procedure on these interpretative notes, I must admit, and I asked whether there should be anything attached to the resolution—I was under the clear understandings. and I think we talked about it but I do not remember when and how, that the idea of a footnote to the resolution was never brought up, but that does not mean that you cannot bring it up here. This is just a statement of fact that we really did not talk of any attachment to the resolution. I was under the impression that the resolution was approved, was agreed to, but that interpretative statements would be made in the usual manner. So I do not know where to go from here gentlemen. The great majority of delegates here seem to have agreed to a reasonable and mid-course solution but I do not seem to get any further than that. So for the last time I appeal to the EEC Group to come and join the consensus in this matter.

P. GRIPPIN (Ireland): I am very sorry that we seem not to be making very much progress. However, —I would like to think aloud for a moment and tell you how it strikes me at the moment. We have had a long, very difficult, but I must say very cooperative, in one way, session at the contact group. Now it was really a difficult session for all parties because there were countries with diametrically opposed wishes engaged in that group. And yet we did come out eventually with a consensus. In our case it was related to the interpretative paragraph that we would later insert. Now I just want to give it a background, why, if there seems to be any intransigence, simply that it is very important. Now it is true— and I can say this, I think genuinely, that we certainly made very substantial concessions in that contact group.

Now getting to the present situation, we did request first of all—I requested on behalf of the Community—that a full interpretative statement be incorporated and this was contested. Many countries had problems with this and we have departed from that requirement and are prepared to accept an abridged version of interpretative statements. And in that way we have really considered quite a lot because we were hoping for the full text, but we decided to accept the abridged version, and the only suggestions we made to make this possible for us was to insert a footnote which would refer to the interpretative statement. This could be very brief. In fact I did not hear very many countries asking for such footnotes, but if other countries want to be associated with it, as I say I am only speaking on behalf of the Community. As far as we are concerned we could say "the EEC made an interpretative statement". This can be put in general terms, as I said or, if you wish we can specify the paragraphs and if others want to be associated with us you could say "the EEC and others." This was the suggestion we were making. So long as we have a brief footnote like that we would be prepared to accept your proposals. I mean basically it is your proposal with a small modification, and I do feel that in fairness to the Community I should say that really we have gone very close to your proposals.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): : We have listened with great attention to what the President of the EEC has had to say on the subject. But you recall even before he made his statement I had, on behalf of the Group of 77, already stated that it would be difficult for us to accept any amendments to the resolutions. I thought that the 55 hours that you spent on working on this resolution was with the very objective that when it came to the Commission, and ultimately to the Conference, there would be no amendments, no

changes. And that is why you were working so hard and so intensely on this resolution. But a foot-note to the resolution changes the entire complexion. Therefore, in those circumstances; we find it extremely difficult to go along with the suggestion made by the President of the EEC, much as we would like to accommodate this request. We find that we are simply unable to do so. We would, however, go along with the suggestion as you outlined earlier-countries by name-an abbreviated version of the interpretative statement and a reference to the verbatim record.

CHAIRMAN: Vieil gentlemen, at this stage I see a general consensus, a general acceptability of the idea. But either we say people had certain reservations on this resolution and we name them by name and put that they had reservations on the resolution, or, we have to put the whole thing in the way we generally feel. I don't want to get out with the faults-or the illusion-that we had the resolution which we all accepted and then we come with a footnote and other things. It is probably better to face reality and say that certain countries had their reservations on this resolution. I mean we cannot have it that it is there and it is not there. Either we have a resolution which is accepted, or we do not. After all, resolutions are not just single bits of paper lying around and someone picks it up and acts on it without seeing the report attached to it and comments made on it and their cross-references. I do not see what the Community is worried about if their point of view is not expressed there.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): Sir, I make the suggestion on behalf of my own delegation. Sometimes when you see things in writing they become more appealing. If what has been stated by you were to be put in writing-of course we have heard delegates of Canada, of Sweden, Switzerland, the EEC-making their interpretative statements. If this could be abbreviated and put in black and white and then presented to the countries concerned perhaps they may find a greater degree of acceptability in them. Because sometimes the spoken word does not have the same impact as the written word. When they read those they might find that all their concerns are covered. This is just a suggestion, and I must reiterate on behalf of my own delegation.

CHAIRMAN: Now you have heard both the interpreters and the delegations of Pakistan. Nell, Ladies and Gentlemen, if you recall my suggestion I mentioned this as well. Give it a chance, see how it is going to be when it comes to the Drafting Committee and, probably, you will feel better and happier about the way it is presented. I am appealing to you for the last time because we have been warned by our good interpreters that time is running out and we are short of time and short of rest as well.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Thank you Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor. I am afraid that the situation that I have mentioned is the furthest that I can go. At the moment the position is as I say, as I have already stated it is certainly as far as I can go. In other words if we don't have either of the alternatives that we have suggested I am afraid it will be necessary to enter a reservation.

CHAIRMAN: I think we have no other course than to adjourn but meanwhile I will ask the Secretariat to prepare the Draft Report in the line of my suggestion to have it in front of the Drafting Committee. You are not deciding about it yet, so let us have a try at that and nobody is bound by it, or not going to accept it, but if we reach an agreement-in the likelihood that we reach an agreement-we have ready texts rather than starting again. I think the only thing left to us is to adjourn the meeting until Monday morning at 9. 30 .

The meeting rose at 20. 30 hours

La séance est levée a 20 h 30

Se levanta la se si a las 20. 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

C 79/I/PV/15

C

Twentieth Session
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

FIFTEENTH MEETING
QUINZIÈNE SEANCE
15ª SESION

(26 November 1979)

The Fifteenth Meeting was opened at 10 15 hours
Mohawed Sidki Zehni, Chaiiman of Conmisaion It presiding
La quinadla e Séance eat ouverte à 10 h 15 aoua la présidence
de Mohamed Sidkl Zehni, praident de la commi aodion I
Se abre la 15ª sesión a las 10. 15 horaa, bajo la preaidenoia
de Mohamed Sidkl Zahni. Presidente de la comiaion I

- I. MAJOR TRENIE AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDIENCES ET QUESTIONS DB POLITIQUE EN
MATIERE D'ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENEENCIAS T PCLITICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA I LA
ALIMSMTACION (continuacion)
- 6. World Food and Agricoli ture Situation (Continued)
- 6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agri oui ture (suite)
- 6. Situación alimentaria y agricola en el mundo (continuación)
- 6. 1 State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and TradeProblems(continued)
- 6. 1 Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agri oui ture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits
et le commeroe (suite)
- 6. 1 El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con
los productos básicos y el comeroio (continuación;
- Draft Resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment (oontinued)
- Projet de résolution sur le commeroe des produits, le protectionnisme et l'ajustement agri o oie
(suite)
- Proyeoto de resolución sobre comeroio de productos b&sioos, proteooioniemo y reajuste
agrícola (continuación)

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): You will remember that at the last session on Friday evening we had begun to disouss the Draft Resolution. We began in particular by discussing the draft Resolution on commodity trade protection!an and agricultural adjustment. The first result we achieved was the adoption of the draft Resolution. Then we came up against certain snags on a number of procedural matters concerning the texms of interpretation of this. But I am very pleased to be able to announce today that as a result of infornai discussions over the weekend and this morning, considering that so far we have been working on the basis of perfect understanding, we have finally reached agreement between the parties concerned and the parties now will not insist on the points they had made regarding the procedure in the way that they had done on Friday evening. So on the basis of that we have arrived at a consensus on procedural aspects as regards the interpretation of this draft Resolution.

The agreement is as follows:

In the report on Commission I, following this draft Resolution, we shall mention the names of the countries wishing to have included a speoial declaration concerning the interpretation of the Resolution. Secondly there will be a summary of each of these declarations on interpretation of the agreement. This summary will be included in the report. Thirdly, mention will be made of the fact that the integral text of this declaration will be included in the verbatim report. As I explained, we had consensus on this procedure and it now remains for us to see the summary of these declarations, We have to make sure that these declarations can be accepted by the delegations or groups of delegations whioh made this specific interpretation on the declaration of the Resolution. We have agreed, then, that the Drafting Committee will be meeting this afternoon at 2. 30. Our Commission, then, will not be meeting this afternoon. In that way the various groups concerned will have a chance to polish the terms of the summary and agree on the question of the Declaration of Interpretation. If you agree with me, then, and if there are no further remarks on this, I can assume we haveconcluded this item of our business. I see the representative of India has asked for the floor.

RAMADHAR (India): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I must compliment you on the efforts you have made for reaching this consensus. As you will recall on Friday afternoon when we were discussing this matter, and the question came up as to how the interpretative statements were being incorporated in the report, we made a plea that many of the developing countries-we would like our position made clear in the report so as to have an equitable balance. Keeping that in view I am making some submissions on behalf of the Group of 77. I request that on the same pattern they should also go into the report.

I am now reading, "With regard to the Conference Resolution Committee on Commodity Trade, Protection-ism and Agricultural Adjustment the Group of 77 makes the following observations. In principle the Group of 77 deems it necessary to express its deep concern with the fact that after long negotiations, which resulted in a consensus text, some countries have submitted their interpretative statements, thus, in fact, undermining the consensus reached. With regard to the preambular paragraph 7 The Group of 77 reiterates its regret and, indeed, deep concern that GATT Multilateral Trade Negotiations have failed to take into account the interests and concerns of the developing countries, especially Least Developed and MSA amongst them. In this connexion, and taking into account the operative paragraph 3, the Group of 77 wants to reaffirm its position to the effect that the multilateral negotiations could be considered final only when such essential concerns of the developing countries have been fully incorporated in the final outcome of the Negotiations.

In connexion with preambular paragraph 8, while having a certain apprehension for agricultural trade policies of the developed countries with a relatively low level of self-sufficiency, the Group of 77 wishes again to condemn the agriculture trade practices of those developed countries with high protectionism despite high and increasing levels of self-sufficiency.

In relation to the operative paragraph 8 the Group of 77 requests that the countries which have not yet signed the International Sugar Agreement, strictly abide by the provision contained in this paragraph. "

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sir. As you have recalled last Friday you announced that the Group of 77 would be presenting an interpretative statement through you. And, of course, there will similarly be a summary of this statement in the report, the summary will particularly refer to the specific paragraphs of the Draft Resolution that you mentioned. We shall treat this statement in exactly the same way as other interpretative statements.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria): (interpretation from German): To begin with I must say that I wholeheartedly agree with the procedure you have suggested. I would remind you, however, that on Friday evening the Austrian delegation had not received instructions and, for that reason, it is now necessary for me to take the floor.

This Draft Resolution before us, while we agree with it in principle, and we would, therefore, agree with the overall approval given to this document, would like to ask that in this interpretative statement-because we also agree with those countries on paragraphs 4 and 5 of the preambular section who do not feel that this will represent a change in agrarian policy. Nor would such modification be a necessary follow-up. In this context, then, we continue to feel that the application of paragraphs 1 to 5, in the last resort, would have to be implemented by international organizations which are responsible for each and every one of these areas.

CHAIRMAN: Are there any objections to Austria being included among the countries which has issued interpretative statements? I do not think there will be any objection to this. I assume, then, that the debate on the Draft Resolution on Commodity Trade, Protectionism and Agricultural Adjustment be considered as concluded. We now go on to the second Draft Resolution, the one concerning World Food Security. You will remember probably, that this Resolution was under document C 79/LIN/16.

- 7. Plan of Action to Strengthen World Food Security (continued)
- 7. Plan d'action visant à renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (suite)
- 7. Plan de Acción para reforzar la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (continuación)
- Draft Resolution on World Food Security
- Projet de résolution sur la Sécurité alimentaire mondiale
- Proyecto de resolución sobre seguridad alimentaria mundial

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I would remind delegates that the Commission set up an unofficial contact group in an effort to reach understanding on world food security. The contact group met several times and had some rather tricky discussions, yet it succeeded in reaching agreement on this draft resolution. However, I should like to draw attention to paragraph 10, which has to be amended, as we shall explain. The amendment was adopted by the contact group. The Secretary will read the new paragraph 10, as amended.

SECRETARY: The present paragraph 10 should be replaced by the following: "Requests the Director - General to consider, in cooperation with the World Food Council, the World Bank and other multilateral financing institutions, ways of assessing the needs and possibilities for improving food security infrastructure as a basis for a major investment effort in the countries which request such assistance;"

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The Commission has now heard the amendment to paragraph 10 of the draft resolution which, as I understand it, was agreed to in the contact group.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Ce n'est pas une modification quelconque c'est simplement sur le texte français pour qu'il soit en harmonie avec le texte anglais: s'agissant du paragraphe du considérant, celui qui commence par les mots: "Tenant compte de la déclaration de principes et du programme d'action . . .", il faudrait ajouter "tels qu'adoptés", de même qu'en anglais il y a "as adopted". Dans le texte français on a mis "la Déclaration de principes et du Programme d'action adoptés" il faudrait dire "tels qu'adoptés".

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The delegate of France is perfectly correct and I am sure the Secretariat will bear his remarks in mind.

D. SMITH (United States of America): I am assuming, Mr. Chairman, that we have completed discussion on that particular paragraph? I should like to speak on another paragraph, if that is satisfactory.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I think that as regards paragraph 5 there were no problems? it was merely a correction of the French text. You are welcome to make remarks on any paragraph of the draft resolution you may wish.

D. SMITH (United States of America): The United States generally supports the draft resolution on World Food Security. We consider that the context group, ably led by its distinguished Chairman, has done its work well. The Chairman's eminently thorough and businesslike approach succeeded in keeping the group moving in a smooth and constructive manner through a number of difficulties.

My Government feels it necessary to reserve its position on that part of operative paragraph 4 which begins with the words, "or to encourage the operation of special regional accounts" and continuing through to the end of the paragraph. The United States considers that there is now a consensus on the approach to world food security which embraces, first, the conclusion as soon as possible of a new International Grains Arrangement and, secondly, in the interim, before the entry into effect of that arrangement, the Five-point Plan which this Conference has endorsed. We believe that the introduction of a new element, namely, that of special regional accounts, is premature and requires further study, and in our view it should not have a place in the draft resolution under consideration.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): First, I should like to seek clarification on the amendment proposed by the delegate of France. I did not really get what was being proposed and I should like to hear it read out once again.

My second point is, in line with my earlier amendment, I should like to propose an amendment to paragraph 8 (a). I introduced the amendment, "To enlarge substantially bilateral"-to add the words "and multilateral". To be consistent with that, I would propose the following amendment:"(a)-To enlarge substantially bilateral and multilateral assistance to the food security programmes of developing countries where appropriate and to use the World Food Programme in accordance with decisions reached at the Eighth Session of the CFA and Food Security Assistance Scheme. "

My suggestion is merely a reflection of what actually occurred. It is in the first place recognizing the role of the World Food Programme, which under no circumstances can be ignored. Secondly, it puts it into the correct perspective by stating on what basis the World Food Programme is to act, and that is on the basis of the decisions of the Eighth Session of the CFA.

Similarly, in paragraph 10, where we talk about requesting the Director-General to consider in cooperation with the World Food Council, I would add, "the World Food Programme. "

This consultation is already under way. The WFP is already working out various possibilities and therefore this ought to be in line with the current and proper thinking on the subject.

I should be grateful, Sir, if you could let me know what the delegate of France proposed.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The amendment proposed by the delegate of France related to the fifth preambular paragraph, beginning "Taking into account. " In English the first line reads: "Taking into account the Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. " In French it just says: "Adopted", and the amendment was to bring the French into line with the English.

I. TAKI (Japan): The Japanese delegation would like to make the following interpretive statement concerning the draft resolution and to ask the Secretariat to put it on record.

First, concerning the fourth preambular paragraph, I would like to make clear that the position of the Japanese Government does not change on General Assembly Resolutions 3201 and 3202.

Secondly, with regard to a new Food Aid Convention, referred to in operative paragraph 9, the Japanese Government is of the view that the achievement of the 10 million tons target should be a joint responsibility of the international community and not of traditional member countries alone. The Japanese Government also thinks that a certain linkage should be maintained between a new Food Aid Convention and the Wheat Trade Convention.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): C'est également pour mettre en harmonie le texte français avec le texte anglais au paragraphe 11. Au paragraphe 11, le texte français dit: "invite le Fonds monétaire international, dans le cadre de ses facilités d'investissement" alors qu'en anglais le texte dit: "Financing Facilities", donc il faut dire: "les facilités de financement" en français.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): I believe that your comment can be taken into consideration. since it concerns the French text.

D. SMITH (United States of America): I would like clarification on the first suggestion made by the Delegate of Pakistan. I understood the one concerning the World Food Programme, but the previous suggestion was not clear.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): We will come to this. I would first like us to take the amendments which have been proposed by the Delegate of Pakistan and I suggest that we take these amendments one after the other.

SBCRBTAHT: The Delegate of Pakistan has proposed that in Operative Paragraph 8 (a), some addition should be made in the second line of the English text. I shall read paragraph 8(a) and indicate where the insertion needs to be made

"to enlarge substantially bilateral and multilateral assistance to the food security programmes of developing countries where appropriate and to use the"-and here the addition commences -"and to use the World Food Programme in accordance with the decisions reached at the 8th Session of CFA and the FAO Food Security Assistance Scheme. . . ". The rest of the paragraph remains the same.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): If there are no comments regarding this amendment, we will take it that the Commission adopts this amendment to paragraph 8(a), and I again give the floor to the Secretariat.

SECRETARY: The second amendment proposed by the Delegate of Pakistan concerns Operative Paragraph 10. Again, I shall read the paragraph and indicate where the amendment is to be inserted: "requests the Director-General to consider in cooperation with the World Food Council", -and here we are to add: "the World Food Programme, the World Bank. . . ". and the rest of the paragraph remains the same.

D. SMITH (United States of America) : I am seeking clarification of the decision made by the Committee on Food Aid with reference to the suggestion made by the Delegate of Pakistan. Which document are we referring to, in that respect? I need to be clear on language there.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): This intervention is provoked by something which my colleague from the United States said in the drafting room. He had a list of three points which he said had been decided in the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, and it was with those in mind that I proposed this amendment. If I may open suit with him, and tell him exactly to what I am referring, perhaps that would resolve the problem.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I shall give you a few moments for consultation with the delegate of the United States.

D. SMITH (United States of America) : With respect to the suggestion of the delegate of Pakistan on paragraph 8 (a), we are in accord with that amendment but would simply request the insertion of the word "as" after "decision"; "decision as reached at the Eighth Session of the CPA".

P. MASUD (Pakistan): The first one is acceptable. I should like to hear what he has to say about the second one.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I think that we have now adopted this paragraph with the final amendment. We are still awaiting the point of view of the United States on paragraph 10.

D. SMITH (United States of America): The United States has no objection to the insertion of the words "World Food Programme" into paragraph 10, as suggested by the delegate of Pakistan.

CHAIRMAN: I now give the floor to the delegate of Bangladesh because I believe that he will wish to speak on paragraph 11.

S. M. CHOUHUR (Bangladesh): My delegation refers to operative paragraph 11 and proposes the insertion of the words "under acceptable lending criteria" at the end of the paragraph after the words "import prices".

M. M. MUSSO (France): Au sujet de l'amendement déposé par le Pakistan, nous aimerions que la résolution fût modifiée le moins possible. Il a été très difficile d'arriver à un accord sur ce texte et nous sommes très heureux que l'on y soit parvenu. Nous souhaiterions qu'il ne soit pas fondamentalement modifié en Commission. Aussi, pensons-nous qu'il n'est pas nécessaire d'ajouter cette phrase dans le paragraphe 11. Nous avons demandé au Fonds monétaire international d'étudier ce problème dans le cadre de ses facilités de financement. À mon avis, il appartient donc au Fonds monétaire international de décider lui-même dans quel domaine et selon quels critères il voudrait aider à accroître la sécurité alimentaire. Je pense donc que la phrase proposée par la Délégation du Bangladesh n'est pas utile dans ce paragraphe et qu'il n'est pas nécessaire de l'y insérer.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): I support the delegate of France. My Government also feels that it is not necessary to add any words at the end of this paragraph, especially since we know that the International Monetary Fund is going to deal with this matter in December. We should leave it to the decision of the IMF to see which way this request can be accepted.

S. M. CHOUHUR (Bangladesh): I feel that it is important to keep in mind the criteria while making the request to the IMF, especially in view of the fact that we have qualified the paragraph saying in case of domestic food shortage and rising import prices, and the question of criteria becomes very important. With this thought in mind, we do ask for the insertion of this additional part of the Paragraph.

I. TAICHI (Japan): The Japanese Government shares the opinion of the delegates of France and Germany.

A. I. MENHÉZ (México): To quisiera, si fuera posible, escuchar algún argumento adicional por el distinguido delegado de Bangladesh, cuya propuesta en principio vemos con simpatía.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Before giving the floor to the delegate of Bangladesh, I would like to repeat that this draft resolution is the result of considerable efforts, of a very long debate and of intensive consultations. Perhaps it would be better to stick to this consensus. At any rate I will give the floor again to the delegate of Bangladesh.

S. M. CHOUHUR (Bangladesh): Since you are not prepared to enter into a debate on this issue in the draft resolution at the moment, Mr. Chairman, my delegation will withdraw its original proposal.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I believe that this brings us to a consensus on this draft resolution which could thus be adopted.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): This is regarding operative paragraph 9. If I am not mistaken, the delegate of Japan made an interpretative statement. These interpretative statements are proving both contagious and infectious; the disease is spreading very rapidly. If there is going to be an interpretative statement for paragraph 9 which is so obvious; it urges that every effort should be made both to enlist new contributors, and this is part of the implication of the interpretative statement proposed by the delegate of Japan, and I did not quite get the remaining portion of what he was intending to have. I think he was trying to say that there should be a link between a Food Aid Convention and the Wheat Trade Convention. If this is so, I would ask my friend, the delegate of Bangladesh, to add his point to the resolution. I would like to hear from the delegate of Bangladesh, to add his point to the resolution. I would like to hear from the delegate of Bangladesh as to the exact nature of his interpretation.

CHAIRMAN: Before I give the floor to Japan, I would like to mention one thing, that these views expressed by the delegate of Japan and those expressed by the delegate of Bangladesh, are really there in the report. They were expressed in the same wording, so this makes the appeal of Pakistan even stronger, and I add my support to it, that if we can do without these interpretative statements we should do so where it is reflected truly and strongly in the report.

I. TAKI (Japan): I appreciate your appeal. I would like to keep the interpretative statement of my Government in the report.

Ms. V. F. WIGHTMAN (Canada): You may recall that on Friday you suggested that interpretative statements should be made after the Resolution was adopted and therefore I have abstained from speaking, but if you wish I can speak now on our concerns. Which would you prefer? Unfortunately we received fresh instructions from Ottawa a few moments ago with several suggested amendments. I am not presenting them on the floor this morning. I think this would be quite impossible. However, I feel that I have to cover our position with a brief statement about a number of our concerns. With regard to the preamble we still have difficulty with this rather gloomy view of the adequacy of world food reserves, and particularly the second paragraph of the preamble. More importantly, with regard to the operative paragraphs, Ottawa still has difficulty with certain implications in the text which either implicitly or explicitly call for additional commitments, or for increased expenditures by FAD in this field.

I would refer particularly to operative paragraphs 4, 8 a and o, 10, 11 and 13. Having said this I would only reiterate Canada's long-standing support for and positive contribution to world food security.

D. SMITH (United States of America): I also was operating under the assumption that statements about the Resolution would come after its adoption, but I would simply make brief statements concerning the following paragraphs of the Resolutions

In paragraph 3 with regard to the words "to resolve the outstanding questions" the United States simply wishes to point out that there are some new questions which have arisen since the adjournment of the grain negotiations which also require resolution. My Government looks forward to a discussion of all these questions in depth in the meeting of the International Wheat Council which is taking place this week.

Secondly, in sub-paragraph 8°, with regard to the words "take all possible steps" we would note that even though governments take all possible steps, they may not in fact be able to meet the full food aid requirements of the developing countries despite every intention to do so.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): At the very outset I apologize for having delayed matters. Had we concluded before 11:00 o'clock perhaps the distinguished Delegate from Canada would not have received the instructions that she has received now. I apologize for that. Taking into consideration all that has been said this is making a mockery of this Resolution. You have got interpretative statements on almost every paragraph. I would put it to you for consideration. Would it be worthwhile to adopt this Resolution, if you have adopted it already, because it takes on the one hand you grant something, on the other hand you detract from it. If you are saying that you are keen for the resumption of talks on the United Nations International Grains arrangement, I think we should go along with that statement by the distinguished Delegate of the U. S. AIt is helpful in the sense that it covers new or outstanding issues. Of course everything has to be resolved. We could simply say resolve all issues instead of raising outstanding issues. But I do have some very serious problems with the other suggestions. For instance the second one-"take all possible steps"-this is the least that we can do and you are not being pinned down. All you are being asked to do is take all possible steps. There is a possibility-you can examine that possibility-and take the steps.

As regards the position of the distinguished Delegate of Japan, I am still not quit. ? clear as to what the position is. And I honestly ask you to have a close look at these interpretative statements. They do tend to make this Resolution almost worthless and it is of extreme importóras to developing countries. I repeat that it is of extreme importance to developing countries.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I intended to raise certain points. I have heard your views on the situation of this Resolution. Now we have heard various statements which have underlined the Resolution somewhat, after we thought a consensus had been reached. As regards the Japanese interpretative statement, after having told him that the report covered a large part of his interpretative statement, the Delegate of Japan, I felt, seemed ready to go along with the fact that his statement would only refer to paragraph 4 of the preamble of the draft Resolution. I believe that he also pointed out that his Government's attitude had not changed as regards Resolutions 3201 and 3202 of the United Nations General Assembly. I wonder if the situation is clear enough to the Delegate of Pakistan, or would you like to hear the entire text of the Japanese interpretative statement?

P. MASUD (Pakistan): I would like to hear the complete interpretative statement as well as where it is to be placed. That is extremely important for us.

I. TAXI (Japan): I made the interpretative statement concerning paragraph 4 of the preamble which makes clear that the position of the Japanese Government does not change General Assembly Resolutions 3201 and 3202.

My Government has some reservations on these Resolutions so my Delegation felt the necessity to make a statement on this particular part. Also, with regard to operative paragraph 9, the Japanese Government is of the view that the achievement of a 10 million ton target should be a joint responsibility of the international community and not of traditional member countries alone.

Also the Japanese Government thinks that a certain linkage should be maintained between a new food aid convention and the Wheat Trade Convention.

CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, probably I misunderstood the whole thing. When the distinguished Delegate of Japan made his interpretative statement we pointed out that probably your concern concerning the point number 2 you mentioned, concerning paragraph 9, and the third part of your statement, may be these concerns were covered in the general report. We contacted you through the meeting and you seemed to approve that. Then your interpretative statement would only concern your unchanging position towards the two General Assembly Resolutions. Is that not correct?

So my understanding was correct, that the interpretative statement will be only in connection with paragraph 4, and as regards the other parts the Japanese Delegation is happy with their reflection as it stands now in the draft report.

About your concern on paragraph 4, don't you think that the way it is stated-because it says in the second line "as adopted in the Resolution" and your position concerning this Resolution is recorded either with reservations or whatever it was-I see no great need for this interpretative statement because paragraph 4 says "the Resolution as adopted". So unless you feel strongly that you still want to retain your interpretative statement. . .

I. TAKT (Japan): If it is clear we do not wish to stick to this point.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. That means there is no interpretative statement from Japan. This is a good example. Distinguished delegate of Pakistan I think you made a proposal on paragraph 3 You proposed an amendment which would satisfy the concern of the United States. Perhaps you would kindly repeat your suggestion here.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): The delegate of the United States made the point that while some old, outstanding issues had gone some new ones had arisen.

It was also my point of view that all issues have to be resolved, Sir, and, therefore, I propose that we could say in paragraph 3, "Urges the participating countries in the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a new international grains arrangement to resolve all questions impeding. . . ". Simply delete the word "outstanding", so that it reads, "all questions impeding". This would be a fair rendering of the situation because you have to resolve all questions otherwise you would not get any progress.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. Would the delegate of the United States like to take the floor at this stage?

D. SMITH (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, the text I am working from does not show the word "of". We would certainly be agreeable to the deletion of the word "outstanding" from the text we have in front of us.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. Would you accept this minor amendment to paragraph 3 then? Mr. Dutia will, perhaps, kindly read the amendment again so that everyone has a clear idea of what is happening.

SECRETARY: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The amended paragraph 3 will now read as follows "Urges the participating countries in the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a new international grains arrangement to resolve questions impeding the resumption of negotiations and to conclude a new international grains arrangement as quickly as possible. "

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. If no one has any objection to raise to this amendment I assume it has been adopted by our Commission.

I have just learned that the delegate of Canada does not ask for the text of her interpretative statement or summary thereof to be mentioned in the Draft Resolution. She merely wishes us to indicate that Casada has presented an interpretative statement on this Resoltution. I think, then, that following this lengthy debate we now only have to say that this has brought us to the adoption of the Draft Resolution-Bangladesh has asked for the floor.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Since we understand that there will not be any interpretative statement of this Draft Resolution my delegation would not like to make an interpretative statement but we would like our views to be reflected in the report.

R. S. MAROUF (Iraq): (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am taking the floor in connexion with the Arabic text, specifically paragraph 5.

There seems to be a typing error regarding the word "flow". This would not affect other languages.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you, the Secretary has taken note of that and I am sure the necessary correction will be made to the Arabic version.

I think we can now consider that we have come to the conclusion of our discussion on this Resolution and we have now adopted it with the United States' statement and the interpretative statement by Canada. We have also accepted a number of amendments which will be embodied in the text. Also there is an amendment to the French version only of paragraph 4-the preambular text-and to the Arabic text. That brings us to the conclusion of our discussion.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): Thank you, Sir. I would just like clarification on paragraph 8. The United States delegate expressed the point of view on (c) "- to take all possible steps". I thought that had been suitably answered. I do not know whether it was answered to their satisfaction or not or whether they still hold that point of view. Now Sir, I realize that there are reservations on paragraph 4 but I would like to know what is their view about paragraph 8 (c).

D. SMITH (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, you may recall that I did not even really characterize my statement on the paragraph as interpretative.

We would simply be satisfied with the fact that it will appear in the verbatim record of the Conference.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Mr. Chairman, I am not fully clear what your intention was on how to deal with the kind of statement realized just now in the case of the United States-that it was not a kind of interpretative statement, but Canada, Japan and some others would like to learn from you, Sir how you want to deal with this issue and then I will, perhaps, express my views.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia. You will remember, perhaps, that I said that the delegate of Japan-following the discussion that we had on their statement-kindly agreed not to insist on this interpretative statement being included. They were satisfied with their intentions being covered in the report so there would be no interpretative statement from Japan. As regards the Canadian position, all that Canada asked is that the report should mention the fact that Canada submitted this interpretative statement, but they do not ask the report to include the details of the statement, because this statement will be included in the verbatim record. Is the picture a little clearer now, distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia?

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Thank you very much. If that is now the case I would go along with it.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you very much indeed. The Draft Resolution is then adopted, and it is my intention to go to the next Draft Resolution as we have very little time. Japan is asking for the floor, I hope this will be on something new.

I. TAKE (Japan): I would ask you for some clarification on the treatment of the interpretative statement of the delegate of Canada because I do not think I could understand that question clearly.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I had said with regard to the interpretative statement by the delegate of Canada that in the report we would say: "An interpretative statement on the draft resolution is contained in the records of the Conference." That is all.

I. TAKI (Japan): I hope that the interpretative statement of my Government will be dealt with in the same manner in the report.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Although we have adopted a different attitude, which was accepted "by the delegate of Japan, if he insists I shall leave the Commission free to decide.

P. MASUT (Pakistan): I think we are trying to build castles on shifting sands and it is a little difficult to do that. We thought we had set this matter at rest and finally you, Sir, had summed up, and a little reluctantly we went along; but if these interpretative statements are going to be mentioned in every line I am afraid it will be very difficult for us to accept the situation. We realize the position of the delegate of Japan, but I had thought that it was more than covered by what you, Mr. Chairman, had said. In fact, what you say is also a part of the official record, so it can always be referred to. I would have thought that in those circumstances there was no need, except for what the delegate of Canada said, and she said she had reason to do so and it was acceptable and we went along with that suggestion... It is a little difficult for us to accept any more interpretative statements.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): Past experience shows that interpretative statements, some of which run almost as long as the draft resolution itself, definitely tend to be contradictory to the draft resolution and, therefore, dilute whatever is dealt with in the draft resolution. In keeping with the principle of not including interpretative statements, my delegation withdrew its point of view which was very strong and of great importance to us. I do not understand why more delegates still insist on interpretative statements, which definitely dilute the draft resolution. As far as Canada is concerned, it was accepted in the very special circumstances; they got their instructions late, and it was not harmful. I therefore propose that we reduce the interpretative statement as much as possible and that we do not make any changes which do not appear in the draft resolution itself.

I refer to the intervention of the delegate of France. When I proposed my amendment he said there was no reason to change the draft resolution. If we include interpretative statements we dilute and weaken the draft resolution. I strongly support reducing interpretative statements as much as possible.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): May I now ask the delegate of Japan kindly to reconsider his position, especially since before I summed up the debate he had accepted, quite clearly, the idea that he would not insist on an interpretative statement on behalf of Japan. After having taken note of the attitude of all the delegations, I do appeal to the delegate of Japan to reconsider his position.

I. TAKI (Japan): I just hope that the statement of the Japanese Government will be dealt with in the same manner as the Canadian statement. That is all.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): There are two basic differences between the statement of Japan and the statement of Canada—two basic, fundamental differences. First of all, the delegate of Japan had accepted, very generously, that he would not add an interpretative statement. The second fundamental difference is that the content of his statement is very clearly covered by the report which was read out to him, and he was convinced that his concern was covered by the report, especially with regard to the second and third points of this statement.

As far as the first part of his interpretative statement is concerned, I said that all that would be said would be that the resolutions of the General Assembly would be mentioned here as adopted, and again he agreed not to object to that interpretation and very kindly withdrew his interpretative statement.

Those are the two basic differences between the positions of Japan and Canada.

I. TAKI (Japan): The statement concerning the 10 million ton target, the report in fact does not refer to the point we want to make in our statement, so I hope, Mr. Chairman, you will kindly deal with our statement in the same manner as the statement of Canada.

CHAIRMAN: But I think you still have a chance when you see the report for adoption later; you will see that your point is covered in the report to your satisfaction and with the agreement of the Commission, without going into interpretative statements, which are getting a little bit too much as it is now. Is that acceptable to you?

I-TAKI (Japan): I reluctantly accept it.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We can now go on to the third draft resolution.

- 6. World Food and Agriculture Situation (continued)
- 6. Situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture (suite)
- 6. Situación alimentaria y agrícola en el mundo (continuación)
- 6. 1 State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems (continued)
- 6. 1 Situation de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture et notamment problèmes concernant les produits et le commerce (suite)
- 6. 1 El estado mundial de la agricultura y la alimentación incluidos los problemas relacionados con los productos básicos y el comercio (continuación)
- Draft resolution on a World Food Day
- Projet de résolution pour une journée mondiale de l'alimentation
- Proyecto de resolución sobre el Día Mundial de la Alimentación

A·I·MENENDEZ (México): Nosotros estamos seguros que nuestra sugerencia no tendrá mayor motivo de debate. Mi delegación ha hecho más de una docena de consultas a países que han simpatizado con la idea que vamos a proponer a esta Comisión.

Nosotros consideramos que en el cuarto párrafo preambular cabría ser insertado el siguiente párrafo:

"Recordando las resoluciones 3101 y 3102 de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas, referente al establecimiento de un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional, y la Declaración de Principios y Programa de Acción como fueron adoptados por la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural. "

Y seguiría el siguiente párrafo.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): La delegación de Panamá apoya la propuesta de México en el sentido de incorporar en el texto de la resolución que establece el Día Mundial de la Alimentación lo referente al Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional y a la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

L. COMANESCU (Romania): We support the Mexican proposal, and we would be very glad to join the co-sponsors of the draft resolution.

Mlle M. MUSSO (France): Nous n'avons aucune observation à faire à l'encontre de la proposition mexicaine bien que j'avoue ne pas très bien comprendre ce que cette mention ajoutée à ce paragraphe étant donné que les références aux résolutions précitées sont déjà nombreuses dans les autres résolutions.

Que l'on essaie de créer une journée pour sensibiliser les populations au problème de la faim est une position indépendante des résolutions approuvées à telle ou telle session des Nations Unies. Je répète que je ne m'y oppose pas tout en n'en voyant pas l'intérêt, mais je souhaiterais que les mentions adoptées fussent bien précisées après les références aux résolutions 3102 de la programmation de la Conférence sur la réforme agraire.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): I was not quite clear about the proposal of the French delegation. Is it being proposed that they would like to amend the amendment proposed by the Delegate of Mexico, and did they also say that they saw no reason for it but that they would go along for the sake of peace and quiet ?

Mlle M. MUSSO (France): Ma pensée n'a pas été bien comprise. J'ai dit que je ne m'opposais pas du tout aux résolutions ni à l'adjonction présentée par le Mexique mais je pensais qu'elles n'étaient pas particulièrement nécessaires dans ce paragraphe en raison des références faites aux résolutions des Nations Unies et à la Conférence sur la réforme agraire, comme dans d'autres résolutions. À mon avis, une journée mondiale de l'alimentation avait une valeur propre sans qu'il soit utile de se référer à telle ou telle résolution des Nations Unies étant donné que la nécessité d'attirer l'attention des populations de quelque pays que ce soit sur les problèmes de la faim était quelque chose de suffisamment important sans qu'il y ait lieu de se référer à une résolution quelconque pour appuyer ce point de vue. Mis à part cela, je ne m'opposais nullement à cette adjonction tout en pensant qu'elle n'était pas très utile. Je voulais simplement, si elle était émise, qu'il soit bien précisé que les termes de "résolutions" figurent comme d'habitude avec la mention "telles qu'adoptées" ainsi que l'a exprimé le représentant du Mexique, en ce qui concerne la deuxième partie relative à la Conférence sur la réforme agraire. Il a simplement omis de le dire pour la première partie des résolutions de l'Assemblée générale. C'est une simple précision linguistique.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I think that is now perfectly clear.

M. KRIESBURG (United States of America): I would like to acknowledge the statement made by the Delegate of Romania, in cosponsoring this resolution. We would also like to indicate that we agree with our colleague from France as to the usual references to other Resolutions as adopted—so we are all in agreement, as they are.

I would make one minor observation. I notice that in the covering page the names are spelt out of all the countries except the United States, and I assume that when this is done other countries which are cosponsoring this would also have their full names spelt out.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Regarding your last comment, I am sure that the Secretariat will not fail to spell out all the names.

I. OZORAI (Hungary): I have only two brief comments to make. The first is that my delegation would go along with the suggestion of the Delegate of Mexico, supported by the Delegate of Panama, together with all the amendments which have been submitted to the Committee afterwards.

Secondly, since the Delegate of Rumania has said that Romania would like to be a co-sponsor of this recommendation as well (a statement which we gratefully acknowledge), I would like to draw attention to the fact that at the 9th meeting of this Commission, on the morning of 21st November, in compliance with the Rules of the Organization, I mentioned the names of the delegates who wished to be cosponsors. For the sake of those few delegations who do not have access to the verbatim record, the delegations wishing to cosponsor, in addition to the original ones in C 79/LIM/37, are: Czechoslovakia, Colombia, Ghana, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Viet Nam and Zambia.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): As one of the original sponsors of this Resolution, I must mention that there is an omission in our preparation of this Draft Resolution, and I was requested by a few delegations, as one of the cosponsors, to agree and propose a small amendment in Operative Paragraph 1(f): to insert after "to encourage", "Economic and", so that the sentence will read: "to encourage Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries . . .". This does not create any controversy or problems - it is a purely logical amendment because of an omission during the preparation of the drafting.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): With regard to the list of countries sponsoring the Draft Resolution, we will give you the final list before the end of this meeting. You have heard the Delegate of Yugoslavia propose an amendment to the last subparagraph, (f), of paragraph 1 of this Draft Resolution: the addition of the words "Economic and". Are there any comments on this proposed amendment? I do not see any comments: therefore, the amendment proposed by Yugoslavia is adopted by the Commission.

As you have seen in the Report of the Resolutions Committee, there are still some suggestions and proposals made by this Committee, and I think that we have to look at these proposals one by one before we can complete this Draft Resolution.

The first proposal has already been adopted—we have already adopted the amendment proposed by Mexico, and we said that "as adopted" should be added to any reference to a Resolution by the General Assembly of the United Nations and the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

We are now going to take the proposals of the Resolutions Committee. The first refers to a change in the presentation of the sentence which will read as follows: (in English) " . . . a requisite of human survival and well-being, and a fundamental human right;" that is to say, the Resolutions Committee would like to put the "fundamental human right" at the end of the sentence and not at the beginning. It is a readjustment within the sentence.

P. MASUD (Pakistan): This Resolution has been in circulation for some time, and I am sure that all of us have had time to look at it. All the amendments appear reasonable, and we would support all of them. I do not think it is necessary to take them one by one.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): As the Delegate of Pakistan has just pointed out, this Resolution has been in circulation for some time. I do not think there will be any discussion, since delegations have had an opportunity of looking at these amendments. If there are no objections, I take it that our Commission adopts the proposals and the amendments proposed by the Resolutions Committee. That would mean that we have adopted the Draft Resolution with the amendment accompanying it.

We now have to finalize the list of sponsors of this Resolution. The Secretariat will now read the list of sponsors: please correct it if there are any errors.

SECRETARY: The names of the sponsors of this resolution are as follows: Czechoslovakia, Colombia, Denmark, France, Ghana, Hungary, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Tunisia, United States of America, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): You have just heard the list of countries sponsoring this resolution. Is that list complete? I myself believe it is.

I have to announce that the Holy See has handed in a statement for insertion in the verbatim record under this item.

L. BERNARDI (Le Saint-Siège): La délégation du Saint-Siège désire exprimer son approbation concernant le projet de résolution sur la "Journée mondiale de l'alimentation" (présenté par les délégations des huit Etats Membres) qui devrait être observée chaque année, le 16 octobre, anniversaire de la fondation de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture; notre délégation vous assure de sa collaboration pour cette éventuelle réalisation et désire que sa proposition soit incluse dans le rapport de la Conférence 1/.

The meeting rose at 12. 15 hours

La séance est levée à 12 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 12. 15 horas

^{1/}Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal.

conference

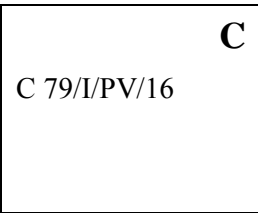
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

SIXTEENTH MEETING
SEIZIEME SEANCE
16ª SESION

(26. November 1979)

The Sixteenth Meeting was opened at 17. 55 hours
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La seizième séance est ouverte à 17 h 55 sous la présidence
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I
Se abre la 16 sesión a las 17. 55 horas bajo la presidencia de
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

- I. MAJOR TRENDS AND POLICIES IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDANCES ET QUESTIONS DE POLITIQUE EN MATIERE D' ALIMENTATION ET D'AGRICULTURE (suite)
- I. PRINCIPALES TENDENCIAS Y POLÍTICAS EN LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACIÓN (continuación)
- 9 Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones (continued);
- 9 Programme d'ensemble visant au développement et à la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives (suite)
- 9 Programa global para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas(continuación)
- Draft Resolution on Programme of Assistance in the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones
- Projet de résolution sur un programme d'assistance au développement et a la gestion des pêcheries dans les zones économiques exclusives
- Proyecto de resolución sobre el programa de asistencia para el desarrollo y la ordenación de la explotación pesquera en las zonas económicas exclusivas

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Now that v/e have finished with three Draft Resolutions we now have the last Resolution before, us, the one referring to assistance in the development of Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones. This is the Draft Resolution in C 79/LIM/45. The Draft Resolution, as with the case for the others, has been studied. There has been lengthy consultation on the draft and great efforts have been made to reach an agreement. We, therefore, hope that we will be able to adopt it in a very quick and easy manner so that we can finish our work this evening.

Before discussing the Draft Resolution I would like to give the floor to Mr. Lucas so that he can point out any typing errors in the English text.

K. C. LUCAS (Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the process of making a few changes-that were discussed as a result of *our* charge to me on Friday, a few gremlins have got into the typewriters over the weekend on the English copy only. There is a word left out of the operative paragraph 1. The French and Spanish are all right. At the end of the second line you see the word "overall" which is continued into the third line. "Social" was left out. So that should read ". . . way which meet overall social and economic objectives . . . ". Insert the word "social" there in the English copy.

In operative paragraph 2 the French is all right, in the English and Spanish there is an extra word left in. In the English text delete just before the word "requests" in the fifth line the word "and" and insert a comma after Programme. So that it should now read, "notes that the steps already taken by the Director-General will help to ensure the effective implementation of the Programme, requests that these activities be continued and intensified".

In the third operative paragraph the French and Spanish are both all right, but the English one has an extra comma and a word in the second line. After "income" strike off the comma and the word "nutrition". So that it reads ". . . the development of small-scale fisheries as a means of achieving a more equitable distribution of income and other benefits, including nutrition. . .".

Finally, operative paragraph 6. Someone could not read my handwriting so all the editions have some missing words, English French and Spanish. If I could quote what the additions are, I will read over the whole thing "Recognizes that this decentralized approach will expedite delivery of the Programme in the most effective manner and foster increased technical and economic cooperation among developing"

-insert the word "countries". So if we back up a tiny bit, "and foster increased technical and economic cooperation among developing countries as well as industrialized countries. . ." that was the way it was supposed to come out.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Delegates have heard the corrections to the English text. I think there are no problems with the Spanish text. The discussion is now open on the draft resolution.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je signale au passage qu'il faut lire le projet de résolution compte tenu du renvoi situé en bas de page, comme l'a suggéré le Comité des résolutions, afin qu'après le, "Nouvel ordre économique international" on ajoute, suivant la formule habituelle "tel qu'adopté dans les résolutions 3201 et 3202". Il faut voir ce paragraphe avec l'ensemble du texte. A part cela je n'ai pas d'observation.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The comments of the delegate of France will be taken into consideration the proposal made by the Resolutions Committee which appears in the footnote at the bottom of page 1.

We all seem to be agreed on this draft resolution and I think we can consider that the Commission has adopted it. There is one point to which I will draw attention. I shall ask Mr. Lucas to read the list of delegations which have supported the draft resolution.

K. C. LUCAS (Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department): The names of the co-sponsors, in alphabetical Order, are as follows: Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Guinea, Mauritania, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Sierre Leone, Sri Lanka and the United States of America. That makes nineteen in all.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): If that is now the complete list, we have completed consideration of the draft resolution, and we can consider it approved.

On behalf of the Commission, I thank: Mr. Lucas and his staff. We congratulate them on the draft resolution and for the work ahead of them for its implementation we certainly wish them success.

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART 1

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I- PARTIE 1

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I-PARTE 1

PARAGRAPHS 1 TO 13

LES PARAGRAPHERS 1 A 13

LOS PARRAFOS 1 A 13

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We shall now begin the adoption of the Commission's report starting with Part 1. We shall deal with the report paragraph by paragraph. I hope delegates will understand that we are not going to begin a new discussion on this report, or go into detail. Minor changes relating to typing errors or anything of that kind can be corrected later by the Secretariat. We shall take the first part of the report: State of Food and Agriculture including Commodity and Trade Problems.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Au paragraphe 2, et mon observation est valable pour tous les paragraphes, il faut mettre le texte français en stricte conformité avec le texte anglais. En effet, il m'est apparu, après une longue discussion au Comité de rédaction, que l'avant-dernière phrase, à savoir: "L'aide alimentaire et l'assistance extérieure au secteur agricole sont très inférieures aux besoins estimés et il n'y a pas encore de système efficace de sécurité alimentaire mondiale" ne correspond pas du tout en sa dernière partie au texte anglais qui se lit ainsi: "Un système pleinement efficace de sécurité alimentaire mondiale reste encore à établir." Il y a une différence à corriger.

Dans le même paragraphe, à la deuxième phrase, je crois me souvenir qu'au Comité de rédaction, à la cinquième ligne du texte anglais: "mais demeure très en-dessous de l'objectif de 4 pour cent" nous avons convenu de supprimer le mot "well". En tout cas, dans le texte français du Comité de rédaction où il était marqué "sont restées très inférieures", le mot "très" a été supprimé. L'on avait dit que la progression restait bien sur en-dessous des 4 pour cent, mais faut-il dire qu'elle restait très en-dessous? Je crois me souvenir que l'on avait décidé de dire simplement "restait en-dessous".

F. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I remember that this point was discussed. The first proposal, that the agricultural production of developing countries had increased during the decade by an average of 3 percent a year was introduced by the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, and it was accepted; but I think that the rest of the portion was allowed to stand as it was initially expressed: ". . . but the increase remained well below the target of 4 percent. . . ". However, if this poses serious problems to the French delegation we could have a look at the word "well". Honestly speaking, it really is just a way of expressing a thought and I think it should be allowed to stand,

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): It seems that the representative of France agrees, so we can consider paragraph 2 approved.

A. B. CAWTHORN (United Kingdom): I would like to refer to paragraph 9, lines 7 and 9, the phrase beginning and that contributions by existing and potential donors to the International Emergency Food Reserve should immediately be raised to meet the target level, " This phrase is slightly misleading in that it relates to contributions to the International Emergency Food Reserve only, whereas it should also refer to the World Food Conference's minimum target of 10 million tons, I suggest that to overcome this misleading statement, after the words "potential donors" in line 8, the words be inserted "to it as well as", and that line 9 be amended to read "to meet these target levels, " The whole phrase would then read "and that contributions by existing and potential donors to it as well as to the International Emergency Food Reserve should immediately be raised to meet these target levels, "

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I accept that suggestion, because I think it puts the whole matter in a better perspective. I personally see no difficulty at all, but it is up to the members of the Commission.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Are there any objections to this proposal-no. This amendment is approved and paragraph 9 is amended accordingly,

M. KRIESBERG (United States of America): If I may, I would like to comment on paragraph 11. According to my notes, it was one member who suggested that an international scheme should be established to provide appropriate tools to small farmers. The paragraph as it stands now reads and implies that the Conference suggested that, in the last sentence of paragraph 11. I am proposing that in line with the actual discussion, it should be "one member".

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): The Delegate of the United States is right, we should say in the last sentence of paragraph 11, "some members suggested that an international scheme should be established to provide appropriate tools to small farmers.

CHAIRMAN: If there are no objections, we will take paragraph 11 as amended. That is approved. Paragraph 13.

A. I. MENENDEZ (México): Es una cuestión para la Secretaría. En el párrafo que pedimos su inclusión, el último en la versión en español, se mencionan solamente las siglas de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural; no sé en otros idiomas como figurará. Nos gustaría que se escribiera el nombre completo, no solo las iniciales.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I think this can be taken into consideration, of course. It is in the English text and the Secretariat will take note of this. So we have finished with this corrigendum to paragraph 13.

M. THINSY (Belgique): Une remarque sur ce point : Dans la résolution, dans l'avant-dernier considérant, dans le texte français, on indique : "Rappelant les résolutions 3101 et 3202 adoptées . . ." et on devait inclure "telles qu'adoptées par l'Assemblée générale . . ." Je pense que c'est en conformité avec les autres modifications qui ont été faites; donc, dans l'avant-dernier considérant on devrait mettre "telles qu'adoptées" puisqu'il est question du nouvel ordre économique international et de la Déclaration de principes et du Programme d'action de la Conférence sur la Réforme agraire.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): You have not been very clear, Sir, because in the English text it says "as adopted by the United Nations." It only applies to the French text and we will amend the French text only.

M. THINSY (Belgique): Il semble donc que ce soit uniquement dans le texte français qu'il faudra mettre "telles qu'adoptées," la modification sera uniquement pour le texte français.

J. C. SAINSBURY (Australia): Just a point of clarification: in adopting the resolution which was in document C/79/LIM/37 we also took into account some suggestions made by the Resolutions Committee, which I think were all agreed to, and it appears that one of them has not been transposed into corrigendum 1 of Report I. I refer to operative paragraph 2 which "Recommends that the activities centred on World Food Day should be held at national, regional and international levels," whereas the Resolutions Committee suggested the words: "Recommends that the activities centred on World Food Day should be held at local, provincial and national levels." The words "local" and "provincial" have been missed out.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Yes, I think you have a point there and it will be taken into account by the Secretariat.

A. FERNANDEZ GONZALEZ (España): No, Sr. Presidente, era por referirme a la enmienda que se había propuesto antes, cuando se decía solamente en el texto francés también en el texto español debe introducirse la misma corrección, porque me ha parecido entender que se refería exclusivamente al texto francés. Quiero dejar claro que en español debe corregirse y decir: "Recordando las resoluciones 3101 y 3202 tal como fueron adoptadas "por la Asamblea" y no como "de la Asamblea" . . .", tal y como figuraba en el proyecto.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I will ask the Secretariat to take this into account also, and align the French and Spanish texts with the English text, as just pointed out by the representatives of Belgium and Spain.

Paragraphs 1 to 13 including draft resolution, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 13, y compris le projet de résolution ainsi amendés, sont approuvés Los párrafos 1 a 13, incluido el proyecto de resolución, así enmendados, son aprobados

CHAIRMAN: Paragraphs 14 to 19. I assume that you all agree with the Draft Resolution contained in paragraph 19.

Paragraphs 14 to 19, including draft resolution, approved

Les paragraphes 14 à 19, y compris le projet de résolution, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 14 a 19, incluido el proyecto de resolución, son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 20 to 28

PARAGRAPHERS 20 à 28

PÁRRAFOS 20 a 28

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We will start by adopting the part that comes after the Resolution and that starts with paragraph 20 at the top of page 5 in C 79/1/REP/1-Sup. 1.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Une fois de plus, je demanderai que le texte français corresponde exactement au texte anglais. Il s'agit de la dernière phrase du par. 20. En anglais, dans l'avant-dernière ligne, on parle de "déclarations interprétatives"; dans le texte français, on a mis "de ces interprétations". Dans le texte français, il faut dire: "de ces déclarations interprétatives".

Je crois qu'il serait nécessaire, pour le paragraphe 21, de dire la même chose. Cela viserait d'ailleurs le texte anglais et le texte français.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. So we have taken due note of the statement by the delegate of France. I assume that we will have to renew the English and French texts, particularly in this part of the document. If there are no further comments on paragraph 20.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): May I ask the Chairmen of the Drafting Committee of the exact meaning - I am referring to both substance and form-of the last sentence ". . . should be taken into account".

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): This portion of the report contains the views of those countries who had certain interpretative statements to make. I would here draw the attention of the delegate of Yugoslavia to the fact that it also states, "and of India on behalf of the Group of 77". What it is saying is that these countries who were making interpretative statements said that while considering the Resolution-which has already been adopted-should take the interpretative statements into consideration also. I had repeatedly made this point as the delegate of Pakistan that this might pose a problem at a later stage. Then since it was agreed that both sides would have interpretative statements' the final decision was that some wording which would be acceptable to all concerned should be adopted. This is the outcome of somewhat extensive negotiations and I personally have no explanation to offer except to say that ". . . should be taken into account" means to take into consideration.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): It is very difficult for my delegation to agree what your Chairman of the Drafting Committee said on behalf of his delegation. It would be very difficult to accept that kind of qualification of this interpretative statement. I am wondering whether we needed it at all. It simply summarizes the interpretative statements. May I suggest that we delete the last sentence, otherwise we are going into a matter which is very difficult to accept and it means applying a qualification which we are not able to understand fully.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je m'étonne un peu qu'à cette heure tardive le délégué de la Yougoslavie veuille remettre en question ce sur quoi nous avons eu tellement de mal à nous mettre d'accord les uns et les autres. Si l'on revient sur ce point, je crains que nous ne soyons entraînés à discuter

encore pendant de longues heures et probablement pour un résultat complètement négatif. Je demande que nous en restions au texte que nous avons examiné, que nous avons vu au Comité de rédaction, qui a fait l'objet de longues discussions, mais surtout qu'on ne recommence pas à ouvrir le débat.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): My delegation wants to associate itself with the opinion expressed by the delegate of Yugoslavia. We have already stated that interpretative statements are recorded in the verbatim record of the Conference and summarized below, and I do not see any justification for qualifying that with this statement, which in my opinion is superfluous. I once again propose that we delete the last sentence of paragraph 20.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I am very sorry. I am fully aware that this sentence must have been the subject of very long negotiations but still I would certainly wish that my delegation be recognized as one which has the full right at any time to raise any issue, and personally I am not afraid of difficulties that might come out of all this. I ask you, Mr. Chairman, or perhaps the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, to explain what this kind of qualification means. I would certainly have accepted it, for example, if these were reservations-"reservations should be taken into account"-but since we are dealing here only with interpretative statements, it should be, to my mind, only "summarized", without any further qualifications. Please would you again consider my point.

A. NIKKOLA (Finland): My delegation fully supports the views first expressed by the delegate of France. In our view, this paragraph should be retained and also the last sentence should stand as it is.

A. I. MENENDEZ (México): Parece que la capacidad de reabrir debates va siendo monopolio de alguna delegación. Nosotros podríamos asociarnos a la demanda del delegado de Yugoslavia de eliminar esta última frase, que no altera sustancialmente lo que se intenta comunicar.

D. RICHTER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (interpretation from German): I fully support the statement and the arguments presented by the delegate of France. I urge that we should abide by this text, which is the outcome of so much hard work.

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): Before we get into even hotter water, may I point out something? The words "interpretative statements" mean something which interprets a statement, and once you have said "interpretative statements" it means that it is explaining what you have said earlier. In that sense I would feel that this sentence, "These members stated that in considering the above resolution, these interpretative statements should be taken into account", does not add anything to the text. If you left it with "made interpretative statements which are recorded in full in the verbatim records of the Conference and are summarized below", you would have the same content, because the objective of paragraph 20 is to draw attention to the interpretative statements, but also to add the last sentence would mean that there might be further delay in reaching a solution. I am sure we can always reach a solution, but since we are running out of time I would have thought that the last sentence could conveniently be deleted without losing the essence of the meaning of paragraph 20. It does not really add anything to the substance of the paragraph.

I would request our colleagues from the EEC not to make this an issue, since, as was stated in the Drafting Group, this is not of much substance.

A. B. CAWTHORN (United Kingdom): My delegation wants to support what the delegates of France and Germany have already said. If this sentence adds nothing to the resolution, it can also be said that it detracts nothing from the resolution. I fail to see what objection the delegate of Yugoslavia can have.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): The delegate of the United Kingdom has said what I had proposed to say. It either does affect the meaning of the sentence before that or it does not. If it does not, there can be no objection to it. If it does, it has not been pointed out that there can be any difficulty about it.

I have just two things to say. As you know, Mr. Chairman, the European Economic Community had very strong views on interpretative statements, because these statements meant quite a lot; they were important to the Community. As you know, we maintained our position about having the interpretative statement fully included, on Friday, but in the desire to fulfil an obligation which we feel is on all delegates and all countries to do the utmost possible to reach satisfactory arrangements, we abandoned the position which we had steadfastly been holding, on the understanding that by conforming with your own suggestion, Mr. Chairman, it would be accepted by other delegations. So we would urge that these words be left in.

The other thing I want to say is simply-and here I am expressing a personal view-that I do not understand the logic of saying there is only relevance in taking into account reservations. If interpretative statements are made, they are of interest in considering the interpretation placed by certain countries on the resolution. So we would like this sentence to be left in.

CHAIRMAN: Honestly, this was not part of my suggestion. Maybe it was of the proposal. We did not touch on this particular point, but through negotiation this sentence crept in in this sense.

Yugoslavia was asking, if I understood his question correctly, that the way the sentence be put here was, "these members stated that in considering the above Resolution these interpretative statements should be taken into account", and he could not understand these countries stating that everybody should take these interpretative statements into account in considering the Resolution. This is where he said he felt that there was some sort of qualification of the whole Resolution. But if what is meant by this is that these members stated that when considering the above Resolution, these interpretative statements would be taken into account by them, by those countries which made the statements. So I do not know where we go from here. This Resolution has been a difficult task throughout; we got through the informal Contact Group, and we thought we were there; we came here and discussed it at length and thought we were there; but it is still with us even in these last moments.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): We are now dealing with the Report, which deals with what actually occurred. It is open to members to indicate their views, and these were always recorded in the report. I would be prepared on behalf of the Community to accept a change from the word "stated" to the word "considered": "these members considered"-this is the view of the members, including India, that these interpretative statements should be taken into account. We are expressing the views of the people who expressed certain opinions, and I think that this is a normal function of the report.

CHAIRMAN: With that change to the word "considered", the following wording is not perhaps very satisfactory, because there is "considered that" "in considering". So why don't we take out the words "in considering that the above Resolution" and insert "considered that these interpretative statements should be taken into account" and not mention the Resolution here.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): You may remember that in my first intervention I asked a very simple question. The meaning of the last sentence was not, and still is not clear to us. We are trying to escape a time squeeze, but whether it does, as my Irish friend said, or does not, I do not know. I am concerned about the suspicion of potential qualification here, but I am quite willing, especially in view of the time, to consider something like: "these members stated"-or otherwise-"that in considering the "above Resolution these interpretative statements should be noted", not "taken into account. " "Should be noted"-we want everyone to know; we are all, or most of us, in, so we are addressing ourselves-or the Conference, it doesn't matter anyway.

CHAIRMAN: (English): You said that certain aspects of this are still not clear. I hope that after a night's rest things will become clearer tomorrow. I shall now adjourn discussion on this part of the report until tomorrow afternoon.

Paragraphs 20 to 28 not concluded

Les paragraphes 20 à 28 sont en suspens

Los párrafos 20 a 28 quedan pendientes

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART 2

PROJET PET RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I-PARTIE 2

PROTEOTO BE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I-PARTO 2

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 8

PARAGRAPHES 1 á 8

PÁRRAFOS 1 a 8

CHAIRMAN: We now move on to the second part of the Report: 6. 2, Fertilizers-Action Arising out of the Fifth Session of the Commission on Fertilizers.

M. KRISBSRG (United States of America) sI would like to suggest that paragraph 5, which commences 'Host members have noted with regret. . . ' would be better phrased if the 2nd sentence began "They-urge donors to further support the IPS, and recommended that the Director-General. . . "

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): This will change the whole concept which the paragraph seeks to convey. The Conference is urging donors to further support the IPS-it is not "most members" who are doing that. I feel strongly about retaining the existing wording. Of course. if the 2nd sentence could be placed after the 3rd sentence I would have no objection; it would then read "Kost members noted with regret the decline in IPS resources and the limited prospects at present for its replenishment. The Confersnoe further recommended that the Director-General again appeal for the replenishment of IPS resources, sad for channelling a portion of bilateral fertiliser aid through the IPS, and urged donors to further support the IPS. "If we were to accept the suggestion just made, it would mean that the Conference is not supporting the IPS-which it is.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic) tI see that the Delegate of the United States appears to agree to that, so we can approve paragraph 5.

RAMASHAR (India):In the laet line of paragraph 8 there is a reference to "the first part of 1980". I would prefer this to read "in the early part of 1980".

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): "In the early part of 1980" obviously means the first half-but I could go along with the suggestion, if it meets with the approval of the Commission.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): There are no onjections on the amendment submitted by India and we can therefore assume that it stands adopted.

Paragraphs 1 to 8. as amended approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 8. ainsi amendas. sont approuves

Los párrafos 1. 8. asi enmendados. on aprobados

Paragraphs 9 to 15 approved

Les paragraphes 9 a 15 sont approuvés

Log párrafos 9 a 15 . on aprobados

Draft Report of Commission I-Part 2. as amended, was adopted

Le Projet de rapport de la Commission I, deuxième partie, ainsi amendé. , est adopté.

EI proyecto de informe de la Comisión I-Parte 2, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OP COMMISSION I-PART 3

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I-PARTIE 3

PROTBCTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I-PARTE 3

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 13

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 13

PÁRRAFOS 1 to 13

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): In the seventh line of paragraph 7 "Switzerland" should be added to the list of countries. Vie start with the Netherlands, Norway, and Switzerland. Any objections?

R. CARLIER (Belgium): I think my delegation has also announced a contribution to FSAS and I would ask that my country be inserted in the list.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): If there are no objections, we will also include Belgium in this list.

I. TAKI (Japan):At the last meeting of this Commission I read an interpretative statement and at that time I decided to follow your suggestion, Mr. Chairman. You suggested that my statement would be reflected in the report without referring to the words "interpretative statement". My delegation is always cooperative and so I would like to insert a sentenoe between the last sentence and the second from last of paragraph 10. This is just a citation from the record of the World Food Counoil on the work of its Fifth Session which reads:

"they also stated that the achievement of the 10 million ton target should be a joint responsibility of the international community as a whole and not of traditional donors alone. "

P. MASUD (Chairman of Drafting Committee): The position mentioned by the delegate of Japan was explained more than onoe during the proceedings of the Commission. I was under the impression in this morning's debate that if this were to be put in, Japan would not insist on an interpretative

statement later on. I would be very grateful if this could be clarified. If what has been suggested just now is put in would Japan still insist on an interpretative statement later on, or would they be happy with what is stated in paragraph 10?

I. TAKI (Japan): My delegation does not insist on the words "interpretative statement". We will be satisfied with the insertion of this sentence.

CHAIRMAN: The question was, when we were discussing this matter concerning your interpretative statement, I was trying to convince you not to insist on an interpretative statement and I said that the subject of your interpretative statement would be reflected in the report, so that was instead of saying that you have an interpretative statement. So if this is clear then we will have no mention of Japan as having an interpretative statement on this subject. Is that clear?

I. TAKI (Japan): Yes, Sir.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Toujours au sujet du paragraphe 10, à la dernière phrase qui commence par "Quelques membres. . .", j'ai l'impression qu'au Comité de rédaction on avait lié l'avis qui est exprimé dans cette phrase, "ont été d'avis que dans ce cas, il faudrait maintenir une certaine liaison entre la nouvelle Convention relative à l'aide alimentaire et la Convention pour le commerce du blé", j'ai l'impression mais ne peut l'affirmer que c'était en fait l'ensemble de la Conférence qui avait noté ou exprimé que "de ce fait" et non pas "dans ce cas", que de ce fait il y aurait lieu de maintenir un certain lien entre la nouvelle Convention sur l'aide alimentaire et la Convention sur le commerce du blé, mais l'ancienne Convention, celle de 1971.

Alors je demanderai au Secrétariat ou au président du Comité de rédaction de revoir le texte, je crois que le texte anglais et français ne correspondent pas à ce qu'on avait dit.

P. MASUD (Chairman of Drafting Committee): In the English text it does say "Some members expressed the view that, in this case, a certain linkage should be maintained between the New Food Aid Convention and the Wheat Trade Convention. "I would like to ask the delegate of France whether or not this appears in the French text.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Oui la rédaction française est correcte, mais ce que je dit, c'est que j'ai l'impression que dans le texte anglais comme dans le texte français cela ne reflète pas exactement ce que nous avons dit au Comité de rédaction.

J'avais l'impression que puisque la phrase commençait par "la Conférence. . ." on mettait une virgule après "leur position" et la phrase se terminait ainsi: "et de ce fait, on a estimé qu'il faudrait maintenir une certaine liaison entre la nouvelle Convention relative à l'aide alimentaire et la Convention sur le Commerce en blé de 1971 prorogée". Il me semble bien qu'une phrase de ce genre avait été notée. M. Leeks sans doute s'en souvient.

CHAIRMAN, (interpretation from Arabic): Mr. Leeks, do you remember this?

A. G. LEEKS (Director, Commodities and Trade Division): No Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I do not remember this. My records show that the Drafting Committee agreed to the text that is actually in the draft before the Commission today.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): So the representative of France has no further objections. So we assume that paragraph 10 stands approved with the additions suggested by the representative of Japan.

With regard to paragraph 13, there is going to be an additional text here which will contain the draft Resolution together with objections or reservations or exploratory statements or interpretative statements.

Paragraphs 1 to 12, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 12, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 12, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraph 13, including draft resolution, not concluded

Le paragraphe 13, y compris le projet de résolution, en suspens

El párrafo 13, incluido el proyecto de resolución, queda pendiente

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART 4

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I-PARTE 4

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 13

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 13

PÁRRAFOS 1 a 13

J. C. SAINSBURY (Australia): With regard to paragraph 3, it was my understanding in the Drafting Committee that there was to be an insertion in the third sentence beginning "The increase in food production in the developing countries" of the word "average" so it would have been "The average increase in food production in the developing countries" I think that was agreed at the Drafting Committee.

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): It was "The average increase" and it should be inserted.

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand): With regard to the second sentence of paragraph 5 which reads "but no agreement had so far proved possible on the establishment of an internationally coordinated system of national food stocks. ", I feel this is not quite true because the ASEAN countries have reported to the floor about the agreement in a national coordinated rice stock so there must be some amendments on this I think.

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): In the first place what the distinguished delegate from Thailand has said is in the sense that there is a regional agreement amongst the ASEAN countries, but still there is no internationally coordinated system on national food stocks and the stress in this case is in the word "international". And further, this has relevance to the grain agreement that has been coordinated under the auspices of UNCTAD so in that sense I do not think it would be possible to accommodate the point of view expressed by Thailand at this stage. I feel the sentence should be allowed to stand as it is and the concept of the ASEAN resources stock, which I think has been reflected somewhere in the report, will come up, so the point of view suggested just now will be fully noted.

S. HANPONGPANDH (Thailand): Does that mean that what the ASEAN is now doing is not going to be called in the coordinated system of the national food stock?

CHAIRMAN: In my understanding it is going to be called "regional" rather than "international".

S. HANPONPANDH (Thailand): In that case I am satisfied.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Après "le Nouvel ordre économique international", il faudrait utiliser la formule habituelle, à savoir: "tel qu'adopté".

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): There is a clear understanding that if we say "The New International Economic Order" a footnote should be affixed explaining exactly to what we are referring. Over here we simply say "a New International Economic Order" and in this case there is no need to refer to a footnote. I hope the distinguished delegate of France is satisfied.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): France, does this satisfy you?

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Si dans le texte français il n'y avait pas un N majuscule à Nouvel, je serais d'accord.

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): This is a further refinement of a subject which has been discussed at length. We always said "the NIEO" which is the New International Economic Order and we have, I am afraid, put the New starting with a capital N. But always if we see the New International Economic Order then we affix a footnote. But in this case you will find numerous references to the New International Economic Order in this way in many UN documents so I hope the distinguished Delegate from France will not insist on this.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): France is that all right? That means paragraph 12 is carried.

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): Yo siento volver al párrafo 12, en la versión en español, en el sexto renglón "Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional" debe ir con capitales. Es un problema en español.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The Secretariat will patch this one up or at least in as far as the Spanish and French texts are concerned.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Mon intervention ne concerne pas le paragraphe 12, mais le titre du sous-chapitre que nous examinons, à savoir "Evaluation des progrès accomplis en ce qui concerne le Nouvel ordre économique international. . ." C'est là qu'il faut mettre "tel qu'adopté".

CHAIRMAN: I think you have a valid point.

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): France has a valid point. It will be done.

Paragraphs 1 to 13, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 13, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 13, así enmendados, son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission I-Part 4, as amended, was adopted

Le Projet de rapport de la Commission 4, Partie 4, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I-Parte 4, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART 5

PROJECT DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I-5ème PARTIE

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I-PARTE 5

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 22

PARAGRAPHERS 1 à 22

PARRAFOS 1 a 22

L. COMANESCU (Romania): In connection with paragraph 10 after the sentence, "It was thought by some delegates that the overall economic growth consumption used for the normative scenario at 7. 3 percent for the 1980s and 8 percent for the 1990s were overly optimistic and this lessened the credibility of the results. " at the new sentence beginning with "It was suggested" I would suggest after "suggested" to introduce "by those delegates that a new scenario. . . ". Because if left like that it is assumed that the Conference was of the opinion that we should find some modest assumption. So that after the word "suggested" we put in "by those delegates".

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): Thank you, I think that is a good suggestion, it does help give a better understanding of what is being said.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Therefore paragraph 10 as amended stands adopted.

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): Nuevamente la redacción en la version en español, párrafo 12 "Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional" debe ir en letras capitales.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The Secretary will take due note of this.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Je reviens sur le paragraphe 11 dont la première phrase est ainsi libellée: "L'exclusion de certains pays en développement, et en particulier de la Chine, crée une lacune qu'il faudrait combler au plus tot". A mon avis, il faudrait trouver un autre mot qu'exclusion qui risque d'avoir un sens que l'on ne veut pas lui donner. En réalité, on a voulu dire que le fait que ces pays, et la Chine en particulier, n'aient pas été pris en considération pour l'étude, est gênant. Mais le terme exclusion a un sens absolu qui ne se justifie pas ici.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you, I believe this is quite pertinent. I now give the floor to the Chairman of the Drafting-Committee.

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): Thank you, Sir, I think what France has pointed out is correct. If we could look for some other word to substitute "exclusion". Perhaps we could say the "non-inclusion of some developing countries". Perhaps we could have some suggestions from those who speak English.

A. B. CAWTHORN (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom delegate certainly does speak English and suggests the use of "omission" instead of "exclusion".

M. KRIESBERG (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, the two United kinds of countries at this end came to the same conclusion independently as to the possible use of the word "omission".

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): May I say that I do not think that is the exact problem. It has not been entirely excluded, it's somewhat of a partial exclusion. And to say that "omission" means something has been omitted either advertently or inadvertently. That is not the case. The exact point that is sought to be conveyed is that there were some gaps in the information about China and those have to be filled in. I would be grateful if those who speak English could give it another try.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): Ce ne sera pas un anglophone qui essaiera de trouver la solution mais peut-être la France. Je vous proposerai, compte tenu de ce que vient de dire le Président du Comité de rédaction: l'absence d'information précises sur certains pays en développement, et en particulier sur la Chine, a créé une lacune qu'il faudrait combler au plus tot. "C'est ainsi grosso modo que je verrais le texte.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you, it appears there was a difference between the French text and the English text because in English we have the words "if possible", whereas the representative of France said "as soon as possible".

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): I am trying to put together all that has been said. Could we say, "the partial coverage in the analysis in the study of some developing countries, particularly China, was a gap which should be filled if possible" full stop.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Do you accept the proposal of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee concerning paragraph 11? If there is no objection it stands adopted as amended.

R. IBARGUREN (Argentina): Esto no quedaría exacto porque si bien puede ser verdadero para algunos países en desarrollo no hay información sobre China. Entonces no diríamos la verdad; yo creo que quedaría mejor, en este caso ayudaría en español "la no inclusion de información sobre algunos países en desarrollo, en particular de China", constituiría etc.

P. MASUD (Chairman Drafting Committee): It would be incorrect that we have no information on China, we do have information on China. This could be confirmed by Dr. Islam.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you, it appears there is no difficulty in accepting the first proposal of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

E. IBARGUREN (Argentina): Perfecto; pero creo que no han entendido lo que yo dije, porque yo dije exactamente "la no inclusion de información sobre", quiere decir que sí la puede tener FAO y no la incluyo. De todos modos si ustedes creen que está suficientemente claro retiro la enmienda.

M. KRIESBERG (United States of America): On the second line of paragraph 14 I think there is a typographical error, a misunderstanding in the language introduced during the Drafting Committee, ". . . in the use of non-renewable resources" there is a plural-"were becoming very scarce".

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I believe that is quite right. It appears that the Chairman of the Drafting Committee agrees. If there are no objections, I shall take it that paragraph 4 has been approved as amended.

P. ELMANOWSKY (France): J'en suis encore au paragraphe 14. J'ai l'impression que le texte français et le texte anglais ne correspondent pas, mais alors pas du tout. La première phrase du paragraphe 14 se trouve résumée en deux lignes en anglais. Je sais que l'anglais est une langue condensée, mais de là à avoir quatre lignes pour le texte français, c'est une différence qui me paraît grande, d'autant que je trouve dans le texte français des mots que je ne vois pas du tout dans le texte anglais. Je crois qu'il faut que le secrétariat revoie la phrase en entier, parce que, vraiment, il n'y a pratiquement aucun rapport. Je ne sais pas si l'on dit en anglais-je ne l'ai pas vu-"énergie non renouvelable qui se raréfie terriblement".

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): If the Commission agrees, we will leave the whole paragraph to the Secretariat for review, to bring it into line with the English text.

M. A. AL SANEH (Kuwait) (interpretation from Arabic): In connexion with the third sub-paragraph of paragraph 20, "Analysis of the implications on agricultural growth in regard to energy, particularly the possible bearing of higher energy costs. . .", I remember that in the Drafting Committee we introduced the following amendment to the beginning of the sentence: "Analysis of the implications of the rise in world prices on agricultural growth . . .", and so on.

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): There appears to be some slight misunderstanding. The point raised by the delegate of Kuwait was discussed at great length in the Drafting Group but ultimately, at least I was under the impression, we accommodated his point by saying: ". . . reflecting greater scarcity. . .", and the earlier point about rising world prices he did not insist upon.

I wonder if I am correct? It was a very lengthy debate-we were at it for over 45 minutes-and at the end, to the best of my recollection and from the notes that I have, that was the outcome.

Now the delegate of Kuwait is suggesting that we say: "Analysis of the implications on agricultural growth of the rise in world prices I would request him to recall that we went over that previously and he was kind enough to agree to this formulation. If he could have another look at it-perhaps he could look at the English text also; that is what I would suggest-and compare it with the Arabic text, perhaps his difficulty could be solved.

M. A. AL SANEH (Kuwait) (interpretation from Arabic): I agree with the Chairman of the Drafting Committee. Paragraphs 1 to 22, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 22, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 22, así enmendados, son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission I-Part 5, as amended, was adopted

Le Projet de rapport de la Commission I, cinquième partie, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I-Parte 5, así enmendado, es aprobado

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We have completed approval of Part 5 of the Draft Report.

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART 6

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I-PARTIE 6

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION I-PARTE 6

PARAGRAPHS 1 TO 13

LES PARAGRAPHES 1 A 13

LOS PÁRRAFOS 1 A 13

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We shall proceed to Part 6 of the Report, which relates to item 9, "Comprehensive Programme for the Development and Management of Fisheries in Exclusive Economic Zones".

K. C. LUCAS (Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department): In paragraph 4 there is a word which is incorrect in the English and French texts, and I should mention it to make sure there is no misunderstanding.

Near the end of the first sentence there are the words "and the preservation of this environment". The word should be "their" and not "this" in the English and French. It should read: ". . . conservation of living marine resources and the preservation of their environment". The Spanish text is all right.

In the last line there is an error. It says: ". . . within the framework of national fisheries management programmes". It should read, ". . . within the framework of rational fisheries management programmes".

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): Yo veo que voy mucho más lento que usted, señor Presidente.

Hay un error importante en la versión en español en el párrafo cinco. Nosotros mencionamos "de las empresas multinacionales entre países en desarrollo", no de las empresas transnacionales; hay una diferencia sustancial en esto. Debe decir "de las empresas multinacionales entre países en desarrollo".

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The Spanish text will be brought into line with the English text.

I thank the delegate of Mexico for reminding me that I am going too quickly. I forgot that this part of the report only reached delegates a few minutes ago. We shall therefore make haste slowly as we adopt this report.

K. C. LUCAS (Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department): There is a very important omission in the French and Spanish texts of paragraph 10 near the bottom of that paragraph: the phrase "inter-country allocations", in the 3rd last sentence. It is there in English; in the French it is 4 lines from the bottom of page 3 and in the Spanish 3 lines from the bottom of the paragraph. The passage reads in English ". . . shared the hope expressed by the Committee on Fisheries that the UNDP Governing Council would recognize the importance and urgency for continued support to the Programme when they consider their third Programme Cycle inter-country allocations for 1982-86. " Perhaps the translators could help on this. The phrase inter-country allocations is missing in the French and Spanish, and perhaps in the Arabic. -

M. LEROTHOLI (Lesotho): I remember that Dr. Lucas made a special point on the remark which we made on paragraph 1. We have been trying to set our minds at ease on this paragraph, and I would like to simply say that we were the sole dissenting voice on the timeliness of these initiatives. We expressed the view that, much appreciated as they were, it was untimely; and we thought there should be a mention in this paragraph of the fact that we felt that we were jumping the gun.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I shall call on the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

P. MASUD (Chairman, Drafting Committee): This draft is rather carefully worded. The first section, which speaks of the "timely initiative" states "the Conference endorsed the unanimous support expressed by the last Sessions of the Committee on Fisheries". To the best of my knowledge, the Committee on Fisheries did this. It continues, "and of the Council"-and I am quite aware of the fact that the Council also did this-"for the leadership and timely initiative" This is what the Council and the Committee did. Then we come to the last operative portion, "Most members expressed their appreciation"-it does not say "all members", but "most members"-simply that there were some who had reservations. Since this has overwhelming support, we think it would be best to not pinpoint any one country which may not have the same viewpoint because of differing individual problems. This was the main concern which we felt while drafting this, and I hope that the Delegate of Lesotho will appreciate that it does say "Most members expressed their appreciation"-it does not say "everybody".

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Would the delegate of Lesotho care to comment on those remarks from the Chairman of the Drafting Committee?

M. LEROTHOLI (Lesotho): I am grateful for the explanations made by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee. I had taken note of that last paragraph: I felt that our point of view was a substantive procedural query in respect of the United Nations as a whole, and we thought it merited recording.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): This point of course has been duly registered in the record of the Committee.

Paragraphs 1 to 12, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 1 à 12, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 1 a 12, así enmendados, son aprobados

CHAIRMAN: Of course, in paragraph 13 we shall include the text of the Draft Resolution which you considered and approved, which appears in document C 79/LIM/45.

Paragraph 13, including draft resolution, approved

Le paragraphe 13, y compris le projet de résolution, est approuvé

El párrafo 13, incluido el proyecto de resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 14 to 21 approved

Les paragraphes 14 à 21 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 14 a 21 son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission I-Part 6, as amended, was adopted

Le Projet de rapport de la Commission I, sixième partie, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I-Parte 6, así enmendado, es aprobado

The meeting rose at 20. 50 hours

La séance est levée à 20 h 50

Se levanta la sesión a las 20. 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

C 79/I/PV/17

C

Twentieth Session
COMMISSION I

Vingtième session
COMMISSION I

20° período de sesiones
COMISION I

SEVENTEENTH MEETING
DIX-SEPTIEME SEANCE
17ª SESION

(27 November 1979)

The Seventeenth Meeting was opened at 15. 05 hours
Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Chairman of Commission I, presiding
La dix-septième séance est ouverte à 15 h 05 sous la présidence
de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Président de la Commission I
Se abre la 17ª sesión a las 15. 05 horas, bajo la presidencia
de Mohamed Sidki Zehni, Presidente de la Comisión I

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART X (continued)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I- PARTIE 1 (suite)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I- PARTE 1(Continuación)

PARAGRAPHS 20 to 28

PARAGRAPHERS 20 to 28

PÁRRAFOS 20 a 28

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic) Welcome again in this meeting, which we hope will be the last in the deliberations of this Commission.

As you will recall, yesterday evening we were discussing document C 79/1/REP/1-Sup. 1. We had commenced a debate on paragraph 20. This is the paragraph which immediately follows the draft resolution, a draft which we approved. You will also remember that there was some difference of opinion concerning the last sentence. We were obliged to close our deliberations because of a shortage of time. At that time there was a proposal concerning the last sentence of paragraph 20. There was a proposal that the sentence should read as follows: "These members stated that in considering the above resolution, these interpretative statements should be noted. This wording would replace the last phrase, "taken into account". We will now begin discussion on this question once more.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): You will recall that the amendment to which you have just referred was not in fact the only amendment which was suggested. There was also another one, which I will refer to in a moment. However, I would like first to say that paragraph 20 refers to interpretative statements which are recorded in the verbatim records of the Conference. We are dealing with the report of the Commission and we are dealing with the statements made by the delegations to the Commission. It is normal that a reference be made, even if abbreviated, to statements which delegations have actually made. This is a report and it is an abbreviated record of statements made. Therefore we feel that whatever individual views may be about statements that any specific delegation made, if a delegation said something it is normal to record that. So we felt that it would be legitimate to have a full interpretative statement recorded. But we have, as I mentioned yesterday, in an effort to cooperate to the fullest possible extent, agreed to the suggestion which you originally made, which is to abridge our interpretative statement in the report. This has been done. The sentence in paragraph 20 simply says that these interpretative statements should be taken into account. It is arguable what is the value of this sentence. But if it has no value it does no harm; if it does have a value it is a matter of opinion which every delegation has the right to exercise.

The Community feels that this sentence would be helpful. We feel it is a pity in a way that our particular judgments on the value of the sentence—which is rather innocuous, which I think most delegations would agree—should be questioned. This sentence has passed through the Drafting Committee and was approved by the Chairman and members of the Drafting Committee. We feel that it certainly is not tendentious in any way.

Having said that, the Community is prepared to go one step further and revert to another amendment which was suggested yesterday. If the sentence is not acceptable we would be prepared, if necessary, to delete the words—"if anybody feels it will help them—"in considering the above resolution". I believe it was the delegate of Yugoslavia who suggested this. But then we would expect that the rest of the sentence would remain unaltered.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): If I understood you correctly, you are suggesting that in the last line but one, which starts "stated that", we delete "in considering the above resolution" and say "stated that these interpretative statements should be taken into account".

After listening to the delegate of Ireland, and in our last meeting you also heard the delegate of Yugoslavia, you have two new amendments. I would like to elicit your views thereon.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): We are ready to reciprocate towards the delegate of Ireland on the matter and we are ready to accept the deletion of the words "in considering the above resolution" but we would like to keep the replacement of the words "taken into account" by "noted". The delegate of Ireland said that some statements could be helpful for somebody, but we must also consider that if it does concern very important problems on which different positions exist, which in some cases, as in this one, may be totally contrary positions of two parties concerned, then it could be harmful for the other side if somebody is helpful to the One.

So we would accept the text which would read "These members stated that these interpretative statements should be noted. "

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): My delegation fully welcomes the deletion offered by Ireland and at the same time expresses that the change that was read out by the Secretariat, that is, to replace "taken into account" with the word "noted" should also be stressed in the sentence itself.

In other words, as stated by Yugoslavia, the sentence may read, "These members stated that"--and here we come to the deletion offered by Ireland-- "in considering the above resolution", and then we say, "these interpretative statements should be noted", which was our suggestion.

A. I. MENENDEZ (Mexico): Venimos siguiendo desde hace varias semanas, y ahora con mayor interés en los últimos días y en las últimas horas, el desarrollo de estas interesantes negociaciones. El planteamiento que se había hecho el día de ayer, en el cual intervenimos, fue si se mantenía la frase o si se eliminaba la frase. Vemos ahora que hay concesión por parte de la Comunidad en cambiar el final de la frase y que la delegación yugoslava se ha adherido a esta nueva fórmula.

Nosotros quisiéramos presentar una ligerísima modificación a lo presentado en el sentido que la frase dijera: "Estos Miembros declararon que estas declaraciones interpretativas deberían notarse", si esto es aceptable para la Comisión.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria) (interpretation from German): I could not quite follow. I did get, I believe, Ireland's suggestion that we drop "in considering the above resolution", but I thought that he meant we should keep "should be taken into account" at the end of the sentence, and this is something our delegation could accept.

What I do not understand is where the reciprocity business comes in, as suggested by Yugoslavia. When he said, "in considering the above resolution is noted, " he put "should be noted". Where does the reciprocity suddenly surface? Perhaps Yugoslavia could enlighten us.

C. BATAULT (France): Comme l'a fort bien souligné le délégué du Mexique, le texte auquel nous étions arrivés après un débat en commission, puis en comité de rédaction, représentait un compromis élaboré péniblement et qui tenait compte des intérêts des uns et des autres.

Je tiens à dire qu'ici je parle en mon nom propre et au nom de la France et non au nom de qui que ce soit d'autre, mais je crois que mon opinion dans cette affaire a tout de même une certaine valeur, parce qu'il y a des années que je participe à des conférences internationales des Nations Unies, et je n'ai jamais vu de cas où une des parties refuse de tenir compte de l'opinion des autres, alors qu'il s'agit des "contributeurs" les plus importants au travail d'une Organisation. Je n'ai jamais vu cela nulle part. Je ne comprends pas très bien quel but poursuit le délégué de la Yougoslavie qui est venu détruire un compromis que nous avons péniblement mis au point, et qui va rouvrir la discussion. Je ne vois absolument pas en quoi cela le gêne. S'il ne veut absolument pas "tenir compte", cela veut dire que tout ce que nous disons, nous, les principaux contributeurs de la FAO, ne vaut rien, que cela ne vaut pas la peine d'en tenir compte. Mais nos gouvernements seront obligés de tenir compte de cette attitude, et je le déplore profondément parce que j'admire beaucoup le travail fait par la FAO, le Directeur général et ses principaux collaborateurs, en vue d'arriver à apporter une solution au problème de la faim dans le monde. Mais nous sommes tout prêts à y participer, à condition qu'on nous accorde de un minimum de considération. Je ne peux accepter, en tant que délégué de la France, ni cet amendement yougoslave, ni la manière dont il a été présenté.

P. A. MORALES CARBALLO (Cuba): Nosotros, Sr. Presidente, hemos tomado nota de tres enmiendas propuestas al párrafo 20, Una que nos ha hecho el colega de Yugoslavia, y otras dos de los colegas de Bangladesh y de México.

Yo he estado reflexionando sobre las tres propuestas, y me parece que la hecha por Bangladesh pudiera incluir las propuestas tanto de Yugoslavia como de México en el sentido de decir: "Estos miembros declararon que debiera tomarse nota de estas declaraciones interpretativas".

Estimamos, pues, que la propuesta de Bangladesh resume de una manera exacta el sentido -al menos yo así lo interpreto- de las propuestas de los colegas de México y de Yugoslavia.

Por consiguiente, la propuesta de Bangladesh podría dar la explicación que nosotros damos a este párrafo.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Speaking on behalf of the Community, I would like to say that this sentence begins "These members stated" · We are talking about the statements of participants in the Commission. I do not claim to be a legal expert on these matters, but I have participated in many meetings of FAO and other organizations, very many, and at the moment I certainly do not recall any case where a statement of opinion of a member of a Commission was changed as a result of insistence by other delegates.

We are not saying the Conference said these interpretative statements should be taken into account, we are stating that the members who made these statements said they should be taken into account. Well, they either said this or they did not, and we are saying this: we are saying that we feel that these interpretative statements should be taken into account. How is it possible for another delegation to say that we are not saying that? This is what I do not understand. And also I would be interested to know what do you do with interpretative statements if you do not take them into account? Why are interpretative statements made? What do you do with them if you do not take them into account? If there is no difference, leave the words as they are. If there is a difference, perhaps this can be explained in detail by the delegate of Yugoslavia and the other delegates who support it.

This is our view, Mr. Chairman, and I would be very interested to have a reasonable and rational explanation on this point, because I am speaking on behalf of the Community, but I am also speaking with a great deal of personal interest in this matter simply for my own information, as a participant in so many international meetings, how it should come about that delegations should have an interest in changing what other delegations have said.

M. THKUJA (Yugoslavia): What I could not do is to promise anybody to give a rational or reasonable explanation I could only promise I will do my best to explain what we feel about all this.

But I think, Mr. Chairman, if you would certainly recall, yesterday we asked the question. We wanted to be enlightened, so to say, about the meaning of the sentence · Our feeling yesterday was that if there were no, to repeat, to use the same words, reasonable or rational reasons behind it, we felt that it would have been very superfluous, so our question still remains unanswered.

Certainly, we could not claim very long international experience, but certainly with our humble experience we only wanted to ask the question, and I do not know whose turn it is now to answer the question. To our feeling, in all seriousness, the crux of the matter is "take into account". Nobody, of course, wants to change any single word of the country's interpretative notes. For example, the notes of the Community as reflected in paragraph 21 will remain totally unchanged, and it is not our wish whatsoever to enter into any kind of debate vis-a-vis their own statements, but here my delegation is also covered by the statements of the Group of 77, so it is not true simply, as I realize, at least, with due respect to my Irish colleague, it simply is not true that we are changing the position or statements of some of the delegations. It is simply not true. It is our own concern also; we are reflecting our own concern on this, so my question is still open, and I would be glad to hear any rational and reasonable explanation.

CHAIRMAN:(interpretation from Arabic): Now, distinguished delegates, you will recall that during the past two weeks during this lengthy period of time we were able to overcome many difficulties, and as I reiterated on many occasions, I have always appreciated, and all delegates have appreciated, our attempt to tackle questions in a rational and objective manner. All I request at this moment before giving the floor to other speakers is that we deal with this matter in a rational manner and without a heated discussion, because I am convinced at the end of all of this we will arrive at a solution as we have done in the past. We have succeeded in dealing with more tricky issues, so I hope we can keep our debate within the spirit of mutual understanding and constructiveness.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I assure you, Mr. Chairman, I welcome what you have said, and that as far as the Community is concerned this debate will be kept on a rational level.

I also welcome the remarks of Yugoslavia who said his initial intervention was simply a request to know what, in fact, the sentence meant. He also said that as the statements include one on behalf of the Group of 77 this is a matter of interest to him. All right. First of all, I would say that the Group of 77 statement was included with the others, and this text was submitted to the Drafting Committee at which representatives of all parties were present, and it was agreed by the Drafting Committee. That is point No. 1.

Point No. 2 is, what does this mean? I will say that the Community would like to leave it in. There may be different opinions about this but this is our view. It was found by the Community that they wanted these interpretative statements recorded so that they would be taken into account, as obviously an interpretative statement represents the view of the people making it of the meaning of certain clauses in the Resolution, and how they understand it. They have made an interpretative statement showing how they understand certain clauses and how they should be taken into account; it is simply a statement of how they feel interpretative statements should be worded in regard to a resolution. I believe, myself, if you make an interpretative statement it should be taken into account, as otherwise you would not bother making it.

It is possible that the delegate for Yugoslavia may say "Why not, it is on this statement". All right, that is a reasonable point, but in fact it is a sentence that we feel is a logical outcome to the making of an interpretative statement, that if you make a statement it should be taken into account. It is superfluous, all right, is it 'worth taking up the time of the Commission in order to release something which is superfluous? A statement, as you know is or is not significant. I do not think it is. I am not going to discuss the merits of it or otherwise, this is arguable. The delegate of Yugoslavia can say this is not necessary, they are entitled to their view, and I will not take issue with them and they are entitled to that feeling.

If the Committee consider it is desirable it could be taken into account, as far as we are concerned our interpretative statements should be taken into account, and no doubt they will be anyway. But we would still like the sentence in, and again say why anyone have any interest in deleting it? The delegate of Yugoslavia has simply recorded the point that he wants an answer to the question, and I hope this is the answer he wants.

If we are talking about statements made by individual delegations, then I hope the statements of these delegations will not be changed by other delegations.

C. BATAULT (Prance): Le Président de la Communauté européenne a parlé avec une logique qui me paratt tout à fait irréfutable. La question est uniquement de savoir si on dit aux gens: vous faites une déclaration mais nous n'en tenons aucun compte, ou si l'on dit: vous faites une déclaration et nous en tenons compte, ce qui est le minimum de la courtoisie qui doit régir les rapports entre les pays. Si- cela n'est pas l'avis du délégué yougoslave ou de certains autres délégués, si on considère que les déclarations qui peuvent être faites par un pays ou par un groupe de pays ne valent pas la peine qu'on les prenne en considération, je me réserve le droit de reprendre la parole.

L. COMANESCU (Romania): I have just heard the delegate of Ireland speak a few minutes ago and say that it is understandable if we see here in paragraph 20 that while adopting the above Resolution the de-legates of some countries made some interpretative statements. He should at least let me say if we put in this report the words that they made interpretative statements, it seems to me that everybody who is going to read this report is going to take that into consideration.

I feel the answer asked for by the delegate of Yugoslavia is still not yet answered.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): My delegation in no way doubts that certain countries made interpretative statements, which I am sure you will see have been mentioned in detail in paragraph 21 onwards, and they also asked that these interpretative statements should be taken into account.

Our suggestion is we should note these interpretative statements, and the very fact that all the interpretative statements have been mentioned in the paragraph in a summary form will obviously be taken into account. There is no doubt about that. Their request or their urging that they should be taken into account does not necessarily mean this should be reflected here also.

Also we understand and agree that this Resolution and the interpretative statement were discussed at length in the Contact Group and the Drafting Committee, but I suppose that does not prevent us from discussing their merits here in this meeting.

That is all I have to say at this moment.

P. MASUD (Pakistan) : An argument is being made repeatedly that certain delegations said certain things and this should be reflected, but if you read the sentence it says: "While adopting the above Resolution, the delegates of Austria, Canada, United States, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Switzerland, of the nine member states of the ESC, and of India on behalf of the Group of 77"-and these last words: "and India on behalf of the Group of 77" cover a large number of countries. What follows is not attributed only to the first group of countries, but also to the Group of 77. We have the right to say something on what follows.

It is not only a statement made by the EEC or the delegates from Austria, Canada, United States, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Norway and Switzerland, it is also a statement made by the Group of 77, and that Group has also a right to a say in what manner that should be reflected. We are trying to find a compromise, to find a suitable and rational solution for both the first and second Group.

I hope, Mr. Chairman, I have your attention; I suppose you must be very busy but I hope I have your attention that tide is not a statement by one Group of countries; it is a statement by both Groups, and therefore both should be reflected.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Before giving the floor to the next speaker, I would like to clarify a point: that we have heard many times during the debate that there has been an attempt on many occasions to prevent the reflection of the views of some delegations in this report, especially in regard to interpretative statements. Of course, since the outset I was always keen on giving everyone his due right and that we should honestly reflect all the opinions in this report. I have tried as far as possible to be as fair as I could possibly be with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable solution.

When we spoke about the question of interpretative statements we had the two basic elements in mind -one was that we said we would mention all the countries who have tabled interpretative statements, and would name them. The second point was, we said we would reflect in the report, after lengthy discussions and concessions from each side, from various delegations, very honestly and in an acceptable manner to all, what appeared in these interpretative statements. I believe that we did indeed manage to reflect both elements.

Nevertheless, the controversial issue now is that we are not discussing the contents of interpretative statements, nor are we discussing the right of each country to have its name mentioned. But it appears we are now discussing what to do with these interpretative statements. That is the difficulty here, and I am going to quote a sentence from the statement of Ireland: "How should these statements be treated?". I believe this is indeed the orux of the matter. Some people say they should be taken into account, others would like the words "should be noted".

I therefore find myself in a delicate position about how to reconcile the various points of view. We have fulfilled the rights of everyone by mentioning the names of the countries. We have given each one his right by reflecting the interpretative statements in a manner acceptable to them. Now we are facing some difficulty about specifying them and about what to do with these interpretative statements.

Of course, when I re-read the statement formally presented to me, I find there is nothing therein that indicates that they should be taken into account or even to be noted. All that was said to me in these documents is: we would like the statements to be duly registered. Perhaps some of you, while introdu-

cing these interpretative statements, may have mentioned that they should be taken into account or that they should only be noticed. Nevertheless, however long we dwell on this this afternoon, just like ye-sterday, we may find ourselves in a deadlock because this group which is mentioned includes a number of countries, a group of countries, and yet another group of countries, that is, the Group of 77; and all these parties will find difficulties,

P GRIFFIN (Ireland): First of all, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my full agreement with what you have said. I must say, speaking now for a moment for myself, that I have certainly found at the Contact Group and at the discussions of the Commission, that you have been very fair and helpful and cooperative; and certainly I would say that I have no complaints whatever, nothing but appreciation for the way in Which you have handled the very difficult subject that we have had to discuss.

The next thing I have to say may, I think, help the delegations who have a difficulty. tie have pointed out that at the beginning of paragraph 20, reference is made to the delegates of Austria, Canada, the United States, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Norway and Switzerland, the nine Member states of EEC, and of India on behalf of the Group of 77. All right, each one of those delegations has its own point of view, presumably. As far as we are concerned -I am speaking now for the Community-we can accept that the sentence at the end of paragraph 20 does, of course, refer to all of those delegations; and if this is not acceptable, then we can insert our sentence at the end of paragraph 21. Then we are clearly referring to the Community's view; and I am not aware of any precedent in the history of any international negotiations where a request made by an individual delegation was altered or deleted by other delegations.

If this will help the situation, we can transfer the last sentence of paragraph 20 to the end of paragraph 21.

M. TBKUUA (Yugoslavia): I also want again to agree with Mr. Griffin that we are very appreciative indeed of your ruling, Mr. Chairman. You have been even too patient with us and perhaps this is one of the reasons why we have so far not been able to agree.

Secondly, before I agree definitely with Mr. Griffin who was now speaking for the Community, he has now suggested-and there is not any idea in our minds whatsoever in going into a debate about the views expressed by the Community, if we make sure that these views are the Community's views-I must still try to explain the reasons why we insisted and were anxious to be given a kind of explanation.

If you look, for example, at paragraph 4 or paragraph 8, preambular, which is reflected in the statement of the Community, you will see, for example, that paragraph 4 speaks of "Considering that the protectionist pol i oies" etc and paragraph 8, which is much more important, to our minds at least: "Stressing the need for agricultural adjustment in all countries, particularly those countries which have high support prices and/or barriers", etc.

I am not going to discuss this, I merely want to illustrate. I am not questioning the views as stated on behalf of the Community. We read, for example, in paragraph 21, that with regard to these two paragraphs to which I have just referred, the Community says: "The fourth and the eighth preambular paragraphs did not and could not mean or imply an invitation to them to change or modify" etc.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic) Could I start learning how to be impatient ? I will start with you because you told me that perhaps I am too patient.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I have already illustrated my point, I merely wanted to Bay that we are star-ting something which is, to say the least, very strange.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic) I do not know whether I have understood the amendment suggested by the delegate of Ireland that we can put this sentence, this statement, at the end of paragraph 21; is that correct?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is correct. It would simply need to be adapted. We would simply say-the paragraph begins: "The nine member states of the EEC made the following interpretation" and then it gives the interpretation. We would then put as a final sentence: "They stated that in considering the above resolution, their interpretative statements should be taken into account. " They were speaking only about the Community, and it would seem to me nobody else need have any worry on that score.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I just want to be sure that the delegates of Austria, Canada, United States, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Switzerland would not come and say that they want to insert a similar statement after their paragraphs. I could start talking about this if I could get the assurance.

I. TAKT (Japan): If the modification proposed by the distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia was recognized, of course, naturally we would like to insert the same phrase in our statement.

H. S. BAR SHAI (Israel): May I suggest what I wanted to say before -- I do not know whether it is acceptable -- that at the end of paragraph 20, instead of the words "These members stated" it should be written "Some members stated". Then some can take it as their own statement and others can think it is not their interpretation of the matter.

C. BATAULT (France): Je suis tout à fait d'accord, Monsieur le Président, avec ce que vous avez dit, et la France étant censée être le pays de la logique, je vais essayer de mettre un peu de logique dans ce débat. En effet, je ne vois pas très bien à quoi on en arrive. Si j'ai bien compris, mais peut-être n'est ce pas le cas parce que j'ai l'esprit trop logique, dans la première phrase, qui vise le Groupe des 77, le délégué de la Yougoslavie, si on interprète littéralement ce qu'il a dit, trouve qu'il ne faut pas tenir compte de l'interprétation du Groupe des 77 puisqu'il fait partie de la liste. Ainsi, il me paraît extrêmement simple-n'étant pas eembre, contrairement à la Yougoslavie, du Groupe des 77-de remettre, après le paragraphe 21, la phrase en question. Ainsi, on saurait exactement qui appartient à qui. Cela me paraît d'une logique irréfutable. Mais rien n'empêche, et cela ne donnerait pas trop de travail au Secrétariat, d'ajouter cette phrase, comme vous l'avez suggéré, après les déclarations de chacun des pays ou des groupes de pays qui le souhaitent, y compris le Groupe des 77. Cela me semble susceptible de résoudre le problème à la satisfaction générale.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabie): Well, gentlemen, as a last appeal maybe to get to a paragraph or a statement which is acceptable to all of us with the same degree of enthusiasm-probably it is impossible-I want to really again consider the original proposal, I want you to look at this sentence where it says "These members stated that in considering the above resolution, these interpretative statements should be noted". I think we almost got somewhere there, so can we still consider this, or is it out of question and we look for another formula?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I made a proposal a few moments ago. The delegate of Yugoslavia agreed to it. I did not hear anybody dissent from it.

True, you asked whether other delegations wished to move a similar proposal and Japan said they would, but that seems to be all that has been said in relation to that proposal. The proposal I made was accepted, in fact, by the delegation which initiated discussion. As far as the Community is concerned, then, we are satisfied to do this. We have made several concessions in this matter. We wish to be as flexible as possible.

I did make an earlier suggestion to meet the wishes of those delegations who did not agree with paragraph 20 when I said we would transfer it simply to the end of paragraph 21. We seem to be the only ones that are requesting this-at the end of paragraph 21 where it refers only to the EEC Yugoslavia has accepted this so I really do not feel we can go any further than this. I do not think it is a problem any longer.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): You have heard the last proposal of the representative of Ireland, that is to place this sentence, as it originally reads, in this document but this should figure at the end of paragraph 21 and as far as I understand from the representative of Japan he would like to have the same sentence after "he phrase relevant to Japan's position.

I still have not heard the opinion of the other members, if they wish to have the same treatment. I therefore put to you the idea that was just proposed by Ireland.

RANADHAR (India) : Mr. Griffin has just now talked about concessions. If we recall we fully know as to who has made what concessions and we had put up a resolution in the CCP which was completely different from the resolution that we are discussing now. Then the Chairman of the CCP, through his good offices, arrived at a consensus draft and the group of 77 was under the impression all through, and there was an understanding, that there would be no reservations to that consensus draft. Now what is being sought to be done, we have heard the EEC, we have heard Japan, they want to put the same thing, and now after some talk we will have some other country who will also like to have the same sort of formulation at the end of their interpretative statement. What is being sought to be done is that we are putting these interpretative statements as part of the resolution if we say that while considering the resolution they must be taken into account. I am firmly of the view that what we are trying to do is to put them as part of the resolution and the resolution loses complete impact and effect therefore. I find it very difficult if we have this sort of chain reaction and we have one country after another trying to have the same solution.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): As the representative of India so rightly pointed out I think other countries also would like to have the same treatment and that is the case for the Nordic countries, or at least Sweden, Finland and Norway; we would like to have a sentence like the last one in para. 20 reflecting the views of the Nordic countries too.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria) (interpretation from German): I do not want to make things more complicated and I was very reluctant to ask to speak but the way matters stand now, all they can do, all that is left is also to ask for the same sentence, for that to be taken into account. This gives you the impression that if this sentence is not included the whole thing will not be taken into account and we are compelled to ask, therefore, that in para. 25 a similar sentence be added at the end of the sentence, just to make sure that this paragraph will really be taken seriously.

P. HASUD (Pakistan): I just wanted to agree with my colleague from India and exactly as he has predicted you are getting a chain reaction and you are getting all the countries asking themselves for some resolution or the other. I would go back to what you propose and unofficially I may assure you that some of the components of the European Economic Community, although it has a common agricultural policy, did mention to me that they would be going along with the wording that you had proposed but apparently there has been a rethinking on the subject and now positions are hardening and in this context I would like to remind the European Economic Community, if they were to refer to the original resolution moved in the CCP and then have a look at the present text and then see who has made which concessions, I think it would be a very salutary exercise.

S. K. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh) : We have heard the delegate of India and the delegate of India as stated here in the paragraph also has spoken on behalf of the Group of 77 and that should put any doubts in the mind of the delegate of France to rest, taking concessions has not, I repeat, not been the act of a particular group alone, I think it has been reciprocal and all have tried to be accommodative as much as possible and as you have seen the chain reaction has started and, on behalf of my delegation I would like to accept the alternative that you had proposed some time back in which the sentence would read "These members stated that these interpretative statements should be noted. "

C. BATAULT (France): Si je comprends bien, nous sommes en train de tourner en rond, et cela sans aucune raison. Comme l'a indiqué le délégué du Pakistan, qui a été un excellent président du Comité de rédaction, c'est grâce à lui que nous sommes arrivés à un texte satisfaisant, nous n'avons qu'à revenir à la rédaction originale qui, au fond, à quelques nuances près, satisfait tout le monde. Puisqu'on n'est pas d'accord sur ces nuances, pourquoi ne pas adopter le paragraphe 20 tel qu'il a été mis sur pied après beaucoup d'efforts par le Comité de rédaction et n'en plus parler? Ainsi le débat serait clos. On maintient le paragraphe 20 tel qu'il est et on oublie le débat pour le présent comme pour l'avenir; ainsi tout le monde sera satisfait.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I would very much hope that we already have solved the problem of the last sentence in 20. As I have indicated already individual statements are, for my delegation at least, a forbidden area and I am not prepared to discuss the content. On behalf of my delegation I could say that we are not happy at all. We regret very much what is going on.

Just to put two things in proper perspective, I am thinking that the suggestion of the group of 77, that we perhaps should consider a last paragraph in our portion to say that the group wants their views not to be taken into account at all, since what in effect the others stated means the same, that the wishes and the resolution and whatever is contained in the resolution should not be taken into account. So perhaps we had better ask the others not to take into account our views. It would be, I think, the final balance of our work.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I propose that we suspend the Meeting for ten minutes.

The Meeting was suspended from 16. 10 to 16. 25 hours

La seance est suspendue de 16 h 10 a 16h 25

Se suspende la sesión de las 16. 10 a 16. 25 horas

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Following a fifteen-minute suspension, it seems that there has been a breakthrough in arriving at a new drafting of the last sentence. We have before us a suggestion to the effect that the last sentence of paragraph 20 should be substituted by the following sentence, which I will read in English: "These members stated that their interpretative statements should be considered in conjunction with the resolution". Unless there is a strong opposition to this final alternative I take it that this last sentence is acceptable. I wish to thank all those who contributed to the drafting of this sentence in helping us to arrive at an agreement. With this, paragraph 20 is adopted.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Unusually, I wish to make a very small suggestion in relation to the English text. This is the addition of the letter "s" to the word "ground". Strictly speaking I think it should be in the plural, but if anybody has a problem with it I will leave it out. This is the fifth line of paragraph 21.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): I would like just to state that my delegation could not be a party to this solution, and this is not to make any reservation or so but just for the record, because we consider that the present text is even worse than if we say "taken into account".

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): This statement will be put on record.

We now revert back to paragraph 21 in connection with the slight amendment proposed by Ireland suggesting that "ground" should read "grounds" in line 5 of the paragraph.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Sobre la frase final del párrafo 20, Colombia desea sumarse a lo manifestado por Yugoslavia, a fin de no entorpecer sus propósitos de acuerdo.

Nos limitaremos, por lo tanto, nosotros a dejar constancia de nuestra actitud en las actas, Considera-mos que de esta forma se debilita aún más el texto de la resolución.

Y como ya estoy en el uso de la palabra, quiero hacer referencia al párrafo 21. Después de que la Comisión ha asentado la frase- final del párrafo 20, es obvio que la delegación de Colombia no puede oponerse al párrafo 21, que contiene la reserva de los nueve miembros de la Comunidad Económica Europea.

Quisiéramos, sólo por curiosidad, hacer una pregunta al portavoz de la Comunidad o al país que quiera o desee responder.

En la primera frase del párrafo 21 se dice: "Los nueve Estados Miembros de la CEE". . . y más adelante se agrega que ellos piensan que no es una invitación dirigida a esos países, porque se trata de algo "que es de competencia exclusiva de la Comunidad". Esto dice la primera frase del párrafo 21.

Quisiéramos preguntarles a los distinguidos representantes de la CEE si ellos se dan cuenta de que esta primera frase del párrafo 21 resulta paradójica.

Si ellos son, como dicen, nueve Estados Miembros de la CEE y luego afirman que es competencia exclusiva de la Comunidad, cabe preguntar: ¿quiénes constituyen la Comunidad? ¿Quiénes son la Comunidad? ¿Esos nueve países o nueve Estados latinoamericanos o africanos?

Desearía que se me diera una respuesta a esto.

A. ECHEVERRÍA ZUNO (México) : Es propósito de nuestra delegación intervenir con su venia en este momento, Sr. Presidente, en torno al párrafo 20 y particularmente a la ultima frase que el propio Sr, Presidente leyó; frase que entendemos que después de dar el martillazo ha quedado aprobada por esta Comisión.

Lamentamos decirle, Sr, Presidente, que México por ningún concepto puede acompañar con su aquiescencia esta decisión. Nosotros nos sumamos a lo expresado por Yugoslavia y por Colombia, y lo hacemos no solamente por su letra, sino por el espíritu que conlleva.

No significa para nosotros otra cosa que olvidar definitivamente el espíritu de conciliación que ha prevalecido en muchas sesiones ya de trabajo, y el contenido, el espíritu y la trascendencia de una resolución que muy responsablemente hicieron muchos delegados y muchos países.

Estaríamos nosotros en posibilidad de dar nuestro apoyo a esa ultima frase si en la parte correspondiente dijese que "tales declaraciones interpretativas deberán ser recordadas paralelamente a la resolución a que estamos haciendo referencia"

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): My delegation would also like to go on record as not being a part of the solution that has been reached as far as paragraph 20 is concerned.

Regarding paragraph 21, the first sentence in the first line yesterday, I believe there was a decision that the word "interpretation" would be replaced by the words "interpretative statement". I remember today that Ireland while making reference to that said it should be, followed by "interpretation". I would like a clarification on that, Mr. Chairman.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): As far as the Community is concerned, the "interpretative statement" is just fine o I believe that was mentioned yesterday. I do not think it makes very much difference. If there was a suggestion, I did not think we had reached paragraph 21 yesterday, but if everybody prefers "interpretative statement" it is in fact an improvement, yes, "interpretative statement", yes, if everybody is happier with that.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Speaking of paragraph 21, as amended, "interpretative statement" instead of "interpretation", is that acceptable to the Commission? I find no objection to paragraph 21 so this paragraph has been adopted.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): I would just propose that paragraphs 25 and 26 change places so as to be put in a logical manner, because paragraph 26 has the intention of responding to paragraphs 21 to 24, so that I believe it is just logical to put paragraph 26 to be 25 and 25 to be 26.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): You have just heard the proposal of Yugoslavia requesting a rearrangement in the order of paragraphs 25 and 26, in the sense that paragraph 26 now becomes 25 and 25 becomes 26,

First of all, is paragraph 25 acceptable in substance and as it is? Should there be no objection, then we consider the paragraph approved.

Now paragraph 26: I find no objection to paragraph 26, and it is approved.

Now we take up the order of these two paragraphs. Is there any objection to the rearrangement of the order of these two paragraphs? There seems to be no objection, therefore, the Secretariat will take care of rearranging the order of these two paragraphs

Paragraph 27: there seems to be no objection to paragraph 27 and it is hereby approved

R. IBARGUREN (Argentina): Únicamente era para, antes de pasar al Rep. 3, pedirle que figure en el acta la oposición de Argentina, apoyando el criterio de Bangladesh y de los demás países con respecto al párrafo 20.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Es para adherirme a la oposición citada por los países de México, Colombia, Yugoslavia, Bangladesh y, ahora, Argentina en el sentido de no aceptar el párrafo 20 tal como fue aprobado.

J. IÑURRIETA RIGORES (Cuba): Perdone que volvamos un poco atrás Nuestra delegación se quiere sumar a la oposición planteada por las delegaciones de Yugoslavia, Colombia, México, Argentina y otros, respecto al párrafo 20. .

J. MODO GARCIA (El Salvador): Nuestra delegación también quiere unirse a las delegaciones que anteriormente se han referido al párrafo 20, tal como lo anunció el delegado de Cuba

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): We spent a long time on paragraph 20, as you know. We made a number of changes; I will not use the word concessions as we are talking about paragraph 20 and I do not want to bring down wrath on my head. I am talking about the discussions of today.

We made two or three suggestions we would have been prepared to agree to, in order to meet the wishes of the delegations who found it impossible to agree to the wording of the solution as it is.

Finally we reached a solution which we understood had the agreement of all parties, and on that basis we agreed to it. But now we have more reservations expressed than there were agreements to it, and I feel if those delegations are not prepared to withdraw their reservations we will have to go back to the original sentence, as we will have more reservations than agreements to the new one.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Listening to the delegates who have taken the floor, they have not mentioned any reservations. They did not say they had any reservations but simply expressed their views on this proposal. I do not believe that these statements are of the same nature or degree of reservation. That is, unless I have misunderstood the whole situation.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland) : I am not sure, I thought they were making reservations. If they were not making reservations, I am not clear what they were making, as a number of delegations had made their views known on the Resolution up to the time it was adopted. Surely there was time to make them before, instead of after it was adopted, on the other hand, if there are no reservations on it I would not interfere with the right of delegations to have their views recorded, provided there are no reservations. If there are reservations I feel we have to reopen the whole matter.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): En cuanto a mí, yo hablo en nombre de la delegación de Colombia. El delegado de Irlanda, tiene toda la razón. Nosotros no podemos aceptar la frase final del párrafo 20 tal como fue propuesta. Dijimos que, como reconocimiento a sus esfuerzos de reconciliación anteriores, dejar esta constancia en acta, pero la nuestra es una reserva a ese texto del párrafo 20 que debilita más la resolución.

Tal vez conviene hacer una explicación de nuestra actitud, que contrasta con la de otras delegaciones.

Se nos propuso esa frase. Solamente expresamos nuestra reserva, pero fue una reserva al texto del párrafo 20, con el cual no estábamos de acuerdo. Nos parece más contradictoria la actitud de otras delegaciones, que nos hacen gastar enorme cantidad de tiempo y que luego hacen aquí, en reunión, reservas sobre un texto que ya aprobaron en el grupo de contacto.

P. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia) : I think my statement at the beginning was very clear. I stated only that my delegation, for the record which will appear only in a PV, could not be party to paragraph 20 as proposed and agreed, because in the same paragraph it has said that India on behalf of the Group of 77 had certain statements. Then it could mean that we, as one of the members of the Group of 77, agreed to such a formulation. We cannot agree, and we just want to put it on record. This is not a reservation, but our request should be in the report.

A. ECHEVERRÍA ZUNO (Mexico): Para impedir que alguien tenga dudas, queremos expresar claramente que la posición de nuestra delegación es una reserva. Seguramente el texto de la misma se lo daremos seguidamente a la Secretaría. Dijimos también que por nuestro concepto podemos acompañar la última frase porque desconoce un esfuerzo responsable que se hizo con anterioridad.

Ya que estoy en el uso de la palabra, señor Presidente, por su amable conducto quisiéramos pedir al delegado de Irlanda que nos haga conocer su reserva, ya que nos dijo que si había reserva a esta parte él también sugeriría la suya.

P. GRIFFIN(Ireland): We would like to again explain the position of the European Communities on this matter. I have done it for several hours on Friday and for a couple of hours today, and it is very clear from the verbatim record what our views are. We have agreed progressively to two different texts. If the reservations are to continue I am afraid we will have to go back to one of those texts which the Community has agreed to, previous to this last one.

As a matter of fact, I should say that one of the factors which motivated us to agree to the formula which I thought had been adopted was the fact that we had been informed that the delegation of Yugoslavia had agreed, and I spoke personally to the delegate of Yugoslavia-who is not the delegate who is here now-who said he would not oppose it.

I am just explaining the situation in which the Community agreed to the formula which was adopted. If that formula can be maintained without reservations we have no problems, but if there are reservations on it then we are back to where we started and have to go back to the previous text we agreed to. I cannot recall it, but will look it up if you wish.

I regret this has been opened up again as we have made no progress. You gave quite a lot of time -perhaps not a lot, but it had been debated for one and a half hours-and you said "Here is a new text, " and you read it out and said "Here is the new clause and I will consider it debated", and no one did, and you declared it debated. That is the simple position of the Community.

C. O KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Simplemente por una cuestión de procedimiento, en los años que llevo en la FAO no conozco el procedimiento de la formulación de reservas sobre el informe. Yo quiero saber si procesualmente corresponde que un país establezca reservas sobre un informe. Entonces, si eso es correcto, naturalmente, el delegado de México y los otros delegados que se pronunciaron por la reserva, incluso Irlanda, tienen razón.

Pero, de acuerdo con la práctica que hemos usado en otros comités, no recuerdo que se hayan comunicado reservas al informe. Cuando hay un instrumento que obliga a un país, para desprenderse de esa obligación se formulan reservas; por eso quiero saber si procesualmente corresponden o no a unas reservas.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Thank you. I do not know who can answer this question. At any rate, I was under the impression that there would be no opposition to this sentence as read by me twice before declaring its acceptance by the Committee. Then after I had read it, and it was adopted, some of the countries expressed their views to the effect that they have not been party to the agreement of this paragraph.

I considered this as an interpretative statement, or the kind of an interpretative statement to be included in the verbatim record, but I was under no impression at all that these were reservations. At any rate, now that we know they do constitute reservations we must reply to the question, namely, could the reservations be made on the report or on a part thereof or not? Very frankly, I do not believe I have the prerogative to reply, and if you so desire we shall ask the Legal Counsel to come and reply to this point.

We shall wait for Legal Counsel and find out his opinion on this. Does this satisfy the question of Argentina?

CO. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Sí, señor Presidente, porque en realidad la metodología de la redacción de los trabajos involucra todas las opiniones que se formularon. Responsable era el comité de redacción que lo sometía a la Comisión o a la Plenaria, lo que decidió si reflejaba lo que había sucedido o no. Si no lo reflejaba era enmendado en el curso de la discusión hasta obtener un texto satisfactorio a todos los deseos de las delegaciones de manera amplia; pero no recuerdo

Quiero saber con precisión si corresponde que en un informe puedan existir unas reservas; porque lo que puede recoger un informe es una opinión de una delegación o de un grupo de países, pero tengo la duda si puede producirse una reserva.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I am personally under that same impression. At any rate, we are waiting for Legal Counsel and I wish to affirm once more that I have read to you the new sentence as originally drafted and then read it again and repeated again my question as to whether there were any objections; and since there were no objections, I said: considering that there were none, then I considered paragraph 20 adopted as amended. It was only then that I started to hear what seemed to me as putting on record certain attitudes or kinds of interpretative statements.

P. MASUU (Chairman, Drafting Committee): Your perception of the debate, Sir, is also my perception: that you did ask the question and there was a certain degree of agreement. I should like to know whether those who have serious problems with the new version as read out by you would be happier with the older version. I just ask this question, because there is a degree of unhappiness: which degree would be lesser unhappiness, the older version or the new version? That is the question I would like to ask, and I would be grateful, Sir, if you could help me in relation to drafting and perhaps we could work out something.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Señor Presidente, lamento tener que intervenir de nuevo, sobre todo porque reconozco los esfuerzos que usted y el señor Presidente del Comité de Redacción están haciendo para llegar a un acuerdo, pero, como demostración de que nuestra actitud no es intransigente, estaríamos aún dispuestos a aceptar la frase final del párrafo 20, reduciendo mucho lo que nosotros pensamos sobre este punto, pero no podemos aceptar la redacción propuesta porque nuestra opinión debilita muchísimo el alcance de la resolución.

D. VUJICIC (Yugoslavia): I would like to try to answer two questions. The first was put by the delegate of Ireland on the position of Yugoslavia on the matter. The position of Yugoslavia is stated here and is in the verbatim.

Concerning the participation in consultations on the text, I can inform you that the other delegate whom you mentioned did not participate in consultations and has not even seen the text before, but I participated and I disagreed with such a text in consultation.

We did not wish to obstruct the work of the Committee and so we gave up, because there were a number of delegations who could agree on it and that is why we did not oppose it, when you asked-just for the sake of consensus of others-because we thought that perhaps all others were consulted and they agreed. That proved not to be the case.

The other question is of my very good-I must say the best-friend here, Masud, about would we be happier with the original or with this one? I can tell you that we are equally unhappy with both these texts because both of them are diluting totally the sense and the contents of the resolution approved.

P. MASUD(Chairman, Drafting Committee): In response to what the delegate of Yugoslavia has just said, I never said there was any degree of happiness. I said: which would you prefer, which would make you less unhappy? I never said 'happy' so I hope he will take that into consideration and then respond to this question.

D. R. SHARMA (Nepal): The sentence was repeated to us and then, if I heard correctly, the new version was adopted. So I do not understand now why we are discussing this issue again. If the issue is being taken and if the sentence is being corrected again and I think the delegate of Ireland rightly pointed out that many member countries have some reservations on the last sentence of paragraph 20 of the resolution and my delegation feels that if the issue is to be opened again and, as suggested by the delegate of Ireland, we come out with an alternative draft.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Ladies and gentlemen, we shall pursue our deliberations and upon the request of the representative of Argentina we have invited the Legal Counsel so as to provide us with his opinion on the point that we raised about whether one can lodge reservations on the Report.

A. ROCHE (Office of the Legal Counsel): If I understand the problem which has arisen, correctly, the question is whether on this particular sentence in the Report a delegation may express a divergent opinion on the wording. Now the place where their opinions will appear fullest and with the greatest clarity is, of course, in the verbatim records where the precise views of individual governments actually appear in their entirety. That is certainly the most convenient solution for all concerned. Exactly what each government wishes to say on any particular paragraph or word would be expressed in full.

The second alternative would be that a footnote follow the passage which has not met with the full consensus of all the governments. In it the divergent view would be expressed, in greater or lesser detail. Normally, in the very few cases which we have ever had where footnotes reserving positions have been inserted in a Conference Report; they express very concisely that a certain government could not agree to a particular paragraph or a particular concept. Those are the two main courses of action which are open to the Conference at this stage.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Creo que fue muy pertinente la aclaración solicitada por nuestro colega de Argentina y encuentro acertada la respuesta del representante de la Oficina Jurídica; pero a fin de no recargar el informe con notas al pie de la página, que sería la segunda alternativa que preferiría la delegación de Colombia, tal vez podemos apoyar lo que propuso tímidamente el Sr. Masud, nuestro Presidente de Comité de Redacción en el sentido de que para evitar estas reservas, al menos en el caso de Colombia, adoptemos la frase que originariamente aparece al final del actual párrafo 20.

Mi distinguido amigo el Sr. Embajador de Francia había dicho que estaba dispuesto a aceptarla, y el representante de Irlanda también entiendo que ha manifestado lo mismo. ¿Por qué, entonces, no volver a esta frase original que tal vez hace descontentos a menos delegados?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): First of all, to take the statement of the delegate of Colombia, the sentence which appears at the end of paragraph 20 was entirely acceptable to the community right from the start as you know. It was the sentence which we most favoured. That is Item 1.

Item 2, due to the difficulties expressed by a number of delegations with that sentence we agreed to a number of modifications, in turn of that sentence. Finally, we agreed to the one which had been adopted and here I would just like to refer momentarily to the intervention of the delegate of Yugoslavia. Of course, I was not in any way attributing bad faith to him. What I did say was that I consulted the delegate of Yugoslavia, his colleague, I personally spoke to him and he assured me that he proposed to make no further interventions on this matter. Whether he saw that text or not I do not know but he said he was now withdrawing from this debate. Of course, he did not say that he would be replaced by his colleague who would again intervene in it and it might seem that there was no adequate consultation between them, but in any event I just wish to make that clear because this in fact is what happened.

Now the third point I would like to make is that if we are to have a string of reservations to the paragraph, which was adopted, we must go back to the original sentence as suggested by the delegate of Colombia. The Community would insist in going back to that original sentence.

The final thing I would like to say is that I understood the paragraph was adopted. You gave time for delegations to express their difficulties. No one expressed a difficulty and I would like to ask you whether in fact you are allowing a complete further debate on this subject, which had been closed.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Does anyone wish to contribute his wisdom to these final moments of our proceedings ? I will go back to the procedure from the legal standpoint. Can we go back into something we already adopted, but you heard the delegate of Colombia suggesting that he has no problem with the original text that was in the document originally and I was just wondering how the Houses feels about this statement and as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee suggested that if you find one text is less harmful than the others, so let us accept the least harmful one. So what do you think of the suggestion of the delegate of Colombia ?

C. O KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Creo que tenemos que ser realistas, Sr. Presidente y, como dijo el Presidente del Comité de Redacción, encontrar un texto que sea menos insatisfactorio para todos. Y si ese texto satisface a Colombia, también satisfará a la Argentina.

S. M. CHOUDHURY (Bangladesh): If the choice is between choosing the lesser of the two evils my delegation would choose the original sentence as it was in the paragraph.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria)(interpretation from German):I too believe that I can state on behalf of my delegation, seeing how things have developed, that the best way out is that we take the original text as it was proposed by the drafting committee and my delegation could certainly fully agree to that solution.

A. ECHEVERRÍA ZUNO (México): Esta delegación quiere subrayar su agradecimiento al Sr. Presidente, no solamente por los esfuerzos que ha desarrollado en ese caso, sino por la excelente Presidencia que ha estado bajo su responsabilidad.

Quisiéramos también expresar cuál es nuestro parecer respecto de la pregunta que nos hace nuestro excelente amigo el Sr. Masud.

Consideramos, Sr. Presidente, que durante muchas intervenciones quedo claro que el texto original de la última frase no satisfacía, como no satisfizo el último texto que parece se aprobó.

El Sr. Presidente del Comité de Redacción nos formula una pregunta. La posición de México es la misma que cuando se debatía el texto original: ni una ni otra redacción nos satisface desde luego.

J. M. D. GARCIA (El Salvador): En aras de un entendimiento, nuestra delegación acepta el texto original tal como ha sido planteado.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): En relación con la oración última del párrafo 20, nosotros estaríamos dispuestos a aceptarla, sea en la versión original o sea en la última versión, siempre y cuando en la propuesta del distinguido delegado de México se contemplara en el sentido de que se cambiase la palabra "consideraran" por "recordaran".

CHAIRMAN:(interpretation from Arabic) Are there more proposals?

P. MASUD (Chairman of the Drafting Committee): It makes me very unhappy to see my colleagues unhappy over a draft which had been prepared in a drafting committee which I had the honour of chairing.

I have heard the Ambassador of Mexico; I have great regard for his views. I agreed with him that there could be no total satisfaction, there is always a certain degree of dissatisfaction with whatever you do. Perfection is something which one always seeks but seldom attains. So in that context would he mind reconsidering his delegation's position as he has just stated. We could also-and this is for the benefit of the delegate of Ireland-we could also consider another formulation. Could we consider saying "These members stated that these interpretative statement should be borne in mind" or "kept in view"-either of the two? This is just a suggestion. I would like it to be considered.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): I thank the Chairman of the Drafting Committee for his constructive efforts to achieve a consensus in these last minutes.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland):The delegation of Colombia proposed that we should revert to the original sentence of this draft and this has had considerable support. This proposal has had more support than any other version which we have heard except the one which was in fact universally adopted when you put it to the meeting. The compromise solution to which the Community agreed, which was the third or fourth to which the Community did agree, was agreed by us on the understanding that it was generally acceptable when you put it to the meeting and it was accepted by us in that context. We had debated this matter since Friday evening going from amendment to amendment. As the compromise on which we finally agreed on the understanding that it was generally acceptable has not been accepted, all I am empowered to do now is to go back to the original sentence as it stood, without amendment.

A. ECHEVERRÍA ZUNO (México): Esta delegación se quiere diferenciar sustancialmente y expresar, en aras de un espíritu de colaboración y con el fin de que ya demos por terminado este tema, que, aunque con ciertas dificultades, aceptamos la última versión propuesta por el Sr. Presidente del Comité de Redacción.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Could the Chairman of the Drafting Committee enlighten us as to the last version ?

P. MASUD(Chairman, Drafting Committee): It reads: "These members stated that these interpretative statements should be borne in mind".

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia) : Para demostrar la amplitud de nuestro punto de vista y el afán de colaboración, apoyamos la última versión del Sr. Presidente del Comité de Redacción.

J. IÑURRIETA RIGORES (Cuba): Solamente decir que queremos unirnos a la voz de Colombia para apoyar la magnífica propuesta que nos ha hecho el Presidente del Comité de Redacción.

CHAIRMAN: (interpretation from Arabic): Are there any other views on the suggestion by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee?

A. ACUÑA (Panama): También nosotros aceptamos la última propuesta hecha por el Sr. Presidente del Comité de Redacción.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We are running short of time, ladies and gentlemen, and we have to arrive at a conclusion. My final appeal is that wisdom will and should triumph.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria) (interpretation from German): As far as I can see we have already adopted one text. That was: "should be considered in conjunction with the resolution". Now there is a totally new proposal, which means that the actual compromise proposal was really the original text: the original text was the compromise solution.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I agree with the delegate of Austria. I am still not clear about the situation in regard to the paragraph of the report, which has been adopted after being duly put to the Commission. The last thing I wish to do is to delay the proceedings any further. I feel that we have spent sufficient time on this paragraph and on this simple sentence—and it is arguable how much it means, if it means anything or nothing, anybody can take his own view about that. But one view that can hardly be taken is that it is damaging to anybody. However, I do not want to delay the proceedings. But we have had compromise after compromise, amendment after amendment. They have all broken down, even the one which was agreed by the Commission. I am asking, was the agreement of the Commission not valid? If it was not and if we have to consider it again, after we have agreed to so many other changes at the instance of other delegations, at this stage the only text that we can agree to is either the first text or the last text. We are not prepared to go on deleting and adding bits of sentences. There is no assurance that when you put this one to the Commission it will be accepted either. I feel that at this stage we have to be firm. If necessary we will have to enter a reservation, but we have been as cooperative as possible. I am not opening up the whole resolution, just this simple sentence. We have agreed to change it three or four times and then there was always someone who could not agree. Even after it was put to the Commission as a whole, they still could not agree. All right, changes are finished: it is either the last text or the first text.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia está muy de acuerdo con nuestro distinguido colega de Irlanda en el sentido de que es hora ya de que terminemos este debate y concluyamos los trabajos de esta Comisión.

La flexibilidad que ha caracterizado nuestra posición pensamos que nos da autoridad moral para rogarles a los colegas de Austria y de Irlanda—que entiendo son los dos únicos que han hecho observaciones a la redacción final propuesta por el Presidente del Comité de Redacción—que acepten la redacción propuesta por el Presidente del Comité de Redacción.

Las reservas que ya aparecen en el texto mismo del informe, en la parte del párrafo 21, dan amplia satisfacción a aquellos países que, después de haber participado en un grupo de contacto, ahora en plenario quieran debilitar aun más el contenido de lo expresado en el preámbulo.

Quiero pedir a estos dos delegados y al resto de la Comisión que aceptemos la última invitación del Comité de Resoluciones y que adoptemos la frase que ha propuesto, en la seguridad de que las reservas que aparecen a continuación dan ya satisfacción a ambos países. Y claro es que estamos de acuerdo con Irlanda en que hay que terminar este debate cuanto antes.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): I appreciate the appeal of the delegate of Colombia but I would like to say that I am agreeing to the proposal which he made first, which was that as he had reservations to the last text that was agreed by everybody before people started raising their flags after the gavel descended, he suggested we go back to the first sentence, and this is what I am doing. I believe this is the only tenable situation now as far as the Community is concerned because we have changed, omitted and added words. At the beginning this was the sentence which came under attack. Now it seems that a

number of delegations could have accepted this sentence without amendment. But now a few further amendments have been made by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, but we do not feel that at this stage we can start renegotiating the sentence. We could accept it as it originally stood. We could have accepted three or four subsequent versions which we believed would have met the difficulties which were raised. But we cannot go on accepting version after version after version. So let us have the last sentence of paragraph 20 as it stands. I guarantee that the Community will accept it when you put it to the Commission.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): Are you talking now about the original version ?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): The original version, yes.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): The guarantee is there, because you have already accepted it here. So there will be no trouble from this side, but we are not anticipating trouble from your side.

Ladies and gentlemen, all my attempts so as to arrive at a consensus have not yet succeeded in obtaining the desired result. It is natural that a difference or the adoption of something and then a reconsideration of what has been adopted is not a novel event, it happens in the best of Commissions, so to speak, and therefore I believe we have two parts before us, and I would like you to kindly lend me your attention.

I have basically tried to avoid any reopening of the question in the Plenary sessions, but now I can say that we did arrive at an agreement on the paragraph as I read it or as amended-I read it out, I came down with the gavel and therefore concluded the matter, and anyone who wishes to register reservations can do so, but nevertheless, in my opinion I believe this is the easy way out, one that could raise the question anew in the Plenary session and I am still trying to arrive at an agreement during this meeting of ours.

Today it appears we do not have any constraints of time on the availability of interpretation. Therefore, I would wish to put to you the following: either we refer a text to the Plenary with brackets and say that the Commission was able to accept and agree to all the difficult issues but nevertheless failed at the end, perhaps as a result of fatigue, to arrive at a consensus and therefore we refer the matter to the wisdom of the Plenary.

The second possibility is that since we still have some time during which we could make use of the services of the interpreters and make a final bid at reaching a consensus, if you agree to this we could suspend the session, for say, fifteen minutes or half an hour so as to come to a decision, not only a new text-if we can do so, well and good-but at least to agree amongst ourselves in an informal manner that is, during this pause at what would be the best procedure to follow in this Commission.

I hope you will understand this attempt of mine as one final goat arriving to a conclusion of this great effort so that we can go to the Plenary with an agreement and avoid any possibility of reopening the debate in the Plenary. This is my last attempt, and you have both proposals, and as I have said, I have served this Commission throughout this period and I still have some more energy left, I still can continue until the end of our session.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Muestra delegación está dispuesta a aceptar cualquiera de esas propuestas. Sin embargo, deseamos hacer un esfuerzo sobre la última frase actual del párrafo 20. Lo que preocupa a las delegaciones que originalmente no estaban de acuerdo con esa última frase, es el hecho de que la redacción actual involucra también a los miembros del Grupo de los 77, en la frase final del párrafo 20.

Por eso desearía proponer la siguiente redacción para la última frase del párrafo 20. Podríamos decir: "Se tomó nota de que estas declaraciones interpretativas". Esta forma neutra a lo mejor podía satisfacer a los miembros de la Comisión. Es cuestión solamente de buena voluntad.

A. NIKKOLA (Finland): I have one proposal more, because it seems that more proposals are coming out. It seems to me that when we look at these countries which are included in paragraph 20, there are two different groups of countries there which have a different attitude to this last sentence. The first group consists of Austria, Canada, United States, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Switzerland and the EEC, and then we have the Group of 77.

Could we reformulate this whole paragraph in such a way that we might distinguish between these two groups and the present last sentence of the paragraph would refer only to the first group, because I think that countries within the first group I mentioned could have an agreement about this last sentence, and then we would have another sentence corresponding to the present last sentence which could be agreed among the Group of 77, so I think that might be one way out of this problem.

A. ECHEVERRÍA ZUNO (Mexico): Nosotros quisiéramos expresar de conformidad con usted, que vale la pena que hagamos un esfuerzo más y evitar hasta donde sea posible que algún texto vaya con corchetes a la Plenaria, donde quizás las dificultades sean mayores para concluir.

Nosotros tomamos nota con atención de la propuesta formulada por el Delegado de Colombia, así como por el serio reajuste propuesto por Finlandia. Ya que estamos en propuestas, señor Presidente, yo tengo tres muy pequeñas que para mi delegación serían de gran satisfacción.

La primera, es muy sencilla; diría yo excesivamente sencilla. Nosotros podemos aceptar la versión original tal y como está impresa al final del párrafo 20, si en vez de que dijese "declaraciones interpretativas que siguen deberán tenerse en cuenta. . . .", se dijese ". . . . declaraciones interpretativas que siguen deberían tenerse en cuenta. . . .". El cambio es de "deberán" a "deberían". La modificación es una letra nada más, señor Presidente, y esto es para la versión original del párrafo 20.

Por cuanto corresponde a la versión que usted nos sugirió después de la suspensión, tenemos dos opciones, que tampoco tendremos problemas para aceptar. Donde dice que estas declaraciones interpretati-vas deberán ser consideradas conjuntamente; una alternativa sería-para la que estaríamos de acuerdo-que dijese ". . . . declaraciones interpretativas deberán ser recordadas conjuntamente"; o la segunda alternativa, señor Presidente, "declaraciones interpretativas deberán ser consideradas paralelamente". Son tres opciones. Cualquiera que fuera aceptada, no tendríamos problemas por nuestra parte.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): Coming down to a question of translation, as I understood Mexico, he could accept the last sentence of paragraph 20 if the word "deberán" was changed to "deberían", which means, in other words, if the words "will be"; which it means in Spanish, were changed to "should be"-but of course, in the English version it already is "should be". This is the version we proposed all along and which we were at any time happy to accept, and I repeat, are still happy to accept.

I do not know if you would like to put that to the Commission now and see if everybody will accept it, that is fine by us.

The alternative proposed by Finland would also be acceptable to us because it leaves that sentence stand in relation to the delegations that he cited, and a separate paragraph then would be put in by those delegations who do not want that sentence on the end, that is to say, India on behalf of the Group of 77 would have their own interpretative statement referred to and without that sentence; that would be perfectly acceptable to us.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): This is certainly our last effort, we will never speak again, we will simply say yes or no, but we fully share the proposal made by Finland. I think we might divide the difficulties. Of course, if these countries are all happy to have this sentence retained, let them have it. Now, I think the Group of 77 should be deleted from paragraph 20 and would you please consider giving us five minutes, Mr. Chairman. I think that in the light of what happened in all these long hours here and in the small Contact Group, perhaps I would then wish to have a word with friends from the Group of 77. I feel that if it is now left as it is, as proposed by Finland, they may wish to express their feeling about all this business that we have done so far, starting back from the CCP.

C. OKELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Yo creo que ahora tenemos ya un acuerdo; yo acabo de escuchar con mucha atención la diferencia que existía entre el texto inglés y español y tenemos un texto acor-

dado por todos, de modo que me parece que suspender la reunion e ir a buscar otro texto es contraproducente para las tareas de esta Comisión. Tenemos un texto, ha habido acuerdo, el delegado de México lo ha propuesto y yo sugeriría que aprobemos ese texto y sigamos adelante.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): In the light of what was said in the last statements, this makes me optimistic as far as a final consensus is concerned. I will adjourn the meeting for just five minutes and I would like to ask those delegates who have submitted proposals to please come here around me so that we can try to find a solution together.

The meeting was suspended from 18. 00 to 18. 50 hours.

La séance est suspendue de 18 h 00 à 18 h 50.

Se suspende la sesión de las 18. 00 a 18. 50 horas.

CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, after this lengthy break there seems to be an agreement from all sides that the last sentence of paragraph 20 should read as follows: "These members stated that in considering the above resolution, these interpretative statements should be duly noted". I see no objections. Do I really see no objections?

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland): You really see no objections, but this is on the understanding that this matter is now closed as far as this Commission is concerned.

CHAIRMAN: If I see no objection it is really and truly and finally closed as far as I am concerned.

Paragraphs 20 to 28, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 20 à 28, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 20 a 28, así enmendados, son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission I-Part 1, as amended, was adopted

Le Projet de rapport de la CommissionI-Partie 1, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I. -Parte 1, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION I-PART 3 (continued)

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION I-PARTIE 3 (suite)

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN I-PARTE 3 (continuación)

PARAGRAPHS 13 and 14

PARAGRAPHES 13 et 14

PARRAFOS 13 y 14

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic): We have not got through C 79/I/REP/3-Sup. 1 . There is one small correction, which is to the footnote attached to the resolution on World Food Security. The footnote should read as follows:"The delegate of the United States reserved the position of his government on the reference in operative paragraph 4 concerning special regional accounts. "So the words "to the creation of" come out. That is the correction. This resolution was adopted by you. There is only one small paragrapn left at the end, which is paragraph 14. If there are no objections to paragraph 14 we consider it adopted.

With this all our report has been adopted by you. I take this chance to thank cur friend the Legal Adviser for the services he rendered to us at this late hour.

Paragraph 13, including draft resolution, as amended, approved

Le paragraphe 13, y compris le projet de résolution ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El párrafo 13, incluido el proyecto de resolución así enmendado, es aprobado

Paragraph 14 approved

Le paragraphe 14 est approuvé

El párrafo 14 es aprobado

Draft Report of Commission I-Part 3, as amended, was adopted

Le Projet de rapport de la Commission I-Partie 3, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión I-Parte 3, así enmendado, es aprobado

A. ECHEVERRÍA ZUNO (México):Intervenimos a estas alturas porque nos vemos obligados para subrayar nuestro más profundo agradecimiento a usted, así como al Presidente del Comité de Redacción por el ejemplo de ecuanimidad, de equilibrio y la manera en que pudo encontrar una solución adecuada.

Discúlpeme que lo haga a estas alturas pero mi delegación no quiere dejar la sala sin agradecer a usted y al señor Masud por su valiosísima contribución.

P. GRIFFIN (Ireland):I am simply going to say something which I have said several times in the course of the deliberations of this Commission. That is that I greatly appreciate your impartiality, your patience, your devotion to the important post which you hold. I feel that you have exercised your chairmanship in an exemplary fashion and I have great pleasure in associating myself with what the delegate of Mexico has said. It has been a great pleasure for me to work with you here and also in the Contact Group, neither of which was perhaps the easiest imaginable task.

J. ROWINSKI (Poland): I would like in the name of Poland and all the Socialist countries participating in the Conference to express our gratitude for your chairmanship and I would like to thank the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Arabic):I do not think in the very last minutes of this afternoon's session that you wish now to listen to lengthy speeches. To set your minds at rest, I say that I feel too that we should not prolong this and that is why I have no intention whatsoever of addressing you at length here, especially as over the last week we have really talked quite enough.

But before the Commission actually started its work I had an opportunity of studying with great interest the papers which were prepared for this Commission, and I also had very important talks with those people who prepared the documents, and I confess here that I was unable to prevent myself from forming certain opinions and convictions on the probable outcome of the work of the Commission and the situation of agriculture throughout the world. In my convictions I was either too optimistic or too pessimistic, and that is why I tried to be as realistic as possible in my view of the probable results of this Commission.

Now that we have come to the end of our work, I find that my earlier conviction was not perhaps changed very much, although now I incline rather towards the optimistic side.

The chairing of this Commission was no doubt an excellent experience for me and it is a source of pride, thanks to many of you and thanks to the better knowledge I now have of the manner in which one can produce a consensus and make use of the constructive spirit you have all shown, although there were often matters of difference of opinion. I would like to thank you for your cooperation;it was of the greatest usefulness to me and has made my work very pleasant. I wish in particular to thank the Chairman and members of the Drafting Committee, as well as the Chairman and members of the Contact Group on World Food Security. I wish also to thank the members of the Contact Group that I had the honour to chair. The efforts of all these people have greatly contributed to our Work.

I wish to thank all who have helped me in the Secretariat of the Organization before and during the work of this Commission. Perhaps you will agree also to join me in thanking the interpreters. They have been patient and they have tried to help us, and I think this was very useful to us all. I would like to thank also the minute writers with equal warmth. On your behalf and mine I wish to thank the hostesses who have been indefatigable in their work here, they never lost their smiles, and I would like to make an exception to the rule I have given myself. I wish now to thank personally on my own

behalf and on your behalf Dr. Dutia, Secretary of the Commission, as well as his colleagues who have demonstrated so clearly how competent they are and their great knowledge of the work of this Commission. This has been of the greatest help to me in my work of the last week.

For those of you who will be leaving and travelling home, I would say "Bon Voyage". Thank you once again. Have a good trip home.

The work of this Commission is now at an end. Thank you very much. Applause

Aplausos

Applaudissements

Aplausos

The meeting rose at 19. 00 hours

La séance est levée à 19 heures

Se levanta la sesión a las 19. 00 horas